SPEAKER AND PANELIST BIOS

CLIMATE CRISIS AND THE FUTURE OF FOOD

MILLION BELAY ALI

Million Belay coordinates the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA), a network of major networks in Africa. He is a member of the International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems (IPES-Food). Million is a founder of MELCA – Ethiopia, an indigenous NGO working on issues of agroecology, intergenerational learning, advocacy and livelihood improvement of local and Indigenous peoples. Million has been working for over two decades on the issues of intergenerational learning of bio-cultural diversity, sustainable agriculture, the right of local communities for seed and food sovereignty, and forest issues. His main interest is now advocacy on food sovereignty, learning among generations, knowledge dialogues – and the use of participatory mapping for social learning, identity building and mobilization of memory for resilience. He has a PhD in environmental learning, MSc in tourism and conservation, and a BSc in biology.

WILLIAM DIETZ

Dr. Dietz is the Chair of the Sumner M. Redstone Global Center for Prevention and Wellness at the School of Public Health at George Washington University. From 1997-2012 he was the Director of the Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity in the Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion at the CDC. He received his BA from Wesleyan University in 1966 and his MD from the University of Pennsylvania in 1970. He subsequently received a PhD in Nutritional Biochemistry from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1998, Dr. Dietz was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. He was the co-chair of the Lancet Commission on Obesity’s 2019 report on the Global Syndemic of Obesity, Undernutrition, and Climate Change. He is the author of over 200 publications in scientific literature, and the editor of five books, including Clinical Obesity in Adults and Children.
**MATHILDE DOUILLET**

As Program Manager at the Daniel and Nina Carasso Foundation, Mathilde Douillet is spearheading the International Program on Sustainable Food Systems and Diet, handling the call for international research projects, implementing the Premio Daniel Carasso, and following the International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems (IPES-Food). Previously, at the Foundation for World Agriculture and Rural Life (FARM) in Paris, she launched food crop projects with farmers’ cooperatives in Burkina Faso and Mali. She also worked as a research analyst on trade and agricultural policies in Sub-Saharan Africa, and as a project leader on agricultural policies and food security. At FARM, Mathilde focused on the analysis of agricultural markets and policies and their impacts on food security and its governance, following international debates, multilateral and regional trade negotiations and agricultural policy initiatives in Africa. She has a PhD in economics and an M. Eng in agricultural development.

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**TRAVIS FRANCK**

Travis Franck helps decision-makers tackle complex issues, including sustainable food systems, community resiliency, climate mitigation, and energy system transformation. Currently he is leading Climate Interactive's efforts to apply interactive decision support tools to understand how climate change impacts agriculture and people’s livelihoods. Travis is a Program Director for Climate Interactive. He builds international partnerships that include stakeholders from the UN, international NGOs, academics, business, and non-profits. His research interests include the dynamics of climate policy and the implications of delaying action, important environmental and economic feedbacks in climate adaptation, building more climate-robust communities, and uncertainty analysis of carbon permit pricing. He has published on the impact of hurricanes and sea-level rise on coastal communities' development (climate adaptation), the economics of climate stabilization, and the long-term prospects of international climate cooperation. Previously, Travis has worked at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris. He has presented in many different forums, including World Bank, UNDP, business roundtables and numerous conferences. Travis has a PhD in engineering systems from MIT, a S.M. in technology policy and Civil Engineering from MIT, and a B.S. in computer science and environmental science from Iowa State University. Dr. Franck holds positions at MIT's Joint Program on the Science and Policy of Global Change and MIT Sloan School of Management (Research Affiliate).

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**VICTOR FRIEDBERG**

Victor Friedberg has been at the forefront of innovation, investment and sustainability for over 20 years. As Co-Founder of S2G Ventures he has been a principal force in developing the S2G mission, culture, strategy, and team. Through his work at S2G, he has pioneered system investing as a strategy for investing into food and agriculture, and applied this approach in building the S2G portfolio. As Managing Director, Victor lead the investments into Beyond Meat, sweetgreen, Ripple, Apeel Science, Maple Hill Creamery, Ataraxis, FishPeople and Lavva, among others. He is Founder and Chairman of FoodShot Global, a blended capital investment platform with 20 of the world's leading food/agricultural banks, funds, foundations, universities, corporations and NGOs. FoodShot Global's GroundBreaker Prize is presently the largest prize for food and agriculture. He was named by Forbes Magazine as one of the Top 25 deal makers and influencers in Consumer Products in 2016.
JOSÉ GRAZIANO DA SILVA
Prof. José Graziano da Silva has worked on food security, rural development and agriculture issues for over 30 years, most notably as the architect of Brazil’s Zero Hunger programme and as the Director General of FAO from 2012 to 2019. He previously headed the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean from 2006 to 2011. In September 2019, he was nominated the Special Ambassador for the Global Panel on Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition (Glopan), where he will continue to advocate for the promotion of sustainable food systems that ensures healthy diets and zero hunger for all. Prof. José Graziano da Silva holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Agronomy and a Master’s Degree in Rural Economics and Sociology from the University of São Paulo, and a PhD in Economic Sciences from the State University of Campinas. He also has post-Doctorate Degrees in Latin American Studies (University College of London) and Environmental Studies (University of California, Santa Cruz).

