

Lecture by Prof Michael Kremer

Thursday, 15 October 2020

14:00 – 15:30

The widespread adoption of mobile phones creates opportunities to provide farmers with low-cost, timely, and customized agricultural advice and other digital services. In this talk, Professor Michael Kremer, winner of the 2019 Economics Nobel Prize, will present research on the potential of digital agriculture, both in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and in addressing longer-term needs. He will draw on a meta-analysis piece published in Science earlier this year, which finds that transmission of agricultural information through mobile technologies is a highly cost effective way of increasing adoption of recommended agrochemical inputs and farmer yields. Kremer will also discuss the future potential of digital agriculture, including the provision of higher-resolution weather information, customized pest-control advice, new approaches to agricultural trials, improved in-person extension services, and opportunities to improve supply chains. The talk will conclude with a discussion of appropriate institutions to generate innovation in digital agriculture and ensure it reaches smallholder farmers and disadvantaged groups.

Proposed Agenda

| 14:00 | Welcome remarks by the FAO Director-General

| 14:05 | Presentation by Prof Kremer, 2019 Nobel Laureate in Economics

| 14:45 | Q&A session – Moderated by Mr Máximo Torero, Chief Economist

| 15:30 | Closure

Please register [here](#)
All staff are welcome to attend