



THE
GRADUATE
INSTITUTE
GENEVA

GLOBAL
HEALTH
CENTRE

FRAGILE FOOD SYSTEMS, LOOMING HUNGER AND COVID-19: TIME FOR A PARADIGM SHIFT

16 June 2020 | 14:00 – 15:00

WEBINAR

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS

UDUAK IGBEKA

Country Support Manager, SUN Business Network



Uduak Igbeka is a Country Support Manager for the Scaling Up Nutrition Business Network (SBN), the world's leading private sector focused nutrition initiative, which drives private sector contribution to improved nutrition, in-line with the priorities of governments. Working within the global SBN secretariat, she provides technical support to emerging SBN secretariats across Africa. Prior to joining the global team, she coordinated the activities of the Scaling Up Nutrition Business network in Nigeria, increasing the number of business members to over 100 with commitments to improve nutrition in Nigeria. Uduak has over 8 years' experience working across large scale food fortification, home fortification, promotion of biofortified crops, social behaviour change communication and a wide spectrum of public-private engagements in nutrition. She is a serving Commissioner for the Commission on Sustainable Agriculture Intensification and has a background in Agricultural Economics and Sustainable Development from the University of Calabar and the School of Oriental & African Studies (SOAS), University of London.

GITHINJI GITAH

CEO, Amref Health Africa; Co-Chair, UHC2030 Steering Committee



Githinji Gitahi joined Amref Health Africa as the Group Chief Executive Officer in June 2015. Amref Health Africa, founded in 1957, is the largest African-led international organisation on the continent and reaches more than 11 million people each year through 150 health-focused projects across 35 countries. Until his appointment to Amref Health Africa, he was the Vice President and Regional Director for Africa, Smile Train International. Prior to that, he was Managing Director for Monitor Publications in Uganda as well as General Manager for Marketing and Circulation in East Africa for the Nation Media Group. He held progressively senior positions at GlaxoSmithKline and worked at the Avenue Group and in the insurance industry. He is Co-Chair of the UHC2030 Steering Committee, a global World Bank and World Health Organization initiative for Universal Health Coverage. He is also a member of the Private Sector Advisory Board of Africa CDC, the Global Health Investment Advisory Board, and of the World Health Organization's Community Health Worker Hub. He is member of the Board of Directors of The Standard Group and holds Board member positions across Amref Health Africa offices in Africa. He has a Doctor of Medicine from the University of Nairobi; a Master's in Business Administration, majoring in Marketing, from United States International University and has a Certificate for Strategic Perspectives for Nonprofit Management from Harvard University. Githinji was issued the Moran of the Order of the Burning Spear, a presidential commendation given to recipients on the advice of the National Honours and Awards Committee in the Office of the President

for outstanding contribution to the health sector at the helm of Amref Health Africa. He has been instrumental in promoting primary health care that is the core of Amref Health Africa's work across the country.

LINA MAHY

Technical Officer, Multisectoral Action in Food Systems Unit, Department of Nutrition and Food Safety, World Health Organization



Lina Mahy has been working in the Department of Nutrition and Food Safety at the World Health Organization in Geneva since 2015 as Technical Officer. She facilitates advocacy, communication and partnerships on WHO's nutrition and food safety strategies, guidance and tools with UN Agencies, professional communities, governments and intergovernmental organisations with the aim of increasing impact at country level. She is a member of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition FAO/WHO Joint Secretariat. She is interested in sustainable, food systems, biodiversity, and climate change linked to nutrition. Prior to her current assignment, she worked as technical officer in the UN System Standing Committee on Nutrition Secretariat. Lina has lived and worked for 21 years in several countries in sub-Saharan Africa for FAO, UNICEF, Helen Keller International, and the World Bank. She is an agricultural engineer (MSc), with a post-graduate degree in international nutrition and education from Ghent University (Belgium).

MODERATOR

STEVE GODFREY

Director for Policy and External Relations, GAIN



Steve Godfrey joined GAIN in 2012 as Director for Policy and External Relations, following five years as Managing Director of the Commonwealth Business Council, where he was responsible for investment and policy work with heads of government in more than 50 countries. He has worked as an advisor to the UK Department for International Development, Canadian Foreign Minister and President of the Queen's Privy Council of Canada, and has consulted to the United Nations, World Bank, European Union and various international companies. Steve was appointed Head of the Commonwealth office in South Africa from 1993 to 1999, leading the Commonwealth technical assistance programme during the country's transition to majority rule. He later managed the private sector consultations of the Commission for Africa chaired by then UK Prime Minister Tony Blair. He began his career working for development NGOs, including Oxfam and War on Want in the UK and Inter Pares in Canada. He holds an MA in Philosophy from the University of Edinburgh and is a Fellow of the Royal Society for the Arts.