

*Biography book*



# Task Force on Principles and Metrics for Innovation in Sustainable Agri-food Systems

*An initiative of the Commission on Sustainable Agriculture Intensification (CoSAI)*

# Task Force Co-chairs

## **Prof Dr P. V. Vara Prasad**

Distinguished Professor of Crop Ecophysiology | Director | CoSAI Commissioner, Chair of Principles and Metrics Group  
Kansas State University | Feed the Future (FtF) Innovation Lab on Sustainable Intensification (SIIL) | CoSAI



P.V. Vara Prasad is a University Distinguished Professor and Director of the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Collaborative Research on Sustainable Intensification at Kansas State University. His research focuses on understanding responses of crops to climate change factors (e.g., temperature, water stress, carbon dioxide) and developing best management strategies to improve and protect yields. He has active research, capacity building and outreach programs in several countries in Africa and Asia focused on improving livelihoods of people and providing food and nutritional security to smallholder farmers. He has published over 285 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters; trained 150 students and scholars; and secured over \$140 million in grant funding and donations. He is an elected fellow of American Society of Agronomy; Crop Science Society of America; and American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is the current (2021) president of Crop Science Society of America.

## **Dr Preet Lidder**

Technical Advisor to the Chief Scientist  
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)



Preet Lidder is Technical Adviser to the Chief Scientist at FAO. She has worked for over 13 years with international organizations including FAO and CGIAR in the provision of research, capacity development, technical assistance and policy advice in support of sustainable, inclusive and resilient agri-food systems. Her experience covers a wide range of expertise including agriculture and food security, climate change, natural resource management, sustainability, technology and innovation, and policy and institutional change. Dr Lidder has published in various peer reviewed journals and organized numerous scientific conferences and symposiums. She has served on various working groups, steering committees and Task Forces, and provided comprehensive support on complex and contentious processes. She trained as a molecular biologist with an MS in Plant Molecular Biology from the University of Delhi, a PhD in Cell and Molecular Biology from Michigan State University, followed by postdoctoral research at New York University.

# Expert Team

## **Dr Monika Zurek [Leader]**

Senior Researcher

University of Oxford | Environmental Change Institute



Monika Zurek is a senior researcher at the Environmental Change Institute at the University of Oxford and a member of the ECI Food Systems Group. For more than 15 years she has worked on food systems, environment and development interactions in research and international organizations as well as in the consulting and the philanthropic sector. Among others, Dr Zurek worked with Climate Focus, a consulting firm focusing on climate change mitigation and land use issues. Prior to that, she was part of the Agricultural Development Team of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation managing grants to improve the environmental sustainability of agricultural systems and risk management in agriculture. She also served as an economist at the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and was a researcher for the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) in Costa Rica and Mexico. Over the years, Dr Zurek worked as lead author for various environmental assessments such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, AR4), the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD).

## **Dr Aniek Hebinck**

Postdoctoral Researcher

Dutch Research Institute for Transition (DRIFT)



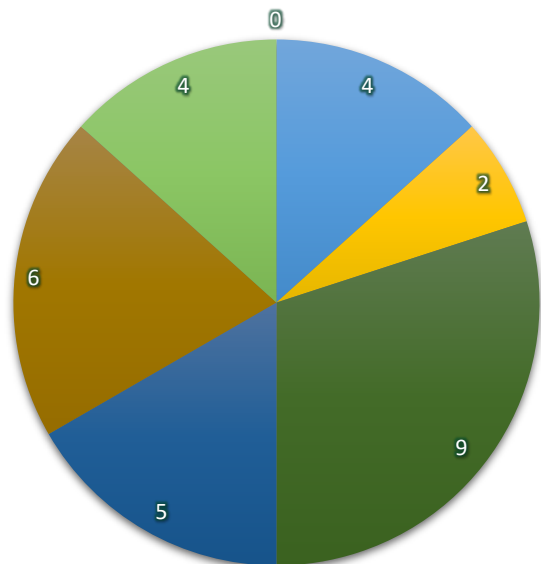
Aniek Hebinck is a postdoctoral researcher at the Dutch Research Institute for Transition (DRIFT) and holds a PhD in Sustainability Science from the Stockholm Resilience Centre. She is interested in the multi-scalar dynamics associated with bringing about food systems transformations and how narratives play a role in these processes of change. Key to her work is the use of a transition perspective, food systems thinking, foresight, and the use of co-production processes.

