



4th International Conference on Global Food Security (4-9 December 2020)

For its fourth edition, the International Conference on Global Food Security, which was due to be held in Montpellier, will be entirely digital and interactive. The event will run for four days: Mini-symposia will be held on 4 December, to encourage interactions between scientists, and the conference will then take place from 7 to 9 December.

Achieving local and global food security: at what costs? This will be the central question for the **4th International Conference on Global Food Security**. The conference brings together the world's science community to share results and bridge the knowledge gaps to address the huge challenges our food systems are facing, including contributions to SDG 2 (and other SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda. It will be an important milestone of the worldwide dialogues towards the UN Food System Summit organized in 2021.

The event is organized by the scientific publisher Elsevier, along with Montpellier University of Excellence and Wageningen University & Research, sponsored by eight partner organizations: Agropolis Fondation, CGIAR, CIRAD, IDRC, INRAE, IRD, Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole, Région Occitanie, with the support from Agropolis International.

The conference will address the **triple burden of malnutrition**: hunger, micronutrient deficiencies, and obesity, from a range of viewpoints and on several scales. It will look into the state of the art, the compromises required and the possible synergies in terms of **transforming food systems**. The aim is to reconcile competing environmental, economic and social objectives in order to achieve the **Sustainable Development Goals**.

The conference organizers have drafted a **code of conduct** for organizers, participants and sponsors. It acknowledges the legitimate interests of the different stakeholders of the conference, recognizing that they are all part of a scientific endeavor to promote **knowledge sharing**. Thanks to the support from public academic entities and local governments and since the primary aim of the conference is **to produce public goods**, the organizers are offering **affordable, inclusive registration fees**. **They also offer easily accessible grants for participants from countries in the global South** thanks to IDRC and CCardesa support. Access to the **mini-symposia sessions on 4 December is also free to students**.

Session Topics

The conference will focus on shared analyses and viewpoints from both scientific players and the non-academic sector (civil society, private sector and decision-makers). The programme includes a plenary and two sessions devoted to key issues linking global food security and the current COVID-19 pandemic.

1. How to assess future food security: on foresight, forecasting, projecting, predicting and exploring the future
2. Transitions to post-carbon food systems in a post-carbon economy
3. Analysing impacts of COVID-19
 - Direct and indirect impacts of sanitary crises on food systems: adaptation and resilience
 - Transformation of food systems responding to COVID-19
4. Development, impact and ethics of novel and data-driven technologies in food systems
5. Influencing food consumption and demand considering the food environment
6. Food security and the Sustainable Development Goals: synergies, tensions and trade-offs
7. Food security and policy, governance, institutions and trade
8. Stability and dynamics of availability, access and utilization
9. Access: affordability, allocation and preference of food
10. Circularity in food systems at local, regional or global levels
11. Utilization: nutritional value, social value and safety of food
12. Availability: production, distribution and exchange of food