The Fund for Innovation in Development (FID), chaired by Professor Esther Duflo and hosted at the Agence Française de Développement, was launched early 2021 to offer a new ground for the experimentation of the most innovative and impactful solutions in the fight against poverty and inequalities. It brings together innovative solutions providers, researchers and policy-makers to pilot new solutions, rigorously validate their potential impact, help them rapidly scale up based on existing evidence and transform public policies.

Two years after its creation, FID has built a strong portfolio of more than 50 projects across thematic areas including rural development solutions. FID wishes to share and discuss the first lessons learned from funding evidence-based innovative solutions from early stage prototypes to wider scale impact evaluations. We will discuss with team leaders and researchers involved in rural development projects supported by FID on the specific dynamics at the intersect of innovation and impact evaluation.

Funding evidence-based innovative solutions to rural development challenges: the case of the Fund for Innovation in Development hosted by the Fund for Innovation in Development (FID)

11:00-12:00 CEST, Wednesday 28 June 2023

Italian Room, IFAD HQ, Italy and Online
2023 IFAD INNOVATION DAY

Funding evidence-based innovative solutions to rural development challenges: the case of the Fund for Innovation in Development
hosted by the Fund for Innovation in Development (FID)

AGENDA

**TIME** | **ITEM**
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11.00-11.05 | **OPENING REMARKS**
 | Her Excellency, Céline Jurgensen
 | Ambassador, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations in Rome

11.05-11.10 | **MODERATOR**
 | Claire Bernard
 | Deputy Director, Fund for Innovation in Development (FID), France

11.10-11.17 | **KEYNOTE SPEECH**
 | Discussion on the role and achievements of FID in bridging innovation and research to experiment and transform rural development policies.
 | Tanguy Bernard
 | Professor of University of Bordeaux and Director of Bordeaux School of Economics, France

11.17-11.35 | **FIRESIDE CHAT**
 | Discussion on the benefits and challenges to bridging the gap between researchers and innovators in rural development
 | Denis Muchangi
 | Senior Lecturer, Kirinyaga University, Kenya

 | Eveline Jansen
 | Regional Programme Manager, FoodFlow, Enviu, Netherlands

11.35-11.45 | **Concluding Remarks**
 | Claire Bernard
 | Deputy Director, FID, France

 | Tanguy Bernard
 | Professor of University of Bordeaux and Director of Bordeaux School of Economics, France

11.45-12.00 | **Q&A**