LUKAS HAYNES
Lukas Haynes is Executive Director of the David Rockefeller Fund, a family-governed foundation, where he oversees all operations and grant-making programs for climate change solutions, criminal justice policy transformation, and art for social impact. Haynes is a governing board director of Independent Diplomat and the Clara Lionel Foundation. He is a trustee of Lulu’s Fund and serves on the advisory boards of the Center for Climate and Security and the Protect Our Winters Advocacy Fund. Previously, Haynes was a member of the U.S. State Department Policy Planning Staff, New York Director and Program Officer for the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and Vice President of the Mertz Gilmore Foundation. His publications have appeared in The New York Times, The Economist, the Chronicle of Philanthropy, and the Journal of Comparative Strategy.

JANE MALAND CADY
Jane Maland Cady is Co-Chair of the Global Alliance, and Director of International Programs for The McKnight Foundation, a private, family foundation in Minnesota. The Foundation’s International Programs focuses its grant-making on sustainable livelihoods in 15 countries in Africa, Southeast Asia and Latin America, particularly on agroecological research for smallholder farmers and natural resource rights for local communities. Prior to joining McKnight in 2008, Jane spent 15 years managing her own consulting firm, Criando Research and Evaluation Services. She has extensive domestic and international experience working with community development initiatives and sustainable agriculture systems, through her teaching, evaluation practice, and on-the-ground implementation. She has also worked in the private sector to expand markets in the USA for fair trade and organic products from South America and the USA. Jane has a PhD and an MA in agricultural education from the University of Minnesota, has lived and worked extensively in Brazil and Mexico, and speaks Portuguese and Spanish. Having grown up on a southern Minnesota farm, she is committed to promoting sustainability and equity in agriculture and food systems around the globe, involving farmers in the process. She is the mother of four inspiring and lively children.
ERIN MCDONALD

As the Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer for Human Services, Erin works to create systems level policy and programmatic initiatives that support New York City to most effectively serve residents. She advises the Deputy Mayor and other senior officials overseeing city agencies and offices. She is presently overseeing efforts of the Mayor's Office of Food Policy. Prior to this role, she was the Vice President of Research Evaluation, and Strategy at Feeding America, where she oversaw a team leading national research on food insecurity and played a lead role in shaping the organization’s national strategy to end hunger. She previously worked on international issues of women's financial inclusion as Director of Research, Evaluation and Monitoring at Women's World Banking. She served as the Director of Research and Strategic Learning at The New York Women's Foundation where she cultivated and institutionalized dynamic research approaches to determine “what works” for vulnerable women. She has held positions as a lead researcher at The Urban Institute and as a Senior Strategist within the government, leading systems change efforts. She holds a PhD in Public Health and Research from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, a Master's in Public Policy and Evaluation from Johns Hopkins Policy Studies Institute, and is a trained bioethicist.

DAVID NABARRO

David Nabarro is the Co-Director of the Imperial College Institute of Global Health Innovation at the Imperial College London and supports systems leadership for sustainable development through his Switzerland-based social enterprise 4SD. Furthermore, he is Advisor at the Global Commission on Adaptation in Rotterdam. He secured his medical qualification in 1974 and has worked in over 50 countries – in communities and hospitals, governments, civil society, universities, and in United Nations (UN) programs. David worked for the British government in the 1990s as head of Health and Population and director for Human Development in the UK Department for International Development. From 1999 to 2017 he held leadership roles in the UN system on disease outbreaks and health issues, food insecurity and nutrition, climate change and sustainable development. In October 2018, David received the World Food Prize together with Lawrence Haddad for their leadership in raising the profile and building coalitions for action for better nutrition across the Sustainable Development Goals.

