



International Conference

Jobs, Innovation and Rural Value Chains in the Context of Climate Transition:

Bridging the Gap between Research and Policy

Organized by IFAD

in collaboration with

Sapienza University of Rome

University of Rome Tor Vergata

Roma Tre University

21 – 24 June 2022

IFAD HQ – Rome (Italy) Via Paolo Di Dono 44 – 00142

Hybrid

Call for Papers

IFAD is pleased to announce the International Conference on *Jobs, Innovation and Rural Value Chains in the Context of Climate Transition*, which will take place at IFAD headquarters in Rome (Italy) on 21-24 June 2022.

The conference is organized within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between IFAD and the Department of Social Sciences and Economics of Sapienza University of Rome, the Centre for Economic and International Studies (CEIS) of University of Rome Tor Vergata, and the Department of Economics of Roma Tre University, in collaboration with other Italian and international research institutions: the African Association of Agricultural Economists ([AAAE](#)), the African Economic Research Consortium ([AERC](#)), the Italian Association of Agricultural and Applied Economics ([AIEAA](#)), the Council for Agricultural Research and Analysis of Agricultural Economics ([CREA](#)), the Italian Association of Environmental and Resource Economists ([IAERE](#)), the International Consortium on Applied Bioeconomy Research ([ICABR](#)), the Italian Center for International Development ([ICID](#)), the Institute for Studies on the Mediterranean ([ISMed](#)), the Italian

Society of Economics ([SIE](#)), the Italian Society of Development Economics ([SITES](#)), and the University of Florence ([UniFl](#)).

The conference intends to bridge the gap between research and policy, translate scientific and rigorous applied research into evidence-based policy advice, and produce knowledge with the aim of scaling up successful policy interventions, projects, programs, and strategies related to rural development.

Achieving food systems transformations, creating employment, promoting entrepreneurship opportunities in the mid-stream (i.e. processing, packing, transporting, and selling to markets), and developing global and local value chains based on data and innovations are critical components in the progress towards doubling the income of small-scale producers and achieving the SDGs by 2030. Meanwhile, more prolonged, frequent, and intense extreme weather events are destroying crops, killing animals, reducing earnings, and increasing conflicts over natural resources. Building climate-resilient food systems and reducing GHG emissions from agriculture are urgent priorities.

Transforming the food systems and adapting them to climate change, creating new job opportunities in the era of the digital revolution and the post-COVID business model will require narrowing the gap between policy making and scientific evidence, data, and innovation.

We are seeking policy relevant applied research papers that address the challenges of the conference themes¹, or that can help to generate lessons learned and insights to call for investments in agriculture, rural development and policy dialogue, contribute to improve the design of new projects and programmes, and advance the state of knowledge on evaluation methodologies.

We are open to a wide spectrum of policy relevant papers including in-depth review paper on the conference topics (extended literature review) project and/or program evaluations, implementation research, or in depth evidence reviews such as evidence gap maps and systematic reviews.

The conference will be a high-level forum to bring forth research of high academic standards in collaboration with Italian universities, international academic associations, and international organizations involved in economic and rural development policies. This will help to create a collaborative network of researchers, policy-makers and other relevant

¹ Jobs, innovation, rural value chains, economic mobility (income, poverty, well-being,...), agricultural productivity, market participation, resilience/climate change, nutrition/food security, gender/women's empowerment, youth, ...

stakeholders, together with international development organizations, NGOs, regional and international financial institutions, business partners and government representatives.

The IFAD conference will be the venue where new knowledge is created and disseminated, collaboration between researchers is encouraged; networking opportunity for young researchers is facilitated, lessons to design new projects and programs are drawn; and priorities for the future research and policy agenda are set. An **innovation day** will open the conference, a technology event designed for leaders of private start-ups and other innovative companies, policy makers, and researchers who wish to inspire innovation, commercialization and adoption of new technologies in the food system. The conference will end with a **job meet-up event**, a session dedicated to **scholars** to give them the opportunity to meet professionals from the three United Nations Rome-based Agencies (FAO, IFAD, WFP) involved in research and policy work, with the goal to provide career guidance and networking opportunities.

