

ICABR News

COMING SUMMER 2022: The 26th ICABR Annual Conference

Since its inception in 1997 the ICABR Conference has been a global forum for scholars and practitioners to exchange knowledge on the technological, economic and policy factors that shape bioeconomy innovation.

The [26th ICABR conference](#) will take place July 5 - July 8 in Bologna, Italy, with a focus on the theme *Bioeconomy Innovation Pipelines and Supply Chain Shocks*.

What are some of the key opportunities and challenges affecting innovation? Advances in biological research accelerated by COVID-19 and new research tools like CRISPR-Cas9 are creating new opportunities for firms to innovate. Innovators seeking investment are, however, adversely affected by different sources of uncertainty. Innovation pipelines both technical and institutional are vital for supply chain development, as without the continuous commercialization of improved products and changes in market and industrial structure, supply chains risk stagnation. Recent shocks, including COVID-19, have created significant challenges for many supply chains. Supply chain disruptions create business opportunities as well as uncertainty in markets, the effects of which can ripple through supply chains, ultimately all the way back to innovation investment decisions. They are further affected by national and international policies.



Call for Submissions to the 26th ICABR Conference (due 13 February 2022)

The [26th ICABR Conference invites submission of abstracts](#) for research papers, participant panels, posters and symposia that address how recent market shocks and government responses have impacted, or have the potential to impact, innovation pipelines and supply chains.

Increasing Innovation Investment

- Effects of regulatory burden and government policies
- Role for investment incentives; Strengthening public sector research
- Potential for public-private partnerships

Increasing Supply Chain Resilience

- Essential components of supply chains in national & international trade
- Role of supply chain contracts; Impacts from digital agriculture
- Trade-offs between transparency and confidential business information

Improving Supply Chain Sustainability

- Measuring sustainability improvements along supply chains
- Tradeoffs between sustainability incentives, due diligence, and mandates
- Improved sustainability impacts on profitability

Society and Consumer Responses to Bioeconomy Innovations

- Consumer willingness to pay for sustainability improvements
- Role of society regarding innovation commercialization
- Bioeconomy knowledge and awareness

ICABR Quarterly: The newsletter of the International Consortium on Applied Bioeconomy Research (ICABR).

The ICABR Conference Committee is hard at work planning the 26th ICABR Annual Conference in Bologna, Italy in Summer 2022. We look forward to seeing many of you in person this year, and more of you online (both in-person and online options for participation will be provided.) *ICABR Quarterly* will continue to share updates on the conference as well as other ICABR events and opportunities throughout the year.



- Justus Wesseler, ICABR President

Submit proposals and follow the 26th ICABR Annual Conference at <https://icabr.net/call-for-papers-icabr2022/>

While it remains impossible to know what travel conditions will be at the time of the conference, the organizers are planning a hybrid conference, with in-person (in Bologna, Italy) and online components.

COMING SOON:**IFAD International Conference on Jobs, Innovation & Rural Value Chains in the Context of Climate Transition***(June 22 – June 24, hybrid in-person and online)*

IFAD is pleased to announce the [International Conference on Jobs, Innovation & Rural Value Chains in the Context of Climate Transition](#), which will take place at IFAD headquarters in Rome (Italy) on 22-24 June 2022.

The conference is organized by IFAD and the Department of Social Sciences and Economics of Sapienza University of Rome, the CIES - University of Rome Tor Vergata, and the Department of Economics of Roma Tre University, in collaboration with the Italian Center for International Development (ICID), the University of Florence, the Italian Society of Development Economics (SIES), the Italian Association of Agricultural and Applied Economics (AIEAA), the Council for Agricultural Research and Analysis of Agricultural Economics (CREA), the Italian Society of Economics (SIE), and the Institute for Studies on the Mediterranean (ISMed).

The conference intends to bridge the gap between research and policy, translate scientific and rigorous applied research into evidence-based policy advice, and produce knowledge with the aim of contributing to the scaling up of successful policy interventions, projects, programs, and strategies related to rural development.