*Further experts are consulted on a need basis at present. The Expert Team works closely with the CoSAI Secretariat (slide 13).*

# Task Force Representation

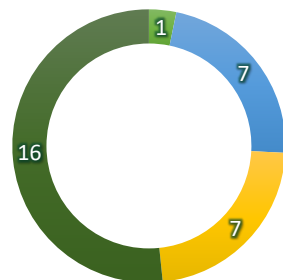
(includes Co-chairs and Members, excludes Expert Team, Observers and Support Team)

### Regions



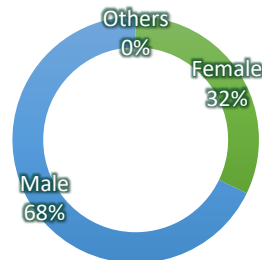
- Middle East and North Africa
- South Asia
- East Asia and Pacific
- Europe and Central Asia
- North America
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- Sub-Saharan Africa

### Country classification



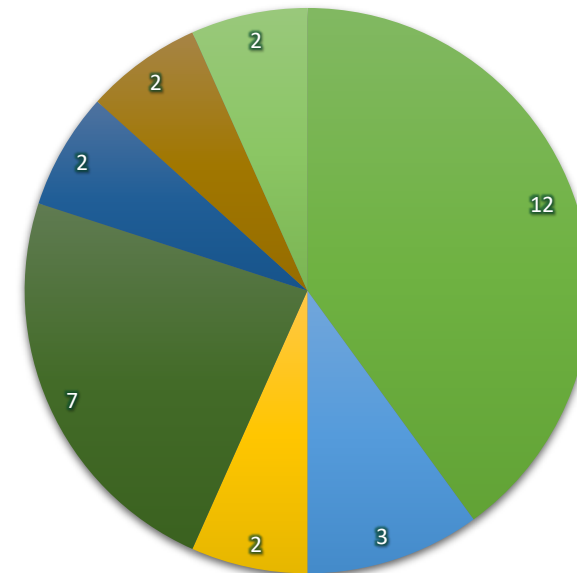
- Low-income economies
- Lower-middle-income economies
- Upper-middle-income economies
- High-income economies

### Gender



- Female
- Male
- Others

### Stakeholder classification



- Research organization
- UN agency
- Private sector / Private investor
- Farmer organization
- Non-governmental Organization
- Development partner
- Private sector benchmarking

Members were invited based on their expertise while aiming for a diverse representation on the task force. Please contact [j.wirths@cgiar.org](mailto:j.wirths@cgiar.org) for expressions of interest or member suggestions.



# Task Force Members

## Alessandro Meschinelli

Senior Advisor, Global Forum on Agricultural Research and Innovation (GFAR)



Alessandro Meschinelli holds a degree in Political Science completed by a Master in Environment-Population-Development, with further training in Eco-Pedagogy. After working for a private firm and the Italian Foreign Trade promotion institution, he joined the UN system in 1992 as evaluator of projects and then research officer at IFAD. He managed a multimillion grants portfolio enhancing the participation of smallholder farmers to knowledge generation as a means to empower them and increase the adoption of innovations jointly developed with scientists and technicians. Alessandro joined GFAR in 2017 to Coordinate the area of *Empowering Farmers at the Center of Innovation* contributing to shaping its Collective Actions according to co-innovation and co-research principles applied to the governance of research.

## Dr Aggrey Ayuma

Director of Research and Innovation, Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA)



Agumya is currently serving as the Director for Research and Innovation at the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA). Prior to taking on this role, he held several positions at FARA including as Director for Corporate Partnerships and Communication, Technical Advisor to the Executive Director and Programme Officer for the Sub-Saharan Africa Challenge Programme (SSA CP). The SSA CP established a proof-of-concept for application of the innovation systems approach in agricultural research in Africa and has been instrumental in the diffusion of this approach to research systems on the continent. Dr Agumya was a member of the Programme Committee of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research and Innovation (GFAR) from 2010 to 2014. Before joining FARA, Dr Agumya served as a geospatial analyst at the World Agroforestry Centre. He holds a PhD in geoinformation science.

