

WEBINAR

NEW KNOWLEDGE GUIDE ON CROP RECEIPTS FINANCE

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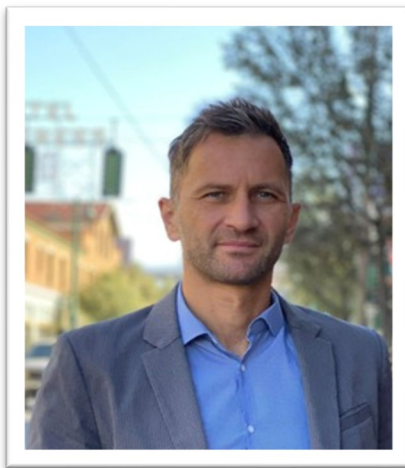


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SPEAKERS



Marek Dubovec

Director, Law Reform Programs, International Law Institute (ILI)

Marek Dubovec is the director of law reform programs at ILI. For over 15 years, Marek has been working with international standard-setters, including UNCITRAL and UNIDROIT, to draft conventions, model laws, principles, and guides that assist States in modernizing their commercial law frameworks. He has worked on implementing these standards under projects funded by the World Bank Group, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, FSD-Kenya, and others.

He has assisted countries in Africa (e.g., Kenya), Asia (e.g., the Philippines), Eastern Europe (e.g., Ukraine), the Middle East (e.g., the UAE), and Latin America (e.g., Colombia) with reforms of their frameworks on secured transactions, factoring, warehouse receipts, and related commercial law legislation.



Irene Frei

SECO

Irene Frei is an international development specialist with over 15 years of experience in economic cooperation, with a focus on bilateral and multilateral settings. In her current role, she leads SECO's strategic and operational work on private sector development across the Western Balkans, MENA, Ukraine, Central Asia, and the South Caucasus. She is responsible for SECO's policy direction and overall approach to private sector development, oversees key funding programs, and guides SECO's approach to investment climate reforms in developing and transition

economies Previously, she served as Adviser to the Swiss Executive Director at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in London. In this capacity, she supported strategic and thematic decision-making across the institution's portfolio, with a focus on climate policy, SME development and gender.



Thomas Johnson

Senior Legal Expert, ILI

Thomas Johnson has worked on various law reform projects on areas including agricultural finance, structured finance/securitization, secured transactions, collateral registries, factoring, and warehouse receipts, among others. He has extensive experience working on legal research and assessments and gap analysis. Mr. Johnson is versed on relevant international best practices including the UNIDROIT-UNCITRAL Model Law on Warehouse Receipts and ongoing work in the areas relevant to crop receipt finance, such as an Agricultural Finance Toolkit for ADB, and future work on an Agricultural

Financing Legal Guide for UNIDROIT. He published a law review article on Crop Receipts in 2024. His work experience spans Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, Colombia, Egypt, Ghana, Georgia, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Philippines, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Somalia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, and West Bank and Gaza. He is licensed to practice law in the United States and is an active legal practitioner, with experience in advisory services and court representation. Thomas holds a J.D. from the University of Arizona and a M.A. in International Trade and Finance Law from the Moscow State Institute of International Relations in Russia.



Kyrlo Mukhomedzyanov

Project Lead, International Finance Corporation

Kyrlo Mukhomedzyanov is an agri-finance and climate finance expert with over 20 years of experience advancing sustainable agriculture, climate resilience, financial inclusion, and market-based solutions in emerging economies. As a Project Lead at IFC, he has played a central role in designing and scaling Crop and Warehouse Receipts systems that convert future and stored harvests into bankable collateral, unlocking working capital for farmers, agribusinesses, and SMEs across multiple jurisdictions while embedding climate-

smart incentives into agricultural finance. He has contributed to strategic reforms that have mobilized billions of dollars in private and institutional capital for agriculture in Ukraine, the Western Balkans, and the South Caucasus by modernizing legal and regulatory frameworks,

reducing transaction costs, and introducing digital agricultural securities such as agrarian notes. Increasingly, his work aligns agricultural capital markets with climate objectives—supporting climate-smart agriculture, resilience, and transition finance—and demonstrates how catalytic technical assistance can crowd in private investment and integrate agricultural value chains with both capital markets and climate finance architecture.



