



# THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE

2020 Norman E. Borlaug International Symposium

**Breaking New Ground:** *Building Resilience Today for Improved Global Food Systems Tomorrow*

## **Reconstructing Equity and Access in Food Systems**

2020 Borlaug Dialogue Whova Event Chat Archive

Meghna Ravishankar

Check out the resource thread for this session:

[https://whova.com/portal/webapp/ibdft\\_202010/CommunityBoard/topic/404116/](https://whova.com/portal/webapp/ibdft_202010/CommunityBoard/topic/404116/)

Ellen Franzenburg

Welcome to the roundtable discussion on equity and access! Introduce yourself! Please share your name, affiliation, and something you are looking forward to hearing about in this session.

My name is Ellen Franzenburg, and I work with the World Food Prize Foundation. I am looking forward to sharing additional resources with you during this session! Check out all the speaker biographies below the video. You can read all about our distinguished speakers there anytime.

Please check out the discussion thread dedicated to this roundtable in the Community Section of Whova. You can take a look at it while watching the session by clicking on the "Community Section" tab at the top of the chat box!

[https://whova.com/portal/webapp/ibdft\\_202010/CommunityBoard/topic/404116/](https://whova.com/portal/webapp/ibdft_202010/CommunityBoard/topic/404116/)

Amy Bettle

Hi Ellen! I'm excited for this sessions as equity and access permeates every aspect of food security.

Lindsey Berebitsky

Hello! My name is Lindsey Berebitsky. I am student at Purdue University studying Plant Science and Communication. I am a GYI group leader this year, and I am very excited to hear from you all!

Isabella Scramoncin

Hello! My name is Isabella Scramoncin and I am a GYI student delegate. I am so excited to listen to this session and further my knowledge on food security :)

Bianca Sponseller

Hi! My name is Bianca Sponseller and I am a GYI delegate. I am a senior at Nevada High School in Iowa. I'm very excited to hear from everyone!



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Emma Barrett

My name is Emma Barrett and I am a GYI delegate representing the Pennsylvania Youth Institute. I am excited to hear about the speakers' different approaches to obtaining equity.

Belinda Brain

Hi! My name is Belinda Brain and I am a GYI delegate from Iowa. I am excited to hear from all the experts in this session.

Kate Keresztes

Hello! I'm Kate and I am a New York State delegate for the Global Youth Institute! I am very excited to hear proposed solutions for changing the pervasive social inequalities entrenched in our society.

Ellen Franzenburg

Check out "2017 World Development Report, Chapter 6: Governance for Equity" as it discusses how to leverage viable, equitable economic policy to make sustainable, lasting change in seemingly inequitable societies.

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/wdr2017>

"We need to listen to the voices of the small producers, particularly the women, youth, and indigenous peoples." Marie Haga

Amy Bettle

"When two elephants fight, it is always the grass that suffers." - a proverb quoted by Dr. Ed Mabaya

Khalid Smith

I was just about to quote that 😊

Ellen Franzenburg

Be sure to read "Equity as both a means and an end: Lessons for resilient food systems from COVID-19" as it explores the extreme vulnerability to Covid-19 of food insecure populations and the importance of addressing social and racial inequalities not only as a just response, but as an absolutely necessary response for food system resilience. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0305750X2030231X>

"It's about acting, legislating, and programming." Jim Barnhart

"Because women are critical change agents, we must unlock decision-making for them to the benefit of the entire food system." Jim Barnhart



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Meghna Ravishankar

Rebuilding and reclaiming food systems! Positive words from Janie

Amy Bettel

Khalid, isn't it so impactful? Glad we're on the same wavelength!

Ellen Franzenburg

Check out "The impact of gender equity in agriculture on nutritional status, diets, and household food security: a mixed-methods systematic review" as it reports on the association between household gender equity and food insecurity as it relates to financial management! <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7170429/>

"Access is to be considered in three dynamics: physical, economic, and environmental." Raj Paroda

"Access to fresh and nutrient rich food is essential to life and everyone should have access to that." Xavier Morgan

Meghna Ravishankar

"Systemic racism practices like redlining contribute to the existence of food deserts"  
- Xavier Morgan

Amy Bettel

Xavier Morgan: Food deserts don't only exist in urban communities. That's a big misconception. Food deserts also apply to access to NUTRITIOUS food.

Ellen Franzenburg

Learn more about food deserts in the U.S.:

[https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/publications/45014/30940\\_err140.pdf](https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/publications/45014/30940_err140.pdf)

Amy Bettel

"When perishables rot in the field, how quickly can donors move to do something about that? In order to buy their perishable goods... and then be able to move those goods into the system." - Catherine Bertini

Ellen Franzenburg

Learn more about what food banks are doing to assist people during the pandemic:

<https://www.feedingamerica.org/take-action/coronavirus>

Amy Bettel

Catherine is mindblowingly connecting points from other speakers! Such interconnectivity between these perspectives.



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Meghna Ravishankar

Learn more about Her Future Coalition: <https://herfuturecoalition.org/>

Ellen Franzenburg

Learn more about Speak Up for the Poor in Bangladesh:

<https://www.speakupforthepoor.org/>

Amy Bettle

"Global political will was historic... political will was contagious." - Caitlin Welsh

Nick Battles

As Catherine says, small, regional communities know themselves best! It's important they're deeply involved in solutions.

