



Asia-Pacific Rural Development and Food Security Forum 2022

Battling Climate Change and Transforming Agri-food Systems

22-24 March 2022

Speakers' Profiles

Technical Session 3: Intersectoral Approach to Nutrition Security

23 March 2022



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Day 2: 23 March (Wednesday)

Technical Session 2: Pathways to Sustainable and Inclusive Food Systems

2:40–3:35 p.m.



Bruno Carrasco

Director General, concurrently Chief Compliance Officer, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, Asian Development Bank



Louis Verchot

Principal Scientist and Leader of the Land Restoration Group, International Center for Tropical Agriculture



Jean Balie

Director General and CGIAR Regional Director, Southeast Asia and the Pacific, International Rice Research Institute / CGIAR



Sudarshan Dutta

Lead Agronomist, Agoro Carbon Alliance (Yara)



Samantha Hung

Chief, Gender Equality Thematic Group, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, Asian Development Bank

Technical Session 3: Intersectoral Approach to Nutrition Security

4:40–5:30 p.m.



Mandana Arabi

Vice-President, Nutrition International



Ladda Mo-suwan

Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, Prince of Songkla University



Britta Schumacher

Senior Nutritionist, Regional Bureau for Asia-Pacific (Bangkok), World Food Programme



Victor Ochieng Owino

Nutrition Specialist, Division of Human Health, International Atomic Energy Agency



Isaac Kofi Bimpong

Plant Breeder / Geneticist, Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications

Synthesis: Day 2 Activities and Sessions

6:30–6:40 p.m.



Narayan Iyer

Senior Natural Resources and Agriculture Specialist (Agribusiness), Asian Development Bank



Kazuko Ogasahara

Senior Natural Resources and Agriculture Specialist (Health and Nutrition), Asian Development Bank



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Yasmin Siddiqi

Director, CWER, Asian Development Bank

Ms. Yasmin Siddiqi is a chartered civil engineer (UK) and has a post graduate degree in irrigation engineering (UK).

She has over 25 years of experience in natural resources management, including integrated water resources management, irrigation, knowledge solutions and leading teams at Asian Development Bank (ADB). She is currently the operational director for agriculture and natural resources in the Central and West Asia Department of ADB.

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Mandana Arabi

Vice President, Nutrition International

As Vice-President, Global Technical Services and Chief Technical Advisor at Nutrition International, Mandana oversees the technical quality of Nutrition International's programming in 10 countries and leads a team of experts to address the most challenging gaps in evidence and practice in order to improve nutrition, especially for vulnerable populations and those most in need, including adolescents' girls, women, and young children.

Mandana is a trained doctor with a PhD in Nutrition Sciences from Cornell University and has more than 15 years of experience in public health nutrition, designing, implementing, and evaluating nutrition interventions in countries with a high burden of malnutrition.

She has also served as a nutrition advisor for UNICEF, Founding Executive Director of the Nutrition Institute at the New York Academy of Sciences, and technical advisor for nutrition to the Ministry of Health in Iran. As a global health and nutrition expert, she led several collaborative research projects, technical advisory groups, consultations, and publication series involving WHO, UNICEF and teams of academic authors. She has been a co-author on various global guidance documents.

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Ladda Mo-suwan

Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, Prince of Songkla University

MD (Mahidol University), MSc (Human Nutrition, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine), Dip. Thai Board of Pediatrics and Pediatric Nutrition (FRCPed T), and Fellow of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences (FIUNS).

Professor of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, Prince of Songkla University, Thailand.

The chairman of the Technical Working Groups (TWG) on “Control of Overweight and Obesity” for the 2nd National Health Assembly (NHA) 2009 and “School Catering System Management” for the 6th NHA 2013, and TWG on construction of the 2021 growth references for Thai children and adolescents.

A member of the TWG on revision of Thai DRIs 2020, and a member of the Working Group to establish Guidelines to regulate the Marketing of Food and Non-alcoholic Beverages to Children, for the Nutrition Bureau, Department of Health, Ministry of Public Health Research: childhood obesity, early life nutrition, National Health Examination Survey

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Britta Schumacher

**Senior Nutritionist, Regional Bureau for Asia-Pacific (Bangkok),
World Food Programme**

Ms. Britta Schumacher is the UN World Food Program's Senior Regional Nutrition Advisor for Asia & Pacific.

