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INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY
RESEARCH INSTITUTE
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World Food
Programme

A Symposium on
Hunger and Markets in a Time of Crises
on
24 April from 9:00 a.m. till 6:00 p.m. at the
International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
2033 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(entrance is on 21st Street, NW between K and L Streets, NW)

Sponsored by

the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs (CIPA).
Hosted at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

“No single solution to [the] ... food policy dilemma is likely to emerge for all societies, but the underlying importance of markets as a key to all the solutions is being recognized.”

- C. Peter Timmer *et al.*, *Food Policy Analysis*, 1983

“[W]ithout development of supporting institutions, the free market remains nothing but a flea market[:] ... no placement of order, no invoicing or payment by check, no credit, and no warranty.

- Marcel Fafchamps, *Market Institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa*, 2004

“Progress in reducing hunger is now being eroded by the worldwide increase in food prices.”

- United Nations, *Millennium Development Goals Report 2008*, 2008

Overview

The hungry poor have a precarious relation with markets. They rely on it for buying food, selling their products and earning incomes. Markets can be important vehicles for development and hunger alleviation. However, markets can also play a role in perpetuating hunger. For many vulnerable households who are stuck in a hunger-poverty trap, the opportunities created by markets remain elusive.

Employing the World Food Programme's *World Hunger Series 2009 – Hunger and Markets* as a reference document, this symposium seeks to draw upon multiple perspectives from scholarship and practice to explore the complex relations between markets and hunger. Panel discussions will seek to articulate concrete policy recommendations and actions around market-based priority areas advanced by WFP in the concluding chapter of the *World Hunger Series*:

- ***Incorporate food market dynamics into hunger alleviation initiatives:*** An understanding of markets is crucial for understanding the drivers of hunger and vulnerability and for designing responses.
- ***Support food markets with targeted investments in institutions and infrastructure:*** Governments should support markets with appropriate incentives, infrastructure and institutions.
- ***Improve access to complementary markets:*** Access to labour markets and secure financial services is critical in efforts to reduce hunger and poverty.
- ***Use the power of markets to transform market dependency into opportunities:*** The potential for generating income can be harnessed by improving access to agricultural inputs and value chain innovations. Innovations such as Purchase for Progress can address the constraints of the hungry poor by providing possibilities for low-income farmers to improve their connections to markets.
- ***Reduce market-based risks and vulnerabilities and safeguard markets:*** The risk of market failure or inefficiency can be reduced by improving the monitoring of food prices and trade flows, establishing risk management frameworks and facilitating markets during relief and recovery operations.
- ***Invest in social protection measures that reduce risk and vulnerabilities and complement markets:*** Programmes to protect the most vulnerable populations are critical. Insurance, vouchers and cash transfers and other market-based social protection measures should accompany growth strategies and market policies.
- ***Invest more in nutrition and differently in agriculture:*** Smallholder agriculture needs the support of investments, including in research, rural infrastructure and storage systems. These measures should be complemented by cost-effective investments in nutrition, including in affordable nutritious food products.
- ***Ensure that trade supports food security:*** Trade and food security policies need to be made more consistent. Reducing export restrictions and ensuring exemption of humanitarian food are important parts of this effort.
- ***Engage international and domestic actors in the fight against hunger:*** Official development assistance and international and domestic public-private partnerships involving governments, the private sector and civil society are important in supporting emergency interventions.

Symposium Programme

24 April (IFPRI, 2033 K Street N.W., Washington, DC)

8:30 am Registration & Coffee

9:15-10:00 am Welcoming remarks: **David Stevenson**, Director Policy, Planning and Strategy, WFP
David Lewis, Director, Cornell Institute for Public Affairs
Joachim von Braun, Director General, IFPRI

10:00-11:45 am Panel I Perspectives from Knowledge: Hunger and markets
Moderator: **Henk-Jan Brinkman**, Senior Advisor for Economic Policy, WFP
Panelists: **Peter Timmer**, Non-Resident Fellow, Center for Global Development
Chris Delgado, Senior Advisor for Agriculture, World Bank
John Hoddinott, Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI
Alice Pell, Vice Provost for International Relations, Cornell University

The relationship between markets and hunger is complex. Markets can be important vehicles for hunger alleviation, but they can also perpetuate hunger. For those stuck in a hunger-poverty trap, the benefits offered by markets might be out of reach. Market failures are prevalent and the hungry poor are most affected by them. Much has been learned about the interconnectedness of hunger and markets, but much remains to be researched, particularly about the global financial crisis and high food prices. This panel will focus on the current state of scholarship across relevant fields.

