



### **Programme**



### **Thursday 12 September 2019**

0815 - 0900 Registration

#### Official opening and keynote addresses

Welcome and official opening - Dr Lutz-Peter Berg, Chair Executive Council, CABI

0900 – 0930 **Keynote presentation: H.E. Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko,** Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission

0930 – 1000 CABI progress against Medium Term Strategy (2017-2019): Dr Trevor Nicholls, Chief Executive Officer, CABI

1000 – 1030 Networking break

#### Plenary panel discussion

1030 – 1230 Plenary panel discussion – how the issues identified at the Regional Consultations relate to the global challenges.

#### Speakers:

Canada: **Dr Michèle Marcotte**, Director of Research, Development and Technology, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

China: **Professor Hao Weiping,** Deputy Director General of International Cooperation, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences

Botswana: **Dr Pharoah Mosupi**, Director of Agricultural Research, Common Service Division, Ministry of Agriculture

CABI representative: Dr Dennis Rangi, Director General, Development

CABI Board representative: Paulus Verschuren, Founder at WorldFed and CABI Board member

Chair: Carol McNamara, Chief Commercial Officer, CABI

1230 – 1330 Networking lunch in the Left Bank restaurant

1330 – 1400 Exhibits – CABI in Action

#### **Breakout sessions**

1400 – 1530 Breakout sessions on climate change, gender and economic development – how CABI's areas of expertise help to address global challenges

#### **CABI** speakers:

Climate change: **Luca Heeb**, Plantwise Programme Support Officer

Dr Emma Jenner, Strategic Planning and Operations Manager

Gender: Frances Williams, Global Monitoring and Evaluation Manager

Dr Yelitza Colmenarez, Director CABI Brazil Centre

**Economic** 

development: Dr George Oduor, Global Director, Value Chains and Trade

Dr Babar Bajwa, Regional Director - CABI Central and West Asia

1530 – 1600 Networking break

#### **Plenary session**

1600 – 1630 Plantwise – today and tomorrow: Dr Washington Otieno, Plantwise Programme Executive

1630 – 1645 Summing up and outline for the following day: Dr Trevor Nicholls

1745 Leave for conference dinner at The Orangery, Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew



### Friday 13 September 2019

CABI governance and resolutions. Closed session. Member countries only

0830 - 1000 Please see separate agenda

1000 - 1030 Networking break

#### Plenary session

1030 – 1130 Presentation of CABI's Medium Term Strategy 2020-2022: Dr Trevor Nicholls

Feedback on the Medium Term Strategy

#### **Panel discussions**

#### 1130 – 1230 Panel discussion – Technology to meet the global challenges

What are the current and future game changing technologies that can address global challenges to improve rural livelihoods and food security?

#### Speakers:

Dr Jon Styles, Director, Earth Observation and Environmental Research, Assimila

Professor Rene Breton, Director of Research, School of Physics and Astronomy

Tracy Irvine, Managing Director, Oasis Hub Ltd

Cambria Finegold, Global Director, Digital Development, CABI

Chair: Dr Andy Robinson, Managing Director, Publishing, CABI

1230 – 1330 Networking lunch in the Left Bank
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1330 – 1400 Exhibits – CABI in Action

#### Introduction to panel discussion

#### 1400 – 1415 Introductory plenary presentation - Working in partnership to address challenges in Ethiopia

What are the current challenges Ethiopia is facing and how can partnerships help overcome these challenges. What works well, what doesn't work. Future opportunities.

H.E. Mr Sani Redi Ahmed, State Minister for the Agriculture sector, Ministry of Agriculture, Ethiopia

#### 1415 – 1430 Introductory plenary presentation – Working in partnership to address challenges in Pakistan

What are the current challenges Pakistan is facing and how can partnerships help overcome these challenges. What works well, what doesn't work. Future opportunities.

**Dr Muhammad Hashim Popalzai**, Federal Secretary of Ministry of National Food Security and Research, Pakistan

#### Plenary panel discussion

#### 1430 – 1600 Panel discussion – Working in partnership to address the global challenges

How, through working in partnership, we can address the global challenges to improve rural livelihoods and food security. In particular, the importance of involving women and youth more effectively and the need to combat the defining issue of climate change.