## Dr Charlotte Pavageau

Programme Manager, Policy and Advocacy, Biovision Foundation



Charlotte Pavageau is a programme manager supporting policy dialogue on sustainable food systems at the Biovision Foundation in Switzerland. She is currently leading projects on strengthening investment in agroecological innovation and research in Sub-Saharan Africa and on fostering national and sub-national integrated food policies based on agroecological principles. Her work focuses on evidence-based policy, multi-stakeholder mechanisms or decision-making tools with the aim to create an enabling environment for an agroecological transformation of the food system. Dr Pavageau has a background in environmental resource management and public policies, with a focus on sustainable agriculture, forest management, ecosystem services and global changes in tropical regions. She was involved in a variety of research and development projects in South Asia and Africa, for instance for the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) or the French International Centre of Research and Agronomy for Development (CIRAD). She holds a PhD in Environmental Sciences from ETH Zurich.

# Task Force Members

## **Christopher Ian Brett**

Lead Agribusiness Specialist, The World Bank



Christopher Brett was appointed as the Lead Agribusiness Specialist with the World Bank in November 2016 and joined the Agriculture and Food Global Agricultural Practice, based in Washington DC. He has a Master's Degree in Management for Agricultural Development from Cranfield University in the United Kingdom. Mr Brett has more than thirty years' experience of working within the public private and voluntary sectors in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Prior to working with the World Bank, he worked for 9 years as the Global Head of Sustainability for a large multi-national agricultural supply chain management company. As part of the senior management team, Mr Brett supported the company's transition from a trading-based company to a global agri-business supply chain management company.

## **Dr Daniel Walker**

Chief Scientist, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)



Daniel Walker is the Chief Scientist at the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) since 2017. The Chief Scientist oversees the strategic science focus of ACIAR's research portfolio, impact assessment, monitoring and evaluation work and provides leadership for Research Program Managers. He joined ACIAR in 2017 after 23 years at CSIRO, where he was most recently Research Director for 'Agriculture and Global Change' in CSIRO Agriculture and Food and prior to that Chief of CSIRO Ecosystem Sciences. His research has focused on systems-oriented integration of environmental, economic and social dimensions of sustainable production in agricultural, forestry and rangelands landscapes. Dr Walker is a former Editor in Chief of 'Agricultural Systems', a member of the Executive of NITRO-Oceania (Network for Inter and Transdisciplinary Research Organisations), and a member of the 'Mana Rangatira' (board) for the NZ National Science Challenge for Biological Heritage.

## **Dr Dominik Klauser**

R&D Lead, Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture



Dominik Klauser holds a PhD in molecular plant pathology from the University of Basel. He has since worked in Business Development at Syngenta both in Switzerland and the UK, and as an IP and technology transfer advisor to several European research institutions. His current work at the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture focuses on coordinating crop breeding and agronomy research activities that have the ambition to support smallholder farmers in developing countries. Dr Klauser also lectures on crop management and plant physiology at Basel University. He is a board member of the Swiss Forum for International Agricultural Research (SFIAR) and a permanent advisor to public sector research bodies in Switzerland and Austria.

# Task Force Members

## Dr Eugenia Saini

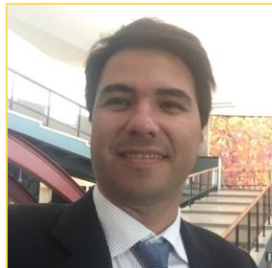
Executive Secretary, FONTAGRO



Eugenia Saini is FONTAGRO's Executive Secretary. Born in Argentina. Agronomist, Doctor in agricultural sciences, passion for agriculture, feeding people, and making life better for farmers. With 25 years of work in strategic planning and execution of international cooperation in science and innovation, promoting sustainable agribusiness and development. Her challenge is to strengthen competitive public and private strategic alliances that enhance governance and increase investments. Eugenia's professional background allows her to work in multicultural and interdisciplinary teams, sharing knowledge from basic and applied sciences, portfolio financial management, agribusiness, and policy design. She was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship at Cornell University and more recently with the Abshire-Inamori Leadership Academy (AILA) Scholarship at the Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS) in Washington D.C