12:00-1:30 pm Lunch

1:30-3:15 pm Panel II Perspectives from Practice: Hunger and Markets in a Time of Crises
Moderator: **Marie Ruel**, Director, Poverty, Health, and Nutrition Division, IFPRI
Panelists: **Maximo Torero**, Director Markets, Trade and Institutions Division, IFPRI
Hassan Zaman, Lead Economist, World Bank
Joyce Luma, Chief, Food Security Analysis, WFP
Gawain Kripke, Director of Policy and Research, Oxfam America

High food prices in recent years have increased malnutrition, with life-long consequences. An unfolding global financial crisis is rippling through markets across the globe, with possible negative effects on hunger among vulnerable households. This panel will explore the impact of the two crises and the policy levers that can be applied to mitigate the effect on the hungry poor, while maintaining a balance between equity and efficiency and addressing the incentives, institutions and infrastructure that are needed for well-functioning food markets.

3:15-3:45 pm Break

3:45-5:30 pm Panel III Perspectives from the Field: Actions to Make Markets Work for the Poor
Moderator: **David Stevenson**, Director Policy, Planning and Strategy, WFP
Panelists: **Anne Mbaabu**, Director, Markets Programme, AGRA
Ken Davies, Purchase for Progress Coordinator, WFP
Norman Uphoff, Professor of Government, Cornell University

The hungry poor face significant hurdles in market participation. Firstly, the hunger-poverty trap prevents them from benefiting: their productivity is too low, their skills too few, their health too precarious and their access to assets, inputs, and finance too poor. Secondly, they are too far removed from markets and do not have information on them. Participation in markets is costly – often too costly for the hungry poor. Thirdly, the hungry poor live are risk averse and engage in low risk and low-income activities. This panel will discuss various experiences of practitioners to address these impediments to market participation among the hungry poor.

5:30-6:00 pm Concluding remarks: **Steven Were Omamo**, Deputy Director Policy, Planning and Strategy, WFP
Erin Lentz, Research Support Specialist, Cornell

Moderator and Panelist Biographies

David Stevenson, Director, Policy, Planning and Strategy, World Food Programme (WFP)

David Stevenson is the director of the policy, planning and strategy division of the United Nations World Food Program (WFP), based in Rome, Italy. In this capacity, he helps WFP to address contemporary global challenges like record high food and fuel prices, climate change, and tight food commodity markets in a post-food surplus era. With a focus on hunger solutions, he specifically leads efforts to provide strategic guidance on food and nutrition assistance in humanitarian relief and post-conflict situations, prevention and mitigation of disasters, and HIV/AIDS programs. Strategic guidance includes the following innovations: home-grown school feeding, weather risk management, cash transfers and voucher programs, new nutrition products, and “Purchase for Progress.” The latter uses WFP’s purchasing power to support agricultural production and market development. Prior to this assignment, he held posts in seven African countries. From 2000 and 2007, he served as WFP representative and country director in Rwanda and in Zambia, respectively. He has a political science degree from the University of Calgary and a masters of public policy and administration from Queens University in Canada.

David Lewis, Director, Cornell Institute for Public Affairs (CIPA)

David Lewis is a professor in the Cornell University Department of City and Regional Planning. He has served as the director of CIPA since 2001. Prior to his appointment at CIPA, he served as the director of the Institute for African Development and chair of the Department of City and Regional Planning. He specializes in regional planning, administrative systems, and decision-making in developing countries. Frequently a consultant on these issues in the Middle East, Eastern Europe, Asia, and Africa, his investigations focus on the role of governments in allocating resources as needs outstrip administrative capacity. He has served for extended periods as senior advisor to the Ministry of Finance and Planning in Kenya, regional development advisor to the Amman Urban Region Planning Group (Jordan), and small industry development advisor in Pakistan.

