



BRUSSELS POLICY BRIEFING N. 58

Africa's Agriculture Trade in a changing environment

Organisers: CTA, ACP Secretariat, European Commission/Devco, Concord, IFPRI, BMZ/GIZ

Wednesday 23rd October 2019, 9h00-13h00

<http://brusselsbriefings.net>

BIODATA OF THE SPEAKERS

Koni Agbokou – Founder and President, Togo Choco

After completing his Master's degree in Health Psychology at the University of Lomé in 2001, Komi Agbokou enrolled at the University of Tübingen in Germany for an extension of his studies by a doctorate in psychology, to obtain in 2004, post representative in Togo of the German NGO, Alfons Gopel Foundation. He then made the choice to return to Togo.

In 2007, he became the Founding President of the association *Enfant-Développement-Développement* (EFD), which aims to help children and young people through education, cultural activities and leisure and who also works in the sector of energy with the project "Sole Africano" which aims to make available to the Togolese population affordable solar kits. The NGO "EFD" was born in 2013, the cooperative CHOCOTOGO of which Komi AGBOKOU is the president of the Management Committee. This cooperative, the first one transformed into Togolese cocoa, specializes in the processing and added-value of certified organic cocoa beans ECOCERT and fair trade of the region of Akébou. It employs 60 part-time women at the Kpalimé production site and 15 young people at the production site in Lomé. CHOCOTOGO has received numerous awards including the first prize of "Best Young Company in 2015", the prize of "Young Agricultural Entrepreneur" at Expo Milano in 2015. The cooperative was also named "Success" of the Francophonie in 2016.

Komi Agbokou is also treasurer of the Interprofessional Council of the coffee-cocoa sector of Togo (CCOC-Togo) and secretary of the association of transformers of coffee-cocoa sector of Togo (ATCC).

Ousmane Badiane – Director for Africa, International Food Policy Research Institute

Dr. Ousmane Badiane, recipient of the Africa Food Prize in 2015 and a Distinguished Fellow of the African Association of Agricultural Economists, is the Director for Africa at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). In this role, he oversees the institute's two regional offices for West and Central Africa in Dakar and Eastern and Southern Africa in Addis Ababa. He coordinates IFPRI's work program in the areas of food policy research, capacity strengthening, and policy communication in Africa. He is also in charge of IFPRI's partnership with African institutions dealing with the above areas. As an Advisor to the NEPAD Secretariat from 2004 to 2007, he was instrumental in developing and guiding the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). Before his current tenure at IFPRI, Dr. Badiane, a national of Senegal, was Lead Specialist for Food and Agricultural Policy for the Africa Department at the World Bank from January 1998 to August 2008. He previously worked at IFPRI as Senior Research Fellow from 1989 to 1997, when he led the institute's work on market reforms and development. While at IFPRI, he taught Economics of Development in Africa, as adjunct professor at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies from 1993 to 2003. Dr. Badiane received a master's degree and PhD in agricultural economics from the University of Kiel in Germany. He is also recipient of a Doctoral Degree Honoris Causa from the University of KwaZulu Natal in South Africa. Dr. Badiane is a member of the World Academy of Sciences.

Cécile Billaux, Head of the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Unit in DG TRADE, European Commission

Cécile Billaux has been Head of the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Unit in DG TRADE, European Commission since 1st February 2019. Prior to this, she worked as Deputy Head of Unit in charge of Agriculture and Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) issues in DG TRADE where

she contributed to remove barriers to trade for exports of agriculture products to third countries. She has more than 10 years of experience inside the European Commission, including at cabinet level. She worked in the cabinet of the current EU Trade Commissioner Cécilia Malmström in the first half of her mandate, from 2014 to 2017, where she notably covered trade relationships with ACP countries, sustainable development and relations with the European Parliament. She also worked in DG Health and Consumer Protection during the first 4 years of her career in the European Commission. Prior to working for the Commission, she worked in the private sector as a consultant in public affairs for major international companies. She is French and studied political sciences. She holds a Master in Public Administration from the Harvard Kennedy School of government.

