

**Ghana Strategy Forum**  
**The Role of Agriculture in Achieving Middle Income Status**  
November 16, 2007, Banking College, Airport Residential Area, Accra

**Program**

**Opening Session**

9.00 – 10.30 Chairperson: Prof. G. Gyan-Baffour, Deputy Minister, Finance & Economic Planning

- Introduction – Shashi Kolavalli, Program Leader, GSSP
- Opening Remarks – Prof. G. Gyan-Baffour, Deputy Minister, Finance & Economic Planning
- Hon. Ernest Debrah, Minister of Food & Agriculture
- Joachim Von Braun, Director General, IFPRI

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee Break

**Session 1: Achieving middle income: the role of agriculture**

11: 00 – 13:00 Chairperson: Hon. J.H. Mensah (Sr. Minister & Head, NDPC)

- Aiming for Middle Income Country Status: What are the Growth Options? by Xinshen Diao (IFPRI)
- Comments: Prof. G. Gyan-Baffour
- Public Agriculture Investments to Support MIC by Sam Benin (IFPRI)
- Comments: K.B. Oku-Afari (Head, PAD-MoFEP)

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

**Session 2: Achieving inclusive agricultural growth**

14:00 – 15:30 Chairperson: Chris Jackson (World Bank)

- Service Delivery and Accountability by Regina Birner (IFPRI)
- Comments: Dr. Ahmed Alhassan (MP, Miom)
- Fiscal Decentralisation: What Role Could Local Government Finances Play for Agriculture? by Tewodaj Mogues (IFPRI)
- Comments: K.A. Dankwa (Director, PBME-MLGRDE)

15:30 – 16:00 Cocoa Break

### **Session 3: Developing smallholder agriculture**

- 16:00 – 17:30 Chairperson: Dr. George Kwadzo (Tipcee/USAID)
- Targeting Smallholders for Agricultural Growth in Ghana by Jordan Chamberlin (IFPRI)
  - Comments: Lena Otoo (MOFA)
  - Servicing Smallholders for Market Access by Dr. Ramatu Al-Hassan (University of Ghana)
  - Comments: Philip Abayori ( President, NFFAWAG)
  - Drivers of Productivity Growth in Ghana’s Cocoa Sector by Marcella Vigneri (ODI)
  - Comments: Nana Yiadom Boakye Kokroko II (Cocoa Farmer)

### **Closing: Remarks and Reception**

17:30 – 18:00 Concluding Remarks and Way Forward – Shashi Kolavalli (IFPRI)

18:00 – 19:00 Reception