

CFS HIGH-LEVEL FORUM ON CONNECTING SMALLHOLDERS TO MARKETS

Thursday 25 June 2015

9.30-17.00, Red Room, FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy

Bio

Role: Key Note Speaker

Pierre-Marie Bosc

Senior Researcher

Agricultural Research Centre for International Development,
Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le
Développement (CIRAD)

Montpellier, France



After coordinating several collective reviews on the contribution of agronomic research to innovation and development processes in Sub Saharan Africa, his research aims to better understand the nature and roles of Rural Producers' Organizations in development.

He participated in the revision of World Bank Rural Development Strategy (2001) and contributed to the World Development Report 2008 on these issues. After initiating (1998) and directing (2002-2005) a research program "Family agriculture and globalization", he conceived the International Initiative World Agriculture Watch (WAW) hosted by FAO with the support of IFAD and France to monitor the structural transformations of agriculture.

In 2012/2013, he was Project Team Leader for the HLPE Report on "Investing in smallholder agriculture for food security" which fed into CFS debates in 2013. During 2014 International Year of Family Farming he contributed to and coordinated several collective books on family farming in a worldwide perspective.

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Role: Discussant

Shi Yan

Vice-President

Urgenci

China



Shi Yan, the executive director of Shared Harvest (Beijing) Ecological Agriculture Service Ltd, received her PhD from the Renmin University School of Agricultural Economics and Rural Development, and has finished her postdoctoral research at Tsinghua University's School of Social Sciences.

As a young PhD student at Renmin University, she founded the first Chinese organic community-supported agriculture (CSA) farm growing and distributing organic vegetables to city consumers and renting plots of land to city folk interested in getting their hands dirty. Since then, 200-300 similar CSA farms have opened across the country. She has since moved on to establish Shared Harvest in Tongzhou and Shunyi in 2012.

She has been inspiring a healthier and more sustainable way to feed us. She is a pioneering force and active promoter behind the CSA movement. She is now the vice president of the International CSA Network (URGENCI). She has also published a book "My Alternative Farming Experience in America" and Chinese translations of three related books: "Farmers of Forty Centuries: Organic Farming in China, Korea, and Japan"; "Sharing the Harvest: A Citizen's Guide to Community Supported Agriculture"; and "Slow Money". "The Beijinger" selected her as one of the 20 most interesting people in Beijing. More than 300 media outlets in China have reported her story. She also gives public speeches and lectures to inspire more people to reconnect to land.

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Role: Case Study Presenter

Mamadou Goita

Executive Director

Institute for Research and the Promotion of Alternatives
in Development (IRPAD/Afrique)

Bamako, Mali



Mamadou Goita, is a development socio-economist and a specialist in education and training systems from Mali, West Africa. He was the executive Secretary of the West African Peasants and Farmers Networks (ROPPA) from 2011 to 2012. He is a member of the regional co-ordinating group of the "Coalition pour la Protection du Patrimoine Génétique Africain" and the "Coalition to Protect African Genetic Heritage" which operate in West Africa. He has worked with UNICEF in Mali, the United Nations Development Programme in Togo and Burkina Faso and several NGOs, including ACORD (Regional Director for West Africa and Africa Program Manager) and OXFAM-Belgium (Regional Co-ordinator for West Africa based in Burkina Faso).

He is active in social movements such as The forum for Another Mali is possible (FORAM), West Africa Social Forum, Africa Social Forum and the World Social Forum and works with farmer organizations and their networks in West Africa. He coordinated the Polycentric World Social Forum Bamako 2006 and participated to the coordination of the World Food Sovereignty Forum which took place in Sélingué, Mali in 2007.

He is the chair of the CSO Coalition on the African Development Bank, the Diobass, Ecology and Society, an international NGO working on agro ecology and the Association Malienne pour la Sécurité et la Souveraineté Alimentaire).

He was until recently a board member of Bank Information Centre and a member of the Migrants' Rights International steering committee and currently a board member of USC Canada and ETC Group.

