

SPEAKER PROFILES

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Boosting Intra-African Agricultural Trade to Build Resilience of Smallholder Farmers

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Satu Santala is Associate Vice-President of the External Relations and Governance Department at IFAD. She is responsible for communications, global engagement, partnerships, and resource mobilization, as well as overseeing the relations with IFAD's 177 Member States.

Santala has extensive experience in international relations and development. Prior to her role at IFAD, she served as Director General for Development Policy at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Santala has held various positions at the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, including as Director for the Unit for Development Finance and at Finland's Embassies in New Delhi and Dar es Salaam. She was Executive Director at the World Bank, where she represented Nordic and Baltic countries and she has also represented Finland in replenishment negotiations and governing bodies for MDBs as well as the Green Climate Fund. She has also worked with the Finnish Red Cross.

Santala holds a Master of Political Science, International Public Law & Development Studies from the Åbo Akademi in Finland.

OUSMANE BADIANE

Executive Chairperson, AKADEMIYA2063



Dr. 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. As the Director for Africa at the International Food Policy Research Institute, he was instrumental in developing and guiding the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme.

As Lead Specialist for Food and Agricultural Policy at the World Bank, he served as advisor to the Vice President for Africa. Between research and development finance, Dr. Badiane taught Economics of Development in Africa at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies for many years.

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.

CHAHIR ZAKI

Associate Professor, Cairo University, 2021 AATM Co-editor, AGRODEP Modeling Consortium Member



Dr. Chahir Zaki is a citizen of Egypt. At present, Chahir is an Associate Professor of Economics at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University. In this position, Chahir teaches and conducts research on trade policy and macroeconomics. He is also the Director of the French section at the faculty.

Chahir works also for the Economic Research Forum (Cairo, Egypt) as a part-time Senior Economist and as a consultant for several international organization (the World Bank and the International Trade Center (UNCTAD-WTO, Geneva) and ESCWA). He holds a B.A. in Economics from the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University, an M.A.

in Economics from Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne, and a Ph.D. in Economics from Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne. His research interests include international trade, trade policy, trade in services, applied economics and macroeconomic modeling. He has published numerous studies in the International Trade Journal, the World Trade Review, Economic Modeling and Applied Economics.

SARA MBAGO - BHUNU

Director of the East and Southern Africa Division (ESA), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)



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.

Sara holds a Master's in Business Administration from Maastricht School of Management, Netherlands, and a BSc in Agricultural Economics from the University of Reading, United Kingdom.

ANTOINE BOUET

Senior Research Fellow, Markets, Trade and Institutions Division, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)



Antoine Bouët joined IFPRI in February 2005 as Senior Research Fellow to conduct research on global trade modeling, trade policies, regional agreements, multilateral trade negotiations and informal cross-border trade. He leads the AGRODEP Trade and Regional integration group. He is also Professor of Economics at University of Bordeaux (France). He was previously Scientific Advisor at the Centre d'Etudes Prospectives et d'Informations Internationales (CEPII), Paris where he participated in the development of the MIRAGE model of the world economy and the MACMAP-HS6 database on market access. He has carried out research on market access, global trade modeling, the economics of trade retaliation, and the relationship between trade policy and Research and Development. He has been Director of the Centre d'Analyse et de Traitement des Données Economiques (CATT) from 1996 to 2004, and of the Laboratoire de Recherche en Economie et Finance Internationales (LAREFI) in France from 2014 to 2016, and Chairman of the European Research Network on International Economics and Finance (2002-2004). He was also editor of *Revue Economique*, *Economie Internationale* – *International Economics and Economie et Statistiques*. Recently, he has been awarded the Alan A. Powell Award 2010, presented each year by the Global Trade Analysis Project (GTAP) to recognize outstanding service of a representative serving on the GTAP Advisory Board. He was also awarded twice the GTAP Research Fellow.

SUNDAY ODJO

Deputy Director, Knowledge Systems, AKADEMIYA2063



Sunday Pierre Odjo is Deputy Director of the Department of Knowledge Systems. He is an agricultural economist with research interest in farm household modeling and trade and agricultural policy analysis. Before transitioning over to Akademiya2063, he served as a Senior Research Coordinator in the Africa Division of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). Over the past ten years, he has supported West African Authorities for the development of national agricultural investment plans as part of IFPRI's scientific and technical assistance to the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Program (CAADP).

