

# Paradigm Shift for Development Studies in the Global South

## The 1<sup>st</sup> International Forum of Future Rural Studies (IFFRS)

8:00 - 14:30 BST (15:00-21:30 CST), 22 October 2022

### Preliminary Programme

#### Background

The cascading and interlinked global crises and conflicts have changed the landscape of rural development in the global south where three billion people live in rural areas and there is an increase of population suffering from poverty, food shortage, climate change, broken supply chains or loss of nonfarm job for their livelihood security. Such destructive impacts call for critique, radical thinking, and paradigm shift in development studies to understand both challenges and opportunities there. Against the backdrop, the First International Forum of Future Rural Studies (IFFRS) brings together international renowned scholars, development experts and early career researchers (ECRs) to explore following themes and questions:

- 1) **Paradigm shift for rural development studies in the global south:** Why do we need new approach to understand challenges & opportunities in global south?
- 2) **Global-local knowledge system and social innovation:** Where are interfaces between local (or indigenous) knowledge and global (or scientific) knowledge systems for external participation to release intrinsic dynamics among grassroots communities?
- 3) **Rural governance and partnership for sustainable livelihoods:** By what strategies can external resources and stakeholders be effectively organised to facilitate social innovation and sustainable (or alternative) livelihoods?
- 4) **Higher education and entrepreneurship for rural transformation:** What roles can higher education institutions play in cultivating sustainability competences to foster rural innovation and entrepreneurship there?
- 5) **Climate change, appropriate technology and agricultural resilience:** How can green and appropriate technology can be developed for smallholder farmers against climate change, biodiversity protection, sustainable livelihood security?

The IFFRS is co-hosted by College of International Development and Global Agriculture (CIDGA) of China Agricultural University and Nottingham University Business School (NUBS) of the University of Nottingham. It is organised by the Consortium of Future Rural Studies (CFRS) with

support by University of Nottingham Ningbo China (UNNC), University of Nottingham Malaysia (UNM), FAO China Office, Alliance of Poverty Reduction and Development (APRD), International Conference on Agricultural and Rural Development in China (ICARDC).

### **Aims of this event**

- Initiate a research collaboration for paradigm shift in the global south
- Share research findings and methodological innovation in rural studies
- Present papers to special issue (SI) of *Journal of Rural Studies (JRS)* and *International Journal of Agricultural Sustainability (IJAS)*

### **Outcomes**

- 1) Launch of IFFRS series on paradigm shift for rural studies
- 2) Launch of CFRS platform for research collaboration and methodological innovation
- 3) Recommendation of quality papers to the SI of *JRS* and *IJAS*
- 4) Opportunities for ECRs and students to participate in future rural studies

### **Who may benefit from this event?**

- Researchers who are interested in new paradigm of development studies in the global south which highlights on challenge-oriented research, systemic thinking and theoretic breaking through based upon good practices
- Those who are keen to address research questions of this event OR contribute a paper to be considered by the SI of *JRS* or *IJAS*
- ECRs and students whose interests in challenges and opportunities in the global south, new paradigm and systematic innovation for rural studies
- Practitioners (e.g. policy analysts, development professionals, agribusiness leaders) who are interests in theoretic reflection to good practices in the global south

### **How to attend**

Please click the weblink below to register this event in advance:

[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_KkyYkHGzTx2LKh7nzUjcQ](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KkyYkHGzTx2LKh7nzUjcQ)

### **IFFRS Organising Committee:**

Bin Wu (NUBS, Co-chair), Xiuli Xu (CIDGA, Co-Chair), Xiaoyun Li (CIDGA), Yuheng Li (APRD), Qubo Qi (CAU), Peter Ho (ICARDC)

# Draft Agenda

## **Session 1: Opening Ceremony & Keynote Speech** (8:00 – 9:30 BST, 15:00 -16:30 CST)

Chairs: Prof. Scott McCabe, Associate Dean of NUBS for Research and Knowledge Exchange  
Prof. Xiuli Xu, Dean of CIDGA of CAU

### **VIP Addresses** (8:00 to 8:20 BST, 15:00 to 15:20 CST)

- Professor Xian Xin, Vice President of CAU
- Prof. Zoe Wilson, Pro-Vice Chancellor of UoN
- Prof Patrick Chau, Vice-Provost of UNNC
- Prof Andy Chan, Vice-Provost of UNM

### **Keynote Speeches** (8:20 to 9:30 BST, 15:20 to 16:30 CST)

- Prof Jules Pretty (OBE) at Essex University and Editor of IJAS: Five assets for regenerating agricultural and food systems
- Prof Xiaoyun Li, Honour Funder of CIDGA of CAU: The future of development studies
- Prof Darren Smith, Editor of JRS: Framing advances in Chinese rural studies: perspective from the Journal of Rural Studies
- Prof David Hulme (OBE), Global Development Institute, Manchester University: Development Studies: Moving from an International Development to a Global Development Paradigm