She has over 20 years of work experience in evidence-based policy and programming for nutrition & food security, covering development and humanitarian contexts in Asia, East and West Africa, and global. Nutrition integration across sectors has become a central part in her work with WFP over the past decade. Britta has additional expertise in results-based management, monitoring & evaluation. She has previously worked with GIZ, civil society and academia in community nutrition, HIV/AIDS and reproductive health.

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Victor Ochieng Owino

Nutrition Specialist, Division of Human Health, International Atomic Energy Agency

Dr. Victor Owino is a Nutrition Specialist in the International Atomic Energy Agency's, Nutritional and Health-Related Environmental Studies Section. His work focuses on supporting the Member States to apply stable isotope techniques to design and evaluate nutrition interventions that target all forms of malnutrition. Current thematic areas include understanding protein quality and the interaction between adverse environmental exposures, nutrient metabolism, and nutritional and health outcomes.

Dr. Owino has previously led work at Valid Nutrition on the development and testing of the efficacy of novel ready-to-use foods for the management of acute malnutrition. Until 2015 Dr. Owino led the Department of Human Nutrition at the Technical University of Kenya. Dr. Owino has over 30 publications in food and nutrition in peer-reviewed journals.

Dr. Owino is a proud alumnus of the University of Nairobi (BSc), University of Ghent (MSc), University College London (PhD), and most recently York St John's University (MBA-Leadership and Management).

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Isaac Kofi Bimpong

Plant Breeder / Geneticist, Department of Nuclear Science and Applications

He obtained both his MSc and PhD at the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) in collaboration with International Rice Research Institutes (IRRI) in the Philippines.

He worked at Africa Rice Centre (CGIAR organization) for almost 10 years and played a major part in optimizing breeding pipelines to increase genetic gains.

He led the High-throughput genotyping (HTPG) to support 'forward breeding' in Africa for marker assisted selection and quality assurance processes with the aim of increasing rates of genetic gain at AfricaRice.

He led the rice improvement for problem soils (salinity and sodicity) for STRASA project (Stress Tolerant Rice for poor farmers in Africa and South Asia) funded by Bill and Melinda Gate foundation.

He was the coordinator for Africa-wide Mangrove and lowland swamp breeding taskforce- a platform for 25 NARES-member countries in Africa.

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Kaz Maruyama

President & Representative Director, DSM Japan K.K.

Dr. Kaz Maruyama is President and Representative Director of DSM Japan K.K., Japanese arm of Royal DSM, a global purpose-led science-based company in Health, Nutrition and Bioscience. He is overseeing DSM's all business operations in Japan as well as making efforts in advocacy on Food Systems Transformation, Nutrition Improvement and ESG management. Kaz played a pivotal role at Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021, including as a panelist at the Plenary Session "Resilience" representing the private sector.

Kaz started his career with Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation in 1993 as R&D and business development in specialty chemicals. In 2006, Kaz joined Dow Corning Corporation where he held senior global commercial positions such as Global Industry Director for electronics material business. Since 2015, Kaz worked with OMRON Corporation as GM Business Development, having led Agri-tech Projects based in China.

Kaz holds BS and MS in Macromolecular Science from Osaka University. He also holds MBA and MS Chemical Engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he was a Leaders for Global Operations fellow. Kaz also holds a Ph.D. in Materials Science from Mie University.

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Jody Harris

Lead Expert, World Vegetable Center

Jody Harris is an applied researcher with a particular interest in policy and social interventions for healthy diets and nutrition. She conducts qualitative and quantitative research into power in societies, including work on equity and marginalization; power in politics, including political science work on policy processes; and power in food systems, including their drivers and actors.

Jody is currently a senior researcher at the World Vegetable Center, bringing a food systems and policy focus to work on healthy diets, and undertaking research to further understand the role of vegetables in complex food and social systems.

