"BEYOND RECOVERY: LEVERAGING INNOVATION AGRIPRENEURSHIP TO SAFEGUARD FOOD AND NUTRITION

Date: 29 May 2022 | Time: 14:00 – 16:00

Webinar

INTRODUCTION:

The Covid-19 pandemic and associated economic disruptions have reversed many years of development progress. The pandemic pushed more than 120 million people into extreme poverty globally in 2020. While all IsDB member countries have felt the brunt of the crises in one way or another, the low income and food deficit countries have experienced rising child malnutrition, loss of employment and livelihoods. This year, conflict in Ukraine, high energy cost, and bad weather have driven global food and fertilizer prices to levels not seen in recent years. The lingering shocks of the pandemic and rising food inflation are posing significant threat to developing countries’ fragile state of recovery.

In early 2022 IsDB launched major strategy update exercise to align its investment priorities with member countries effort to building back better. The strategy which covers the period 2023-2025 aims to focus on three objectives: (i) boosting recovery; (ii) tackling poverty and building resilience; and (iii) driving green economic growth.

To achieve this, the Bank in the coming three years (2023-2025) plans to support its member countries 1) build resilience and climate smart agriculture that enhances agricultural productivity and food security, 2) improve smallholder access to remunerative markets, and 3) invest in crop and livestock value chains while supporting private sector participation, particularly SMEs.

OBJECTIVE

The event aims to contribute to the global knowledge and policy discourse in highlighting the importance of ARD innovations and agri-business in addressing post-covid-19 changing development landscape in agriculture and food security. The event will highlight the role of agricultural research and innovations as well as critical role agribusiness plays in building resilient food systems in IsDB member countries. It will provide lessons and experiences, from a wide range of stakeholders, that would inform future investments of the Bank and contribute to the implementation of the IsDB 2023-2025 strategy.

KEY ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED:

1. What lessons can we learn from the Covid-19 pandemic supply chain disruptions and how to best strengthen the fragile food systems in IsDB member countries?

2. How best can R&D systems in member countries be transformed to address growing challenges around food and nutrition security and smallholder adaptation to climate change?

3. How best can private sector complementary investments be structured to support and scale up smallholder driven value chains?
Opening statement
Dr. Mansur Muhtar
Vice President, Country Program
Islamic Development Bank

Keynote speaker
Dr. Agnes Kalibata
UN Security General’s special envoy on food systems and President
Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)

Panel member
H.E. Kyakulaga Fred Bwino
Minister of State for Agriculture
Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries of Uganda

Panel member
H.E. Gaston Cossi Dossouhoui
Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries of Benin
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries of Benin

Panel member
Dr. Abdul-Hakim Elwaer
Acting Director and Regional Representative for the Near East and North Africa
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Panel member
Dr. Celso Luiz Moretti
President
The Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (Embrapa Brazil)

Panel member
Mr. Moulay Lahcen Ennahli
Senior Vice president
Office Chérifien des Phosphates (COP Morocco)

Panel member
Mr. Arjit Jain
Vice President and Business Head
OLAM Food Ingredients
Closing statement
Dr. Tarifa Al Zaabi
Acting Director General and Deputy Director General
International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA)

Moderator
Mr. Nur Abdi
Principal Agriculture Global Practice
Islamic Development Bank