

Curriculum Vitae:

Nicola Francesconi

Institutional Economics & Agribusiness Innovation



Personal Information

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Telephone: +221 77 718 4281
Date of Birth: 30th, January, 1976
Nationality: Italian
Civil Status: Engaged, with one daughter
Sex: Male

Expertise

Development and Institutional Economics, Agricultural and Veterinary Science, Experimental and Non-Experimental Impact Analysis, Organizational and Household Modeling, Value Chain analysis, Advanced Econometrics, Game Theory, Quantitative and Qualitative Survey Techniques, Digital Questionnaires, Smart ICT Systems for Data Collection, Oral Presentations, Writing (proposals, reports, journal articles and books), Project and Network Management, Partnership development and Fund-Raising.

Formal Education

- Jan.2004 - Jan. 2009* **Ph.D in Development Economics**, Wageningen University, the Netherlands.
Thesis: "Cooperation for Competition: Linking Ethiopian Farmers to Markets"
Supervisors: Prof. Arie Kuyvenhoven and Ruerd Ruben (see references at the bottom)
Program:
- 2 years in the Netherlands at Wageningen University to finalize the Ph.D research proposal and complete course-work on development and institutional economics, research methodologies and advanced econometrics.
 - 3 years in Ethiopia under the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) to engage in local policy dialogue and carry out field and analytical work. Field-work activities included mainly data collection through five surveys (for a total of 7500 farm-households, 210 farmer based organizations and 200 urban consumers). Analytical work involved mainly impact analysis, micro-economic and econometric modeling. The policy dialogue was engaged through direct interviews with (inter)national policy-makers and active participation in policy fora, academic seminars/conferences and private stakeholders' workshops.
- August 2006* **Summer School on "Food Security"**, UNIDEA and University of Florence, Italy.
- Nov.2002 - Nov.2003* **MSc in Food Quality Management**, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy
- July 2002 - Aug. 2002* **Summer School on "Rural Development"**, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa,Italy.
- Sep. 1996 - Apr. 2002* **Laurea (Degree) in Agricultural/Veterinary Science**, University of Pisa, Italy.

Professional Experience

- Current Position*
(Since June 2009) **Title:** **Post Doctoral Fellowship at IFPRI** (Development Strategy and Governance Division). **Location:** Senegal. **Task:** research and capacity strengthening to promote institutional change in the African agricultural sector. **Director:** Prof. Margaret McMillan (m.mcmillan@cgiar.org)
- Dec.2008 – June 2009* **Title:** **Consultancy for IFPRI** (Development Strategies and Governance Division, DSGD). **Locations:** Washington DC (USA) and Senegal. **Task:** to conduct research on fertilizer supply chains in West Africa. **Employers:** Michael Johnson (m.johnson@cgiar.org) and Shenggen Fan (s.fan@cgiar.org).
- Sept. 2008 – June 2009* **Title:** **Consultancy for COSA** (the Committee on Sustainability Assessment) coordinated by the World Bank, IISD and UNCTAD. **Location:** Senegal. **Task:** to advice on household sampling techniques, questionnaire design, and quantitative methodology to assess the impact of coffee/cocoa certifications, standards and labels on rural sustainability in developing countries. **Employers:** Daniele Giovannucci (dpg@consultant.com), Jason Potts (jpotts@iisd.ca); Christopher Wunderlich (cwunderlich@agrofuturo.org).
- Jan. 2005-Dec. 2007* **Title:** **Graduate Research Fellowship at IFPRI** (Ethiopia Strategy Support Program, ESSP). **Location:** Ethiopia. **Task:** to conduct empirical research on Ethiopian agri-food markets and farmer-based organizations; this professional experience was part of the Ph.D program (see previous section). **Supervisor:** Dr. Eleni Gabre-Madhin (e.gabre-madhin@cgiar.org)
- Jan. 2006 - Dec. 2006* **Title:** **Consultancy for SNV** (Netherlands Development Organization). **Location:** Ethiopia. **Task:** to carry out a feasibility study to guide private investments in the dairy value chain in Ethiopia; findings were presented and discussed in four consecutive workshops with the participation of public and private stakeholders. **Employer:** Dr. Juergen Greiling (j.greiling@cgiar.org).
- July 2005 - Dec. 2005* **Title:** **Consultancy for the Italian Bilateral Cooperation and LVIA** (Italian NGO). **Location:** Ethiopia. **Task:** to design credit schemes and training sessions for dairy cooperatives. **Employer:** Italo Rizzi (lvia@yahoo.it).
- Jan. 2003 - Dec. 2003* **Title:** **Undergraduate Research Fellowship at ILRI** (International Livestock Research Institute, Policy Department). **Location:** Ethiopia. **Task:** to conduct research to assess the impact of the formation of agricultural cooperatives on farmers' productivity and product quality. **Supervisor:** Dr. Simeon Ehui and Dr. Azage Tegegne (a.tegegne@cgiar.org)