#### Speakers:

Dr Leonard Mizzi, Head of Unit, DG DEVCO, European Commission

Dr Shengyao Tang, Director, Office of South-South and Triangular Cooperation, FAO

Peter Maes, Corporate Marketing Director, Koppert BV

**Hamdullah Hamdard,** Director General, Extension and Agricultural Development, Afghanistan Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

**H.E. Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko,** Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission

Chair: Dr Ulrich Kuhlmann, Executive Director, Global Operations, CABI

1600 – 1630	Networking break
1630 – 1700	Conference summary and vision for the future: Dr Trevor Nicholls  Closing remarks: Dr Lutz-Peter Berg, Chair, CABI Executive Council
1800	Conference evening harbeque – The Riverside Runnymede Hotel

### **Biographies**



**Dr Babar Bajwa**Regional Director, CABI Central and West Asia

Babar Bajwa is a post-harvest technologist and good agricultural practices expert. Babar oversees the operation and management of the organisation in the region, delivers performance as per bilateral and multilateral donor commitments and is responsible for ongoing regional projects and programmes.

Babar has over 20 years' experience in food safety, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, post-harvest, agribusiness, supply chain development, trade and investment promotion. He has also worked for developing agricultural markets through trade promotions and bilateral negotiations. Other experience includes working with federal and provincial governments, the World Bank, UKAID, ACIAR, GIZ, USDA and USAID. Babar has more than 20 scientific publications in peer reviewed journals.



### **Dr Lutz-Peter Berg**CABI Executive Council Chair

Lutz-Peter Berg is the Swiss Science and Technology Attaché for the UK, Ireland and the Nordic countries, based at the Swiss Embassy in London. His role includes observing and reporting on UK, Irish and Nordic policies in Science, Innovation and Higher Education as well as facilitating contacts, collaborations and communications between Swiss scientists, government agencies and high-tech businesses and potential international partners. Lutz's background is in biomedical research and development. He holds a PhD in Molecular Genetics from the University of London and a Master's degree in Biology from the University in Goettingen, Germany.



Professor Rene Breton
Department Head of Research, Department of Physics and
Astronomy, The University of Manchester

Rene Breton holds a PhD in Physics from McGill University, Canada, and is a Reader in Astrophysics at the Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics. He currently holds a prestigious European Research Council Starter Grant for the study of 'spider binary pulsars.'

Rene has a keen interest in science communication and co-funded Pulsar Hunters, a citizen science project seeking help from volunteers to find new pulsars. He recently started applying his data analysis skills for research in the area of agriculture and trying to map the spread of invasive plants using satellite imaging.



**Dr Yelitza Colmenarez**Director, CABI Brazil Centre

Yelitza Colmenarez has worked for CABI for 14 years. She is responsible for member country relations and business development, contributing to the development of goals, objectives and a business plan to promote the overall achievement of CABI's mission within the region.

Yelitza is a trained Agricultural Engineer with a Master's degree and PhD in Plant Protection by UNESP-FCA. She is a specialist in Sustainable Production and is heavily involved in plant protection techniques, Integrated Pest Management and Integrated Diseases Management approaches. She has been actively involved in the development and implementation of development cooperation projects in Latin America and the Caribbean.



Cambria Finegold
Global Director, Digital Development, CABI

Cambria Finegold is responsible for CABI's strategic direction and technical oversight of the Knowledge Management theme, focussing on digital development to support the Sustainable Development Goals. Cambria leads at CABI on harnessing the power of data, information, and ICTs for international development. She has a strong interest in user-centred design, systems approaches, and interdisciplinary methods which bring together natural and social science. Cambria joined CABI in 2011 as a Project Development Officer, and managed the Plantwise Knowledge Bank from 2012-2016. Prior to this, she worked for WorldFish Center (CGIAR) and Oxfam GB, working in a range of areas including rural livelihoods, geographic information systems and natural resource governance.



Hamdullah Hamdard

Director General, Extension and Agricultural Development, Afghanistan Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

For the last three years, whilst in the role of Director General at the Afghanistan Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, Hamdullah has also been the acting Deputy Minister. Hamdullah is an agronomist with two Masters degrees, one in Project Management and another in Food Safety. He also holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Rural Development and another in Agriculture Extension Management.



