

WORLD  
FOOD  
FORUMHAND-IN-HAND  
INVESTMENT

## HAND-IN-HAND INVESTMENT FORUM 2023

17-20 October 2023

FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy

### **Roundtable with IFIs**

**17 October 2023****18:00-19:30 CEST****Plenary Hall**

Chair:

Mr Máximo Torero Cullen  
Chief Economist

The roundtable will discuss and examine the strategies that International Financial Institutions (IFIs) apply to support countries with serious risk or significant food insecurity, their lending or grant instruments already in place as well as the alternatives they can offer to support countries' agrifood system transformation.

The roundtable will be held in the afternoon of 17 October 2023 from 18.00 to 19.30 hours and the participation of senior management is planned from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), African Development Bank (AfDB), Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), International Finance Corporation (IFC), World Bank Group (WBG), among others.

Under the umbrella of the [World Food Forum \(WFF\)](#), FAO is honoured to host three Fora in parallel, building on the success we enjoyed last year by bringing together the WFF Global Youth Forum, the [Hand-in-Hand \(HiH\) Initiative Investment Forum](#), and the Science and Innovation Forum. The opening ceremony will be followed by four days of open country presentations and bilateral meetings with investment partners and will end on 20 October 2023.

The HIH Initiative is a flagship of FAO and a core platform for all FAO's programme priority areas. As of January 2023, the Initiative supports nationally-led, integrative, territory-based agrifood systems transformation programmes in 63 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East. By introducing advanced geospatial modelling, identification and analysis of market opportunities, and robust partnership-building, the Initiative enables the collaboration and scaled-up investment required to implement and accelerate national plans for agricultural and food systems transformation. The Initiative is designed specifically to support national efforts to eradicate extreme poverty, end hunger and malnutrition, and reduce inequalities. The Investment Forum is the crux and pay-off of the partnership-building effort, providing a platform for national authorities and producers, global and national businesses, multilateral development banks and donors to discuss ways and means to finance the supported Investment Plans.

The Forum will be driven by insights from prominent food value chain participants who have been requested to present their perspectives on how to stimulate asset allocation to long-term sustainable investments across and beyond national markets. The Forum will examine sectors and opportunities



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with the greatest potential development impact and social and financial returns, as well as the policy and institutional reforms required to mobilize greater private investment.

For this year's edition, 31 countries will present their Investment Plans and Opportunities in the Hand-in-Hand Investment Forum. This will include follow-up reports from several countries which attended the Investment Forum in 2022 as well as 15 countries presenting for the first time. The Forum will also include follow-up presentations on the regional initiatives for the Sahel, crucial for poverty and hunger reduction in a sensitive area of Africa, and the Dry Corridor, vital for job creation and to reduce out-migration in Central America.

In this second edition of the Investment Forum four new roundtables have been included in the programme. These include a roundtable with Managing Directors and high-ranking officers of International Financial Institutions, one with Chief Executive Officers and executives from global agrifood firms, a third with global Foundations and a fourth with traditional donors.

National and international private investment in agriculture is critical and necessary to sustain accelerated national economic growth, ensure employment, incorporate technology, reduce poverty, and increase food security and sustainable development, while improving macroeconomic stability and protecting fiscal space.

We anticipate a dynamic, in-person participation in the WFF and in the Investment Forum with contributions from Heads of State/Government from all five continents, Ministers from more than 30 countries, senior officers of multilateral development banks, and senior executives from global agrifood firms and other development partners.

We hope that the interventions of the high-ranking representatives of the international financial institutions will inspire the audience to work effectively together to accelerate agrifood systems transformation as a core driver of progress for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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**Members of the Panel****Chair:**

Mr Máximo Torero Cullen  
Chief Economist  
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

**Panel:**

Ms Ana Maria Ibañez  
Vice President for Sectors and Knowledge  
Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

Mr Jaime Roberto Diaz Palacios  
Executive Vice President  
CABEI - Central American Bank for Economic Integration

Mr Martien van Nieuwkoop  
Global Director for Agriculture and Food  
World Bank Group

Mr Wagner Albuquerque de Almeida  
Director  
Global Manufacturing, Agribusiness and Services (MAS)  
International Finance Corporation

Ms Tereza Helena Gabrielli Barreto Campello  
Director Socio-Environmental Division  
Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES)

Mr Philip Boahen  
Lead Partnership and coordinator  
Agriculture and agro-Industry Department  
African Development Bank

Mr Pablo Bartol  
Manager of Social and Human Development  
Development Bank of Latin America  
and the Caribbean (CAF)

Mr Takeshi Ueda  
Rural Development Head  
Agriculture, Food, Nature, and Rural Development Sector Office  
Asian Development Bank (ADB)