Link to the event page: [Jobs, innovation and rural value chains in the context of climate transition: Bridging the gap between research and policy \(ifad.org\)](#)

The deadline to submit a 250 words abstract for paper proposals, organized sessions, or lightning talks is January 31, 2022.

JOBS, INNOVATION AND RURAL VALUE CHAINS IN THE CONTEXT OF CLIMATE TRANSITION: BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN RESEARCH AND POLICY

ROME, ITALY
22 – 24 JUNE 2022 (HYBRID)

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Featured Keynote Addresses:

Joshua Angrist, Ford Professor of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics in 2021.

David Zilberman, Professor and Robinson Chair, University of California, Berkeley. 2019 Wolf Prize in Agriculture.

Recent ICABR Events**View Recordings of the 25th ICABR Annual Conference (June 29th - July 2nd, 2021)**

The 25th ICABR conference brought together over 200 biological scientists, engineers and social scientists from government, the private sector and academia to discuss opportunities and policies to build a better bioeconomy.



Keynote speakers included [Ramanan Laxminarayan](#), Founder and Director of the Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy; [Joachim von Braun](#), Chair of the UN Food Systems Summit Group of Scientists; [Chris Barrett](#), Professor of Applied Economics and Management at Cornell University; and [Caixia Gao](#), Principal Investigator of the Institute of Genetics and

Developmental Biology at the Chinese Academy of Sciences. An [international panel chaired by Hans Hogeveen, Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the UN Organizations for Food and Agriculture](#), international experts discussed the societal challenges facing the UN Food Systems Summit.

Additionally, over two dozen conference panels and parallel sessions, both in-person and online, covered a range of scientific, economic, and policy topics, including:

[Fostering Innovations to Strengthen Resiliency for Sustainable Agriculture Intensification](#) (Moderator: Ruben Echevarria)

featuring Uma Lele, David Shearer, Mauricio Lopes, Jennifer Baarn, Sara Mbago

[Frontiers of Science & Technology in China](#) (Moderator: Carl Pray)

featuring Ren Wang, Long Zhao, Jiaqing Gong, Jikun Huang

[Future Directions of the Food System](#) (Moderator: Yael Rubinstein)

featuring Romina Cavatassi, Koen Deconinck, Caterina Ruggeri Laderchi, Jose Rosero Moncayo, Sara Savastano, Tom Reardon

Finally, a [Tribute to Wally Huffman](#) honored the lifetime contributions of this extraordinary member of the ICABR community.

Publication Opportunities for the Bioeconomy

Open Calls for Papers

15th Annual International Symposium on Agricultural Research, 11-14 July 2022, Athens, Greece.

Submit a proposal for presentation by **21 March 2022** (remote (online or pre-recorded) and on-site presentations welcome) via the conference website: <https://www.atiner.gr/agriculture/call>

Special Issue "Making the Transition to a Circular Bioeconomy Sustainable & Inclusive"

A special issue of *Sustainability* (ISSN 2071-1050). The bioeconomy and the circular economy both aim at defining new and more sustainable production and consumption models, able to reduce the carbon footprint of human activities. To shed new light on how a circular bioeconomy may be achievable, this Special Issue calls for papers investigating the roles of actors involved in the transition. (Dr. Andreas Pyka, Dr. Massimiliano Mazzanti, Dr. Piergiuseppe Morone, & Dr. Nicolas Bifort, Guest Editors)

Deadline for manuscript submissions: 31 March 2022. Submit to this Special Issue via the following link:

https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/special_issues/Making_the_Transition_to_a_Circular_Bioeconomy_Sustainable

Special Issue "Recent Advances in Biomass, Waste and Solid Recovered Biofuels Production towards Circular Bioeconomy"

A special issue of *Fuel* (ISSN 0016-2361). Petroleum resources are unsustainable and their consumption induces harmful health and environmental effects. These environmental issues and worldwide energy security can be efficiently solved via the implementation of alternative biofuels. (Dr. Senthil Kumar Ponnusamy, Dr. Saravanan Rajendran, Dr. Hwai Chyuan Ong, Guest Editors)

Deadline for manuscript submissions: 31 January 2022. Submit to this Special Issue via the following link:

<https://www.journals.elsevier.com/fuel/call-for-papers/call-for-papers-on-special-issue-recent-advances-in-biomass-waste-and-solid-recovered-biofuels-production-towards-circular-bioeconomy>

Recent Bioeconomy Publications

Post COVID-19 Implications on Genetic Diversity and Genomics Research & Innovation.