## Dr Geraldo Martha

Senior Researcher, Embrapa Informática Agropecuária



Geraldo Martha is a Researcher at Embrapa (Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation) since 2001, and he is currently based at Embrapa Agricultural Informatics. Dr Martha is an agronomist (1994), having received his Ph.D. (2003) in Agronomy/Animal Science and Pastures from the University of São Paulo. He has a post-doctoral training in agricultural economics at the University of Brasilia (2007). Dr Martha is also a research-fellow at the Institute of Economics (NEA+), University of Campinas (Unicamp). He is the former Coordinator-general of Embrapa's Strategic Intelligence System (Agropensa) (2012-2015) and the former Coordinator of Embrapa's Scientific Cooperation Program in the United States (Embrapa, Labex-USA; 2015-2018). Dr Martha is a former member of Embrapa's Strategy Management Committee (2014-2015) and of the Commission for Sustainable Development in Agriculture of the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply (2015). Dr. Martha's research focuses on bio-economic modeling and strategic intelligence applied to agricultural value-chains matters. He is currently serving as a PI in two main initiatives, (1) the prospective study "Digital agriculture in Brazil: challenges and opportunities for research and innovation"; and (2) the research project "Endogenous responses in Brazilian and global agriculture to supply and demand shocks and regional impacts of sustainable intensification".

## Prof Dr Giovanni Frajese

Coordinator, Scientific Council, World Farmers' Organization



Giovanni V. Frajese is currently the director of the "SMART Lab" at the "University of Rome Foro Italico", and researches medicine and biotechnologies with interest in the field of Endocrinology, Oncology, Metabolism and Nutrition. Prof Frajese graduated in 1996 in Medicine at the University of Rome "Tor Vergata" and specialized in Endocrinology and Dysmetabolic diseases in 2001. After spending several years in London (Prof G.M. Besser Saint Bartholomew's Hospital) and Quebec City (Prof Fernand Labrie CHUL, Quebec, Canada), he returned to Italy first as a Researcher at the University of Rome "Tor Vergata", then as Associate Professor at the University of Cassino and Southern Lazio, before occupying his current position. Guest and speaker in many international medical symposiums, Prof Frajese has authored over 70 papers in international peer-reviewed scientific journals. Member of several societies including Endocrine Society (USA), American Diabetes Association (ADA), N.Y. Academy of Sciences, SIE (Italian Society of Endocrinology). Prof Frajese is the Scientific Advisor for the WFO-OMA.

# Task Force Members

## **Hayden Montgomery**

Special Representative, Global Research Alliance (GRA) on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases



Hayden Montgomery is currently the Special Representative of the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases, a multi-governmental research platform comprising more than 60 countries which aims to reduce greenhouse gases from food production through collaborative research activities and capability building activities across its research groups and networks addressing crops, livestock, rice paddies and soils. Previously Mr. Montgomery has served as New Zealand's Ambassador to Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay and was lead negotiator for New Zealand on agriculture and land use in the UN Climate Change Negotiations.

## **Ishmael Sunga**

Chief Executive Officer, Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU)



Ishmael Sunga is currently the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of SACAU (The Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions). He is a Zimbabwean national with more than 30 years' wide-ranging experience in agriculture and rural development, including in policy research and advocacy, as well as development management. He has also worked in the UK and undertaken assignments in other parts of Africa and Asia (India, Bangladesh and Sri-Lanka). Mr Sunga has established SACAU as the voice of farmers of southern Africa, a brand which is visible at regional and global levels, and is associated with good corporate governance, professionalism, thought leadership and high standards of development management. He has spearheaded the organisation's work in several key areas, including digital solutions; climate change management; the development of a new generation of farmers and of farmers' organisations; systems management and multi-stakeholder approaches, and value-chain cooperation. His ambition is to establish SACAU as a farmers' organisation development and policy think tank and innovation center aimed at addressing systemic agricultural development matters with the farmers' lens, including issues to do with fundamental values and principles relating to equity, fairness, transparency, inclusion and voice.

## **Dr Jerry Glover**

Deputy Director, Center for Agriculture, United States Agency for International Development (USAID)



Jerry Glover is a National Geographic Society Explorer and the Deputy Director for USAID's Center for Agriculture Led Growth. He earned undergraduate degrees in soil science and philosophy and a doctoral degree in soil science from Washington State University. He has studied a range of natural and farmed ecosystems, including no-till, perennial, organic and mixed crop-livestock systems. Dr Glover is an Elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Soil Science Society of America, the American Society of Agronomy, and the Crop Science Society of America.