Joachim von Braun, Director General, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

Joachim von Braun has been director general of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) since 2002. He guides and oversees the Institute's efforts to provide research-based sustainable solutions for ending hunger and malnutrition. Under his leadership, IFPRI has continued to grow in food policy related strategy and governance, technology policy, markets, and health nutrition policy, and has significantly expanded its teams based in Africa, Asia, and Latin America in response to research challenges and partners' needs. Before coming to IFPRI, von Braun was director of the Center for Development Research (ZEF) and professor of Economics and Technological Change at the University of Bonn. He was also professor of Food Economics and Policy at Kiel University, Germany. He received his doctoral degree in agricultural economics from the University of Goettingen, Germany in 1978.

Henk-Jan Brinkman, Senior Advisor for Economic Policy, WFP

Henk-Jan Brinkman is Senior Adviser for Economic Policy in the World Food Programme, based in New York. Previously, he was Chief, Economic Analysis and Chief, Food Security Policy and Markets in the Office of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme in Rome, Italy. From 2001 to 2006 he was a Senior Economic Affairs Officer in the Executive Office of the Secretary General of the United Nations, where he advised the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General on economic, social and environmental issues. Between 1989 and 2001, he was in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, where, inter alia, he contributed to the World Economic and Social Survey. He holds an M.A. in economics from the University of Groningen in the Netherlands and a Ph.D. in economics from the New School for Social Research in New York City. He has written on such topics as economic adjustment in Africa and human stature as a measure of the standard of living. He is the author of *Explaining Prices in the Global Economy: A Post-Keynesian Model*, which was published by Edward Elgar in 1999.

Peter Timmer, Non-Resident Fellow, Center for Global Development

Peter Timmer joined the Center for Global Development as a Senior Fellow in March 2004, and became a Non-Resident Fellow in 2007. He is now a Visiting Professor in the Program on Food Security and Environment at Stanford University. Prior to joining CGD Timmer was Dean of the Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies at UC San Diego. Timmer has also held professorships at Harvard, Cornell, and Stanford. In 1992, he received the Bintang Jasa Utama (Highest Merit Star) from the Republic of Indonesia for his contributions to food security. He served as the chief outside advisor to USAID in developing their strategy on growth and agriculture for the Natsios Report (Foreign Assistance in the National Interest), and was one of the key advisors for the World Development Report 2008: Agriculture for Development. He holds a Ph.D., MA and AB from Harvard University.

Chris Delgado, Senior Advisor for Agriculture, The World Bank

Christopher Delgado currently serves as a Senior Advisor for Agriculture at The World Bank Group. Dr. Delgado joined the World Bank Group in April 2006 as a rural strategy and policy adviser, located in the central Agriculture and Rural Development Department. In this capacity, he was tasked with managing the Bank's Global Food Crisis Response Program, which the Bank's executive board recently authorized to expedite grants and loans of up to \$1.2 billion to help countries alleviate the burden of the crisis on the poor. He came to the Bank from nearly 27 years at the International Food Policy Research Institute, where he co-founded IFPRI's Global Research Program on High Value Agriculture, and also held for 11 years a part-time external faculty appointment at the Johns Hopkins University Nitze School of Advanced International Studies. He has worked extensively in Africa and Asia. From 2003 until joining the Bank, he was also a joint appointee of the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in Nairobi Kenya, where he directed ILRI's Markets division. Dr. Delgado has long had a particular interest in the links of agriculture to the performance of the broader economy. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Cornell University and is the author or editor of 6 books and over 100 research monographs and professional papers in agricultural economics, published in several languages.

John Hoddinott, Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI

John Hoddinott originally joined IFPRI as a research fellow in 1997 and since 2002 has been a Senior Research Fellow in the Poverty, Health, and Nutrition Division. His overall research focus is on the design and impact of policies and programs to reduce poverty and malnutrition. His research interests lie principally in the microeconomic analysis of the determinants of health and the long-term consequences of early childhood malnutrition and poverty. He also has interests in the causes of poverty and vulnerability, the determinants of human capital formation, intrahousehold resource allocation, the operation of labor markets and the design of anti-poverty interventions. Before joining IFPRI he held university appointments in Canada and the United Kingdom, including a University Lectureship in Economics and Fellowship at Lady Margaret Hall, University of Oxford. A Canadian citizen, Hoddinott holds a B.A. in economics from the University of Toronto, an M.A. from York University and a D.Phil. in Economics from the University of Oxford.