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Ahmed Umair

Chief Executive Officer, Vital Agri Nutrients Ltd, Pakistan

Umair is the CEO of Vital Agri Nutrients (VAN) which manufactures agri inputs and Vital Green pvt ltd (VG) which is an agri services company. VAN is a leading producer of Value-added fertilizers / Slow-release fertilizers, Micronutrients, Soil amendments, Bio Fertilizers in Pakistan.

Currently, he is working on value chain development of several major crops, extension services, bringing efficiency to agri input channels, farm management services, financial inclusion, and developing a digital platform to make agriculture productive and sustainable. He is also engaged with UNDP as Senior Specialist in the MAGP (Merged areas governance project). In the past, he has worked with ADB on the Punjab agri markets development project and with IFC on CPSD, Agro processing deep dive. He has also advised Agriculture Department, Government of Punjab on agriculture policy, drafting of agriculture related regulations and institutional development.

Umair has done bachelors in Chemical engineering and a second bachelors in political science and economics. He also done MBA from Lahore university of management science (LUMS).

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Technical Session 4: Financing Green, Resilient and Inclusive Agriculture
24 March 2022



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Day 3: 24 March (Thursday)

Technical Session 4: Financing Green, Resilient and Inclusive Agriculture, and Future

2:20–3:10 p.m.



Gretchen Daily
Bing Professor,
Environmental Science,
Stanford University



Qingfeng Zhang
Chief, Rural Development and Food
Security (Agriculture) Thematic Group,
concurrently OIC, Environment
Thematic Group, Sustainable
Development and Climate
Change Department,
Asian Development Bank



Piet van Asten
Head Sustainable
Production Systems -
Coffee, Olam Food
Ingredients



Joost Zuidberg
Chief Executive Officer,
Cardano Development

Knowledge Product Showcase

4:25–4:55 p.m.



Shingo Kimura
Senior Natural Resources
and Agriculture Specialist,
Asian Development Bank



Takeshi Ueda
Principal Natural Resources
and Agriculture Economist,
Asian Development Bank

Actions and Recommendations

5:05–5:50 p.m.



Yasmin Siddiqi
Director,
Central and West Asia Department,
Asian Development Bank



Thomas Panella
Director,
East Asia Department,
Asian Development Bank



Mukhtor Khamudkhanov
Director,
Pacific Department,
Asian Development Bank



Martin Lemoine
Head, Agribusiness Investment Unit,
Private Sector Operations Department
Asian Development Bank



Mio Oka
Director,
South Asia Department,
Asian Development Bank



Jiangfeng Zhang
Director,
Southeast Asia Department,
Asian Development Bank



Aziz Elbehri
Director,
Senior Economist and Stream Leader,
Food and Agriculture Organization

Closing Remarks and Future Direction

5:50–6:05 p.m.



Sungsup Ra
Chief Sector Officer, Sustainable Development and Climate Change
Department, Asian Development Bank



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Mio Oka

Director, Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Division, South Asia Department, Asian Development Bank

Mio Oka is currently the Director of the Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Division in the South Asia Department of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Since 2015, she has been responsible in administering several climate adaptation projects including flood and coastal management, water use efficiency, rural connectivity improvement and agriculture value chain projects in the following ADB developing member countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

Mio has over 20 years of experience in research, planning, designing, and implementing agriculture and rural development projects in South America, Southeast and South Asia, gained through her work with development organizations and ADB. She obtained her master's degree in Social Policy and Planning in Developing Countries and bachelor's degree in Development Studies and Politics from the University of London (London, UK).

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Gretchen Daily

Bing Professor of Environmental Science, Stanford University

Gretchen C. Daily is co-founder and Faculty Director of the Stanford Natural Capital Project, a global partnership whose goal is to integrate the values of nature into planning, policy, finance, and management. Its tools and approaches are now applied in 185 nations through NatCap's free, open-source InVEST Software Platform.

Daily's work is focused on understanding human dependence and impacts on nature and the deep societal transformations needed to secure people and Earth's life support systems. Her work spans fundamental research and policy-oriented initiatives to open inclusive and green development pathways. She co-develops pragmatic approaches, engaging with governments, multilateral development banks, investors, businesses, farmers and ranchers, communities, and NGOs.

