



# 30<sup>th</sup> WORLD CONFERENCE 2020



ROTTERDAM | THE NETHERLANDS | JUNE 15-18, 2020

## WELCOME to IFAMA2020

Rotterdam, the most innovative food hub in the Netherlands, invites you to join IFAMA 2020! Despite being small in size, the Netherlands is the world's second largest exporter of agrifood products. Our dynamic agrifood and horticultural sector excels in the field of innovative and efficient production. Renowned academics and students collaborate closely and successfully with food entrepreneurs and local government in a triple helix, creating a breeding ground for innovative solutions.

At the IFAMA 2020 conference in Rotterdam, home of the biggest port in Europe, today's pressing food and agricultural challenges will be addressed drawing upon the triple helix expertise of academics, business and government. Societal, human development challenges and goals mean that companies in agrifood need to transform, impacting their daily operations but also their future strategic outlooks.

Join us at IFAMA 2020 Rotterdam to meet agrifood game changers and young talent, visit hi-tech greenhouse complexes, farmlands and agrifood companies. Have a sneak preview of what the 'Food for the Future' will look like from the perspective of one of the most innovative countries in the world.

### CALL FOR PAPERS 3 Milestones:

**> 15 OCTOBER 2019**  
Paper abstract  
submission deadline

**> 13 JANUARY 2020**  
Full paper submission  
deadline

**> 16 MARCH 2020**  
Deadline application  
student case  
competition teams

**ROTTERDAM.  
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HAPPEN.**

Rotterdam Food Cluster, municipality of Rotterdam, Wageningen University & Research, Leiden University, TU Delft, Erasmus University, Inholland University of Applied Sciences and WICaNeM are hosting this 30<sup>th</sup> edition of IFAMA.

[www.ifama2020.org](http://www.ifama2020.org)

# IFAMA2020 THEMES

Agrifood clusters are regionally organized networks of food businesses, knowledge brokers, service providers and public support organizations, that create opportunities for interaction, cross-fertilization and (joint) innovation. Agrifood clusters have emerged across the world, in many cases linked to coastal and urbanized areas, aiming at fulfilling regional as well as international market and societal demands.

Globalization has resulted in an intertwined system of trade relationships and food supply chain networks across the world, fostering greater variety and access to food but also bringing along supply risks and sustainability challenges. Closer collaboration among food supply chain actors, locally as well as internationally, and the emergence of circular and closed loop food supply chains have become main factors in logistics decision making.

Agrifood ecosystems constitute the simultaneous social, economic, political/cultural and technology enabled interaction between consumers, citizens, businesses, NGOs and governments. Complexity of relationships and interdependencies between system elements as well as environmental dynamics makes understanding ecosystems, let alone governance, extremely challenging.

Food products are increasingly weighted against their sustainability impact and their contribution to health. In recent years food companies have changed focus to sustainable and health related food products through innovations in products, production and distribution processes, new forms of collaborations across food chains and innovative customer relationships.

Significant political and economic changes, social instability, climate change and extreme weather circumstances call for resilient food chain networks and market relationships around the globe. New practices, methods and technologies are required to build robust and inclusive food systems.

**AGRI  
FOOD  
CLUSTERS**

**GLOBAL  
DISTRIBUTION  
NETWORKS &  
LOGISTIC  
HUBS**

**AGRI  
FOOD  
ECOSYSTEM  
DYNAMICS**

**SMARTER  
CHOICES FOR  
BETTER HEALTH &  
SUSTAINABILITY**

**RESILIENCE  
OF (EMERGING)  
FOOD  
MARKETS**

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