184th BIFAD Public Meeting
May 23, 2022 (12:00-2:30 PM EDT)
Public comment from 1:30–1:50 pm EDT and from 2:15–2:20 pm EDT

The Global Food Security Crisis: Exploring the Evidence Base and Lessons from the Past to Strengthen Agricultural, Nutrition, and Food Systems in the Face of Shocks

Register before the event: Webinar Registration - Zoom

Event Description

This is a public meeting of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD), The Global Food Security Crisis: Exploring the Evidence Base and Lessons from the Past to Strengthen Agricultural, Nutrition, and Food Systems in the Face of Shocks. The BIFAD is a seven-member, presidentially appointed advisory board to USAID established in 1975 under Title XII of the Foreign Assistance Act, as amended, to ensure that USAID brings the assets of U.S. universities to bear on development challenges in agriculture and food security and supports their representation in USAID programming. This will be the first public meeting of BIFAD members appointed by President Joseph Biden on January 14, 2022 and will include an introduction to newly appointed BIFAD members, a briefing on BIFAD’s current work plan priorities, and an overview of key upcoming initiatives. BIFAD will also announce new work relating to systemic solutions for climate change adaptation and mitigation in agriculture, nutrition, and food systems to inform the implementation of USAID’s recently released climate change strategy. Public comment is invited to further inform BIFAD’s work.

In the face of short- and long-term shocks, fragile food systems are driving increases in poverty, hunger, and child stunting. The global effort to end hunger and poverty is at a critical moment, with Russia’s invasion of Ukraine adding to an already-compounded global food crisis as countries struggle to recover from the impacts of COVID-19, humanitarian emergencies and climate change. What does it mean to get ahead of future crises and to build resilient food systems? What are the lessons learned from previous crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic and the 2007–2008 global food price crisis? BIFAD will take stock of evidence around these questions and identify weak links in food systems that must be strengthened to respond to global food security crises and to mitigate the impacts of current and future shocks. Food systems, nutrition, and humanitarian assistance experts will share lessons learned about resilience in the face of these disruptions. Evidence-based recommendations from these deliberations will inform USAID strategy implementation, policy, and programming.
AGENDA

Welcome and Introducing USAID Senior Leadership
Jim Barnhart, Assistant to the Administrator, Bureau for Resilience and Food Security
12:00-12:02 pm

Welcome and Acknowledgment of BIFAD Members
Administrator Samantha Power
12:02-12:07 pm
Administrator Power will recognize former BIFAD members and welcome the newly appointed or re-appointed members.

Welcome and Introduction of BIFAD Members and Senior USAID Leadership
Laurence Alexander, BIFAD Chair and Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
12:07-12:11 pm
BIFAD Chair will welcome participants, invited guests, and attendees. BIFAD members, recently presidenially appointed or reappointed, will introduce themselves, followed by a brief discussion of the history and purpose of BIFAD.

Overview of the Meeting Objectives and Snapshot of Board’s Priorities and Planning for 2022-2023
Laurence Alexander and Board Members
12:11-12:20 pm
The BIFAD Chair will introduce the Board’s current priorities and plans around three central thematic areas and several cross-cutting lenses, framing the other presentations in the meeting around informing BIFAD’s work and validating the priorities and assumptions.

Strengthening Agricultural and Food Systems to Respond to Global Food Security Crises and to Mitigate the Impacts of Shocks

Part One: Setting the Context – Global Food Security Crises, Past and Present
12:20-12:40 pm

Framing and Key Questions
Pamela Anderson, BIFAD Member and Director General Emerita, International Potato Center
12:20-12:25 pm

Overview of Past and Current Global Food Security Crises
Máximo Torero, Chief Economist, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
12:25-12:35 pm
The presentation will summarize what we know about the extent and magnitude of the current crisis and will demonstrate the connection to historical food crises linked to oil price spikes in 1973 and 2006.

BIFAD Questions and Discussion with Presenter
12:35-12:40 pm
Part Two: Identifying Lessons Learned, Identifying Gaps, and Key Actions to Prepare for Future Crises and to Build Resilient Food Systems
12:40-1:50 pm

Panelists:

Patrick Webb, Alexander McFarlane Professor of Nutrition, Tufts University, and Director, Feed the Future Innovation Lab on Nutrition
12:40-12:50 pm

Nike Tinubu, General Manager, Premium Cassava Products Limited, a Flour Mills of Nigeria plc. Agro Company
12:50-1:00 pm

Sandrine Chetail, Global Senior Director, Economic Growth, Mercy Corps
1:00-1:10 pm

Dr. Jemimah Njuki, Chief, Economic Empowerment Section, UN Women
1:10-1:20 pm

BIFAD Questions and Discussion with Presenters
1:20-1:30 pm

Public Comment Period
Attendees are encouraged to share questions and comments using the chat or Q/A function in the online meeting platform.
1:30-1:50 pm
The session facilitator will read public questions and comments for speaker or member response.

