

Speaker Bios:

Dr. Joaquín Arias Segura is a Specialist at the Center of Strategic Analysis for Agriculture (CAESPA) at the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), now headquartered in Panama. He has conducted research and provided technical cooperation to Latin American and Caribbean countries in the fields of international trade, agribusiness, food security, risk analysis, and policy impact analysis.

Previously, he was a trade and policy analyst for IICA in Costa Rica, and regional policy and trade specialist for the Andean Region. He received his Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Oklahoma State University.

Dr. Manuela Cuvi is a Legal Officer in the Development Law Branch (LEGN) of the Legal Office of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). She has a degree in Legal and Social Sciences from the University of Chile (Montenegro Prize in 2000) and a master's degree (LL.M.) in international law from Harvard University, Cambridge (2003).

She has more than 17 years of experience working in international organizations on human rights and development issues, first in the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and the last 11 years as an FAO official, both in Rome and in Chile. Since 2015, she has been based in the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean located in Santiago, Chile, acting as focal point for the region and to coordinate legal support on issues related to FAO's work, such as laws and regulations on the right to food, healthy eating, school feeding, family farming, food loss and waste, fishing and aquaculture, governance of land tenure, among others.

FAO offers the services of legal experts to its member states, contributes to the development of international legal instruments, collects, prepares and distributes legal information, addresses important legal issues through research and publications, and promotes capacity-building in legal matters.

Dr. Soledad García Muñoz is Special Rapporteur on Economic, Social, Cultural and Environmental Rights (REDESCA) with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights at the OAS. She is a lawyer, with a specialization in fundamental rights from the Carlos III University of Madrid, Spain. She has provided professional and volunteer services to various United Nations agencies, Amnesty International, the Ibero-American Youth Organization, among other prestigious organizations. Prior to assuming her role as REDESCA she was the regional representative for South America of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights based in Montevideo, Uruguay. She is the first holder of the position as REDESCA, after being elected by the IACHR in an inter-American public contest. This mandate has just been renewed for another period.

Dr. Ricardo J. Salvador is Director and Senior Scientist of the Food & Environment Program at the Union of Concerned Scientists (USC), in Washington DC. He leads a team of scientists, economists, policy analysts and organizers to make the case that modern, sustainable practices can be highly productive while also protecting the environment, producing healthy food, and creating economic opportunity for all. He is a member of the Board of Agriculture and National Resources

of the National Academy of Sciences, and of the International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food. He has advised a range of leading organizations in sustainable and equitable agriculture, including the Food Chain Workers Alliance, the Fair Food Program of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, The Land Institute, FoodCorps, National Farm to School Network, Center for Good Food Purchasing, Food System 6, and the HEAL Food Alliance.

He is an agronomist with a focus on sustainability and systems analysis. His undergraduate degree in agriculture is from New Mexico State University, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in crop production and physiology are from Iowa State University. Prior to joining UCS, Ricardo worked for the Texas A&M University Extension Service, was on the Iowa State Agronomy faculty for 18 years (where with colleagues he established the first graduate program in sustainable agriculture within the Land Grant University System), and subsequently became Program Director for Food, Health and Wellbeing at the W. K. Kellogg Foundation. At the Kellogg Foundation, Ricardo partnered with colleagues to create grant-making programs that addressed the connections between food and health, environment, economic development, sovereignty, and social justice.

Dr. Eugenio Diaz-Bonilla is Head of the Latin American and Caribbean Program at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). He joined IFPRI as a visiting Senior Research Fellow in 2012 and in 2017 he was named Head of the LAC Program. He received a Ph.D. in Economics from Johns Hopkins University, as well as an M.A. in Economics and an M.A. in International Relations from Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Diaz-Bonilla has more than 40 years of professional experience working on development and poverty issues, including grass-roots work, academic activities, consulting work, and positions of institutional leadership in international organizations and governments. He has resided and worked for extended periods in different countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and has acted as consultant and staff member with several international organizations: United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA), Organization of American States (OAS), and World Bank. He has extensive experience as advisor and consultant to governments in different developing countries on macroeconomic and trade policies, poverty alleviation, and food security programs and extensive involvement in project preparation, financing, and implementation in developing countries, mainly on agricultural and rural development operations. He has led diplomatic and negotiating activities as a senior diplomat for Argentina, focusing on agricultural trade issues in bilateral, regional, and multilateral negotiations. Dr. Diaz-Bonilla served as a member of the Board of Executive Directors of the IADB for almost nine years, as well as occupying leadership positions as Chairman and Vice Chairman of several Board Committees responsible for the governance of the Bank. In 2017 he was elected Corresponding Member of the National Academy of Agronomy and Veterinary of Argentina.