

Board for International Food and Agricultural Development
181st Public Meeting
Food Security and Nutrition in the Context of COVID-19: Impacts and Interventions
Agenda
June 4, 2020
1:30-3:30 pm EDT

Background and Meeting Objectives

The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and measures put in place to stop its spread will have impacts on all intermediate results of the U.S. Government Global Food Security Strategy, including agricultural productivity, livelihoods, markets, trade and policy actions, food consumption and nutrition, hygiene and resilience. The Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD), an advisory committee to the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), will convene a virtual public meeting to share the thinking of leading experts in food security and nutrition that relates to COVID-19 impacts. This will include consideration of the most promising short-, medium-, and long-term responses across several key areas: farm-level productivity, markets and trade, access to finance, nutrition, safe and hygienic food systems, gender, and national and local policy. The meeting will include presentations of credible modeling data about the scale and breadth of anticipated food security impacts in the developing world and a summary spanning near to longer-term interventions and guidance that may help to mitigate COVID-19 impacts. The meeting will also provide leading sources of curated information (e.g., landing pages for information related to the crisis and response). The meeting is intended to help to support decision making by USAID and its partners and stakeholders working to advance food security, nutrition, and resilience at global, regional and national levels.

BIFAD is a seven-member, presidentially appointed advisory board to USAID established in 1975 under Title XII of the Foreign Assistance Act, as amended. The provisions of Title XII concern bringing assets of U.S. universities to bear on development challenges in agriculture and food security, and the BIFAD's role is to help carry out this function.

Format: A 2-hour live-streamed meeting, open to the public, with an expert panel and a 20 minute public comment period. The recorded audio and video and minutes to be available in archive form.

Findings, Conclusions, and Recommendations: On the basis of testimony, including public comments shared at the meeting, BIFAD will provide formal findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the Agency on best-bet operational and programmatic investments.

Agenda

1:30 pm	Board member introductions and opening remarks	BIFAD Chairman, Mark Keenum, President, Mississippi State University
1:35	Opening remarks and stage setting	USAID Acting Administrator John Barsa (invited)
1:40	Overview of food systems and food security impacts	Jo Swinnen, Director General, IFPRI
1:50	<p>Promising Interventions to Support Food Systems and Nutrition</p> <p><i>National and local policy interventions to support trade, finance, markets, and enterprises</i></p> <p>Carl Pray, Distinguished Professor, Department of Agriculture, Food and Resource Economics, Rutgers University</p> <p><i>Interventions to support OneHealth and Hygienic Markets</i></p> <p>Jimmy Smith, Director General, ILRI (confirmed)</p> <p><i>Interventions to Support Nutrition, Social Protection, Emergency Response, and Access to Nutrition and Health Services</i></p> <p>Shawn Baker, Chief Nutritionist, USAID</p> <p>Marie Ruel, Director of Poverty, Health, and Nutrition Division, IFPRI</p> <p><i>Interventions in Nigeria: A Case Study</i></p>	<p>Moderator: Rajul Pandya-Lorch, Director of Communications and Public Affairs & Chief of Staff in the Director General's Office, IFPRI</p>

	<p>Saweda Liverpool-Tasie, Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, Michigan State University</p> <p><i>Linking agricultural growth and resilience outcomes for long-term recovery</i></p> <p>Maximo Torero, Chief Economist, FAO</p>	
2:45	Questions by BIFAD and discussion	Rajul Pandya-Lorch
3:10 pm	Public comment period	Moderated by Clara Cohen, Executive Director, BIFAD, USAID
3:30 pm	Adjourn	Mark Keenum