This white paper emerged from an independent expert consultation commissioned by the Secretariat of International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture at the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, with support from the Government of Italy. The purpose of the consultation was to identify the lasting impacts and the institutional and policy implications of COVID-19

ICABR Quarterly Featured Student Work

Aboubacry Kane is a PhD student in economics at Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar, Senegal. He is interested in innovation, gender, productivity, development and economic growth. As a QES-AS Fellow he studies gender and digital technologies. Recent work supported by the IFAD 50x2030 Initiative looks at agricultural productivity among women and men in Senegal. [\[read more\]](#)



Jeremias Lachman is a PhD student and a researcher at IIEP (UBA-CONICET) in Argentina. His work focuses on smart farming, analyzing the main drivers for smart farming adoption among farms. He has developed two waves of surveys to map providers of smart farming technologies in Argentina. [\[read more\]](#)

2021 was a better year than 2020, but there is still much room for improvement. The pandemic continued, and new strains of the virus have emerged – but we have effective vaccines. [...] My research was affected by the pandemic. We found that social distancing measures make sense from an economic perspective. The gains in terms of lives saved, in many cases, are more significant than the economic costs. More interestingly, regions that enacted social distancing and other measures earlier suffered less economically and in terms of health. The crisis triggered innovation and change. Food systems adapted well to the pandemic, became more digitized, and introduced new ways to provide food to homes. Yet, the elderly and the poor suffered most from the pandemic, and unfortunately, cynical politicians manipulated the public, costing many lives to achieve their political aims.

- David Zilberman, ICABR Board, on the Berkeley Blog [\[weblink\]](#)

for genetic diversity and genomic research and innovation, with a special focus on open access, global equity and science capacity. (Welch, E., Louafi, S., Carroll, S.R., Hudson, M., IJsselmuiden, C., Kane, N., Leonelli, S., Marin, A., Özdemir, V., Reichman, J.H., Tuberosa, R., Ubalijoro, E., Wessler, J.) View the full report via the following link: <https://www.fao.org/3/cb5573en/cb5573en.pdf>



Opinion: Allow Golden Rice to Save Lives. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* Dec 2021, 118 (51) e2120901118; DOI: 10.1073/pnas.2120901118

The consumption of the genetically modified rice variety known as Golden Rice (GR) offers a potent and cost-effective strategy to combat Vitamin A deficiency. The authors argue GR should be broadly approved and given the opportunity to save and improve lives. (Wu, F., Wessler, J., Zilberman, D., Russell, R. M., Chen, C., & Dubock, A. C.) View the full paper via the following link: <https://www.pnas.org/content/118/51/e2120901118>



IFAD 50x2030 Global Data Use Conference.

The first-ever 50x2030 Global Data Use Conference brought together attendees from around the world to discuss the potential uses of survey data as a tool to aid global development. Attendees shared concrete examples of the use of survey data to address development challenges, inform policies and programmes, and guide investments. They also had the opportunity to establish new networks of decision-makers, discuss the similarities among the challenges they face, and foster learning and capacity-building opportunities.



Access the full conference recordings via the following link:

<https://www.ifad.org/en/web/latest/-/50x2030-global-data-use-conference>

Bioeconomy Educational Materials

WUR offers several Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) on various aspects of Bioeconomy (<https://www.edx.org/school/wageningenx>): <https://www.wur.nl/en/Research-Results/Themes/theme-biobased-economy.htm>

Bioeconomy Awards & Fellowships

Bioeconomy Awards

Symposium on Biomaterials, Fuels and Chemicals (SBFC) Bioeconomy Leadership Award

The "Bioeconomy Leadership Award" is given on behalf of the SBFC to a company or NGO that has significantly advanced the development of a renewable resource-based fuels and chemicals economy. Details:

<https://www.simbhq.org/sbfc/sciprogram/awards/bioecon/>

Bioeconomy Fellowship Opportunities

The FFAR Fellows Program

The FFAR Fellows Program was established to provide professional development and career guidance to the next generation of food and agriculture scientists. By providing early career support to graduate students, the program cultivates supportive relationships between graduate students and industry, government, and NGO peers to equip students with skills to facilitate transition to the workforce and prepare future leaders for food and agriculture.