He is a member of the scientific boards Syndicat des Exploitants Agricoles de l'Office du Niger (SEXAGON) and the Network of African Women Economists (NAWE)

He has worked on issues like cotton, trade, extractive Industries, conflict management, governance, decentralisation and local development, migration for many years and has been involved in many economic, social or socio-economic studies, researches and evaluation processes in Africa. He teaches at the University of Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso), at the "Applied Economic National School" Dakar, Senegal and the African Management Centre (CESAG), Dakar, Senegal, was the Director of CODESRIA 2014 Institute of Governance Director. He's also a course Director on "Natural resource management and Africa Development" of the Institute of Security Studies based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Mamadou Goita was a member of the HLPE Project Team on Investing in smallholder agriculture for food security 2013.

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Role: Case Study Presenter

Mr Prince Camara

Director of Smallholder Commercialization Programme

Ministry of Agriculture

Sierra Leone

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Role: Case Study Presenter

Ester Olivas Caceres

Lawyer Senior Consultant in EU Affairs, International Trade and Intellectual Property, Expert on Geographical Indication



With over 15 years of professional experience, she lived 7 years in Brussels, specializing in all aspects related to Geographical Indications (GIs) from a technical, legal and political point of view. She bears more than 10 years of experience in strategic counseling, legal advising and representation of GI producers of agricultural products, wines, spirits and handicrafts.

Among her most remarkable achievements, she directed and managed international organizations, such as the first International Network of Geographical Indications (oriGIIn) and the Spanish Association of Designations of Origin (ORIGEN ESPAÑA), being the Secretary General of both organizations.

Throughout her career, she has actively participated in implementing technical assistance projects, aimed at supporting government authorities and local stakeholders from several countries around the world in the identification, establishment, management as well as recognition and protection of GIs. She has also organized and participated in awareness raising actions to disseminate the GI route as an added-value tool to enhance the competitiveness of quality products of smallholders in international markets.

Fluent in four languages, Ms. Olivas is a frequent speaker at seminars, conferences and training activities on GIs, and has participated in more than 40 events around the world as GI Expert.

At present, she works as a Senior Consultant for international organizations, providing technical and legal counseling on the identification, establishment and development of GIs throughout the world (Asia and Africa, among others), while collaborating as well on the review and writing of articles and papers on GIs.

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Role: Case Study Presenter

Penny Studholme

Vice-President of Corporate Affairs

Cargill



Penny Studholme was appointed Vice President of Corporate Affairs, Europe, Middle East and Africa in 2014. In this capacity Penny leads the team dealing with government relations, external policy issues, corporate responsibility and internal and external corporate communications in EMEA and is part of the Global Leadership team of Corporate Affairs in Cargill.

Penny joined Cargill in July 2009, taking a CA role covering EMEA, based between Mechelen, Belgium and Weybridge, UK. A communications veteran with 30 years' experience in complex, global industries, previous leadership roles include Global Communications Director, Wolseley plc and Global Communications Director, ICI plc. She started her industrial career in aerospace and defence, with British Aerospace. During her 16 year tenure with BAe she held a variety of communications roles at national, regional and global levels across all corporate affairs disciplines. She also combined this with a parallel career in the British Army, retiring at the rank of Major after 20 years' service.

Penny has extensive experience of leading high performance multi-cultural teams, delivering communications strategy, brand development and management, media relations, M&A, marcom, internal communications, government relations, financial communications, issues management and stakeholder relationship management. She has worked in Europe, United States, Asia and Middle East.

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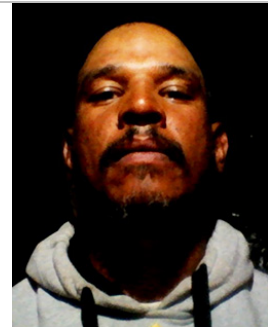
Bio

Role: High Level Panellist

Christian Adams

Chairperson

Coastal Links South Africa



Christian Adams is a small scale fisher from the West Coast of South Africa. He is currently the chairperson of Coastal Links South Africa, who represents more than 5000 small scale fishers from the coast of South Africa. Coastal Links South Africa is a member organization of the World Forum of Fisher People (WFFP).

