



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Managing Harvest and Post- Harvest Losses: A Case Study From the PICS Innovation

July 27, 2021



Moderator

Dr. Jake Ricker-Gilbert, Professor and Director of the USAID Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Processing and Post-Harvest Handling, Purdue University. Dr. Ricker-Gilbert has built a research program around the theme of increasing agricultural intensification and productivity for small-scale farmers in the developing world. In 2020 he was named a Purdue University Faculty Scholar. As Director of the Food Processing and Post-harvest Handling Innovation Lab, Dr. Ricker-Gilbert oversees work in cereal and grain legume value chains in Kenya and Senegal aimed at overcoming constraints that cause food loss.



The PICS Bag Innovation: A Simple, Safe and Affordable Technology

Dr. Laurie Kitch, Co-Founder and CEO, PICS Global. Dr. Kitch helped found PICS Global after a career with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) as both a technical officer in Southern and Eastern Africa and as the FAO representative to the State of Qatar. PICS Global is a social enterprise serving smallholder family farmers with affordable crop storage and other solutions that boost food security, incomes, local economies, and public health.



The Way to Sustainability is Commercialization

Ms. Charlene McKoin, Principal, McKoin International Development. Before starting her private consulting business, Ms. McKoin was Senior Program Officer at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, where she worked on the Markets Team, specializing in integrated value chain development, post-harvest loss mitigation and innovative agricultural technologies. Prior to her years in international development, Ms. McKoin spent 20 years in corporation banking, international structured trade, and project finance.



Adoption of PICS Bags in West Africa

Dr. Tahirou Abdoulaye, Senior Agricultural Economist, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA). Dr. Abdoulaye is currently the Director for the IITA Sahel hub and also for the Social Science and Agribusiness Core Competency, based in Bamako, Mali. His research work covers a wide range of rural economic issues including seed systems, farm-level efficiency, technology transfer and how innovation systems can help increase technology adoption by small farmers. He has been involved with PICS projects since inception in 2007.



Scaling Post-harvest Innovations: PICS Experience and Lessons Learned

Dr. Dieudonne Baributsa, Associate Professor of Entomology, Purdue University. With more than 20 years of experience in international development, Dr. Baributsa currently leads the Purdue Improved Crop Storage (PICS) Program, aimed at reducing grain post-harvest losses on smallholder farms in developing countries. He has managed and implemented projects in 35 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. His activities are focused on applied research and innovative extension approaches to commercialize post-harvest solutions in developing countries.

Forum themes

- Farms and Farmers of the Future - **March 2 - 30, 2021**
- Innovations in Genetic Improvement of Agricultural Systems - **May 11 - June 8, 2021**
- Innovations in Post-Harvest Management – **July 13 - 27, 2021**
- Innovations in Information & Communication Technologies - **August 31-Sept. 14, 2021**
- Innovations in Entrepreneurship, Especially Among Youth – **October 5 - 19, 2021**
- Innovations in Scaling – **November 16 - December 7, 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 consists of a series of virtual events held throughout 2021

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