Professor Hao Weiping
Deputy Director General, Department of International
Cooperation, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS)

Professor Hao Weiping has led and participated in 30 international and national research projects on soil and water resources management in arid regions of China, and published over 80 peer-reviewed scientific papers.

Professor Hao has a PhD in Agricultural Water Resources Management from the Graduate School of CAAS. He was formerly the Director of Dryland Farming Research Department of the Institute of Environment and Sustainable Development in Agriculture, CAAS and the Director of the Key Laboratory of Dryland Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs. His research interests focus on efficient use of water resources and land and water management.



Luca Heeb
Plantwise Programme Support Officer, CABI

Luca Heeb joined CABI in 2014 as part of the Integrated Crop Management (ICM) team and Plantwise Programme. With the ICM team, he supports the implementation of ICM projects and provides specialist advice and technical knowledge. His role with Plantwise includes supporting its global coordination and activities in target countries as well as monitoring and evaluation. Luca holds a BSc in International Agriculture and an MSc in Life Sciences with specialization in sustainable production systems from the Swiss College of Agriculture. He has worked on various projects in Asia and Africa, where he has held responsibility for development, research and project management.



Tracy Irvine
Managing Director, Oasis Hub Ltd

Tracy Irvine has spent the last 20 years in environmental science innovation and communication. She co-founded Oasis Hub, a way to enable all sectors to use data to understand their climate change and disaster risk and to enable society to take evidence-based steps towards resilience. Tracy is also currently working with Climate-KIC to develop their Climate Risk Information Flagship and managing a large-scale programme with 20 academic and SME partners, working on innovating climate science into practical actions.

Tracy's academic background is in environmental science and environmental archaeology, development economics and science communication.



**Dr Emma Jenner**Strategic Planning and Operations Manager, CABI

Emma Jenner works closely with the Executive Director for Global Operations to oversee the management and operations of CABI's ten international development locations across Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas. She also supports further growth and development of CABI's global operations and actively promotes CABI-wide collaboration in international development and the Knowledge Business.

Emma joined CABI in 2005 as a research scientist before becoming involved in the implementation of development cooperation projects. Emma has worked closely with local partners from government, research, extension and farming in various developing, transitional and developed countries to facilitate the implementation of more sustainable agricultural practices.



**Dr Ulrich Kuhlmann**Executive Director, Global Operations, CABI

Ulrich Kuhlmann has been CABI's Executive Director, Global Operations, since 2016 and is responsible for overseeing management and operations at CABI's ten locations across Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas. He is also the professional lead for science within CABI worldwide.

Ulrich joined CABI's Swiss centre in 1989, while also completing his MSc and PhD in arthropod classical biological control at the University of Kiel, and a PhD at the University of California. He was appointed Head of CABI's Swiss Arthropod Biological Control research programme and also built up the Integrated Crop Management Team before becoming the Regional Director for CABI, Switzerland in 2010, and Plantwise Programme Executive.



Peter Maes
Corporate Marketing Director, Koppert BV

Peter Maes has been in the international field of biological control for agriculture and horticulture for 25 years. He is an Agricultural Engineering graduate from the University of Leuven, Thomas More Institute and the University of Brussels, from which he holds a Master's degree in Human Ecology. Peter joined Koppert Biological Systems in 1998 and has worked in Sales, Logistics, Product Management, Communications and, now, Marketing.

Peter believes that 'all the answers for safe cultivation and food security can be found in nature itself' and that 'the power to influence change lies with civil society and consumers, themselves.'



Dr Michèle Marcotte
Director of Research, Development and Technology (DRDT),
Ottawa Research and Development Centre, Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

As well as her management responsibilities as DRDT, Dr Michèle Marcotte has been responsible for the implementation of the National Biodiversity and Bioresources Strategy since 2014. She is also responsible for the Biodiversity and Collections Division and implemented the Treasury Board Submission which resulted in funding until March 2022.

Dr Marcotte is a key member of Canadian Delegations attending events including the International Treaty of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, Governing Board meetings of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility and the FAC Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

She has been Canada's Liaison Officer for CABI for the last four years and has actively taken part in CABI's Americas and Caribbean Regional Consultations and Review Conferences.