# Task Force Members

## **Dr John McMurdy**

Vice President for Innovation & Development, Croplife International



John McMurdy is Vice President for Innovation & Development at CropLife International where he leads global association programs that promote plant science innovation in sustainable food systems. Previously, Dr. McMurdy served as senior international research and biotechnology advisor in the Bureau for Food Security at USAID where he managed agency investments in agricultural R&D and capacity development programs. Prior to coming to USAID, Dr McMurdy served as the Chief Technology Officer at Corum Medical, a technology company he co-founded with physician and engineering colleagues in Providence, Rhode Island. He received his Ph.D. in biomedical engineering from Brown University and his B.S./M.S. from the University of Rochester.

## **Dr José Joaquín Campos Arce**

Executive Director, Sustainable Agriculture Network (SAN)



José Campos has 35 years of experience in forestry and agriculture, working with international cooperation, technical, academic and scientific organizations and NGO's. He has worked in collective impact and integrated landscape management and has served in the boards of international organizations, including CIFOR, ICRAF, IUFRO and in task forces for The World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank. He is currently the executive director of the Sustainable Agriculture Network, a global collaborative network that works towards transforming agriculture. He was director general of CATIE, where he served in academic and scientific positions. Dr Campos earned a doctorate in forestry from the University of Oxford, a master in natural resources management from CATIE/University of Costa Rica and B.Sc. in forestry from the University of São Paulo, Brazil. He has published over 100 technical and scientific papers.

## **Dr Julia Compton**

Head of CoSAI Secretariat



Julia Compton joined the Water, Land and Ecosystems CGIAR Research Program in November 2019, with responsibility for setting up CoSAI and facilitating its success. Dr Compton has over 30 years' experience in agriculture and rural development in over 15 countries. She is currently based in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Previous employers include the Natural Resources Institute, the UK Department for International Development (now FCDO), the Overseas Development Institute, and the University of London (SOAS-CEDEP) distance learning program, among others. She has also worked as an independent consultant specializing in evaluation, results and performance, including for CGIAR. Her academic degrees are in agricultural botany, crop protection, post-harvest and agricultural economics.

# Task Force Members

## **Dr Ken Chomitz**

Chief Analytics Officer, Global Innovation Fund



Ken Chomitz is Chief Analytics Officer at the Global Innovation Fund, a non-profit which invests in the development, rigorous testing, and scaling of innovations targeted at improving the lives of the world's poorest people. Previously, as Senior Advisor in the World Bank Group's Independent Evaluation Group, he led major evaluations of the Bank's efforts in climate change, and chaired the Independent Evaluation of the Climate Investment Funds. At the World Bank's Research Group, Dr Chomitz undertook pioneering work in the economics of climate change, biodiversity, and deforestation, and has worked also in health and labor. He is author of *At Loggerheads? Agricultural Expansion, Poverty Reduction and Environment in the Tropical Forests*, and co-author of the World Development Reports on sustainable development and digital technology. Dr Chomitz holds an SB in mathematics from MIT and a PhD in Economics from the University of California, Irvine. Prior to joining the World Bank, he was a National Research Council Fellow; Assistant Professor of Economics at Boston University; and Senior Advisor with the Development Studies Project, a Jakarta-based policy advisory group.

## **Dr Latha Nagarajan**

Senior Economist, International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC)



Latha Nagarajan joined IFDC in 2011, currently heading the institution-wide MELS systems and coordinating the USAID-BRFS funded Soil Fertility Technologies Project. She is an Applied and Agricultural Economist, with specific focus on project and program evaluation and assessment of agricultural technologies adoption, input market interventions and policy research. Dr Nagarajan has been also involved in studying the seed systems and markets in south Asia and sub-Saharan African countries with several development partners and works closely the Rutgers University Feed the Future Policy Research Consortium. Prior to IFDC, Dr Nagarajan's experience included, Assistant Research Professor at Rutgers, The State University Of New Jersey – managed projects funded through Gates Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation and USAID; Post-doctoral researcher at the IFPRI-conducted research in India, Kenya, and Niger; Graduate Research positions at the applied economics department, University of Minnesota; and Agricultural Economist and Project Manager at the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, India. Dr Nagarajan holds a Ph.D. in applied economics from the University of Minnesota, with bachelor's and master's degree in Agricultural Sciences, and Business Management from India.

