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## EDITORIAL

# Agriculture Economic Overview

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Agriculture is vital to economic growth: It accounts for 4% of global gross domestic product (GDP) and in some least developed countries can account for more than 25% of GDP. By 1890, the world agricultural economy had taken shape, accompanied by complex changes in patterns of labour mobility, capital flows, ecology and technology. Food no longer came from nearby villages or towns, but from thousands of miles away.

The last 50-100 years have seen dramatic changes in agricultural production and productivity, driven in large part by public and private investment in agricultural research, with a profound impact on the world's poor in particular<sup>[1]</sup>.

In this issue, we begin by discussing the further development of agriculture in Europe, under conditions of post-war recovery like in Ukraine<sup>[2]</sup>. In particular, the integration of the agricultural sector into the global economic space. Then, in the next three articles we analyse the problems in the agricultural development of the African country Ethiopia, such as: One of the main obstacles to livestock production in South Omo—the lack of infor-

mation on the state of production and commercialisation of improved Panicum grass<sup>[3]</sup>; the essential role of rural women in agricultural activities to reduce poverty and food insecurity. The research focused on gender equity in rural women's access to and control over agricultural and rural household resources<sup>[4]</sup>, as well as the cattle market transport facilities, legal cattle market promotion centres, credit facilities, and cattle feeding and health improvement strategies<sup>[5]</sup>; and on the value chain of Macadamia nuts (*Macadamia integrifolia*) technical efficiency among the small-scale farmers in Zimbabwe in the article by Dr. Wellington Bandason et al.<sup>[6]</sup>. Finally, accelerating climate change could further cut crop yields, especially in the world's most food-insecure regions, therefore, an article by Dr. Ganesh Raj Joshi and Dr. Ramchandra Bhandari assesses perceptions of climate change in the Asian country Nepal and identifies factors influencing the adoption of complementary irrigation practices<sup>[7]</sup>.

COVID-19 had some impact on the development of the world agricultural economy and food security. The main effect of the pandemic was to exacerbate the existing de-

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clining trend in food security. Food insecurity increases considerably in countries in Asia through income shocks rather than prices effects<sup>[8]</sup>.

### Conflict of Interest

There is no conflict of interest.

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