LEONIDA ATIENO ODONGO

Leonida is a Kenyan who is passionate about the realisation of social justice within marginalised communities. Her vision is a world where everyone is included. Leonida works on advocacy and education for social justice projects at Fahamu Africa where she engages smallholder farmers' networks on the political and technical education of food production process, and works with communities adversely affected by climate change, including Indigenous Peoples, farmers, urban informal settlements, marine ecosystem communities, and fisherfolk. She has also carried out advocacy work with university students to enhance student activism for transformative change. Leonida has a passion for amplifying voices and raising issues affecting grassroots communities through writing articles.
RUTH RICHARDSON

Ruth Richardson, Executive Director, Global Alliance for the Future of Food, brings over 20 years of experience in the philanthropic sector to this role, and of particular relevance to this undertaking, has extensive experience starting new and complex things. These include being the first Director of the Unilever Canada Foundation, Founding Chair of the Canadian Environmental Grantmakers’ Network, and the first Environment Director at the Metcalf Foundation. Her tenure at the Metcalf Foundation also included acting on the Advisory Committee of the City of Toronto, Board of Health, Toronto Food Strategy to develop an action plan to improve the food system of the Toronto city region. Ruth also served as the lead consultant to establish The Circle on Philanthropy and Aboriginal Peoples in Canada and has worked with private-public partnerships on sustainability issues and cross-border collaborations, such as coastal fisheries management. In her capacity with the Global Alliance, Ruth is on the International Advisory Group on Up-scaling Ecosystem-based Adaptation funded by the German Federal Environmental Ministry under its International Climate Initiative. She also served on the Steering Committee of TEEBAgriFood led by UN Environment, as well as on the International Advisory Committee of the Global Urban Food Policy Pact.

PETER RIGGS

Peter Riggs is the Director of Pivot Point, and convener of the global network CLARA – Climate Land Ambition Rights Alliance. Previously, he held program officer positions at the Ford Foundation, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, and Open Society Institute, and was a Senior Fellow at the Packard Foundation. He grows shellfish commercially on Harstine Island, WA.

CYNTHIA ROSENZWEIG

Dr. Cynthia Rosenzweig is a Senior Research Scientist at the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies and the Columbia University Earth Institute, and a Professor in the Department of Environmental Science at Barnard College. At NASA GISS, she heads the Climate Impacts Group whose mission is to investigate the interactions of climate (both variability and change) on systems and sectors important to human well-being. Dr. Rosenzweig is the co-founder and a member of the Executive Committee of the Agricultural Model Intercomparison and Improvement Project (AgMIP), a globally integrated transdisciplinary study of climate impacts on the agricultural sector at national and global scales, including the participation of over 1,000 leading researchers from developed and developing nations. She is now spearheading the AgMIP coordinated global and regional assessments of climate change effects on the food system, including impacts on nutrition. Dr. Rosenzweig is Coordinating Lead Author on the Food Security Chapter for the recently released IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land, approved in August 2019. She received the American Society of Agronomy President’s Award in 2015, is a Guggenheim Fellowship recipient, and is a Fellow of AGU and AAAS.
KAREN ROSS

Karen Ross was appointed Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture on January 9, 2019 by Governor Gavin Newsom. In re-appointing Secretary Ross, Governor Newsom cited her unmatched leadership experience in agricultural issues nationally, internationally, and here in California, in areas including environmental stewardship, climate change adaptation, and trade. Secretary Ross was initially appointed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. in 2011.

Before joining CDFA, Secretary Ross was chief of staff for U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, a position she accepted in 2009. Prior to that appointment, she served as President of the California Association of Winegrape Growers from 1996-2009, and as Vice-President of the Agricultural Council of California from 1989-1996. Her prior experience before moving to California included staff work for a United States Senator, a presidential candidate, and government relations for rural electric cooperatives and public power districts.

Secretary Ross is passionate about fostering the reconnection of consumers to the land and the people who produce their food, and to improving the access of all California citizens to healthy, nutritious California-grown agricultural products, celebrated for their diversity and abundance in serving local, national and global markets. During Secretary Ross's tenure, the Department has focused on core functions to protect and promote California agriculture, investing in the Department's employees to provide the best service to farmers, ranchers and consumers and fostering an agricultural industry that embraces its role as a global leader on everything from the most technical aspects of farming to the broadest environmental imperatives.

Secretary Ross has strengthened partnerships across government, academia and the non-profit sector in the drive to maintain and improve environmental stewardship and to develop adaptation strategies for the specific impacts of climate change. She has initiated programs to provide greater opportunities for farmers and ranchers to engage in sustainable environmental stewardship practices through water conservation, energy efficiency, nutrient management, and ecosystem services; and she has worked to provide greater access to farm-fresh foods at school cafeterias through CDFA's Farm to Fork Program.