24 June 2022

Keynote Addresses

Joshua Angrist,

Ford Professor of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics in 2021

David Zilberman,

Professor and Robinson Chair, University of California, Berkeley

2019 Wolf Prize in Agriculture

Job Meet-up Event

Scientific and organizing committee

Pierluigi	Montalbano	Sapienza University of Rome and ICID
Silvia	Nenci	Roma Tre University
Carl	Pray	Rutgers University
Jo (Jyotsna)	Puri	IFAD
Furio	Rosati	University of Rome Tor Vergata, CEIS and ICID
Sara	Savastano	IFAD

**JOBS, INNOVATION & RURAL VALUE CHAINS
IN THE CONTEXT OF CLIMATE TRANSITION:
BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN RESEARCH AND POLICY**

ROME, ITALY
21 - 24 JUNE 2022 (HYBRID)



COLLABORATORS

International

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Gero Carletto	WORLD BANK	Njuguna Ndung'u	AERC
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Italian Universities & Research Centres

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IFAD Small Grants for Applied Research Papers

Opportunities for scholars from Italian universities

IFAD, Sapienza University of Rome, University of Rome Tor Vergata, Roma Tre University, are pleased to launch the **IFAD Small Grants for Applied Research Papers**.

International collaboration is strongly encouraged. Papers can be co-authored with international scholars, but the grant will be given to the Author affiliated to an Italian University. The grant will be US\$ 5000 max per paper.

Small grants will be awarded to the best papers on the conference topics (jobs, innovation, rural value chain in the context of climate transition) or to the best papers written using datasets collected as part of IFAD's Impact Assessment. Example of technical reports from impact assessments conducted on IFAD's projects are available on this [link](#).

IFAD collects rich data on households and communities including IFAD's beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries that are used as counterfactual groups in ex-post impact assessments. Sample sizes range between 1,500 and 3,000 households and around 150 to 300 communities per project. These datasets contribute to IFAD's Impact Assessment to measure attributable impacts of IFAD's interventions on income, wealth, productive

capacities, market integration and resilience of the beneficiaries. **IFAD's datasets collected from impact assessments will be shared only to researchers whose abstracts are accepted for presentation.**

CONTACT US

CONTACT

Ms. Vittoria Pinca ifad22@ifad.org

Link to the event page

[Jobs, Innovation and Rural Value Chains in the Context of Climate Transition: Bridging the Gap between Research and Policy](#)

Registration & Abstract Submission:

<https://www.conftool.net/ifad2022/>

IMPORTANT DATES

- 30 November 2021: Call for papers
- 31 January 2022: Deadline for abstract and session proposals
- 15 February 2022: Notification of acceptance to authors
- 1 May 2022: Upload of draft papers
- 31 May 2022: Submission of full papers
- 24 June 2022: Keynote Addresses & Job Meet-up Event

Guidelines for submitting papers and session proposals

Individual papers

Authors interested in presenting at the IFAD International Conference are requested to submit a file with a **250-word abstract by 31 January 2022**. In addition to the 250-word abstract, please include the main references that highlight how the paper will contribute to the literature on agricultural and rural development.

The submission form will also include a short 100-word abstract field that will be published on the conference's e-program should the paper be accepted for presentation.

Complete all fields marked with an asterisk (*) and upload your abstract in a pdf file for review on the second page.

If accepted, the final paper should be 6000 - 8000 words including diagrams, figures, and tables. In addition, each paper should contain JEL classification and keywords.

Your submission will be completed only when the pdf file containing abstract is uploaded on the second page of the submission form.

You will receive an automatically-generated email from ConfTool indicating the abstract has been successfully submitted.

Session Proposal/ Lightning Talk

Authors interested submitting a session proposal are requested to fill the online form **by 31 January 2022**.

Complete all fields marked with an asterisk (*) and upload your pdf file with the content of the session proposal on the second page.

Proposals should include: session title, brief background and rationale, names and contact information of the organizer and the contributors, as well as a description of the session format (e.g. presentations, panel) including room for discussion.

Your submission will be completed only when the pdf file containing the abstract is uploaded on the second page of the submission form.

You will receive an automatically-generated email from ConfTool indicating the abstract has been successfully submitted.

Job Meet-up

A session dedicated to *scholars* to give them the opportunity to meet professionals from the three United Nations Rome-based Agencies (FAO, IFAD, WFP) involved in research and policy work, with the goal to provide career guidance and networking opportunities.

SPONSORS

The small grants initiative is organized within the framework of the IFAD-MoU, collaboration with the Italian universities, financed in 2020 with the supplementary funds from the Government of Italy.

