In this issue - December 2020

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The December 2020 Issue of Food Security includes 16 very different articles from very different places in the world:

- In **Article 1**, Amarender Reddy, Sandra Ricart and Timothy Cadman report to us an important study on the assessment of **food safety in the streets of India's** cities. This is an important, overlooked topic, despite the fact millions depend on it.
- In **article 2**, Caleb Wright, Roger Sathre, and Shashi Buluswar speak to us of something essential in **the way food is cooked**, in all our homes, worldwide, and the consequence cooking methods have on health of household: the way food is being cooked has massive, overlooked consequences on human health, with children and women – the most permanent home residents in general – the first victims of bad or dangerous practices.
- **Article 3** is a sweeping global assessment of the **impacts of climate shocks, food price shocks, and armed conflicts** by Molly Brown et al. on **child malnutrition** and its disastrous consequences to individuals and society. Aside from the fact this work is new, this work is critically important because, unfortunately, there is every reason to believe that these causes for multiple system failures: war, climate, economic crises, will become commonplace at least locally.
- **Article 4**, by Nesar Ahmed, speaks of **organic aquaculture**, a poorly covered topic. Organic aquaculture should overcome problems of conventional aquaculture, and so, significantly contribute to food security.
- **Variability in yields** in African farmers' fields remains one vexing question of agronomic research, hampering the prioritization of research and action. **Article 5** by C Bucagu et al. provides another illustration of this.
- **Can inequality be mapped at the household level?** If this were possible, policies could be implemented more effectively; but is such a mapping even possible today? Sana Khushi et al. show that it indeed is so, and that it works, in **Article 6**.
- **Conservation of stored harvests** still remains an issue in sub-Saharan Africa and elsewhere. Solutions are explored by MJ Chegere et al. in **Article 7**.
- **What to do when the harvests are completed?** in **Article 8** Preety Priya and Suddhachit Mitra make use of the **theory of reasoned action** to analyse the complex relations between psycho-social factors, microeconomics, and technology access and performance in a critical step towards food security.
- In **article 9** Amy Savage et al. provide a new insight of food systems in **small-island systems**, where dramatic

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changes are underway with climate change and shifts in diets, with momentous consequences on health, but also social relationships, culture and spirituality, and ultimately, society.

- Much has been written on **large-scale agricultural investments** in the developing tropical world. In **Article 10**, Wegayehu Fitawek et al. take a close and balanced view at the consequences of such projects on food security in Madagascar. Their analysis leads to a number of key remarks, especially concerning gender imbalances.
- In **Article 11**, DA Mekonnen find, and confirm, that improving **household- incomes**, access to health and transport services are beneficial to improve HDDS and **nutrient consumption** in Ethiopia.
- **Article 12** is a very large, detailed analysis of the **(micro)nutritional value of fish in Africa**. The detailed figures reported are very likely to be very helpful for research in the years to come.
- So much has been written on **fertilizer subsidies**. But so little about the **nutritional impacts** of these fertiliser policies, and especially, the possibility of **gender differences**. Melinda Smale et al. in **Article 13** show that malnutrition remains prevalent among Malian farm women when subsidies for fertilizer are implemented. This is an important message to convey to policy-makers.
- In **article 14** Rafaella Guimarães Porto et al. revisit the huge literature on the literature dealing with **pollination services**. They uncover a **huge lack of data** on regionally important commercial crops, but **staple food crops** as well, which are essential for food security of millions of people, particularly in tropical developing countries, again an important signal to policy makers.
- **Article 15**, by H van den Berg et al., revisits again the theme of **Farmers' Field Schools** from the human, social, natural and financial standpoints. They conclude that in-depth case studies are needed to elucidate the interactions between livelihood assets, and the influences of the policy, institutional and external environment, in order to adjust FFS interventions aiming to optimize their impacts.
- The last **Article 16**, Rebecka Milestad et al., provides an interesting insight of the sustainability of **urban farming** in a Nordic context.