



# Launch of 2021 Africa Agriculture Trade Monitor(AATM)

**Date: Friday September 10**

**Time: 13:00-13:45 EAT**

**Venue: Virtual & Nairobi, Kenya**



## Speaker Bios

### Sara Mbago-Bhunu



**Sara Mbago-Bhunu** is the Director of IFAD's East and Southern Africa Division. Sara's work experience spans more than 20 years in the agriculture sector across Central, East and Southern Africa. She has worked on agriculture policy and sector reviews, value chain development, access to agricultural finance, social enterprise models and the promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises in peri-urban and rural areas. She has also led and managed teams in other development organizations in the design of development projects and capacity-building programmes. Prior to joining IFAD, Sara worked at the World Bank as a Senior Agricultural Economist for the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Republic of Congo, based in Kinshasa. From 2013 to 2016, she served as Country Director for SNV-Netherlands Development Organisation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

### Godfrey Bahiigwa



**Godfrey Bahiigwa** is the Director of Agriculture and Rural Development at the African Union Commission. He works with AU Member States, Regional Economic Communities, and other partners to boost rural economic and agricultural sector development by supporting the adoption of strategies, policies, and programs. Before joining the AU, he was the Head of the International Food Policy Research Institute's Eastern and Southern Africa Office in Addis Ababa. He was the founding coordinator of Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System node for Eastern and Central Africa. Prior to joining IFPRI he held key positions relating to agricultural research and policy in his country, Uganda. Dr. Bahiigwa holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics from the University of Missouri-Columbia (USA), a master's degree in Agricultural and Applied Economics from the University of Minnesota (USA) and a bachelor's degree in Agriculture from Makerere University (Uganda)..

### James Oehmke



**James Oehmke** is a Senior Policy Adviser at USAID's Bureau for Resilience and Food Security. He is the policy team lead for Mutual Accountability and contact for the GFSS Refresh, COVID-19 Response, and Analytics. He contributes research, thought leadership, and programmatic guidance in these areas and others. Jim is an Adjunct Professor of Health Economics and Policy at Northwestern University, and Professor Emeritus of Agriculture, Food and Resource Economics at Michigan State University. He received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Chicago.

### Ousmane Badiane



**Ousmane Badiane**, Distinguished Fellow of the African Association of Agricultural Economists, recipient of the Africa Food Prize in 2015 and member of the World Academy of Sciences, is the founder and Executive Chairperson of AKADEMIYA2063. He has over 30 years of experience, as academic and a practitioner, in international development. He was instrumental in developing and guiding the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme. Dr. Badiane received PhD in agricultural economics from the University of Kiel in Germany. He is also recipient of a Doctorate Honoris Causa from the University of KwaZulu Natal.

## Yves Bernard Ningabire



**Yves Bernard Ningabire** is the Permanent Secretary of Rwanda's Ministry of Trade and Industry. He previously worked in the Ministry of Local Government as the Director General in charge of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation. Prior to his experience with Rwanda's ministries, Mr. Ningabire held the positions of Deputy Secretary General of the Rwanda Association of Local Government Authorities, Karongi District Executive Secretary, and Director of Audit and Inspection and Audit of Local Finances for Kibuye Province. Mr. Nigabire received an MBA in Project Management from Maastricht School of Management.

## Johan Swinnen



**Johan Swinnen** became director general of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) in January 2020 and global director for systems transformation, CGIAR, in May 2021. He is a Commissioner in the Food Systems Economics Commission; Co-Chair of the Think20 (T20) Task Force on Climate Change, Sustainable Energy, and Environment; and also a member of the Champions 12.3 Leadership Group to Reduce Food Loss and Waste (SDG Target 12.3) and of the Africa Europe Strategic Task Force on Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems. Prior to joining IFPRI, Dr. Swinnen was professor of economics and director of the LICOS Centre for Institutions and Economic

Performance at KU Leuven (Belgium) and senior research fellow at the Centre for European Policy Studies in Brussels.

Dr. Swinnen was a lead economist at the World Bank from 2003 to 2004 and economic adviser to the European Commission from 1998 to 2001. Over the course of his career, Dr. Swinnen has been a visiting professor at various universities, including at Stanford University's Center on Food Security and the Environment, and a frequent adviser to institutions such as the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

## Maximo Torero



**Maximo Torero Cullen** is the Chief Economist of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). He joined the Organization in January 2019 as Assistant Director-General for the Economic and Social Development Department. Prior to joining FAO, he was the World Bank Group Executive Director for Argentina, Bolivia, Chile Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay since November 2016 and before the Bank Mr. Torero led the Division of the Markets, Trade, and Institutions at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). His major research work lies mostly in analyzing poverty, inequality, importance of geography and assets (private or public) in explaining poverty, and in policies oriented

towards poverty alleviation based on the role played by infrastructure, institutions, and on how technological breakthroughs (or discontinuities) can improve the welfare of households and small farmers. His experience encompasses Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Asia.

## Heike Hoeffler



**Heike Hoeffler**, an agricultural economist by profession, joined German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) in 2002. From 2003 to 2008, she worked as an advisor to the Kenyan Ministry of Agriculture in the bilateral "Private Sector Promotion in Agriculture" Programme. Following five years as a freelance consultant, doctoral thesis and founding a family, she re-joined GIZ in 2013 as an advisor for agricultural policy and food security in Germany, where she focused on the contemporary agricultural policy agenda, rural transformation in Africa and nutrition-sensitive agriculture. In early 2017, she took over the role of a project leader for the Sector Project "Agricultural Trade and Value Chains",

later called "Agricultural Trade, Agribusiness, Agricultural Finance" (AAA). She is now leading the Germany-based Sector Project "Agriculture", primarily advising the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) on all issues concerning agriculture in development and its contribution to world free of hunger.