As the chairperson he is involved in many discussions with government relating to the formulation of a small scale fisheries policy in South Africa, as well as negotiations of fisheries exemptions for small scale fishers in South Africa. He has been actively involved in the amendment of the law that governs fisheries in South Africa, that excluded small scale fishers, to make provision and to cater for small scale fishers. The current focus of the organisation is on the successful implementation of the said small scale fisheries policy.

During all this Christian Adams remains an active small scale fisher and partakes in the activity on a daily basis when not in meetings.

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Role: High Level Panellist

Shenggen Fan

Director-General

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)



Shenggen Fan (樊胜根) has been director general of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) since 2009. Dr Fan joined IFPRI in 1995 as a research fellow, conducting extensive research on pro-poor development strategies in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. He led IFPRI's program on public investment before becoming the director of the Institute's Development Strategy and Governance Division in 2005.

He now serves as the Vice-Chair of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Food and Nutrition Security, after serving as Chair of the Council from 2012 to 2014. In 2014, Dr. Fan received the Hunger Hero Award from the World Food Programme in recognition of his commitment to and leadership in fighting hunger worldwide.

Dr Fan received a PhD in applied economics from the University of Minnesota and bachelor's and master's degrees from Nanjing Agricultural University in China.

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Role: High Level Panellist

Dessislava Dimitrova

President of the Association of Slow Food Convivia
Bulgaria



Born in Sofia in 1967, Dessislava Dimitrova has graduated as MSc in biology from Sofia University in 1991 and entered the Bulgarian Academy of Science where she achieved her PhD degree. Currently she works as associate professor at the Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research.

Following her participation in Terra Madre in 2004, she established the first convivium in Bulgaria, and has ever since coordinated the development of the network of convivia, Terra Madre food communities and Slow Food Presidia. Since 2009 she is the President of the Association of Slow Food Convivia in Bulgaria, the legal entity representing Slow Food association in the country. In 2007 she was elected as the Slow Food international councilor for the Balkans. As such she initiated the regional forum Terra Madre Balkans that brings together academics, local rural communities, small-scale farmers and food producers, teachers, chefs, consumers, journalist in the Balkan countries. Since 2012 she has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Slow Food Foundation for Biodiversity.

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Role: High Level Panellist

Chukki Nanjundaswamy

La Via Campesina

India



Chukki Nanjundaswamy was born in 1981 in a family of farmers which played a vital role in the farmers' movement of Karnataka, a southern state in India. After the demise of her father who founded the farmers movement in Karnataka, at the age of 23 while studying Bachelors in Humanities, she decided to carry on the struggle which her father left behind. Since then she has been actively involved in the farmers' movement at the local level as well as at the national and international levels.

She is now the Acting President of the Karnataka State Farmers Movement and the National Convener of the All India Coordination Committee of Farmers Movements and has worked as a member of the International Coordination Committee of La Via Campesina from 2004-2008. She is also heading the International Center for Sustainable Development, called Amrita Bhoomi which means the Eternal Earth which also hosts the South Asian Agro-ecology School of La Via Campesina.

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Role: High Level Panellist

Cesarie Kantarama
Regional Vice-President
Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF)
Rwanda



Mrs Cesarie Kantarama is a farmer and the former chairperson of INGABO, Rwanda's Farmers Trade Union. She is also the Woman representative in the East African Farmers Federation (EAFF) Board.

Ms. Kantarama is a tireless leader for farmers in her country. The recipient of several regional and international awards, she is a Past President of INGABO Rwanda (2000-2007). She is a Board Member for the East Africa Farmers Federation and the Vice President of Boundaries Commission of the Muhanga District in Rwanda overseeing land reform. She has helped found several cooperatives and is the Vice-President of the Centre for cooperative services in Rwanda.