Isolina Boto – Manager, CTA Brussels Office and Coordinator of the Briefings

Isolina Boto is the Manager of the CTA Brussels Office. Isolina has more than 20 years of experience in development. She worked for the European Commission, various ACP embassies and NGOs in areas related to food security, rural development and trade. Within CTA, she worked in various positions at headquarters, in the Netherlands, especially on co-funded technical programmes on Agriculture and Rural Development implemented at regional level. Since 2004 she heads the CTA Brussels Office, dealing with policy issues related to the ACP-EU cooperation in the field of agricultural and rural development. In that context, she coordinates and organizes the regular Brussels Development Briefings on topical development policy issues (<http://brusselsbriefings.net>). The office produces a daily news service on key policy areas of ACP-EU cooperation on trade, fisheries, climate change, food security and development policy (<http://brussels.cta.int>). She also implements field projects on policy and value chains in ACP countries.

Antoine Bouet – Senior Research Fellow, International Food Policy Research Institute

Antoine Bouet joined IFPRI in February 2005 as Senior Research Fellow and co-leader of the Globalization and Markets Program in the Markets, Trade and Institutions Division (MTID) to conduct research on global trade modeling, trade policies, regional agreements, and multilateral trade negotiations. Antoine Bouet is also Professor of Economics at University of Bordeaux (France). He was previously Scientific Advisor at the Centre d'Etudes Prospectives et d'Informations Internationales (CEPII), Paris where he participated in the development of the MIRAGE model of the world economy and the MACMAP-HS6 database on market access. He has carried out research on market access, global trade modeling, the economics of trade retaliation, and the relationship between trade policy and Research and Development. He has been Director of the Centre d'Analyse et de Traitement des Données Economiques (CATT) from 1996 to 2004, and of the Laboratoire de Recherche en Economie et Finance Internationales (LAREFI) in France from 2014 to 2016, and Chairman of the European Research Network on International Economics and Finance (2002-2004). He was also editor of *Revue Economique*, *Economie Internationale* – International Economics and *Economie et Statistiques*. Recently, he has been awarded the Alan A. Powell Award 2010, presented each year by the Global Trade Analysis Project (GTAP) to recognize outstanding service of a representative serving on the GTAP Advisory Board. He was also awarded twice the GTAP Research Fellow.

He has co-edited the book *Agriculture, Development and the Global Trading System: 2000-2015* with David Laborde. He is a French citizen. Antoine Bouet received a PhD in economics from the University of Bordeaux.

Yvonne Semba Chileshe - Expert Commodities and value chains development - ACP Secretariat

Mrs Chileshe, a Zambian national, has 20 years' experience in trade and development. She has diverse national and international experience including trade negotiations, commodities and value chains development, project management and Trade and Industrial policy analysis.

Mrs Chileshe served previously as Trade Adviser to the Government of Botswana, Chief Trade Negotiator and Director of Foreign Trade in the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry of Zambia, and Trade attaché at the Zambian Embassy in Belgium. She holds a Post Graduate

Certificate in International Trade Law, Masters in Economic Policy Management and Bachelor of Arts Degree.

Alan Matthews – Professor Emeritus, European Agricultural Policy, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland

Professor Matthews research interests are in the areas of agricultural policy and international trade policy, including their implications for development and food security. He has been a member of three WTO dispute settlement or arbitration panels. He is a former President of the European Association of Agricultural Economists and is currently a member of Ireland's Climate Change Advisory Council. He is a regular contributor to the blog capreform.eu on issues relating to the EU's Common Agricultural Policy and last month published a report on the impact of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy on developing countries for the European Committee of the Regions.

Rose Mutuku – Managing Director, Smart Logistics Solution Ltd, Kenya

Mrs Rose is an investor and entrepreneur in the agribusiness space in Kenya, with over 10 years' experience in the sector. She is the founder and the Managing Director of Smart Logistics Solution Ltd (SLS), an SME that processes Convenient and nutritious foods targeting the low-income population. Rose has developed an agribusiness model that offers over 5,000 smallholder women farmers a structured route to market and commercially viable opportunities that transforms their livelihood.

Rose holds a Masters in Business administration and a Masters in International studies from the university of Nairobi.

