

# Global Agriculture Innovation Forum



## Expanding Access to Breeding Products

June 8, 2021



### Moderator

**Mrs. Jennifer Billings**, Global Agriculture Development Leader, Corteva Agriscience. Mrs. Billings leads a global portfolio to enrich the lives of smallholder farmers and their communities. Previously, she served as the Senior Agriculture Advisor in the USAID Latin America and Caribbean Bureau, where she led inter-agency coordination and stakeholder engagement on the Feed the Future initiative and other agriculture programs in the region.



### Gender and Youth Issues Related to Access to Breeding Products

**Dr. Hale Ann Tufan**, Professor and Associate Director for the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Crop Improvement, Cornell University. Her work focuses on building gender responsive crop improvement systems, leading research on priority setting, market research, gender research and on-farm testing. Dr. Tufan was awarded the Borlaug Field Award in 2019 to recognize her work to ensure women farmers and researchers are fairly represented in agricultural research for development.



### Scaling Access to Breeding Products

**Dr. Julie Howard**, Senior Adviser, Center for Strategic and International Studies. Dr. Howard focuses on food and agricultural system development in sub-Saharan Africa and related US policies and programs. She co-chairs the Agriculture and Rural Development Working Group of the Scaling Community of Practice and is a member of the Board of Directors for the World Vegetable Center. From 2011-2014, Dr. Howard served as the first chief scientist in the Bureau for Food Security.



## Expanding Access to Improved Seeds

**Dr. Chikelu Mba**, Team Leader, Seeds and Plant Genetic Resources Team, FAO. In this role, Dr. Mba is responsible for the quality assurance of FAO's global work on crop improvement. His team serves as the secretariat of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Plant Genetic Resources of FAO's Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Additionally he serves on FAO's Interdepartmental Working Group on Biotechnologies.



## Making Improved Animal Genotypes Available to Smallholder Farmers

**Dr. Victor Olori**, Senior Geneticist, Aviagen Global. Dr. Olori is responsible for genetic evaluation of all the chicken and turkey pure lines that contribute to the global products distributed worldwide. He worked as a pioneer geneticist in the formative years of the Irish cattle breeding federation (ICBF) and is a founding member of the Africa Animal Breeder's Network. Dr. Olori is a member of the Research Advisory Committee of the Genomics to Improve Poultry Innovation Lab and the Genetics Advisory Board of Danish Genetics.

### Forum themes

- Farms and Farmers of the Future - **March 2 - 30, 2021**
- Innovations in Genetic Improvement of Agricultural Systems - beginning **May 11, 2021**
- Innovations in Post-Harvest Management – beginning **June 29, 2021**
- Innovations in Information and Communication Technologies – beginning **August 31, 2021**
- Innovations in Entrepreneurship, Especially Among Youth – beginning **October 5, 2021**
- Innovations in Scaling – beginning **November 16, 2021**

### About the Global Agriculture Innovation Forum:

The Global Agriculture Innovation Forum is a joint undertaking between USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service and Purdue University's Office of International Programs in Agriculture. The Forum will be valuable to entrepreneurs, producers, value-chain operators, service providers, and researchers, as well as donor agencies and implementing partners and will consist of a series of virtual events held throughout 2021

[globalaginnovationforum.org](https://globalaginnovationforum.org)

