



# 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
- 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

##### Speakers for 16:00:

- Lorena Basso, President, Basso Semillas and Asociación Semilleros Argentinos (ASA)
- Arnaud Petit, International Grains Council (IGC) Executive Director
- Arnold Peuch 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