William Brydie-Watson

Senior Legal Officer, International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT)

William Brydie-Watson is a senior legal officer at UNIDROIT, based in Rome. He specializes in international instruments related to access to credit and secured transactions law. He currently has primary responsibility for the development of an international legal guidance document on agriculture finance. Within UNIDROIT's work in the field of access to credit, William is also responsible for the implementation of the UNIDROIT Model Law on Factoring and the Cape Town

Convention on International Interests in Mobile Assets and its Protocol on mining, agricultural and construction equipment (the 'MAC Protocol'). William is also co-director of the UNIDROIT Asian Transnational Law Centre, the manager of the UNIDROIT Scholarship, Internship, and Research Program and an advisor to the UNIDROIT Foundation. In 2024, he was appointed to the Board of Directors of the International Law Institute. Previously, he was a legal officer in the Private International Law section of the Australian Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department and worked on the implementation of private international law treaties in Australia. William is a visiting lecturer at the Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest, Hungary. Admitted to practice law by the Supreme Court of New South Wales, William has a Bachelor of Arts, a Bachelor of Laws (Honors), and a Master of Laws from the Australian National University.



Katherine (Katie) Meighan

Chief Legal & Governance Officer, Office of Legal and Governance, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

As part of the senior management team, she sets IFAD's strategy to double impact for the rural poor while scaling up investments in resilience, private sector lending, and IT for development. She leads complex initiatives including amending IFAD's Articles to enable private sector lending and in attaining IFAD's historic AA+ credit rating (as the first UN fund to be rated). In addition to her legal and

governance role, Meighan served as the Fund's acting Chief Financial Officer (2022 - 2023)

and acting Associate VP for External Relations and Governance (2024). During this time, IFAD issued its inaugural bonds and achieved the highest replenishment in its history. Prior to joining IFAD, she worked for the World Bank Group's International Finance Corporation (IFC), and as Assistant General Counsel. Katie served with IFC in Washington, Buenos Aires and Istanbul, working on investments in emerging markets and debt restructurings. Previously, Meighan practiced law at a global firm in Washington and Paris on capital markets and international projects for financial institutions.



Dmytro Prykhodko

Senior Economist, FAO Investment Centre

Dr. Dmytro Prykhodko is a Senior Economist at the FAO Investment Centre, specializing in supporting investment projects and agricultural market development activities in Europe, Central Asia ECA, and the Middle East and North Africa. With 30 years of experience, he has worked extensively with the United States Department of Agriculture, a private sector grain trading company and FAO's Investment Centre in major grain producing, exporting and importing countries, including Ukraine, Russia, Serbia, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Egypt and, most recently, Tunisia.

He works closely with FAO's investment partners from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the World Bank and others to lead public-private policy dialogues on specific sector issues to de-risk investment in grain trade and infrastructure development. His work includes the design of legislative and financial frameworks for pre and post-harvest crop finance instruments in Ukraine and Serbia, including warehouse and crop receipt systems, to improve access to finance for farmers and agribusinesses. He has also designed and implemented post-harvest financing and monitoring systems for large scale investment projects, directly supporting private sector lending and investment in storage, logistics and commodity trade.



Kevin Kabatsi

Program Manager, Rabobank

Kevin is a Program Manager at Rabo Partnerships (Rabobank), managing projects focused on boosting Agricultural finance across partner financial institutions and multilateral organizations. They are in the lead of a Crop Receipts project funded by the Gates Foundation. Kevin is an experienced banker with over 8 years of experience working in development and impact finance. He has particular experience in capacity building of African

Financial Institutions with a focus on their Food & Agribusiness portfolios. He has previously managed the African portfolio at Rabo Foundation which financed MFIs, Innovative Agribusinesses and Farmer Cooperatives in 8 countries. (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Ivory Coast, Ghana, and Senegal). He previously was owner of Rabobank Group's Africa Strategy where he coordinated the strategic direction for the bank's business in Africa. He launched key initiatives that helped the Bank grow its business on the continent. Kevin has lived and worked in Rwanda, Uganda, South Africa, Kenya and the Netherlands.



John Martin Wilson

Senior Operations Officer, Financial Institutions Group in Latin America, International Finance Corporation

John Martin Wilson is senior operations officer with the IFC, Financial Institutions Group in Latin America, based in Bogota, Colombia. He has over 20 years of experience in the development of legal, regulatory, and technology frameworks for supply chain financing and asset-based lending for MSMEs, with special focus on factoring and digital financial instruments. Before joining the IFC, he served as senior officer with UNIDROIT in Rome, where he oversaw legislative reform on securities in emerging markets. Prior to that, he served as principal officer with the Organization of American States in Washington, D.C., where he oversaw Private International Law reforms in the Americas. John has served as consultant to several Latin American governments in reforming local financial legislation and practiced law in the United States and Mexico.