## **Lissa Glasgo**

Manager of IRIS+ and Impact Measurement & Management (IMM), Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN)



Lissa Glasgo leads the development of thematic content and metrics sets on IRIS+, including themes on Sustainable Agriculture, Smallholder Agriculture, and Biodiversity. Ms Glasgo's previous roles have included work on measurement strategy with solar- and tech-focused social enterprises in the Philippines and South Africa, development research and programs related to mental Health, adolescent sexual health education, reducing gender-based violence, and education and resources for women and girls. Ms Glasgo holds a Masters in Global Affairs from the Jackson Institute at Yale University, and a BA from Rice University.

# Task Force Members

## **Prof Dr Mario Herrero Acosta**

Chief Scientist, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australia



Mario Herrero is Chief Research Scientist of Agriculture and Food. His research focuses on increasing the sustainability of food systems for the benefit of humans and ecosystems. He works in the areas of sustainable intensification of agriculture, climate mitigation and adaptation, livestock systems, and healthy and sustainable diets. Prof Herrero is a regular contributor to important global initiatives at the heart of the sustainability of global food systems, such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Lancet Commission on Obesity and the EAT-Lancet Commission on healthy diets from sustainable food systems. He has worked extensively in Africa, Latin America and Asia. Prof Herrero has published more than 170 peer reviewed publications and over 300 publications in his areas of expertise. He is currently on the editorial boards of The Lancet Planetary Health, Agricultural Systems, Global Food Security, Agriculture and Food Security, Tropical Grasslands, Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems, and has been a guest editor for the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences journal (PNAS). Prof Herrero is a Corresponding Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, an Associate Fellow of Chatham House, the Royal Institute of International Affairs, and an Honorary Professor of Agriculture and Food Innovation at the University of Queensland, Australia.

## **Maurice Lorka**

CAADP-XP4 Manager, West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF)



Maurice Lorka is currently the Manager for the CAADP-XP4 Programme in West and Central Africa in CORAF. He is an Agricultural Policy Expert with a substantial experience in agricultural transformation policies in Africa at country, regional and Continental levels. He holds a MSc in Agricultural Sciences and Resources Management with a specialization in agricultural Economics obtained in the University of Bonn (Germany) and an Engineer degree in agro-processing from the National Polytechnic Institute of Yamoussoukro (Cote d'Ivoire). During his career, Mr Lorka has focused in MEL for agricultural development policy related programs and projects across Africa. He has extensive experience in Agricultural Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, with a deep understanding of impact of learning, sharing and mainstreaming innovation issues. At the African Union Commission, Mr Lorka has led the establishment of the Continental Monitoring and Evaluation System to monitor the progress on achieving the commitments of Africa Heads of State on the CAADP Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Africa Agricultural Growth and Transformation known as the "CAADP-Malabo Biennial Review". He also played a key role in developing the Science Agenda for Agricultural Research in Africa. He has conducted the development and Technical Reviews of National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plans in several countries in Africa.

## **Prof Dr Pablo Tittone**

CoSAI Commissioner | WWF Chair Professor Resilient Landscapes for Nature and People, Groningen University, The Netherlands | Principal Research Scientist CONICET, Argentina



Pablo Tittone is WWF-Chair Professor on Resilient Landscapes for Nature and People at Groningen University in The Netherlands, and scientists at the Agroecology and Ecological Intensification Research Unit of CIRAD in Montpellier, France. Since 2017 he has been nominated Principal Research Scientist by Argentina's National Council for Science and Technology (CONICET). He is the former national coordinator of the Natural Resources and Environment Program of INTA in Argentina (ca. 1500 researchers nationwide), and former Chair Professor of Farming Systems Ecology at Wageningen University, in The Netherlands. Prof Tittone is an agronomist by training and worked both in the private sector and in academic/research organisations. He holds a PhD in Production Ecology and Resource Conservation. His career in the tropics started at the Tropical Soil Biology and Fertility (TSBF) Institute of CIAT in Nairobi, Kenya, and includes a period at the University of Zimbabwe. Prof Tittone is a member of the International Commission on Sustainable Agriculture Intensification (COSAI). Editor of Agricultural Systems, published more than 150 scientific papers (h-index 40; top 1% most cited authors in the field Agronomy in 2018, 2019 and 2020), and trained a vast number of young researchers with fieldwork in Europe, Latin America, Asia and Africa.

