

University of Pretoria

Institute for Food, Nutrition and Well-being

Advisory Board



Dr. Ousmane Badiane is the Africa Director for the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). In this role, he coordinates IFPRI's work program in the areas of food policy research, capacity strengthening, and policy communications in Africa. He is also in charge of IFPRI's partnerships with African institutions dealing with the above areas.

Dr. Badiane, a national of Senegal, was Lead Specialist for Food and Agricultural Policy for the Africa Region at the World Bank from January 1998 to August 2008. He previously worked at IFPRI as Senior Research Fellow from 1989 to 1997, when he led the institute's work on market reforms and development. While at IFPRI, he taught, as adjunct professor, at Johns Hopkins' School of Advance International Studies from 1993 to 2003. Dr. Badiane received a Masters Degree and PhD in agricultural economics from the University of Kiel in Germany. He was awarded a Doctorate Degree Honoris Causa from the University of KwaZulu Natal in 2010 and inducted as "Distinguished Fellow" of the African Association of Agricultural Economists the same year.



Ms Brenda Koornneef joined Tiger Brands 10 years ago as Category Director for the Main Meal category, and subsequently became Managing Executive for the Tastic Rice Corporation. Six years ago she was appointed as Business Executive, responsible for Group Marketing and Corporate Strategy Executive. She is a member of the Tiger Brands Executive Committee and Board member for subsidiaries Haco Tiger Brands in Kenya and Chococam in Cameroon

Having obtained her B.Com degree, she started her marketing career with Unilever as a trainee graduate, and spent 15 years with the organization both locally and internationally, progressing to Marketing Director, Unilever Detergents South Africa. She left Unilever to join the SABC as general manager for SABC2 (formerly TV One), where she spent several years working to successfully commercialise the channel. After leaving the SABC, Brenda was appointed Managing Director of Games Africa and Moribu Limited– the listed lottery organization which developed and managed the successful lottery games Ithuba, Viva and Zama-Zama.

From there Brenda joined Tiger Brands.

Brenda has served on several non-profit organization and industry Boards and continues to do so, in addition to serving on the Boards of Tiger Brands subsidiaries in Africa



Mr Janusz Lutrek holds degrees in both Chemical Engineering from the University of Pretoria and Law from UNISA and is a registered Attorney, Patent Attorney, and a Professional Engineer. In 1997 Janusz became a partner of Hahn & Hahn attorneys, a boutique law firm founded in 1951 and specializing in technology law and intellectual property law. Janusz is a Custodian Member of the South African Association for Food Science and Technology (SAAFoST) and sits on both the Industry Affairs and the Food Law committees of the Consumer Goods Council of South Africa as well as sitting on the Food Law Advisory Group of the Department of Health.

Janusz has assisted many leading listed companies as well as the CGCSA and SAAFoST with their various Foodstuffs, Comsetics, and Disinfectants Act and Regulations, Medicines and Related Substances Act and Regulations, and Consumer Protection Act submissions to various Government Departments and Parliament as well as implementation in their businesses. In particular, Janusz has been extensively involved in the GMO debate having made submissions to DTI and the NCC on these issues and having assisted CGCSA in its endeavour to clarify the situation with the Commissioner of the NCC.

This in depth and on-going involvement in the process has given Janusz special insight into Food Law, the Consumer Protection Act, and the GMO aspects thereof.



Prof Lucky Mathebula is a businessman with active ownership in a number of companies. He is a policy analyst and a strategic planning consultant. His experience includes scenario planning, political risk analysis, public sector consulting, political advisory services to a number of politicians (across the continent). He holds a Ph.D in Public Administration and a Havard Business School Executive Leadership Development Certificate as well as a Fribourg University Diploma in Intergovernmental Relations. His professional strenghts include group think facilitation, strategy development, socio-political risk analysis, coalition building, change management and stakeholder relationship management.



Prof Richard Mkandawire is a Socio-economist and a rural development expert. He is a graduate of the University of Malawi (Bachelor of Social Science), University of Missouri, Columbia USA (MA and MSc.), and the University of East Anglia, UK (PhD). Prof. Mkandawire has previously taught in the Universities of Malawi, Zambia, and in South Africa.

He is currently Vice President of the African Fertilizer and Agribusiness Partnership. Before taking this position he worked as a Senior Advisor to New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), and leading the conceptualization and implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). Professor Mkandawire is a member of the Malawi Presidential Advisory Committee on the Economy, and is a member of the National Development Council of Malawi

Prof. Mkandawire has received the following awards for his work in spearheading the agenda: awarded an 'Honorary Doctorate' in 2009 (DSc Honoris Causa University of KwaZulu-Natal) CAADP agenda and rallying continental and global support towards agriculture in Africa and the 'Drivers of Change' award in 2008 for leadership in advocating and convincing African leaders and the international community that Africa can master the ability and political will to overcome hunger and poverty through CAADP. In recognition of his work in Agricultural Policy Development and Advocacy, Prof. Mkandawire was appointed by the University of Pretoria in 2012 as Extra- Ordinary Professor.

Prof. Mkandawire has also previously worked with the Commonwealth Secretariat as the Commonwealth Youth Programme Regional Director for Africa. He has extensive experience in development initiatives in Southern Africa spanning a period of over two decades. He has researched and published extensively in the following areas: Agriculture and Food Policies in Southern Africa, Artisanal Fisheries Development, Land Tenure Systems and Agrarian Development, Gender and Development and the Youth and Reproductive Health among other areas.



Dr. Tobias Takavarasha is currently since February 2013 the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Representative for South Africa. Before that he worked as a Senior Agricultural Policy & Investment Officer at the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) in South Africa seconded from the FAO to support the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) and agriculture and food security related programs in Africa. He also worked previously as Director for Strategy, Monitoring and Evaluation at the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) in Nairobi, Kenya (2008-2010) and is a former Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Agriculture in Zimbabwe (1996-2000). He has worked extensively in Malawi and in the SADC region within the agricultural public and private sectors. Tobias holds a PhD. in Agricultural Policy (University of Zimbabwe), a Masters Degree in Agricultural Economics and a Bachelors degree in Economics respectively from Leeds and Birmingham Universities in the United Kingdom.