

Field of the Future

A *Business at OECD* (BIAC) Campaign
Digital Farming Roundtable – Hybrid Conference
27 November 2023 · OECD Conference Centre

Event Moderator: Natasha Santos, VP, Head of Global Stakeholders
Affairs & Strategic Partnerships, Bayer Crop Science

09:30 - 10:00 **Welcome and registration**

10:00 - 10:15 **Opening remarks**

- **Hanni Rosenbaum**, *Business at OECD* (BIAC) Executive Director
- **Julia Nielson**, Deputy Director, OECD Trade and Agriculture Directorate (TAD)

10:15 - 11:15 **Panel 1 – The digital transformation of agriculture: how can technology leverage opportunities for a more productive agriculture while contributing to the achievement of SDGs?**

This panel focuses on showcasing the benefits and promises of digital tools to enable smarter farming practices and more sustainable agriculture.

1. How is the digital transformation changing agricultural production and food value chains?
 2. What role do digital tools play in solving the equation of healing the soil, balancing the climate, and feeding people all at the same time?
- **Kip Tom**, Chairman, Tom Farms, former United States Ambassador to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture
 - **Alekh Sanghera**, Co-Founder and CEO, FarMart
 - **Julia Nielson**, Deputy Director, OECD Trade and Agriculture Directorate (TAD)
 - **Gabrielle Durisch**, Global Head of ESG and Sustainability Solutions, Allianz Commercial

11:15 - 12:15 **Panel 2 – Digitalizing regulatory processes for enhanced agricultural input optimization: government-industry collaborative strategies**

This panel will discuss the regulatory framework needed to enable digital solutions that can optimize inputs usage, mitigate risks, and ensure easier and better compliance with regulatory standards (i.e. regulations on drones for agriculture use, digital and machine readable labels and self-propelled agriculture machines, regulatory systems that automatically incorporate data provided from Farm Management Systems, etc).

1. How can policies be adapted to enable a regulatory environment that can leverage the digital transformation of agriculture?
2. How can regulations on inputs usage foster the adoption of technology by farmers, optimize inputs usage, mitigate risks, and ensure better compliance with regulatory standards?

- **Rejane Souza**, SVP Global Innovation, Yara Corporate Development
- **Bronislava Škarbová**, Chair, OECD Working Party on Pesticides; Senior Counsellor, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic
- **Philipp-Andreas Schmidt**, Director of Global Digital Farming Public Affairs, Bayer AG
- **Kristina Šermukšnytė-Alešiūnienė**, CEO of AgriFood Lithuania DIH, European Cluster Manager of the Year 2022

12:15 - 13:30 **Networking lunch**

13:30 - 13:40 **Keynote speech**

H.E. Prof. Muhammadou M.O. Kah, Ambassador & Permanent Representative of The Gambia to the UN Office at Geneva, World Trade Organisation (WTO), and other offices in Geneva; Founding Board member of The International Digital Health and AI Research Collaborative (I-DAIR), Geneva, Switzerland; Council Member: DCAF-Geneva Center For Security sector Governance Foundation, Geneva, Switzerland.

13:40 - 14:40 **Panel 3 – Government-driven policies for inclusive digital agriculture: fostering coherence and investment**

This panel will focus on policy coordination and public investments needed to enable the digital transformation of agriculture, in a more inclusive and equitable way (i.e. investments in broadband connectivity, incentives to tech adoption, capacity building for farmers, etc).

1. What are the key areas for public investments aiming at leveraging the uptake of technology and digitalization in agriculture in an equitable and inclusive manner?
 2. How can governments ensure coherence among the policies related to agriculture and technology & innovation to drive the digital transformation of farming systems?
- **H.E. Prof. Muhammadou M.O. Kah**, Ambassador & Permanent Representative of The Gambia to the UN Office at Geneva, World Trade Organisation (WTO), and other offices in Geneva
 - **Kyle Bridgeforth**, Owner and Operating Partner, Bridgeforth Farms
 - **Benjamin Kwasi Addom**, Adviser, Agriculture & Fisheries Trade Policy, the Commonwealth Connectivity Agenda
 - **Ben Rivoire**, Sustainability & Crop Value Chain Manager, International Seed Federation

14:40 - 14:55 **Coffee break**

14:55 - 15:55 **Panel 4 – Industry standardization and ecosystems or regulations that promote data sharing and interoperability of data**

This panel will discuss the data regulations and industry ecosystems needed to enable a business environment that can foster and enable the digital transformation of agriculture.

1. What is the needed business environment to foster data interoperability and data sharing, which are requisites to enable the opportunities of digital farming?
 2. How can the players in the agricultural industry collaborate to create ecosystems that could facilitate higher levels of technology uptake by farmers?
- **Mary Snapp**, Vice President, Strategic Initiatives, Microsoft
 - **Patrick Pagani**, Senior Policy Advisor, Copa-Cogeca
 - **Ehsan Soltan**, CEO, Soiltech Wireless
 - **Christian Reimsbach-Kounatze**, Internet Economist & Policy Analyst, OECD Directorate for Science, Technology and Industry (STI)

15:55 **Concluding remarks**

- **Tetsuo Ushikusa**, Chair, OECD Committee for Agriculture (COAG)