Photo: [Reyer Boxem](#)

# Task Force Members

## **Patricia Flores**

Senior Project Coordinator, Organics International (IFOAM)



Patricia Flores is a Peruvian Forester from UNA La Molina (Lima, Peru) holding a Master's Degree in Resource Management from the University of Edinburgh, UK; with a postgraduate specialization in Agroecology (University of Berkeley, California) and is currently working for IFOAM Organics International based in Lima, Peru with a regional outreach. She is part of the organic and agroecological movement since the 90s and is IFOAM Academy Senior Trainer. Currently, Ms Flores is Peru National Coordinator of the global project "Nutrition in Mountain Agroecosystems", based on Agroecology to improve diet diversity in vulnerable population. She is a guest professor at the Graduate School of UNA La Molina, at the Master's Program Agricultural Innovation for Rural Development. Author of the Latin America Chapter every year in The World of Organic Agriculture (FiBL).

## **Rachel Lambert**

Agriculture Research Team Leader, Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO), United Kingdom



Rachel Lambert leads the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's Agriculture Research team. FCDO commission and funds agriculture research which delivers new evidence and technologies to address the global challenge of food systems that provide nutritious food for a global population whilst tackling climate change impacts and protecting nature. Ms Lambert has over 20 years policy and programming experience in agriculture, food security and rural development programmes in South Asia and Africa.

## **Dr Ravi Ketharpal**

Executive Secretary, Asia Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)



Ravi Khetarpal is the Executive Secretary of Asia Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) since 2017 and is engaged in strengthening agri-food research and innovation system in ASIA-Pacific. He had also worked as Regional Director, CABI -South Asia for 7 years and for NARS in India for three decades. He is currently serving as the Chairman of Tropical Agricultural Platform of FAO – a G20 initiative for developing and promoting the Agricultural Innovation System. Dr Ketharpal holds PhD in Life Sciences (Plant Pathology) from University of Paris and was a Visiting Scientist in an EU Collaborative Project at INRA, Versailles, France for three years. His own areas of interest include management of research, development, innovation, policy issues and capacity building in the field of biosecurity, biosafety, seed certification, germplasm health and compliances to SPS Agreement of WTO. Among the various projects that he is executing there are two sponsored by STDF/WTO and two by USDA which deals with phytosanitary and pesticide issues related to capacity building, partnerships, regulatory harmonization and quarantine and trade for South and Southeast Asian countries.



# Task Force Members

## **Dr Sonja Vermeulen**

Director of Programs CGIAR System Management Organization



Sonja Vermeulen is Director of Programs at the CGIAR System Organization, leading on coordination of the delivery, performance, and results of the shared CGIAR research portfolio, plus assisting the One CGIAR Executive Management Team with future strategies for effective agricultural research for development. She has previously served as Global Food Lead Scientist at WWF International, Head of Research at the CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), Director of the Program on Business and Sustainable Development at the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), and Research Fellow at the University of Zimbabwe. Her career has bridged academic and applied research, and natural and social sciences, with a strong focus on linking science with public policy and private sector strategies, particularly in Africa and Asia. Dr Vermeulen has led the design and implementation of research programs on climate change, agriculture, land use, food security, bioenergy, forestry, conservation, land governance and business practice. She is also an Associate Fellow at the Hoffmann Centre for Sustainable Resource Economy at Chatham House and was a Commissioner on the EAT-Lancet Commission on Healthy Diets from Sustainable Food Systems. Dr Vermeulen holds a BA and MA in Natural Sciences from the University of Cambridge, an MSc in Tropical Resource Ecology from the University of Zimbabwe and a PhD in Population Biology from Imperial College London

## **Dr Tania Eulalia Martínez Cruz**

Post-doc. Researcher in Anthropology, Pub. Health, and Dev. Studies, University of Greenwich/National Resources Institute (NRI), UK | Member of the Global Hub on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems



Tania Martínez is a researcher with an interdisciplinary background and an indigenous Eyuujk woman from Mexico. She is a postdoctoral researcher at the Natural Resources Institute at University of Greenwich working on 'Intercultural models to improve nutrition and health of indigenous populations through gender-sensitive agroforestry practices in Peru'. Dr Martínez holds an interdisciplinary background, a BSc in Irrigation Engineer (Universidad Autonoma Chapingo in Mexico), an MSc in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (University of Arizona in the US) and a PhD in Social Sciences (Wageningen University in the Netherlands). She has worked for more than 10 years on issues linked to water security, security, food security, climate change and social inclusion. Dr Martínez is interested in learning how indigenous knowledge and indigenous peoples' food systems can tackle global challenges such as climate change, food sovereignty, among others. She is a member of the Global Hub on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems and collaborates with the Action Track #2 of the United Nations Food Summit 2021.

