

Dear Regional Partners,

On behalf of TWAS President, Prof. Mohamed H. A. Hassan, and of TWAS Council, we are pleased to invite you to the first webinar of the 2020 TWAS Awards Webinar Series.

The series consists of five webinars taking place online between 10 June and 29 October, leading to TWAS Fifteenth General Conference, which will be also held virtually from 1 to 4 November. The webinars are focused on the winners of TWAS awards and of awards in honour of TWAS Fellows. The series will resume next year to comprise presentations by those TWAS Awards winners that were not able to convene in 2021.

This First Awards Webinar Series is an opportunity for TWAS award winners to deliver brief presentations showcasing their accomplishments. After each presentation a question-and-answer session will take place, allowing participants to ask those outstanding scientists their questions.

The first webinar will take place on 10 June, at 1 p.m., Rome time, and will focus on agricultural sciences.

Presentations will be made by Esteban Jobbágy of Argentina, winner of the 2020 TWAS Award in Agricultural Sciences; Badabate Diwediga of Togo, winner of 2020 TWAS-Samira Omar Innovation for Sustainability Award; and Etotépé A. Sogbohossou of Benin, winner of the 2019 TWAS-Samira Omar Innovation for Sustainability Award. For more information, bio sketches of each scientist can be found at the end this message.

To register in advance, please, use:

https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YP9P-RJcRCSM2QAO7h5wpw

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

To join the live event, please, use: <https://youtu.be/p107VVqVaeY>

Participants to the webinar provide their consent to be recorded. Participants receive a notification when a recording starts or when they join a session that is already being recorded. Participants also authorize TWAS to use the recording, in part or entirely, when disseminating material related to TWAS activities.

We very much look forward to seeing you online!

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Romain Murenzi
TWAS Executive Director

+++++

UNESCO-TWAS

The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) for the advancement of science in developing countries

Trieste, Italy

TWAS 15th General Conference

TWAS Awards Webinar Series: No. 1 - Agricultural Sciences

10 June
1 p.m. CET



Esteban Jobbágy
(Argentina)

Winner of the
2020 TWAS Award
in Agricultural Sciences



Badabate Diwediga
(Togo)

Winner of the
2020 TWAS-Samira Omar
Innovation for Sustainability Award



Etotépé Sogbohossou
(Benin)

Winner of the
2019 TWAS-Samira Omar
Innovation for Sustainability Award

#TWASWebinars

Esteban Jobbágy obtained his degree in agronomy from the Universidad de Buenos Aires (UBA) in 1993. His postgraduate studies included a Master of Science, also from UBA, and a PhD from Duke University, in the United States. There he spent three years supported by fellowships from the National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET), the National Science Foundation and the hosting university. His thesis explored the role of plants in shaping the vertical distribution of nutrients, carbon and salts in the soil.

For his work, Jobbágy received several awards, including from the Guggenheim Foundation, the American Geophysical Union, the Konex Foundation and the National Government of Argentina.

Badabate Diwediga is a Togolese scholar whose research focuses on the nexus among climate, ecosystems and livelihoods in Africa. He works at the Laboratory of Botany and Plant Ecology of the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Lomé, Togo. He earned his PhD in climate change and land use in 2016 at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, in Accra, Ghana, through the West African Science Service Center on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use.

Diwediga is fluent in French and English and co-authored several publications. He is very flexible and adapts easily to different work environments. He worked in many countries, including Togo, Nigeria, Senegal, Ghana, Benin, Burkina Faso, South Africa, Jordan, Tunisia, Germany and China.

Etotépé Sogbohossou is a Beninese researcher and lecturer at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, University of Abomey-Calavi, in Benin. She obtained a degree of Ingénieur agronome and a Master of Science in natural resources management from the same faculty. After working as a Research Assistant in the Laboratory of Applied Ecology and a Project Coordinator with a

non-governmental organization, she earned a PhD in conservation biology from the University of Leiden, Netherlands, in 2011.

Sogbohossou is a pioneer in the study of lions in West Africa and her research interests include wildlife monitoring, ecology and behaviour; endangered species conservation; human-wildlife conflicts; protected areas management; and wildlife trade.