Caroline McNamara
Chief Commercial Officer, CABI

Caroline (Carol) has been with CABI for 21 years and has a deep understanding of the commercial, not-for-profit, governmental and charitable sectors as well as extensive Board level experience, both as an Executive and Non-Executive Director.

Having built her career within complex international organisations, her leadership roles have included general management, international business development involving representing the organisation at global events, as well as driving strategic commercial direction to grow new business opportunities in a changing digital environment.



## **Dr Leonard Mizzi**Head of Unit, DG DEVCO, European Commission

Dr Leonard Mizzi has been the Head of Unit at the European Commission, Directorate-General (DG) for International Cooperation and Development – Rural Development, Food Security and Nutrition since 2017. Prior to this, he was Head of Unit in DG Agriculture and Rural Development for 10 years, which included leading the inter-institutional unit with the European Parliament Council.

Dr Mizzi has been an author of numerous articles and publications on agri food issues and nutrition in the Mediterranean and is a visiting lecturer at Boston University (Brussels campus), Open University, Malta University and the College of Europe in Bruges.



# **Dr Pharoah Mosupi**Director of Agricultural Research, Common Service Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Botswana

Dr Mosupi has over 30 years' work and educational experience in entomology and agriculture and has been the Director of Agricultural Research at the Ministry of Agriculture in Botswana since 2016. He is currently a member of the Agrochemicals Act Committee and also a Council member of Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Science.

Dr Mosupi holds a Master of Science from the University of Arizona and a PhD in Entomology from the University of Pretoria. He has written a number of scientific publications, including a handbook on the control of agricultural pests in Botswana.



**Dr Trevor Nicholls**Chief Executive Officer, CABI

Trevor Nicholls has been CABI's CEO for the last 14 years. During this time, he has developed a strong focus on CABI's customers, member countries and funding donors – a market-driven approach that has been combined with an integrated communications strategy to present clear messages about CABI's core strengths, both internally and externally.

Trevor is a professional Company Director with over 30 years' experience of building international businesses in the life science industry and has had accountability for Sales, Marketing, Product Development and Manufacturing. He holds a BA and D.Phil in biochemistry from the University of York and diploma qualifications in marketing and company directorship.



**Dr George Oduor**Global Director, Value Chains and Trade, CABI

George Oduor has over 20 years' experience in the development, implementation and coordination of national and regional multi-institutional research and development projects in the tropics. He has a keen interest in the developmental aspects of participatory agricultural research and has coordinated a multi-million-dollar project in Angola on the rehabilitation of the coffee sector, previously devastated by civil war. Prior to CABI, George worked at the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute.



# **Dr Washington Otieno**Plantwise Programme Executive

Washington Otieno coordinates the implementation of the Plantwise programme globally. Washington has over 25 years' experience in agricultural research and development, plant protection and agricultural biosecurity. He has actively engaged in national, regional and international fora and initiatives that support capacity development for improving plant health systems of developing countries with the aim of effectively and sustainably protecting plant resources and the environment from pests, improving agricultural productivity and market access for plants and plant products.



# **Dr Muhammad Hashim Popalzai**Federal Secretary of Ministry of National Food Security and Research, Pakistan

Dr Popalzai holds an MBBS degree and a Master's Degree in Demography from the University of Wales. UK.

He has worked in the Federal Secretariat, served in the Establishment Division, Ministry of Population Welfare and Planning and Development Division, and worked as Counsellor in Community Welfare at the Embassy of Pakistan in Qatar. Dr Population has conducted evaluative research on various components of the Ministry of Population Welfare in Pakistan - two of his research studies have been published. He has experience working in international organizations including Save the Children and has remained a faculty member of the National Management College, Pakistan.



## **Dr Andy Robinson**Managing Director, Publishing, CABI

Andy Robinson leads CABI's Knowledge Business which encompasses commercial publishing and the knowledge and data management projects that support CABI's international development work. CABI puts know-how into people's hands, turning evidence-based information into actionable advice.

Andy has a PhD on potatoes (plant biochemistry) from the University of Cambridge, and has over 25 years' publishing experience spanning journals, books, databases, news magazines/ websites and e-learning – mostly in the health sciences – providing publishing services to many of the world's leading societies and associations.