# Task Force Members

## **Viktoria de Bourbon de Parme**

Food Transformation Lead, World Benchmarking Alliance (WBA)



Viktoria de Bourbon de Parme leads the food transformation at WBA. She is responsible for the development and engagement of the Food & Agriculture Benchmark, making sure that the benchmark methodology reflects stakeholder expectations and that it is widely used. In addition, she works closely with the spotlight indices: Access to Seeds Index and Seafood Stewardship Index. Ms Bourbon de Parme believes that business is at the center of the food systems transformation. The benchmark and the spotlight indices are crucial tools to measure progress and identify opportunities to realize more healthy, sustainable and equitable food systems.

## **Dr Walter Odhiambo**

Chief Agricultural Economist | African Development Bank



Walter Odhiambo is a Chief Agricultural Economist with the African Development Bank and is currently based in the South African Regional Office in Pretoria. He holds a Doctorate in Agriculture and Rural Development from the University of Hohenheim, Germany and a master's degree in economics from the University of Nairobi. Dr Odhiambo has more than 20 years experience in agricultural project design and management, development policy and strategy formulation, policy research and analysis and capacity building. He currently coordinates the African Development Bank agriculture interventions in the Southern African region.

# Observers

**Helena Wright**

Policy Director, FAIRR

**Christian Witt**

Senior Program Officer | Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

**Tess Russo**

Program Officer | Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

**Hannah Reed**

Program Officer | Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

**Dr Santiago Fariña**

Researcher Director | INIA Uruguay

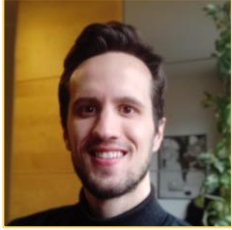
**Ruben Echeverria**

Senior Advisor Agriculture Development | Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Former CoSAI Chair | CoSAI

# CoSAI Secretariat Support Team

(in the order of time commitment)

## **Jonathan Wirths, Project Officer**



Jonathan Wirths is working as a Project Officer for the Research Program on Water Land and Ecosystems (WLE) at the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) focusing on sustainable agri-food systems. He is passionate about innovation and learning and brings experience in research and project management. Before joining WLE, he worked as a Data Analyst for USAID identifying innovative projects in the Water Energy Food Nexus. Besides an engagement with GIZ, he worked for World Vision in Chennai, India. There, Mr Wirths evaluated two projects that used sanitation and drinking water innovations and conducted a study of behavioural aspects of water institutions. He holds an MSc in International Development and Management specialising in Integrated Water Resource Management and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) from Lund University, Sweden. He is currently based in Bonn, Germany.

## **Marah al-Malalha, Project Officer**



Marah al-Malalha is an environmental enthusiast and an aspiring change-maker with experience in communications, monitoring, evaluation, and learning. Currently, she is supporting CoSAI in her capacity as a Project Officer. She previously worked with ICARDA and the CGIAR Research Program on Dryland Systems, and on a water conservation project in Jordan with USAID and Mercy Corps. She holds a bachelor's degree in Chemistry from the University of Manchester and is currently in her last year of studying towards a master's degree in Environmental Management from the University of London. She is currently based in Amman, Jordan.

## **Scarlett Crawford, Project Officer**



Scarlett Crawford is working as an Advocacy and Outreach Project Officer for the Commission on Sustainable Agriculture Intensification (CoSAI) at CGIAR. She aims to contribute to improving environmental and social justice issues through research and analysis on agriculture, the environment and climate. Before joining CoSAI, she worked as a policy analyst at the OECD focusing on water management, and in Australia with the Natural Resources Commission, developing recommendations around NRM issues. She holds an MSc in Development Economics and International Project Management from Paris 12 and completed her Bachelors (Hons) in Environmental and Agricultural Science at Sydney University, Australia. She is currently based in Paris, France.

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