Alice Pell, Vice Provost for International Relations, Cornell University

Vice Provost Pell joined the Cornell faculty in 1990 as a professor of animal science in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Since 2005 she has been the director of Cornell's International Institute for Food and Agricultural Development (CIIFAD), a university wide center that facilitates engagement in innovative, multidisciplinary initiatives contributing to sustainable agricultural and rural development. In this context, faculty and students have the opportunity to work with local universities, nongovernmental organizations, extension services and other partners overseas to reduce rural poverty and develop sustainable food systems in Africa, Asia and Latin America. A cum laude graduate of Radcliffe College, Professor Pell taught English, history, development studies and geography in Botswana during her time in the Peace Corps. Upon her return to the United States, she enrolled at Harvard University and earned a master's degree in international education and subsequently earned M.S. and Ph.D. degrees at the University of Vermont in animal science. Her current research focuses on tropical farming systems.

Marie Ruel, Director, Poverty, Health, and Nutrition Division, IFPRI

Marie T. Ruel was appointed Division Director of IFPRI's Poverty, Health, and Nutrition Division in 2004. From 1996 until her current appointment, she served as Senior Research Fellow and Research Fellow in that division. Since joining IFPRI, she led the Multi-Country Program on Challenges to Urban Food and Nutrition and the Global Regional Project on Diet Quality and Diet Changes of the Poor. Prior to IFPRI, she was head of the Nutrition and Health Division at the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama/Pan American Health Organization (INCAP/PAHO) in Guatemala. Dr. Ruel received her Ph.D. in International Nutrition from Cornell University and her Masters in Health Sciences from Laval University in Canada.

Maximo Torero, Director, Markets, Trade, and Institutions Division, IFPRI

Máximo Torero was senior research Fellow at IFPRI and leader of the Global Research Program on Institutions and Infrastructure for Market Development. Prior to that, he was a senior researcher and member of the executive committee at Group of Analysis for Development (GRADE). He received his Ph.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles Department of Economics, is a professor on leave at the Universidad del Pacífico, and was postdoctoral fellow at the UCLA Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR). Dr. Torero's major research work lies mostly in analyzing poverty, inequality, importance of geography and assets (private or public) in explaining poverty, and in policies oriented towards poverty alleviation based on the role played by infrastructure, institutions, and on how technological breakthroughs (or discontinuities) can improve the welfare of households. He has won twice the World Award for Outstanding Research on Development given by the Global Development Network (GDN).

Hassan Zaman, Lead Economist, The World Bank

Hassan Zaman is a Lead Economist in the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management group at the World Bank. His current work focuses on issues related to safety nets and crises and policy responses to the recent rise in food prices. Previously Hassan was the country economist on Nepal for four years and also worked on numerous pieces of analytical work on Bangladesh, including a recently completed Poverty Assessment. Between 1999-2002, Hassan was the country economist on Malawi. He joined the World Bank group in 1998 as a Young Professional. Prior to joining the Bank, Hassan worked for an NGO in Bangladesh, BRAC, for four years. He has a PhD in Economics from the University of Sussex and an MSc and BSc in Economics from the London School of Economics.

Joyce Luma, Chief, Food Security Analysis, WFP

Joyce Kanyangwa Luma is the Chief of the Food Security Analysis Service, United Nations World Food Program in Rome. She has previously covered south west Asia, the Caucuses and southern Africa regions as a regional vulnerability analysis and mapping (VAM) advisor. Joyce has a PHD in Human Nutrition and Agricultural Economics from Texas Tech. Before joining WFP, she worked for the Food Agricultural Organisation in Zambia managing a multi-agency funded Household Food Security, Nutrition and Health Monitoring System, which included leading household food security surveys and analysis as well as the Multi-Cluster indicator Surveys (MICS) for measuring progress towards the UN children goals. She also provided technical advice and support to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries on food security and nutrition analysis activities. Prior to that, she was a research fellow/lecturer at the University of Zambia.

Gawain Kripke, Director, Policy and Research, Oxfam America

Gawain Kripke is the Director of Policy and Research for Oxfam America, based in Washington, DC. He directs the policy work of the organization, with a focus on public policy and advocacy. His department conducts research and analysis of issues and trends relating to development, poverty, and humanitarian concerns. Primary issue-areas include trade, agriculture, climate change, extractive industries and governance, humanitarian response, and food security. Prior to his current job, he served as Senior Policy Advisor on Oxfam's *Make Trade Fair* campaign, which aims to reform unfair trade rules so that international trade can become a powerful force for reducing global poverty. Kripke has authored numerous opinion pieces and briefing papers on trade and development issues. He has testified before Congressional committees and comments frequently on news programs including, including Marketplace, CNN, National Public Radio, and BBC World News. Prior to joining Oxfam, Kripke served as director of economic programs for the environmental organization Friends of the Earth. He holds a B.A. in Government from Harvard College.