She has received international honors, including the 2020 Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement, 2017 Blue Planet Prize, 2019 BBVA Frontiers of Knowledge Award, 2012 Volvo Environment Prize, 2010 Midori Prize for Biodiversity, and the 2009 International Cosmos Prize.

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Qingfeng Zhang

**Chief of Rural Development and Food Security (Agriculture)
Thematic Group, concurrently, Officer-in-Charge,
Chief, Environment Thematic Group, Asian Development Bank**

Mr. Zhang is providing leadership to the formulation and implementation of the Bank's strategy and knowledge in agriculture, natural resources and food, oversees the operationalization of the Bank's vision on agriculture, natural resources and food in regional and country programs.

During his last 16 years with the Bank, Mr. Zhang processes and administers loan and technical assistance projects in green agricultural value chain, efficient use of natural resources (land, soil, water as well as agricultural wastes), climate resilient agriculture, rural renewable biomass energy, healthy agriculture-ecosystems, food safety, and internet plus agriculture.

Mr. Zhang holds a doctoral degree in environmental engineering from the Tsinghua University; and a master's degree in water resources management, and a bachelor's degree in hydrology from the Sichuan University. He was also trained at the Harvard Business School through its Executive Development Program.

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Piet van Asten

Head Sustainable Production Systems Coffee , Olam Food Ingredients (ofi)

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Joost Zuidberg

CEO, Cardano Development and Management Board, AGRI3 Fund

Joost has been co-CEO of Cardano Development since January 2015 where his role is to oversee the growth of the group which now includes the management of 8 funds including TCX, GuarantCo, Frontclear, BIX Capital, ILX, AGRI3 Fund, Nyala Venture and IMFact. Joost is also involved in the development of a number of incubations and start-ups.

Joost was CEO of Cardano Development's first institutional management mandate, TCX, since its creation in 2007. Joost was the Director for Africa at the Dutch development bank, FMO between 2000 and 2005. He started FMO's capital market desk in anticipation of the TCX fund in 2006.

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Kisa Mfalila

Lead Environment & Climate Specialist – Asia & the Pacific Region, International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD)

Kisa Mfalila oversees the climate and environment work program in the region. Under this capacity, she is responsible for delivering sustainability outcomes in IFAD investments through the application of Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) Standards and build climate resilience of smallholder farmers by integrating climate adaptation in operations.

She joined IFAD in November 2019 from the World Bank where she worked for six (6) years overseeing the application of ESG standards in operations aiming toward achieving sustainability outcomes in operations within the Southern region of Africa. Prior to joining the World Bank, Kisa worked as a Principal Environmental Specialist with the African Development Bank (AfDB) in Tunis, Tunisia where she managed the environment and climate aspects for the agriculture portfolio in the Africa region.

Her work with Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) started in 2002 before joining the AfDB where she worked with the World Bank in Washington, D.C. managing environment and climate risks and impacts of large and complex water resources infrastructure investments.

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Stephen Hart

Senior Loan Officer, European Investment Bank

Mr. Stephen Hart is the focal point for the Natural Capital Financing Facility, a joint EU LIFE-EIB financial instrument for biodiversity and nature-based climate adaptation. He began his career in municipal administration, followed by engineering consultancy in Eastern Europe and Russia. He joined EIB in 2005, preparing and appraising water and environmental projects worldwide for 10 years. He was Head of the EIB Copenhagen Office and covered Arctic affairs until 2019.

He holds degrees in environmental engineering and finance.

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Arnaud Heckman

**Principal Urban Development Specialist, East Asia Department,
Asian Development Bank**

Arnaud Heckmann is a principal urban development specialist at the Asian Development Bank's East Asia Department. He designs, process, and administers integrated economic and urban development projects and technical assistances, that promote inclusive and green livable cities, climate change adaptation and mitigation, environmental sustainability, and green urban-rural development.

He holds a master's degree in comparative development research from EHESS (Paris School of High Study in Social Science), a master's degree in human geography from Toulouse university, and a diploma in Chinese language and culture from Paris University.

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