Secretary Ross grew up as a 4-H kid on a farm in western Nebraska. She and her husband, Barry, own 800 acres of the family farm where her younger brother, a fourth-generation farmer, grows no-till wheat and feed grains, incorporating cover crops and rotational grazing for beef production. The Secretary has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and is a graduate of the Nebraska Ag Leadership Program. She has served on numerous boards and committees in California agriculture and with various academic institutions.

SHEFALI SHARMA

Shefali Sharma is the director of the Institute for Agriculture and Trade policy's (IATP) European office. Her current work focuses on the Global Meat and Dairy Complex and its climate, environmental, social and economic impacts. She continues to examine how international trade rules, global governance on food security and climate policy intersect with the sector. Shefali established IATP's Geneva office in 2000 and led its Trade Information Project for several years. She has worked with and consulted for several civil society organizations, such as the Malaysia-based Third World Network, as the South Asia Coordinator of the Bank Information Center, based in Delhi, ActionAid International, and as program associate for the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. She has an MPhil from the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) in Sussex and a Bachelor of Arts in anthropology from the College of William and Mary.
YICHING SONG  
Dr. Yiching Song obtained her PhD in rural sociology and development at Wageningen University, the Netherlands, in 1998. Since 2000, she has been a senior researcher and program leader in the Centre for Chinese Agricultural Policy (CCAP), Chinese Academy of Science (CAS). Her research focus is on sustainable agriculture and food systems in the context of socio-economic and climate changes. Her main approach is socio-ecologic systems using participatory action research for policy piloting and analysis. Her research has covered a range of several interrelated policy areas concerning sustainable food systems, i.e. agroecology, agrobiodiversity, traditional knowledge, farmer cooperatives, formal and farmers’ knowledge systems linkages, and related gender and social aspects. Since 2013, she initiated and has been leading a national program, Farmer Seeds Network in China, aiming to enhance farmer seed systems and explore systematic institutional linkages for policy piloting, suggestions and advocacy.

ERIC SOUBEIRAN  
Eric Soubeiran is Danone’s One Planet and Water Cycle Vice-President and member of the Cycles & Procurement Board. In this role, he is responsible for the company’s sustainability agenda, coordinating climate change, water resource protection, regenerative agriculture, circular economy and human rights. Eric also serves as the new Chief Executive of the Danone Ecosystem Fund. Eric will promote synergies between Danone and Ecosystem to maximize the social and economic impact of the fund and ensure that innovations and best practices proven in the Ecosystem’s projects are scaled inside and outside Danone. Eric joined Danone in 2010 in the group’s operations in the Indian sub-continent. During this period, he launched a range of nutritional products designed for the ‘bottom of pyramid’ customers, with an innovative route to market approach. In 2013, Eric joined Danone’s marketing team, in charge of Activia and Vitalinea brands for the French market. In 2014, Eric was appointed director of milk sourcing for Danone in Europe, managing a network of 4,000 dedicated farmers across six European countries during a period of deep transformation in the milk market. Eric also serves as administrator of the Livelihoods Carbon Fund and the Gold Standards foundation.

VIJAY KUMAR THALLAM  
Vijay Kumar Thallam is Advisor to the Government of Andhra Pradesh (Agriculture and Co-operation Department) and Co-Vice Chairperson Rythu Sadhikara Samstha, Andhra Pradesh Zero Budget Natural Farming. He has a degree in physics (honour student) and an MBA from the Faculty of Management Studies, Delhi University (1977). He joined the Indian Administrative Service, Andhra Pradesh (AP) cadre in 1983. In his 36 years of government service, he has spent about 25 years in large-scale community mobilisation, working with tribal communities, rural women and farmers. He spent 10 years, 2000 to 2010, as CEO of the Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP) and led the mobilisation and empowerment of 11.5 million rural poor women in AP into thrift and credit-based self-help groups (SHGs) and their federations, to enable them to come out of poverty. From 2010 to 2015, as the first Mission Director of the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM), he has taken the lessons of SERP to the whole country, with a vision of mobilising 100 million rural women into SHGs and federations. He returned to the Government of AP in April 2015 as Special Chief Secretary, Agriculture Department. After his retirement in September 2016, he was appointed as the Adviser to the Government, Agriculture Department. For the past four years, he has been leading the climate resilient Zero Budget Natural Farming initiative in AP, which covers 500,000 farmers. The vision is to cover all six million farmers in the state by 2024, and to make the whole state a natural farming state by 2027.