Anne Mbaabu, Director, Markets Programme, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)

Mrs. Mbaabu, a Kenyan national, holds a Master of Science (M.Sc.) degree in Food Science & Technology (Processing and Control); and Bachelors degree in Food Science and Technology, both from the University of Nairobi, Kenya. She is also finalizing her Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Strategic Management and Production & Operations Management at the same university. Currently she directs the Market Access Program at the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), charged with market transformations to link smallholder African farmers of food staples to markets (maize, cassava, sorghum, millet, grain legumes, bananas), promoting structured trading systems, value addition of food staples and directing investments into alternative uses of staples (feed industry, etc.), and addressing issues to create an enabling environment for markets to perform efficiently. Prior to joining AGRA, Mrs. Mbaabu was the Executive Director of the Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC) in Nairobi, Kenya. She has undertaken various consultancies in management in the food industry with UNIDO, FAO, CDE-SIDA among others. She was previously the Managing Director of Proctor & Allan East Africa, Ltd., a consumer foods manufacturing and marketing company and he has held senior management positions with Unga Group, Ltd., Unga Feeds, Ltd., and CPC Kenya Ltd. In total, Mrs. Mbaabu has more than 30 years of extensive involvement and experience in innovative structured agricultural trade systems and strategic planning with an emphasis on Micro and Small Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

Ken Davies, Purchase for Progress Coordinator, WFP

Ken Davies is the Coordinator of the WFP Purchase for Progress Initiative. Most recently he has been WFP Representative and Country Director in Mozambique (2006-2009), Uganda (2001-2006), Cambodia (1996-2000), Swaziland (1993-1996) and India (Advisor 1989-1993). Prior to joining WFP he was Band Aid Live Aid Representative for Sudan, Tigray and Eritrea based in Khartoum, Agricultural Coordinator for Save the Children in western Sudan, Director of the NYC GreenThumb and Open Space Reclamation programs, an Agricultural Extension agent for Cornell Cooperative Extension, and a farmer.

Norman Uphoff, Professor of Government, Cornell University

Norman Uphoff is a professor in the Department of Government and the former director of the Cornell International Institute for Food, Agriculture, and Development. His work has focused on development administration, irrigation management, local participation, and strategies for broad-based rural development. His current development interests have expanded beyond the social sciences to include agro-ecology and particularly the system of rice intensification. His numerous publications include two books co-authored with Warren Ilchman, *The Political Economy of Change* (1969) and *The Political Economy of Development* (1972). Other books include *Puzzles of Productivity in Public Organizations* (1992), *Local Institutional Development* (1986), and *Reasons for Success: Learning from Instructive Experiences in Rural Development* (1997). He has served on USAID's Research Advisory Committee and the South Asia Committee of the U.S. Social Science Research Council, and has been a consultant for the World Bank, USAID, the United Nations, the Ford Foundation, the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, and other agencies.

Steven Were Omamo, Deputy Director, Policy, Planning, and Strategy, WFP

Steven Were Omamo is Deputy Director of Policy, Planning and Strategy at WFP. Prior to joining WFP, he worked with several international and national research and training organizations, including the International Food Policy Research Institute, the International Livestock Research Institute, the International Service for National Agricultural Research, the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute, and Egerton University. He is founding President of New Growth International, a private consulting firm.

Erin Lentz, Research Support Specialist, Cornell University

Erin C. Lentz is a research support specialist at Cornell University. She holds a BA in Economics and an MS in Applied Economics and Management, both from Cornell. Her Masters thesis on food aid targeting was awarded "Outstanding Masters Thesis" by Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association. Erin received a Fulbright fellowship to Bangladesh to research the secondary effects of food aid in communities facing recurring disasters. She subsequently worked with CARE USA's Food Resource Coordination Team, where she helped develop and field-test the Market Information and Food Insecurity Response Analysis (MIFIRA) framework. Prior to attending graduate school, Erin was an economic consultant in Boston.