



Ruben G. Echeverría (ruben.echeverria@outlook.com) has worked on food, agriculture, and rural development issues -with emphasis on international agricultural innovation- since the early 1980s. Ruben is **Director General Emeritus** of the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT.cgiar.org) based in Cali, Colombia. He led CIAT from 2009 to 2019 expanding operations into Africa and Asia and in 2019 promoted the creation of the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT. Ruben is **Chair of the Global Commission on Sustainable Agricultural Intensification** (<https://wle.cgiar.org/cosai/>) and **Sr. Advisor on Agricultural and Rural Innovation to the FAO** Latin America and the Caribbean regional office; and a Sr. Research Fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI.org) based in Washington DC. Ruben is currently starting a new challenge as Sr. Advisor, Agricultural Development, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

In the mid-2000s Ruben was **Executive Director** of the **Science Council** of the CGIAR (cas.cgiar.org) based at FAO Rome. He worked in agricultural, environmental and rural development transformation for more than a decade at the **Inter-American Development Bank** (IADB.org) in Washington, DC where he prepared several multi-million dollar projects and led the creation of the Inter-Agency Group for Rural Development and the Regional Fund for Agricultural Technology (FONTAGRO.org). In the late 1980s he worked on agricultural research policy issues and strengthening national research capacities in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, based at the International Service for National Agricultural Research (**ISNAR**) in The Hague, Netherlands. As part of his Ph.D. thesis, he conducted field research based at the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (**CIMMYT**) in Mexico. Ruben studied Agronomy at the **University of Uruguay** (B.Sc.) and Agriculture Economics at the **University of Minnesota**, USA (M.Sc. and Ph.D.) with special emphasis on the economics of technical and institutional change.

Ruben is an incoming Member of the **High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition** of the Committee of Food Security (<http://www.fao.org/cfs/cfs-hlpe>). He has received numerous **awards**. In 2021 obtained a University of Minnesota College of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resource Science **Hunger Fighter** special recognition as the University celebrates the 50th anniversary of Dr. Norman Borlaug receiving the Nobel Peace Prize. Ruben has had **leadership management training** at Harvard, USA and IMD, Switzerland and belongs to several professional associations (IAAE, AIARD, EARN, ANAV).

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