



Youth at the Forefront:

Advancing Technology for Sustainable Agrifood Systems

2025 World Food Forum Flagship Event Youth Side Event

Introduction

This side event explores how digital innovation and youth leadership can transform agrifood systems in the technology era. Session 1 convenes scholars and policymakers to discuss emerging technologies and cross-border collaboration for agrifood system. Session 2 highlights youth innovation through live pitches of digital solutions that advance sustainable agriculture. By bridging academic insight, policy dialogue, and grassroots action, the event explores digital transformation and empowers the next generation of agrifood system leaders.

Organizers

Tsinghua University
SINOMACH Digital Technology Corporation
United Nations Industrial Development Organization
Politecnico di Milano

Time (Rome): October 15th, 15:30-16:30

Location: Philippines Room

Agenda

Time (Rome)	Speakers & Panelists	
15:30-15:32	Youth Host	Student Representative, Tsinghua University
Welcome Speech by Organizer		
15:32-15:36	Mr. ZHOU Dalin	Chief Technical Advisor, Department of Agri-business, United Nations Industrial Development Organization
Opening Remarks		
15:36-15:40	Ms. Laura Turner	Deputy Director, MPC (Multilateral and Programme Country Partnerships) Division, World Food Program Headquarters
15:40-15:44	Mr. Fidele Franco Manrique	Vice Minister of Food Control and Supply Policies, the Ministry of People's Power for Food, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
Panel Discussion: Policy and Academic Dialogue on Digital Agriculture and Innovation		
<i>Panel Host</i>	<i>Ms. Huang Cheng</i>	<i>Director, Center for Global Competence Development of Tsinghua University</i>
<i>One leading question for each panelist (3 min each, 15 min in total):</i>		
15:44-15:47	Mr. Nikola Trendov	Senior Digital Agriculture and Innovation Specialist, Food and Agriculture Organization
15:47-15:50	Mr. NI Guangheng	Professor, Department of Hydraulic Engineering, Tsinghua University
15:50-15:53	Ms. Chiara Corbo	Director, the Smart AgriFood Observatory and the Food Sustainability Observatory, Politecnico di Milano

15:53-15:56	Ms. Flavia Tauro	Associate Professor, Department of Innovation in Biological, Agro-food and Forestry Systems, Università degli Studi della Tuscia
<i>2-3 questions from the host or the audience (9 min in total)</i>		
15:56-16:00	Question 1	Invite 2 panelists to respond
16:00-16:05	Question 2	Invite 2 panelists to respond
Youth Pitch: Youth Engagement in Digital Agriculture: Showcasing Innovative Solutions		
16:05-16:09	Mr. JIA Bo (recorded video)	Project Manager, SINOMACH Digital Technology Corporation
16:09-16:13	Mr. LENG Wei	CEO, Wuhan Jiahe Technology Co., Ltd
16:13-16:17	Mr. Niklas Klingel	Graduate Student, Technical University of Munich
16:17-16:21	Ms. Patience Bako (TBC)	Youth Leader, Act4Food
16:21-16:25	Mr. Noé Gabriel Alexandre Michon	Graduate Student, Tsinghua University Initiator of Ecovia
Closing and Buffer Time		
16:25-16:30	Closing & Group Photo	