

## Breakfast Meeting: Financing for Development (Fin4Dev) Dialogues

# Stabilizing Agrifood Systems Amid Trade, Energy and Market Volatility

### CONCEPT NOTE

Wednesday, 22 April 2026  
8.30–9.45 AM (ET) / 14:30–15:45 (CET)

*Breakfast will be served from 8:00–8:30 AM (ET).*

**IFAD New York Liaison Office, 866 UN Plaza, Suite 249, and on Zoom**

[Event page](#) | [Register](#) for in-person or online participation

## 1. Background and rationale

Ongoing tariffs, trade tensions and energy-related shocks are increasingly jeopardizing the stability of global agrifood systems. They threaten food affordability, place additional strain on constrained public budgets and reduce predictability for governments and markets. Without coordinated policy responses and cohesive financing instruments, these pressures risk accelerating food insecurity and undermining rural livelihoods, particularly in countries that are highly dependent on food imports or vulnerable to price volatility.

At the **ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development (FFD Forum)**, as part of the **Financing for Development (Fin4Dev) Dialogues**, the **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)** and the **Global Donor Platform for Rural Development (GDPRD)** are co-hosting a breakfast meeting to examine how the current trade and energy disruptions are affecting agrifood systems and what recent shocks have taught the global community about strengthening resilience.

## 2. Session topics and objectives

The session will convene partners from the public and private sector, including government representatives, development finance institutions professionals, energy and trade experts, to explore how geopolitical shifts are affecting global food systems. The discussion will examine the implications of tariffs, export restrictions, energy price fluctuations and evolving trade relationships for agrifood supply chains, food affordability and investment in agriculture. Participants will also explore how stronger policy and financing coordination can help stabilize agrifood systems and ensure resilience in an increasingly volatile global environment.

Overall, the session will:

1. Examine how **geopolitical tensions, tariffs and energy market volatility** are influencing food supply chains and agricultural input markets.
2. Explore the **implications of tariffs, export bans and shifting trade alliances** for food security and affordability.
3. Identify opportunities for **improved coordination between trade, energy and agricultural policy** to support more stable and predictable food markets.
4. Discuss how governments, development finance institutions and private actors can **strengthen the resilience of agrifood systems** amid global volatility.

### 3. Provisional Agenda (75 minutes)

*Moderator: Ms Elena Bertusi, Partnership Officer, IFAD New York Liaison Office*

Date	
8:00 – 8:30 (ET)	Breakfast
<b>8:30 – 8:45 (ET)</b>	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Mr Leonard Mizzi</b>, Adviser Food Systems, Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA), European Commission (<i>GDPRD Co-Chair</i>)</li></ul>
<b>8:45 – 9:25 (ET)</b>	<b>Panel Discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>H.E. Mr. Tesfaye Yilma Sabo</b>, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to the United Nations</li><li>- <b>Mr David Laborde</b>, Director of the Agrifood Economics Division (ESA), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)</li><li>- <b>Ms Marlynne Hopper</b>, Head a.i., Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) Secretariat, World Trade Organization</li><li>- <b>Ms Courtney Hood</b>, Head of Office, IFAD New York Liaison Office</li><li>- <b>Mr Rodrigo Carcamo</b>, Chief a.i., Agricultural Commodities Section, Commodities Branch, United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD)</li></ul>
<b>9:25 – 9:40 (ET)</b>	<b>Audience Q&amp;A</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Mr Jim Woodhill</b>, Director, Agrifood Systems and Futures Hub, University of Reading, and Lead of the Global Foresight4Food Initiative. (<i>Senior Advisor, GDPRD</i>)</li><li>- <b>Mr Maurizio Navarra</b>, Senior Partnership Officer and Coordinator, GDPRD</li></ul>
<b>9:40 – 9:45 (ET)</b>	<b>Closing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Mr. Vincent De Graaf</b>, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations</li></ul>