He recently led several survey projects in Niger as part of a collaborative research work between IFPRI and the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC). Prior to joining IFPRI, he served as an Agricultural and Trade Policy Advisor in the Secretariat of the Conference of Ministers of Agriculture of West and Central Africa, facilitating country-level implementation of CAADP Framework for Improving Rural Infrastructure and Trade-Related Capacities for Market Access.

He holds a PhD in Rural Economics from the Catholic University of Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium and an MA in Geography and Land Use Planning from the National University of Benin.

ELIZABETH NSIMADALA

Director in charge of Women Affairs and former President at the Pan Africa Farmers Organization (PAFO)



Elizabeth Nsimadala is a Ugandan young agriprenuer and smallholder farmer. She is the President of the Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF) and currently the Director in charge of women affairs and immediate past President at the Pan Africa Farmers Organization (PAFO). She is a member of the United Nations Advisory Committee for The Secretary General's Food Systems Summit 2021, a task force member for AU- EU Cooperation in Agriculture, sits on the Global steering committee for Forest Farm Facility (FFF) by FAO, sits on the steering committee for IFAD's Global Farmers Forum, serves on the Civil Society Committee of the Africa Development Bank and on the board of Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), is a Governing Council member for Africa Fertilizer Financing Mechanism (AFFM), member of the steering committee of Pan Africa Agribusiness Chamber (PAAAC), a board member for ACTESA/COMESA and Advisory member of National Alliance of Agricultural Cooperatives in Uganda (NAAC). She also serves on a number of National and local farmers' and cooperative platforms. Elizabeth holds a MSc. In Project Planning and management from Ndejje University Uganda and a B.A in Social Sciences from Makerere University Kampala - Uganda. As a result of her efforts and support to Farmers Organizations, she has received a number of local and global awards with the recent one by the World Farmers Organization as one of the women contributing to sustainable development and recognition from the United States of America Farmers and Ranchers in Action for inspiring farmers globally for Action and fighting for farmers rights.

KOMLA BASSI

Senior Advisor on Agriculture Trade and Agriculture Value Chains Development, African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)



Mr. Komla Prosper Bissi is an Agricultural Economist, with more than fifteen years of experience in the field of international development within the context of international agricultural development, agriculture policy reforms, agri-business, agricultural trade and market access, private sector development, food loss and waste reduction related project works.

He is currently the Senior Agriculture Adviser to the Secretary General of the African Continental Free Trade Areas Secretariat based in Accra, Ghana. Before his Secondment to the AfCFTA Secretariat, Mr. Bissi served in various capacities at the African Union Commission in the past 10 years including Head of Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). Mr. Bissi is also an Associate Champion on global food loss and waste reduction initiative (Champion 12.3). He worked as Senior Agribusiness Adviser with the South African based African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEAPD).

He coordinated the development key strategic frameworks to guide the continent's agricultural trade transformation agenda including the Continental Agribusiness Strategy, the African Union Postharvest Management Strategy and recently the Continental Framework for Boosting Intra African Trade in Agricultural Commodities and Services.

GLADYS H. MORALES

Senior Innovation Adviser, Change, Delivery and Innovation Unit (CDI), Office of the President and the Vice President, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)



Gladys H. Morales is Senior Innovation Adviser at the Change Delivery and Innovation Unit at the Office of the President and the Vice-President of IFAD. She has led the digital transformation of Government and UN agencies' projects in Latin America, Asia and Europe. She is also familiar with the startup eco-system having worked in a management position for a digital advertising startup while she was living in Indonesia and founding her own startup in Italy. Before joining IFAD, Gladys was an Advisor at the International Poverty Reduction Centre in China (IPRCC) where she led the design of digital platforms and established partnerships and knowledge networks for the Global Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Growth (GPIG) Portal. She is the Regional Ambassador in Italy of the Global Blockchain Business Council (GBBC). Gladys is a graduate from the Executive Programme on Digital Business Leadership at Columbia Business School, Columbia University in New York; and the Executive Programme in Artificial Intelligence at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Gladys also has a Master in Development Economics and International Cooperation from University of Rome, Tor Vergata and a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service and International Economics from Georgetown University.