# **Dr Dennis Rangi**Director General, Development, CABI

Dr Dennis Rangi is an Entomologist and is currently the Director General - Development at CABI. In his role, he ensures growth across the organization's global themes which includes, the management of Invasive Species (helping to reduce the spread and impact of invasive pests). He has over 30 years of experience in development cooperation including implementation and management of scientific research. In his current and previous roles, he has fulfilled several assignments in developing countries and has a strong understanding of their circumstances and needs. He has been involved in a wide range of institutional change activities as well as capacity building to address issues pertaining to sustainable development. He has strong interest in South-South cooperation which began with his days in India where he attained his early professional qualifications in biological sciences at the peak of the Asian Green Revolution.



# H.E. Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission

H.E. Madam Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko, an Angolan national, is a leading African Agronomist and was elected as the new Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union Commission (AUC) in 2017.

In Angola, she was a Special Adviser to both the Minister of Environment, where she was also the Ambassador responsible for Climate Change, and the Minister of Agriculture, where she oversaw Food Security, Eradication of Hunger and Poverty Reduction.

As the Secretary General of the Inter-African Coffee Organization, she successfully advocated for the empowerment of small-scale coffee farmers across the continent by setting up, among others, Regional Centres of Excellence for Capacity Building of Member States.



H.E. Mr Sani Redi Ahmed
State Minister of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Ethiopia

H.E. Mr Sani Redi Ahmed is keen to strengthen partnerships with CABI. He attended CABI's 2019 Regional Consultation in Africa and the subsequent Invasive Species Summit. He is currently championing Ethiopia's application for membership of CABI.

He has extensive experience in the Ethiopian agriculture sector. Prior to his current position, he was Head of Bureau of Agriculture of Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples region (SNNP); and then Director for the Ethiopian Coffee and Tea Authority. He is a member of the House of Federation and a regional parliament member in SNNP. He is also a Chair of the Board of Directors for many universities and public institutions.



**Dr Jon Styles**Director of Assimila Limited, Earth Observation and Environmental Research

Dr Styles is a founding Director of Assimila Limited. He has worked in Earth Observation (EO) and environmental research for 25 years. Jon has led over 50 projects in EO applications development, environment and climate change, and is currently leading several agritech projects that integrate meteorological and EO with environmental models for crop yield modelling, and crop pest and disease risk mitigation.

After gaining a PhD from the University of Reading, he worked in technical roles on data processing systems for a range of optical and radar remote sensing systems, before moving into a management and consulting role.



**Dr Shengyao Tang**Director, Office of South-South and Triangular Cooperation, FAO

Since September 2012, Dr Tang has been serving as Deputy Director-General of the Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, China, where previously he was Director of the Division of Asia and Africa.

In a career spanning over 35 years, roles have included Deputy Secretary General at the Xiangxi Autonomous Prefecture, Hunan, where he coordinated and implemented programmes to reduce poverty in the Prefecture and an envoy of the Chinese Permanent Mission to the Rome-based United Nations Agencies.

Dr Tang holds a PhD from the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences and a Master of Science from Imperial College, London.



Paulus Verschuren
Founder at WorldFed and CABI Board member

Paulus Verschuren was Special Envoy for Food and Nutrition Security for the Dutch government. In this role he introduced nutrition within the arena of agriculture and food security, and helped build public-private partnerships responding to the zero-hunger challenge. Before his envoyship, Paulus had a successful career at Unilever where he held various managerial positions all geared to improving peoples' nutrition and wellbeing: initially in the field of over-nutrition, and later in building a world without hunger and malnutrition. His approach is to always put people at the centre of the solution. Paulus also served as Executive Director and Chair of ILSI Europe and chaired the GAIN Business Alliance.



# Frances Williams Global Monitoring and Evaluation Manager, CABI

As part of CABI's international development business, Frances focuses on monitoring and evaluating (M&E) systems and embedding gender within CABI's work.

Frances has provided M&E support to CABI's Plantwise programme in Africa and developed the Plantwise Gender Strategy and CABI's Programme and Project Gender Strategy. Frances has also carried out, and contributed to, economic assessments on the costs and impacts of invasive species to the British economy, rural livelihoods and also the costs and benefits of biological control programmes.



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