Wim Olthof – Deputy-Head of Unit Rural Development, Food Security, Nutrition, Europeaid, European Commission

Willem (Wim) Olthof is Deputy Head of the Unit 'Rural Development, Food Security and Nutrition' of the Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development of the European Commission. This unit deals with policy development and implementation of international cooperation related to food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture. From 2014 to 2018, he was the Alternate Permanent Representative at the Delegation of the European Union in Rome dealing with FAO, IFAD and WFP. Before that, he worked in Brussels and held posts covering policy development on agriculture, food security and nutrition, as well as on geographic cooperation with the Horn of Africa, specifically Ethiopia. During this period he was closely involved in the development of the external EU food security policy, in the EU resilience initiative for the Horn of Africa, as well as in establishing the € 1 billion EU Food Facility. In the period 1996-2005, he was posted in the EU Delegations in Sierra Leone, Ethiopia and Ghana. Before joining the European Commission, Mr. Olthof has lectured at the Institute of Social Studies in The Hague, The Netherlands, and at the Universities of Zimbabwe (1989-1992) and Addis Ababa (1996-1997) on rural and regional development.

Hanna Saarinen – EU Policy Advisor, Investments in Agriculture, Oxfam

Hanna Saarinen has more than 15 years of experience in private, public, and non-governmental sectors. Five of those she spent in Southeast Asia dedicating herself to land rights and governance, with particular focus on strengthening the role of local civil society in land tenure issues.

Since 2015, she works for Oxfam's EU Advocacy Office in Brussels, influencing the European Union's development policies related to agricultural investments and food security. Her educational background is in economics, business administration and social psychology.

Oxfam's vision is a world where people are valued and treated equally, enjoy their rights as full citizens, and can influence decisions affecting their lives. Through its 20 affiliates, Oxfam works with people in over 90 countries empowering marginalized people to gain social and economic equality, and providing humanitarian relief in crisis. The role of the private sector in reaching the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is an area where Oxfam has increasingly engaged in recent years.

Tim Sauler – Deputy Head of Development Policy at the Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Germany to the European Union

Tim Sauler is Deputy Head of Development Policy at the Germany Permanent Representation in Brussels, and the German delegate to the ACP Council Working Party.

In 2013, after several years of professional experience at the German Federal Ministry for Food and Agriculture and the European Commission (DG SANCO), Tim Sauler joined the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), where was working as a senior policy officer for the special initiative “ONE WORLD -No Hunger”. Since 2016 he has been seconded to the German Permanent Representation in Brussels.

Tim Sauler holds a Master’s degree in political science, history and constitutional law from the University of Heidelberg (Germany), and a Master’s degree in European political and administrative studies from the College of Europe in Bruges.

Mariam Yinusa – Principal Financial Economist at the African Development Bank (AfDB)

Mariam Yinusa is a development professional with over 15 years of experience in structuring, implementing and evaluating the effectiveness of development projects in various sectors including agriculture, energy and human development. She is currently responsible for designing and implementing innovative financial instruments to fund strategic, complex and niche programs and projects in the agriculture sector under the AfDB’s Feed Africa Strategy for Agricultural Transformation. She also acts as co-lead of the AfDB’s flagship program promoting youth in agriculture as a means to achieve food security and reduce youth unemployment on the continent. Her previous roles at the AfDB between 2011 and 2016 focused on strategy formulation and policy advisory to national governments and regional institutions in Africa.

From 2016 to 2017 Ms. Yinusa served as Technical Adviser to the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa under the Mo Ibrahim Foundation Fellowship Program where she provided policy advice to shape Africa’s socio-economic transformation agenda in priority areas including the promotion of commodity based industrialization, natural resource management, good governance and stemming illicit financial flows. Prior to that Ms. Yinusa worked at the Economic Community for West Africa States (ECOWAS) Commission to set up the West African Electricity Regulatory Authority as an autonomous self-financed regulator of the West African Power Pool. She also worked as a financial analyst as Lotus Capital Limited, an innovative asset management company based in Nigeria. Ms. Yinusa holds a Master’s of Science in Financial Economics from the University of Glasgow, United Kingdom.