BREAK
1:50-1:55 pm
Attendees are invited to participate in a brief poll during the break.

Part Three: The Climate Crisis – Approaches for Systems Change for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Action
1:55-2:20 pm

Accelerating Transformative Adaptation Approaches and Systems Change to Climate Change in Agriculture, Food Systems and Nutrition: Highlighting BIFAD’s Plans

Rattan Lal, BIFAD Member and Distinguished Professor at Ohio State University, and World Food Prize Laureate
1:55-2:00 pm
BIFAD will announce new work relating to systemic solutions for climate change adaptation and mitigation in agriculture, nutrition, and food systems to inform the implementation of USAID’s recently released Climate Change Strategy.
Identifying Opportunities to Accelerate Transformative Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Action

**Ann Vaughan**, Senior Advisor for Climate Change, USAID Bureau for Resilience and Food Security
2:00-2:10 pm
USAID’s Bureau for Resilience and Food Security Senior Climate Adviser will provide an overview of the recently released USAID Climate Change Strategy, and relate the need for BIFAD’s advice for implementation of the strategy.

BIFAD Questions and Discussion with Presenters
2:10-2:15 pm

Public Comment Period
2:15-2:20 pm

*Part Four: Synthesis and Reflection*
2:20-2:30 pm

Synthesis and Reflections

**Henri Moore**, BIFAD Member and Vice President/Head of Responsible Business, GSK Consumer Health
2:20-2:25 pm

Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

**Laurence Alexander**
2:25-2:30 pm
BIFAD Member and Speaker Bios:

**Dr. Jim Barnhart** is the Assistant to the Administrator in the USAID Bureau for Resilience and Food Security, as well as the Deputy Coordinator for Development for Feed the Future, the U.S. Government’s global hunger and food security initiative. In this dual role, Dr. Barnhart coordinates the implementation of Feed the Future across the U.S. Government and oversees USAID’s technical and regional expertise focused on improving agriculture-led growth, resilience, nutrition and water security, sanitation, and hygiene. Dr. Barnhart has previously served as a USAID Mission Director in Jordan, Albania, and Lebanon.

**Administrator Samantha Power** was sworn into office as the 19th Administrator of USAID on May 3, 2021. In leading the world’s premier international development agency, Power focuses on helping the United States respond to four interconnected challenges: the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, conflict and humanitarian crises, and democratic backsliding. Additionally, Power is the first USAID Administrator to be a member of the National Security Council. Prior to joining the Biden-Harris Administration, Power was the Anna Lindh Professor of the Practice of Global Leadership and Public Policy at Harvard Kennedy School and the William D. Zabel Professor of Practice in Human Rights at Harvard Law School. From 2013 to 2017, Power served in the Obama-Biden Administration as the 28th U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations. An immigrant from Ireland, Power began her career as a war correspondent in Bosnia, and went on to report from places including Kosovo, Rwanda, Sudan, and Zimbabwe.

**BIFAD Chair Dr. Laurence B. Alexander** has served for eight years as Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB), a public historically black land-grant research university that offers degrees in more than 40 programs at the bachelor’s, master’s, and Ph.D. levels. Prior to joining UAPB, Alexander had a distinguished 22-year career as a professor and administrator at the University of Florida—the state’s land-grant flagship research institution that is a member of the Association of American Universities.
BIFAD Member **Dr. Pamela Anderson** served as Director General of the International Potato Center (CIP) in Lima, Peru—one of the research centers within the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), from 2005 to 2013—and as CIP’s Director of Research from 2002 to 2005. Prior to joining the CGIAR system, Dr. Anderson spent two decades working with national programs in Latin America, including 11 years teaching at the national agricultural university in Nicaragua. She has also served as an advisor to the Federation of American Scientists, a research consultant at Harvard University, a member of the Government of Ireland Hunger Task Force, and a Board member of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA).

**BIFAD Member Marie Boyd** is an associate professor at the University of South Carolina School of Law. Her research focuses on the regulation of food, drugs, medical devices, and cosmetics by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Her current work examines the relationship between FDA regulation and state tort law, focusing on how these areas of law impact women and people of color. Her prior work explores topics including the relationship between law and culture in the context of the regulation of insects as human food and the regulation of food allergens.

