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International Seminar

Rising inequalities, a growing concern for food and nutrition security How to cope with it?

Thursday 20th November, 9h00-17h10

Hosted by the University of Buenos Aires

School of Economic Sciences, 781 Pres. José Evaristo Uriburu, Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires (Ceremony Room, P.B.)

Open participation

How to ensure food security and nutrition for an increasing world population, now and in the future, from limited and diversely available resources, given social and economic imbalances, unequal access to resources and distribution of potential for economic growth income and purchasing power?

As shown by the HLPE in its 8 reports published since 2011 (see list below), and having informed policy recommendations of the UN Committee on World Food Security, inequalities of various nature explain why global availability of food does not translate into global access to food, and the persistence of hunger and insecurity, while at the same time one third of the food is lost or wasted globally. Unequal distribution of income and the food and biofuel demand of wealthier populations drive food and resource price increases. Inequalities in access to land and other productive resources are a major cause of food insecurity, particularly for the most vulnerable populations, women, the young and ethnic minorities. Inequalities in access to assets, institutions and services, such as access to credit, access to technology, also undermine the potential of reaching food security, especially for smallholder farmers. Inequalities also undermine good governance, implementation of human rights including the right to food, and efforts to improve food security and nutrition. Current concerns include the social inefficiency of food systems, such as their tendency to rely on low-paid, often informal forms of employment. It includes the concerns of distortions and unequal relations in the distribution chains. It includes the concerns of food price volatility and the role of speculation in food markets. How do inequalities at different levels affect food and nutrition security? What can be done to improve the situation and mitigate negative effects?

The High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition and the University of Buenos Aires will hold a discussion, informed by the 8 reports of the HLPE, as well as its recent Note on Critical and Emerging Issues for Food Security and Nutrition, and informed by key presentations with respect to Argentinian and Latin American perspectives of the issue.

HLPE Reports series

- #1 Price volatility and food security (2011)
- #2 Land tenure and international investments in agriculture (2011)
- #3 Food security and climate change (2012)
- #4 Social protection for food security (2012)
- #5 Biofuels and food security (2013)
- #6 Investing in smallholder agriculture for food security (2013)
- #7 Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for food security and nutrition (2014)
- #8 Food losses and waste in the context of sustainable food systems (2014)

All HLPE reports are available at www.fao.org/cfs/cfs-hlpe

Agenda

9.00 - 9.45

PLENARY SESSION

Opening

- Welcome Address by Dr. Bernardo Kliksberg, Honorary Professor of UBA and member of the HLPE Steering Committee.
- Address by Prof. Per Pinstrup Andersen, HLPE Steering Committee Chair.
- Welcome Address by Prof. Alberto Barbieri, Rector of the University of Buenos Aires.

Opening Conference.

Food Security: the Argentinian reality in the global scenario by Dr. Julián Domínguez, Chair of the House of Representatives.

9:45 - 10:15 Coffee Break

ROUND TABLES

10:15 - 10:45 Session Opening

Message from Amb. María del Carmen Squeff, Ambassador of Argentina in Paris, former Chair of CFS.

Introducing the HLPE, an interface between knowledge and policy-making. Ms. Maryam Rahmanian, Vice Chairperson of the HLPE Steering Committee.

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10:45 - 11:45 Round table 1

Inequalities, poverty and food and nutrition insecurity, an HLPE perspective.

Inequalities, poverty and food and nutrition insecurity: main findings from the 8 HLPE reports. Prof. Sheryl Hendriks, member of the HLPE Steering Committee.

A critical and emerging issue identified by the HLPE. Dr. Magdalena Sepúlveda, member of the HLPE Steering Committee.

Discussion moderated by Prof. Bernardo Kliksberg.

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11:45 - 12:25 Round table 2

Inequalities, poverty and Food and Nutritional insecurity, an Argentine perspective.

Inequalities, poverty and Food and Nutritional insecurity, an Argentine perspective Dr.-Ing Sebastián Canessi, member of the School of Agribusiness, School of Agriculture, UBA.

Discussion moderated by Dr. Humberto Cisale, Vice Dean of the School of Veterinary Sciences.

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12:25 - 13:10 Round table 3

Inequalities, poverty and Food and Nutritional insecurity, a Latin American perspective.

Inequalities, poverty and Food and Nutritional insecurity, a Latin American perspective. Ms. Soledad Parada (FAO - RLC) y Prof. Lorenzo Basso, former Dean of the School of Agronomy and President of UBATEC.

Discussion moderated by Prof. Rodolfo Golluscio, Dean of the School of Agronomy.

13:10 - 14:20 Lunch break

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14:20 - 15:30 Round table 4

Social protection and public policies for protecting the right to food.

Presentation of the HLPE report "Social protection for food security" Prof. Renato Maluf, member of the HLPE Steering Committee.

Beyond the HLPE report

Prof. Laura Beatriz López, Head of the Course of Nutrition of UBA; Prof. Mercedes Paiva, Professor of the School of Nutrition and Chair of the Argentine Federation of Graduates in Nutrition; and Dr. Carol Kalafatic, member of the HLPE Steering Committee.

Public Policies for protecting the right to food, an Argentine perspective. Prof. Sergio Britos, professor of the course of Nutrition, School of Medicine, UBA.

Discussion moderated by Dr. Sergio Provenzano, Dean of the School of Medicine, UBA.

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15:30 - 16:30 Round table 5

Trade and Food Security: from volatility to stability, from imbalances to equity.

From volatility to stability: A food security oriented trading system? Ms. Sophia Murphy, member of the HLPE Steering Committee

Trade and food security: An Argentinian perspective.

Dr. Verónica Caride, National Head of International Agrifood Relations – Ministry of Agronomy, Livestock and Fishing.

Discussion moderated by Prof. Roberto Darío Pons, Honorary Professor and Professor of Energy Economics at UBA.

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CONCLUSIONS

16:30 - 17:10 Lessons from the day

Prof. Per Pinstrup-Andersen, Chair of the HLPE Steering Committee,

Prof. Bernardo Kliksberg, Honorary Professor of UBA, member of HLPE Steering Committee.

Feedback from the audience

Closure Allocution

Prof. Lorenzo Basso, former Dean of the School of Agronomy and President of UBATEC.

17:10 End of seminar

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