Applications due February 22, 2022. Details: <https://ffarfellows.org/apply/>

Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Site at the University of Vermont: Crop Diversity and Food and Income Security in East Africa

Each summer from 2021-2023 eight undergraduate students from U.S. institutions representing diverse backgrounds will be provided fully funded summer research fellowships to conduct interdisciplinary research on links between on-farm crop diversity

– at local and regional scales – and livelihood outcomes among smallholder farm households in East Africa. Partners include the University of Vermont, Sterling College, and Bioversity International. Application deadline is 15 February 2022. Details: <https://www.uvm.edu/cals/cdae/reu-in-uganda>

Careers in the Bioeconomy

Open Career Opportunities

Bio-economy Needs Workers

<https://www.producer.com/markets/bio-economy-needs-workers/>

Research Foundation Wood Based Bioeconomy Sr. Research Support

[Syracuse Jobs](#)

Patent Analyst - Biotechnology

[Clarivate Analytics](#)

Short-term Positions / Consultancies / Contracts

Please share other opportunities with the ICABR community by emailing icabr2022@conftool.com

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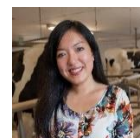
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ALLIANCE OF BIOVERSITY
INTERNATIONAL & CIAT

At the 25th Congress of the International Consortium on Applied Bioeconomy Research (ICABR) in Ravello, Italy Professor Justus Wesseler of Wageningen University was elected as the new President of the Consortium. He succeeds Professor Carl Pray of Rutgers University who led the Consortium for more than a decade.

Karen vander Heide (Wageningen University) is Treasurer of the ICABR.

Institutional membership

The institutional membership is open to associations, and public and private institutions which operate in fields connected with the aims of the Consortium or which pursue the aims and materially support the activities of the Consortium or individual initiatives promoted by the Consortium, by providing human, organisational or financial resources.

Benefits of institutional membership include:

- designation of two staff members to receive an annual membership;
- recognition at the ICABR conference;
- two non-transferable registrations for staff to the ICABR Annual Conference;
- the right to post announcements on the ICABR website at no charge;
- the right to post announcements and articles in the ICABR quarterly newsletter;
- listing on the ICABR website;

The annual institutional membership fee will be 2500,00 Euro.

About ICABR

The Consortium was established to bring together international scholars in the field of bioeconomy studies – its partners come from across the globe and include leaders in agricultural and economic development, natural resources management, environmental policy, risk communication and other fields. The overarching aims of the ICABR include:

- (a) *contribute to the advancement of knowledge and understanding of nature and human behavior in the field of economics and biological sciences with special regard to natural resources, agriculture and the bioeconomy;*
- (b) *encourage and improve communication between teachers, researchers and students in the advancement of knowledge and understanding of nature and human behavior in the field of economics and biological sciences with special regard to natural resources, agriculture and bioeconomy; and*
- (c) *develop and encourage cooperation between university level teaching institutions and research institutions.*

For more information:

Please visit the ICABR website at <https://icabr.net/>

Or contact icabr2022@conftool.com for more information.



Call for Submissions to the 26th ICABR Conference

Colleagues are encouraged to submit abstracts for posters or papers or proposals for organized sessions (3-4 presentations with 1-2 discussants or round tables) via: <https://icabr.net/call-for-papers-icabr2022/>.

Submission deadline: February 13, 2022.

Proposals for pre-conference (July 5) and post-conference (July 9) workshops can be submitted to Stuart Smyth (stuart.smyth@usask.ca).

Decisions will be communicated by March 15, 2022.

For additional information, please visit the [ICABR website](https://icabr.net/).

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