**BIFAD Member Rattan Lal**, Ph.D., is a Distinguished University Professor of Soil Science and Director of the CFAES Rattan Lal Center for Carbon Management and Sequestration at The Ohio State University. Dr. Lal is widely recognized globally as a pioneer in soil-centric agricultural management to improve food security globally and develop climate-resilient agriculture through soil carbon sequestration, sustainable intensification, enhancing use and efficiency of agroecosystems, sustainable management of soils, and soil health. Dr. Lal has been the recipient of many prestigious awards, including the Padma Shri Award of the Government of India, the World Food Prize, Arrell Global Food Innovation Award of Canada, Japan Prize, U.S. Awasthi IFFCO Prize of India, GCHERA World Agriculture Prize, and Glinka World Soil Prize of FAO, Rome, Italy.
BIFAD Member Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie is a tenured associate professor in the Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics at Michigan State University. Her research focuses on emergent issues related to smallholder productivity and welfare within dynamic and transforming food systems in Sub-Saharan Africa and alongside poorly functioning markets in the region. Currently, Dr. Liverpool-Tasie is the principal investigator of various research projects that strive to support policy processes with evidence based on scientific research. She is active in several multidisciplinary teams focused on issues of food security, food safety, and value chain transformation in developing countries.

BIFAD Member Henri G. Moore is Vice President/Head of Responsible Business at GSK Consumer Health, which will incorporate in July 2022. Moore is also establishing the NewCo Foundation, where she will also serve as the president. Moore is responsible for the design, implementation, administration, and communication of the new Consumer Health Company’s mission of delivering better everyday health with humanity to key stakeholders and communities in which they operate around the globe. Her role will capitalize on the 30 years of experience in marketing, public relations, philanthropy, community outreach, sustainability, and sponsorships. Prior to this appointment, Moore served as Vice President/Head of Global Responsibility and President of the foundation at Corteva Agriscience.

BIFAD Member Kathy Spahn is President and CEO of Helen Keller Intl, a global health organization that partners with communities to overcome long-standing cycles of poverty. Prior to joining Helen Keller in 2005, Spahn was President and Executive Director of Orbis, an international non-profit dedicated to the prevention and treatment of blindness. Spahn currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Access to Nutrition Initiative. She also serves on the International Food Policy Research Institute’s Leadership Council Compact of 2025 and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. She was a founding board member of the Association of Nutrition Services Agencies and a founding partner of the former Global Network for Neglected Tropical Disease Control.
Mr. 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 held leadership positions at the World Bank Group and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). His major research work lies mostly in analyzing poverty, inequality, importance of geography and assets in explaining poverty, and in policies oriented toward poverty alleviation based on the roles played by infrastructure, institutions, and on how technological breakthroughs can improve the welfare of households and small farmers. His experience encompasses Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Asia.

Mr. Patrick Webb is the Alexander McFarlane Professor of Nutrition at Tufts University. He is also the Director for USAID Feed the Future’s Food Systems for Nutrition Innovation Lab. Dr. Webb’s expertise lies in food policy analysis, agriculture systems, international nutrition programming, and emergency relief. His ongoing research involves humanitarian policy and practice, development policy, micronutrient deficiencies, food system development, aflatoxins and nutrition outcomes, and implementation science. He has held positions at the United Nations’ World Food Programme and the International Food Policy Research Institute.

Ms. Nike Tinubu is the General Manager at Premium Cassava Products Limited. Additionally, she is the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Eagleson & Nito Concepts, a consultancy, production, and processing company of high-quality cassava flour (HQCF) and commercial and mechanized farming of cassava roots in South West Nigeria. She has over 13 years in consulting, capacity building of smallholder farmers, and engagement of contract growers in rural communities, thereby improving their produce yields and income. She also serves as Pioneer President of the Industrial Cassava Stakeholders Association of Nigeria (ICSAN) and as an Executive Member of the Advisory Board for Agricultural Policy Research Africa (APRA).
Ms. Sandrine Chetail is the Senior Director for Economic Growth at Mercy Corps. She is responsible for defining Mercy Corps’ strategic positioning in agriculture, markets, youth employment, financial inclusion, and cash programming, ensuring that all sectors build and complement each other. She also represents Mercy Corps among the technical and development community and assists country teams in strategic economic program development and implementation. Sandrine brings over 20 years of professional experience in international development, including 15 years living throughout West Africa and Southeast Asia.

Dr. Jemimah Njuki is the Chief of the Economic Empowerment section at UN Women. She is a recognized leader on gender equality and women’s empowerment, having directed global initiatives promoting women’s economic empowerment. She has spent the last two years leading the UN Food Systems Summit's Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Lever of Change and was instrumental in establishing the Coalition to Make Food Systems Work for Women and Girls. Additionally, she led the design and deployment of the Global Food 5050, an indicator and mechanism for gender responsibility for organizations engaged in global food systems. Her extensive resume includes positions with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), International Development Research Centre (IDRC), CARE USA, and the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI). She is the founder of the One Million Girls Trust, a trust that provides educational scholarships for girls and computers to rural schools so that girls have access to technology from an early age.

Ms. Ann Vaughan is a Senior Advisor for Climate Change at the USAID Bureau for Resilience and Food Security. Previously, she has been a Senior Advisor and Senior Director for Policy and Advocacy at Mercy Corps.