



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
18–22 July 2022

#COAG28



Transforming
agrifood systems:
from Strategy to Action



CONCEPT NOTE AND AGENDA

FAO Science and Innovation Strategy and its relevance for COAG

DATE: 21 July 2022, Thursday, from 12h15 to 13h45 (Rome time)

DURATION: 1 h 30 min

MODALITY: Hybrid event

VENUE: **ZOOM**

and FAO HQ (Sheikh Zayed Centre)

INTERPRETATION: Available in all six UN languages (AR, EN, ES, FR, RU, ZH)

BACKGROUND: FAO SCIENCE AND INNOVATION STRATEGY

Science and innovation serve as a foundation for the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and have cross-sectoral relevance for the Organization's programme of work. The first-ever FAO Science and Innovation Strategy (Sci Strategy), with the overall aim of strengthening FAO's capacities to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Strategic Framework 2022-31, was discussed at the 133rd session of the Programme Committee, and endorsed by the Council at its 170th session.

The Sci Strategy aims to bolster recent developments that have strengthened FAO's work on science and innovation by providing Organization-wide guidance, coherence, and alignment on science and innovation to better serve Members. Recent sessions of the FAO Committee on Agriculture (COAG) have had a strong focus on innovation, and the Strategy responds to the Committee's related recommendations.

OBJECTIVES AND THEMATIC AREAS

The side event aims to raise **awareness among Members and COAG participants** on **FAO's first-ever Science and Innovation Strategy** and its relevance for COAG. The event will facilitate a discussion on topics relevant for COAG. Four topics have been selected: science and innovation for livestock, science and innovation for climate change, strengthening the science-policy interface, and promoting access of small-scale producers to innovations.

With an enhanced understanding of the Scl Strategy's goal, pillars, outcomes, and guiding principles, COAG Members will be better positioned to strengthen synergies between science and innovation and the work of COAG.

AGENDA

The FAO Director-General, **Dr QU Dongyu**, will open the side event, which will be followed by a brief presentation of the Scl Strategy by the FAO Chief Scientist, **Dr Ismahane Elouafi**. **High-level panelists** will take the floor, responding to questions linked to the four thematic topics. An interactive question-and-answer session will allow the participants to engage in the discussion actively. The side event will be moderated by **Dr Zitouni Ould-Dada**, Deputy Director, FAO Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment.

OPENING: THE FAO SCIENCE AND INNOVATION STRATEGY

12h15 - 12h25

(10 min)

I. Opening remarks

Dr QU Dongyu, FAO Director-General

12h25 - 12h35

(10 min)

II. The FAO Science and Innovation Strategy and its relevance for COAG

Dr Ismahane Elouafi, FAO Chief Scientist

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL DISCUSSION: EXPLORING SYNERGIES BETWEEN COAG'S PRIORITIES AND THE FAO SCIENCE AND INNOVATION STRATEGY

12h35-13h15

(40 min)

* 10 min per speaker

III. Thematic high-level panels

Topic 1: Science and innovation for livestock

H.E. Julián Andrés Domínguez, Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries of the Republic of Argentina

Topic 2: Science and innovation for climate change

Dr Chavonda Jacobs-Young, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Chief Scientist and Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, the United States of America

Topic 3: Strengthening the science-policy interface

H.E. Thesele John 'Maseribane, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Lesotho to FAO

Topic 4: Promoting access of small-scale producers to innovations

Mr Douglas Kangi, Director of Agriculture at the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives, the Republic of Kenya

13h15-13h40

(25 min)

IV. Questions and answers

Dr Zitouni Ould-Dada, Deputy Director, FAO Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment

WRAP-UP AND CLOSING

13h40-13h45

(5 min)

Dr Ismahane Elouafi, FAO Chief Scientist