Ellen Franzenburg

"Today's crisis is the next major reference point for the food security community after the '07-'08 crisis." Caitlin Welsh

Meghna Ravishankar

Check out all the speakers' bios below the video feed!

Amy Bettle

"We shouldn't think about going back to normal. 'Normal' was inequitable. 'Normal' was unfair." - Dr. Roy Steiner

Nick Battles

"Normal was inequitable. Normal was not fair." - Roy Steiner

Ellen Franzenburg

"We shouldn't be thinking about going back to normal. Normal was not equitable, normal was not fair. Normal was not anything we wanted." Roy Steiner

Meghna Ravishankar

Strong and powerful words from Roy on what equity and progress means.

Ellen Franzenburg

"We have to enable empowered communities that can make decisions for themselves." Roy Steiner



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Isabella Scramoncin

That was such a great insight on equity, thank you!

Ellen Franzenburg

"We need much more actionable intelligence that can enable governments. We need more research, more real-time data." Ed Mabaya

Nick Battles

Actionable intelligence with the most recent data and research is so important! I hadn't thought much about that before.

Ellen Franzenburg

"We need to wake up to this reality that the food system can be an equalizer globally and an unequalizer." Marie Haga

"Biodiversity is shown to be best managed by the people who are there, but we keep returning to the idea that we know better than the people who live in those communities." Janie Simms-Hipp

"Now we also know that the available biodiversity has not been effectively researched. It will maybe take us 500 years more to study what is available." Raj Paroda

Amy Bettle

"Gene banks are important. They need to be supported." - Dr. Raj Paroda

"We need to not only store them (genes), but we need to use them with the assistance of new science." - Dr. Raj Paroda

Read more about wild cousins here:

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2020/09/200909085940.htm>

Ellen Franzenburg

"We need to be sensible enough to safeguard what biodiversity we have left.

Indigenous peoples are essential in that." Marie Haga

Learn more about gene banks and why we need them:

<https://www.croptrust.org/our-mission/crop-diversity-why-it-matters/need-genebanks/>

Amy Bettle

"When we don't have access to things like good connectivity, access to information is delayed." - Ruramiso Mashumba

Ruramiso: Something that is working well is the use of radios. You used to have to physically deliver information to the fields. Radios are effective because you don't



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need wifi or phone data access. It may seem outdated, but it's highly effective for smallholders in rural areas.

Ellen Franzenburg

Learn more about Farm in a Box:

<https://agco.africa-newsroom.com/press/agco-lance--farm-in-a-box--une-initiative-in-novante-pour-lafrique-afin-de-faciliter-la-mecanisation-agricole-au-sein-des-communautés-rurales>

Amy Bettle

Stefan Caspari: Farm in a box: a readymade box of farming equipment. This includes a tractor, small-scale implements, and training/expertise to assist farmers. You can also repurpose the shipping container into an office or workspace. - Fascinating!!

Ellen Franzenburg

"Agriculture is a predominantly white male space. We need an industry that reflects not only how our people look, but how people that we're feeding around the world look." Xavier Morgan

Amy Bettle

AMAZING insight from Xavier!

Ellen Franzenburg

Learn more about MANNRS: <https://www.manrrs.org/>

Isabella Scramoncin

As an FFA member, I completely agree and I value your insight so much. You are absolutely inspiring

Lindsey Berebitsky

I agree that inclusivity HAS to be a part of the changes we create in food systems in agriculture. We can't achieve food security without it.

Ellen Franzenburg

MANNRS: Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences

<https://www.manrrs.org/>

Take a look at the SOAR Foundation Report mentioned by Claudia Sadoff:

[https://supportagresearch.org/assets/pdf/retaking-the-field-5\\_innovation-to-profit\\_final.pdf](https://supportagresearch.org/assets/pdf/retaking-the-field-5_innovation-to-profit_final.pdf)



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"If we do not include young people in agriculture, the future is really gloomy." Ed Mabaya

Emma Barrett  
Thank you, Claudia, for your insight!

Ellen Franzenburg  
"I'm hoping that post this pandemic, we can ride on the wave of innovation." Ed Mabaya  
Find out more about the Food System Vision Prize:  
<https://www.foodsystemvisionprize.org/> - mentioned by Roy Steiner

Amy Bettle  
Thank you, Janie!  
So wish this discussion could go on longer, but you may submit a Q&A at the top of this chat box, and we'll encourage speakers to type responses back!  
"Move the emphasis on women and girls from rhetoric to action" - Catherine Bertini

Norma Toussaint  
I love that-- from rhetoric to action.

Amy Bettle  
"Intentional action & intentional inclusion in decision-making" - Dr. Jim Barnhart  
"Learn from women, youth, and indigenous peoples to build back better." - Marie Haga

Ellen Franzenburg  
"Learn from women, youth and indigenous peoples to build back better." Marie Haga  
"We must build a strong partnership between public and private sector and involve youth in agriculture." Raj Paroda  
"Give farmers access and allow them to do what they know how to do already." Ed Mabaya  
"We need a dramatic systems approach that shifts the direction that we're on." Roy Steiner

Amy Bettle  
Read more about the CGAIR GENDER (Generating Evidence and New Directions for Equitable Results) platform here!  
<https://www.cgiar.org/research/program-platform/cgi-ar-gender-platform/>

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