

## MEDIA ALERT

10 August 2022

Media are welcome to attend the Crawford Fund annual conference.

Embargoed media releases will be available [here](#) and the full program and background is [online](#).

Interviews can be prearranged from Monday, 15 August

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### **COVID, CONFLICT AND CLIMATE CHANGE - Future Food Security Challenges in the Asia-Pacific Region**

World attention is focused on global food insecurity, not because it is new but because of COVID, conflict and climate change. The significant benefits of agricultural R&D are being overshadowed by the current threats to agricultural production, trade, society and the environment.

How to best deal with these emerging biophysical and geopolitical challenges into the future will be at the centre of discussion at Australia's key food security event, the [Crawford Fund annual conference](#) which, in 2022, will mark the Fund's 35th anniversary.

*“Celebrating Agriculture for Development – Outcomes, Impacts and the Way Ahead,”* will be in the Great Hall, Parliament House, Canberra from 9am-5pm on 16 August.

At 11.30am it will be addressed by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator the Hon Murray Watt.

At 3.45pm The Hon John Anderson, Chair of the Fund, will be in conversation with international affairs specialist Allan Gyngell, climate change and security specialist Robert Glasser, and science advocate Kylie Walker to discuss how threats including geo-politics and climate change are impacting food and nutrition security, and what this means for Australia's foreign policy directions in the Indo-Pacific region.

Other international and Australian specialists speaking through the day include:

[Dr Philip Pardey](#), world leading agricultural economist, who will present new figures to explain negative and non-sensical changes to the global landscape for agri-food R&D, with consequences felt world-wide.

[Dr Alison Bentley](#), internationally renowned wheat scientist, who will present solutions for governments and investors in response to the degradation of global food security due to the Russia-Ukraine war.

[Prof Andrew Campbell](#), CEO of ACIAR, who will provide the keynote address on successes, key issues and responses in agriculture for development through to the present day.

[Dr Audrey Aumua](#), CEO, Fred Hollows Foundation and ACIAR Policy Advisory Council Member addressing *“Food and Nutrition Security in the Pacific and the Road Ahead for Small Islands and Developing States.”*

[Dr Jean Balié](#), CGIAR Regional Director for Southeast Asia and the Pacific, reporting on possible agricultural R&D impacts to 2030, with the required greater focus on sustainability.

[Dr Jenny Gordon](#), former chief economist at DFAT, who will explain agriculture for development's wider social benefits including with First Nations peoples to learn from and support their practices.

[Regina Bi Nkundj](#), food security specialist from PNG, who believes greater collaboration and communication will help build greater impact from past and future food and nutrition security work.

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