

Inclusive transformation of rural Ethiopia:

Patterns and options

May 2, 2019

Addis Abba, Ethiopia

Rural people around the world continue to struggle with food insecurity, persistent poverty and inequality, and environmental degradation. The 2019 *Global Food Policy Report* - that will be presented at this event - highlights the urgency of rural revitalization to address the crisis in rural areas. Policies, institutions, and investments that take advantage of new opportunities and technologies, increase access to basic services, create more and better rural jobs, foster gender equality, promote good governance, and restore the environment can make rural areas vibrant and healthy places to live and work.

In Ethiopia in particular, recent analysis - based on the national household consumption expenditure surveys of 2011 and 2016 - shows that monetary living standards of rural households remain low and that consumption growth in rural areas has been significantly below urban ones. Moreover, real consumption of the bottom quintile did not change and the poorest were therefore excluded from the ongoing transformation process in Ethiopia, leading to increased inequality in the country.

The conference aims to bring stakeholders together to present an overview of key issues in rural areas and discuss the lessons learnt from experiences with rural revitalization in a large number of countries. It will then focus on Ethiopia in particular and provide evidence on ongoing changes so as to further inform the discussion on rural transformation and on ways to make it more inclusive.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 8:30-9:00 | Coffee and Registration |
| 9:00-9:30 | Opening Remarks
<i>Higher officials</i> |
| 9:30-10:00 | Keynote Address on Rural Revitalization
<i>Shenggen Fan, Director General, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)</i> |
| 10:00-11:15 | Global Panel on Rural Revitalization (with Q&A)
<i>Representatives from: UNDP, AUC, Gov't, Donor agency, NGO</i> |
| 11:15-11:30 | Coffee Break |
| 11:30-12:00 | Keynote Address on Ethiopia's new Transformation Agenda
<i>H.E. Dr. Eyob Tekalign, State Minister, Ministry of Finance</i> |
| 12:00-12:45 | Transformation and Inclusion in Rural Ethiopia
Welfare changes in rural Ethiopia: 2011-2016
<i>Berhe Mekonnen, Poverty Economist, World Bank</i>
Economic lives of the poor in rural Ethiopia
<i>Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse, Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI</i> |

12:45-13:45 Lunch

13:45-15:30 **Focus on Ethiopia: Session 1 (with Q&A)**

Public investments and rural poverty reduction

Paul Dorosh, Director, Development Strategy and Governance, IFPRI

Inclusive transformation in crop agriculture

Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse, Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI

Inclusive transformation in the livestock sector: The case of dairy

Seneshaw Tamru, Research Officer, PSI

The poor and rural jobs in Ethiopia's transforming economy

Fantu Bachewe, Research Coordinator, IFPRI

The role of intermediary cities in Ethiopia's rural development

Tadesse Kuma, Senior Researcher, PSI

15:30-15:45 **Coffee Break**

15:45-17:30 **Focus on Ethiopia: Session 2 (with Q&A)**

Geography and rural service delivery

Bart Minten, Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI

Nutrition

Kalle Hirvonen, Research Fellow, IFPRI

Food security

Fanaye Tadesse, Research Officer, PSI

Rural financial markets

Bethelhem Koru, Research Officer, PSI

Targeting and the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP)

Guush Berhane, Research Fellow, IFPRI

17:30-17:35 **Closing Remarks**

Shenggen Fan, Director General, IFPRI

17:35 **Reception**