

International Conference

on

Jobs, Innovation and Rural Value Chains in the Context of Climate Transition: Bridging the Gap between Research and Policy

Organized by

IFAD

with

Sapienza University of Rome

Tor Vergata University of Rome

Roma Tre University

June 22-24, 2022

IFAD HQ – Rome (Italy) Via Paolo Di Dono 44 – 00142

Hybrid

- **Important Dates:**

- November 30, 2021 call for papers
- January 30, 2022: Deadline for abstract and session proposals
- February 15, 2022: Notification of Acceptance
- June 22-24, 2022: Conference – Plenary and Parallel Sessions
- June 24, 2022: Keynote Addresses & Job Meet-Up Event

- **Call for Paper**

We are pleased to announce the International Conference on “Jobs, Innovation and Rural Value Chains in the Context of Climate Transition” that will take place at IFAD headquarters in Rome (Italy) on 22-24 June, 2022.

The conference is organized within the framework of the activities of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between IFAD and the Department of Social Sciences and Economics of Sapienza University of Rome, the Centre for Economic and International Studies (CEIS) of Tor Vergata University, and the Department of Economics of Roma Tre University, in collaboration with other Italian Research Institutions: the Italian Center for International Development ([ICID](#)), the University of Florence, and the Italian Association of Development Economists ([SITES-IDEAS](#)).

The conference intends to be a bridge between research and policy, translate scientific and rigorous applied research into evidence-based policy advice, and produce knowledge, with the aim of contributing to the scaling up of successful policy interventions, projects, programs, and strategies in the area of rural development.

Achieving desirable food systems transformation, creating new employment and entrepreneurship opportunities in the mid-stream and developing global and local value chains based on data and innovations are critical components of progress towards doubling the income of small-scale producers and meeting the SDGs by 2030. At the same time, more frequent and intense extreme weather events are destroying crops, killing animals, reducing earnings and increasing conflicts over natural resources. Building climate-resilient food systems and reducing GHG emissions from agriculture are urgent priorities.

Transforming the food systems and adapting them to climate change, creating new job opportunities in the era of the digital revolution and in the post-COVID new international business model will require closing the gaps between policy making and scientific evidence, data and innovation.

We are seeking policy relevant applied research papers that address these challenges and can foster the state of the knowledge for North-South, South-South and Triangular Cooperations. Papers should be based on rigorous quantitative analysis or systematic reviews, help to generate lessons learned and insights to spur multilateral investment and policy dialogue and advance the state of knowledge of program and project evaluation techniques.

The conference will be a high-level forum of discussion to bring forth research of the highest academic standards in collaboration with Italian Universities, International Academic Associations, and International Organizations involved in economic and rural development policies. This will help to create a collaborative network of researchers, policy-makers and other relevant stakeholders, together with international development organizations, NGOs, regional and international financial institutions, business partners and government representatives.

The IFAD conference will be the place where new knowledge is created and disseminated; collaboration between researchers is encouraged; a job market of young researchers is facilitated, lessons to design new projects and programs are drawn; and priorities for the future research and policy agenda are set. To this end, the conference will end with a **Job Meet-up Event**, a session dedicated to **scholars** to give them the opportunity to meet Professionals from Rome-based agencies (FAO, IFAD, WFP) involved in research and policy work, with the goal to receive career guidance and increase networking opportunities.

June 24, 2022:

Keynote Addresses

Joshua Angrist, MIT & 2021 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics
David Zilberman, UC Berkeley & 2019 Wolf Prize in Agriculture

JOB MEET-UP EVENT

Scientific Committee¹

Pierluigi	Montalbano	Sapienza, University of Rome and ICID
Silvia	Nenci	Roma Tre University
Dr. Jo (Jyotsna)	Puri	IFAD & Columbia U.
Furio	Rosati	University of Rome "Tor Vergata", CEIS and ICID
Dr. Sara	Savastano	IFAD and University of Rome "Tor Vergata"

Program Committee - IFAD

Dr. Aslihan	Arslan
Dr. Romina	Cavatassi
Dr. Alessandra	Garbero
Dr. Athur	Mabiso
Dr. Vibhuti	Mendiratta

IFAD Small Grants:

¹ Decide on the Call for paper and help to review the papers with the Program Committee and to identify criteria for grant award to Italian Scholars

Opportunities for Scholars from Italian Universities:

IFAD, Sapienza University of Rome, Tor Vergata University of Rome, Roma Tre University, ICID, and SITES are pleased to launch the **IFAD Small Grants for Applied Research Papers**.

International Collaboration is strongly encouraged. Papers can be co-authored with International Scholars, but the grant will be given to the Author affiliated to an Italian University. The grant will be US\$ 5000 max per paper.

Small grants will be awarded to the best papers on the conference topics (Jobs, Innovation, Rural Value Chain in the context of Climate Change) or to the best papers written using IFAD's harmonized dataset on Impact Assessment. Example of research reports on impact assessment conducted on IFAD's projects using the harmonized dataset are available on this [link](#).

IFAD collects a rich harmonized dataset on household and community level information on IFAD's beneficiaries and their counterfactuals. Sample sizes are determined through a power calculation and normally range between 1500 and 3000 households and around 150 to 300 communities per each project. Those datasets are used to conduct the Impact Assessment Initiative and measure attribution and impact of IFAD's interventions on the income, the agricultural production and wealth of the beneficiaries².

SPONSORS

The Small Grants initiative is organized within the framework of the IFAD-MoU, Collaboration with the Italian Universities, financed in 2020 with the Supplementary Funds from the Government of Italy.



CONTACT US

Organization & Administration

Vittoria Pinca, v.pinca@ifad.org

Antonella Del Prete, a.delprete@ifad.org

² Data are collected through the CAPI approach using Survey Solutions and cover socio-demographic, economic, social capital variables, as well as any variable that determines agricultural or non-agricultural production and income. Variables related to trade, access to market and resilience are also collected. The vast range of data allows for nuanced and detailed analysis running across a wide spectrum of possibilities. Qualitative data and information collected through focus groups and key informants enrich the data set and help build the narrative.