

# ISF World Seed Congress 2024

## List of Spokespersons



We have assembled a list of in-house experts and invited guests available for interviews with members of the press.

To book an interview, please email [a.cadiogan@worldseed.org](mailto:a.cadiogan@worldseed.org) and please share your details:

1. Outlet, country, description
2. Type of interview (written, live broadcast, recorded broadcast)
3. Topic and scope of questions
4. Preferred time and date of interview

### ISF Leadership



#### **Michael Keller**

*Secretary General (since 2014), [ISF](#)*

Expertise: ISF priorities and key strategic objectives, international outreach, relations with international organizations (UN etc.)

Language: English, French, German



#### **Marco van Leeuwen**

*President, ISF (2022-2024)*

*Managing Director, [Rijk Zwaan](#)*

Expertise: international seed business, Dutch agriculture

Language: English, Dutch



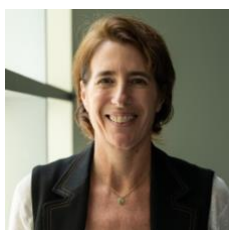
#### **Arthur Santosh Attavar**

*Vice-President, ISF (note: to be elected president 2024-2026)*

*Chairman & Managing Director, [Indo-American Hybrid Seeds \(India\)](#)*

Expertise: international seed business; agriculture in India/Asia

Language: English



#### **Lorena Basso**

*2nd Vice-President, ISF*

*President, [Semillas Basso \(Argentina\)](#)*

Expertise: international seed business; agriculture in Argentina/South America

Language: Spanish, English

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### ISF Membership – National and Regional Seed Associations



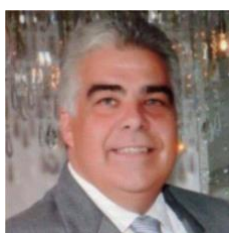
#### AUSTRALIA

**Katherine Delbridge**

*CEO, [Australian Seed Federation](#)*

Language: English

Contact: [kdelbridge@sf.asn.au](mailto:kdelbridge@sf.asn.au)



#### BRAZIL

**Ronaldo Troncha**

*Executive Director, [Associação Brasileira de Sementes e Mudanças \(ABRASEM\)](#)*

Language: Portuguese

Contact: [ronaldo.troncha@abrasem.com.br](mailto:ronaldo.troncha@abrasem.com.br)



#### CHILE

**Mario Schindler**

*Executive Director, [Asociación Chilena de Semillas \(ANPROS\)](#)*

Language: Spanish, English

Contact: [mschindler@anpros.cl](mailto:mschindler@anpros.cl)



#### DENMARK

**Nils Elmegaard**

*Chefkonsulent, Danish Seed Council*

Language: Danish, English



#### GERMANY

**Dr. Carl Stephan Schäfer**

*Managing Director, [Bundesverband Deutscher Pflanzenzüchter e. V. \(BDP\)](#)*

Language: German, English



#### AFRICAN SEED TRADE ASSOCIATION

**Dr. Yacuba Diallo**

*Secretary General, [AFSTA](#)*

Language: English

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### NETHERLANDS

#### Niels Louwaars

Managing Director, [Plantum](#)

Language: Dutch, English

Contact: Elsbeth Ketting [e.ketting@plantum.nl](mailto:e.ketting@plantum.nl)



### SPAIN

#### Antonio Villaroel

Secretary General, [ANOVE](#)

Language: Spanish, English

Contact: Alicia Diaz, [alicia@anove.es](mailto:alicia@anove.es)

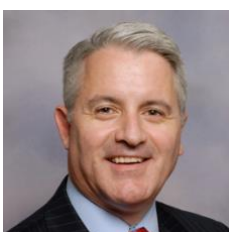


### UNITED KINGDOM

#### Steph Spiers

Head of Business Operations, [British Society of Plant Breeders \(BSPB\)](#)

Language: English



### USA

#### Andrew "Andy" LaVigne

President & CEO, [American Seed Trade Association \(ASTA\)](#)

Language: English

## Invited Guests and Experts



#### Ebunoluwa Ijeoma Ajobiewe (*Speaker, Women's Luncheon*)

Co-chair, [Next Generation in Agriculture Impact Network \(NGIN\)](#)

(Nigeria/based in Italy)

Topics: Youth engagement in agriculture

Language: English



#### Jorge Fernández Vidal (*Speaker, Panel 3*)

Investment Director, Head of Agriculture & Food, Liechtenstein Group

[\(RiceTec\)](#)

Topics: Investments in agriculture, "climate-smart" technologies in agriculture, regenerative agriculture.

Language: English, Spanish, Portuguese

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**Dr. Edwini Kessie** (*Speaker, Panel 1*)  
*Director, [Agriculture & Commodities Division, WTO](#)*  
Topics: global agriculture trade, WTO matters  
Language: English



**Abdulrazak Ibrahim** (*Speaker, Panel 4*)  
*Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA)*  
Topics: africa biotechnology, plant science, bio safety  
Language: English, Portuguese



**Marion Jansen** (*Speaker, Panel 1*)  
*Director, [Trade and Agriculture Directorate, OECD](#)*  
Topics: OECD's work on international trade, agriculture and fisheries  
Language: German, French, English, Dutch, Italian, Spanish



**Dan Jenkins** (*Speaker, Panel 2*)  
*Vice-President of Regulatory & Government Affairs, [Pairwise](#)*  
Topics: Gene editing in food & agriculture; global gene editing regulation/policy  
Language: English  
For interview requests: Diana Souder [dsouder@pairwise.com](mailto:dsouder@pairwise.com)



**Sonja Vermeulen** (*Speaker, Panel 4*)  
*Managing Director of Genetic Innovation, [CGIAR](#)*  
Topics: public-private partnerships, research and innovation  
Language: English, German