

## **Katherine Sierra, CGIAR Chair and Vice President of the World Bank Sustainable Development Network (SDN)**



A specialist in urban planning, Katherine Sierra leads the diverse areas of World Bank operations, including agriculture, that are aimed at fostering sustainable development around the world. Also among those areas are environment; social development; urban development; transport; communications technologies; water supply and sanitation; and oil, gas, mining and chemicals.

One of Sierra's chief responsibilities as SDN Vice President is to serve as CGIAR Chair; she is the first woman to do so. Sierra has held various other top leadership positions in the World Bank as well. From 2004 until taking up her current post in 2006, she served as Director of the Infrastructure Department, after having been Vice President, Human Resources, for 4 years, with responsibility for personnel policies covering more than 8,700 staff members stationed in more than 100 countries. In addition, she was Vice President of Operational Core Services starting in 1999, Director of Operational Core Services Network from 1997 and Division Chief of Environment and Urban Development in the China and Mongolia Department from 1993. Joining the World Bank in 1978, Sierra worked in Latin America and the Caribbean for 15 years, mainly as a transport and environment economist and project officer.

Sierra holds a Master's degree in urban and regional planning from Harvard University and Bachelor's degrees in anthropology and Hispanic civilization from the University of California at Santa Barbara.

## **Ren Wang, CGIAR Director**



An expert in biological control of pests, Ren Wang has extensive experience in research management. Before being named CGIAR Director in July 2007, he served from 2000 as Deputy Director General for Research at the CGIAR-supported International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), with headquarters in the Philippines. He managed the Institute's research programs and outreach offices in 14 countries, providing leadership in the development of IRRI's strategic plan and in the creation of new collaborative initiatives in sub-Saharan Africa and Central Asia.

Before joining IRRI, Wang played a key leadership role in planning China's agricultural research, serving as Vice President of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS). There he acted as focal point for the China-CGIAR partnership and was responsible for fostering unprecedented levels of Japan-China collaboration in agriculture through the establishment of the Sino-Japan Center for Sustainable Agriculture at CAAS. An entomologist by training, Wang pioneered a program for biological control of exotic pests in China and later promoted integrated pest management initiatives internationally from various posts, including Deputy Director of the International Institute of Biological Control (IIBC) of CAB International in the UK.

Wang holds a BS in plant protection from Shanxi Agricultural University, China; an MSc in biological control from the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, China; and a

PhD in entomology from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia, USA.

**Joachim von Braun, Director General, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)**



A well-known and widely published agricultural economist, Joachim von Braun guides cutting-edge research at IFPRI, aimed at devising policy solutions to cut hunger and malnutrition in developing countries. Under his leadership since 2002, the Institute has grown significantly, expanding its research teams in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Von Braun serves on the international advisory boards of a number of research and policy organizations and on the boards of several academic journals. From 2000 to 2003, he was president of the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE). He has worked in Sub-Saharan Africa, Central America, China and other countries, and has published extensively on diverse agricultural policy issues, including science and technology; trade, development aid, famine and human health and nutrition.

Before joining IFPRI, von Braun was Director of the Center for Development Research (ZEF) and Professor of Economics and Technological Change at the University of Bonn in Germany. He was also Professor of Food Economics and Policy at Germany's Kiel University. He received his PhD in agricultural economics from the University of Goettingen, Germany, in 1978.

**Rudy Rabbinge, CGIAR Science Council Chairman and Professor, Wageningen University**



An expert in plant pathology, entomology and ecology, Rudy Rabbinge has extensive experience in providing scientific guidance for international agricultural research. Appointed as Chair of the CGIAR Science Council in January 2007, he also serves as Dean of the Wageningen Graduate School in The Netherlands and as Professor for Sustainable Development and Systems Innovation. In addition, he is currently a member of the Senate in The Netherlands Parliament as well as Chair of the Royal Institute of the Tropics.

Rabbinge has led various missions and agricultural programs in developing countries and served as editor of several academic journals. He has also been on the Board of Trustees of six CGIAR Centers, acting as Chair of the Board at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) from 1995 to 2000. In addition, he co-chaired the Inter-Academy Panel on Food Security and Agricultural Productivity in Africa and serves on the boards of various international agribusiness firms.

Rabbinge has published more than 200 scientific articles in international refereed journals, together with five textbooks. He has also received numerous awards, including Knight of the Order of the Dutch Lion in 1998 and an honorary professorship in the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) in 2000. He obtained his PhD in

biological control of pests from Wageningen University in 1976.

**Hans Herren, CGIAR Science Council Member, and President, Millennium Institute (MI)**

Hans Herren is internationally recognized for his pioneering efforts to enhance food security in sub-Saharan Africa. As President of MI, a post he took up in 2005, he is engaged in promoting a novel integrated approach to sustainable development worldwide. He was appointed as a member of the CGIAR Science Council in January 2007.



Before joining MI, Herren was Director-General of the International Center for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) in Nairobi, Kenya. There he developed entomology research programs aimed at enhancing human, animal, plant and environmental health. Previously, Herren served as Director of the Africa Biological Control Center (based in Benin) of the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA). At IITA, he conceived and implemented a highly successful program for biological control of cassava pests, thus averting a major food crisis in sub-Saharan Africa.

For this work, Herren received the 1995 World Food Prize. Among the other numerous awards that recognize his distinguished achievements are the 1995 Kilby Award and the 2002 Brandenberger Prize. In addition, Herren provides strategic guidance to numerous organizations, for example, co-chairing the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology, (IAASTD); chairing BioVision, a Swiss foundation with a global mandate to alleviate poverty and protect natural resources; and serving as president of the International Association of the Plant Protection Sciences (IAPPS). Herren earned his PhD at the Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, Switzerland.