Networks

- Member of the Collective Action and Property Right (CAPRI) network of the CGIAR
- Founder and Coordinator of the IFPRI-Dakar Stakeholder Group of the West and Central African Regional Office (WCARO) of IFPRI.

Fundraising

- 2010:** 40,000 USD from the World food Program (WFP) to conduct a study on "Grain Banks".
- 2009:** 300,000 USD from Mercy Corps to conduct the evaluation of the RAIN project in Ethiopia.
- 2004:** 35,000 USD from IFPRI in support of PhD Program and Graduate Research Fellowship.
- 2003:** 5,000 Euro from Associazione Culturale G. Lorenzin in support of Undergraduate Research Fellowship at ILRI, Ethiopia.

Publications

Chapters in Books:

- Dhaese, M., G.N. Francesconi, R. Ruben (2007). "Network Management for Dairy Productivity and Quality in Ethiopia". In "Quality Management in Food Chains" edited by L. Theuvsen, A. Spiller, M. Peupert, G. Jahn. Wageningen: Wageningen Academic Publishers.
- Francesconi, G.N. (2007). "Market Competitiveness of Small Scale Dairy Farmers: Cooperative Governance for Milk Quality and Safety". In "Supply Chains Governance", edited by Ruerd Ruben et al. Wageningen: Wageningen Academic Publishers.

Articles in Journals:

- Francesconi, G.N. and R. Ruben (2008). "The Life Cycle of Agricultural Cooperatives: Implications for Management and Governance in Ethiopia". *Journal of Rural Cooperation*, 36(2):115-130, ISSN 0377-7480.
- Francesconi, G.N., N. Heerink, M. D'Haese (February, 2010). "Evolution and challenges of dairy supply chains: Evidence from supermarkets, industries and consumers in Ethiopia". *Food Policy*, Volume 35, Pages 60-68.
- Francesconi, G.N. and N. Heerink (2010). "Ethiopian Agricultural Cooperatives in an Era of Global Commodity Exchange: Does Organizational Form Matter?". *Journal of African Economies*, pp. 1–25 doi:10.1093/jae/ejq036 .

Books:

- Francesconi, G.N. (2009). "Cooperation for Competition: Linking Ethiopian Farmers to Markets". Volume 5 of International Supply Chains and Networks Series, Wageningen Academic Publishers, The Netherlands, ISBN: 978-90-8504-989-0.

Official Presentations

- 13th IASC Conference of the "Commons", January 2011, Hyderabad, India
- Conference of the European Association of Agricultural Economists (EAAE), 2007, Barcelona, Spain
- Mansholt Multidisciplinary Seminar 2006, Wageningen University, the Netherlands
- Conference of the Ethiopian Society of Animal Production (ESAP), 2006, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Conference of the IFPRI's Ethiopia Strategy Support Program (ESSP), 2006, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Language Skills

- Italian: Mother Tongue
- English: Fluently Spoken and Written
- French: Working Knowledge
- Spanish: Basic knowledge

Computer Skills

Microsoft Office, SPSS, E-views, STATA, MQuest (digital data collection and management), Google Map, "Mobile 2 Web" applications.

References

- **Dr. Shashidhara Kolavalli**, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Director of the Ghana Strategy Support Program (GSSP) of the Development Strategy and Governance Division (DSGD). Address: c/o CSIR campus, Airport Residential area, Accra, Ghana. Tel: 233-0-21-784-753/4; Fax:233-0-21-784-752; email: s.kolavalli@cgiar.org
- **Prof. Ruerd Ruben**, Director of Development Studies and of the Centre for International Development Issues Nijmegen (CIDIN) at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Radboud University Nijmegen; PO Box 9104, 6500 HE Nijmegen, The Netherlands, Tel. +31-0(0)24-361.58.00, Tel. +31-(0)024-361.30.58 (secretariat), Fax. +31-(0)024-3615957, E-Mail: r.ruben@maw.ru.nl