



GOES VIRTUAL!

INTERNATIONAL SEED FEDERATION VIRTUAL CONGRESS

POWERED BY **Seed**WORLD

PROGRAM OF EVENTS (subject to change)

Please note all times are listed as Central European Time (CET).

Monday, June 8, 2020

OPENING CEREMONY • 12:00 – 13:00 CET

Today seed is widely recognized as an essential good and a key element in food production. The world finds itself in unprecedented times, and more than ever we should work together to build sustainable food systems post-COVID19. The Opening Ceremony sets the tone for the three-day virtual event. You will hear from ISF President Eduard Fito, ISF Secretary General Michael Keller, Chair of the Spanish National Organising Committee Julián Arnedo, and our Keynote Speaker – and be able to join the live Q&A. We welcome all seed professionals, ISF members, partners, media, and all those interested in the topic of food and agriculture.

Speakers:

- Eduard Fito, ISF President
- Michael Keller, ISF Secretary General
- Keynote speaker: Beth Bechdol, Deputy Director-General of Operations, FAO
- Keynote speaker: Ralf Lopian, Chair, Steering Committee of the International Year of Plant Health
- Julián Arnedo, ISF World Seed Congress 2021, Chair of the National Organising Committee and ANOVE (Spanish Plant Breeders Association) President
- Moderated by Francine Sayoc, ISF Communications Manager

Tuesday, June 9, 2020

COVID-19 AND BEYOND: THE FUTURE OF THE SEED INDUSTRY • 12:00 – 13:00 and 16:00 – 17:00 CET

The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly affected global food production. Even though farming and seed sector activities have been broadly exempted from restrictive measures, it is difficult to anticipate what the medium- and long-term impact will be. Seed is a foundational contributor in ensuring food security. To gain better understanding of our joint capacity to support sustainable food production, seed sector leaders will share their vision of the future.

Speakers for 12:00:

- Theo de Jager, World Farmers Organisation President
- Marco van Leeuwen, Rijk Zwaan Managing Director
- Usha Barwale Zehr, MAHYCO Director and Chief Technology Officer
- David Malan, Managing Director, Klein Karoo Seed Production

Speakers for 16:00:

- Lorena Basso, President, Basso Semillas and Asociación Semilleros Argentinos (ASA)
- Franck Berger, CEO, Limagrain Vegetable Seeds
- Arnaud Petit, International Grains Council (IGC) Executive Director
- Arnold Puech d'Alissac, World Farmers' Organisation Treasurer

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

RE-EXAMINING INNOVATION AFTER COVID-19 • 12:00 – 13:00 CET

The seed sector is one of the most research-intensive sectors. Companies are re-investing 10-30% of their turnover in R&D. What will be the future landscape of innovation after COVID-19? In this session, we will explore different perspectives on the next chapter of innovation in seed. Some analyses already suggest that the current crisis is changing people's view on science in a positive way. Will this also bring a more positive recognition for innovation in seeds and favorably influence future policy and regulatory decisions for some key innovations of the sector such as plant breeding innovations?

Speakers:

- Louise Fresco, Wageningen University & Research President of the Executive Board
- Neal Gutterson, Corteva Agriscience Chief Technology Officer
- Vincent Navarro, BASF Vegetable Seed Senior Vice President
- Jeff Rowe, Syngenta Global - Seeds President