## **Session 2: Paradigm shift for rural development studies** (9:30-10:10 BST, 16:30-17:10 CST)

Chair: Prof Oliver Morrissey (Chair of Development Economics, UoN)

Discussant: Prof Cong Cao (UNNC)

- New “green revolution” in the global south? An agroecology perspective (Claude D. Caldwell, Songliang Wang)
- "From green revolution to “green development”: China’s agricultural science and technology development over the last 70 years" (Xiuli Xu, Rui Wang; Lídia Cabral)
- Transition of seed breeding system in China: From socialist cooperation to joint research (Siyuan Xu)

## **Session 3: Global-local knowledge system and entrepreneurship** (10:10-10:50 BST, 17:10 – 17:50 CST)

Chair: Dr. Yuheng Li (Associate Editor of JRS)

Discussant: Dr. Lidia Cabral (IDS),

- Sustainable entrepreneurship for rural transition in China: A systematic perspective (Bin Wu, Liyan Zhang, Hannah Noke, Punita Bhatt)
- Entrepreneurship training for rural women in the Global South: When does it work and when not? (Chandra Kant Upadhyay, Punita Bhatt, and Supriya Garikipati)
- Bringing rural revitalization practices into higher education system: An agroecological perspective in China (Songliang Wang, Claude D Caldwell, Yunfei Jiang, Anni Wei)

**Session 4: Rural governance for sustainable livelihoods in China** (10:50-11:30 BST, 17:50-18:30 CST)

Chair: Prof Peter Ho (Chair of ICARDC)

Discussant: Prof Zihui Tong (Renmin University)

- Role of environment NGOs in conserving biodiversity in China: A partnership perspective for Asian Elephants Protection in Yunnan (Li Li, Tian Yan, Le Yang)
- Dismantling Hierarchy for Effectiveness? -- Reflections on the Experts' Role in China's Rural Revitalization Projects (Chuanhong Zhang, Xiaoyun Li, Dongwei Wu)

**Session 5: Knowledge exchange for rural development in global south** (11:30-12:10 BST, 18:20 – 19:10 CST)

Chair: Prof Gubo Qi (CAU)

Discussants: Prof Supriya Garikipati (Liverpool University),

- Farmers' sovereignty and holistic agriculture in India A toolkit for Hope (Poonam Pandey, Kavitha Kuruganti)
- Experimenting a New Mixed Mechanism in International development: A Tale from China's Agricultural Technology Demonstration Center in Tanzania (Yue Zhang, Xiaoyun Li)
- Alternative livelihoods for rural development in the global south: Case of Chinese agricultural investment in Laos (Yan Jin, Shuru Zhong, Zhenzhong Si)

**Session 6: Climate change, appropriate technology and sustainability** (12:10-12:50 BST, 19:10 – 19:50 CST)

Chair: Prof Yuhui Qiao (CAU)

Discussant: Prof Claude Caldwell (Dalhousie University);

- When the 'periphery is the center' and the 'last should be the first': plant genetic diversity and rural development in the Americas (Marianna Fenzi)
- Multiplying 'development from below': small-scale irrigation and smallholders' resilience to food security in Niger and beyond (Abdoulkarim I Kalidou; Qi Gubo; Gabriel K Ndimbo)
- "Agrarian changes in subtropics frontiers: Local cases studies of coffee booms in Southwest China" (Jun He, Siyun Xiong, Zoe Wang)

**Session 7: building global-local community of development practice** (13:00-14:30

BST, 20:00 – 21:30 CST)

Chairs: Min Tang (State Councillor of China), Glen Noble (Director of RKE at UNNC)

Panellists to be invited:

- Mr Patck Anam, Senior Policy Advisor of Development Reimagined
- Professor Gubo Qi, CIRGA of CAU
- Mr Le Dong, Programme Officer of FAO China
- Mr Erkang Zhang, G. Manager of Global Agricultural S & T Innovation (AGAIN)

This session is to share practitioners' knowledge, opinions and good practices about challenges and opportunities in the global south; to foster new ideas and collaborations with them to develop a global-local knowledge system for research design and innovation diffusion cross boundaries.

Especially, it will focus on following questions:

- 1) *What are the specific challenges and opportunities facing smallholder farmers and communities in the global south particularly under the context of climate change, pandemic and economic stagnation?*
- 2) *Where are resources, opportunities and good practices in your innovation to be learnt or shared?*
- 3) *What is the implication to the innovative research? How can we work together for knowledge exchange and join action?*

**Wrap up and next steps (14:30-14:40)** by Bin Wu and Xu Xiuli