

# Uma Lele

## **Position/Department/Division/Institution/Organization**

President of the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE), elected in 2021  
Institute of Economic Growth, University of Delhi, India

## **Country**

Washington, DC, and Delhi, India

## **Career history**

President-Elect, International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE), elected July 2018,  
will become President in August 2021

Member, Advisory Panel, Academy of Global Food Economics and Policy (AGFEP), Beijing,  
China, 2021

Member, Science Advisory Committee of the UN Food Systems Summit, October 2021

Co-chair of the inter-agency Food Security Information Network (FSIN), 2016

Co-chair, Task Force on Forests and Grasslands in the Development of the West, commissioned  
by the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development  
(CCICED), 2000–02

Senior Advisor, Operations Evaluation Department/Independent Evaluation Group (OED/IED),  
World Bank, Washington, DC, 1998–05

Founding Director, Global Development Initiative of the Carnegie Corporation and the Carter  
Center, the Carter Center, Atlanta, GA, 1993–97

Tenured Graduate Research Professor, Food and Resource Economics, Institute of Food and  
Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville, 1991–95

Economist, World Bank, Washington, DC, 1971–91 (Manager, Agricultural Policy, Africa  
Region; Chief, Development Strategy Division; Lead Country Economist, Indonesia; Deputy  
Chief, Southern Agricultural Division, Africa Region); Lead Sector Economist, Southern Africa

Region; Economist, Development Economics Department)

## **Awards/Publications**

### AWARDS:

Fellow of India's National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS); American Agricultural & Applied Economic Association (AAEA, 1999)

Distinguished Alumnus of Cornell University (2008)

Lifetime Achievement Award of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics (ISAE 2017)

“Honorary Life Member” of the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE)

B. P. Pal Award of India's National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (2015–2016)

M. S. Swaminathan Award of the Trust for the Advancement of Agricultural Sciences, India (2017)

Clifton Wharton Award (Emerging Markets Program, Cornell University, 2018)

Honorary Fellow, African Association of Agricultural Economists (2019)

Honorary Doctor of Agricultural Sciences at Stellenbosch University in South Africa, as “the leading rural development scholar of her generation” (2020)

### PUBLICATIONS:

Eighteen books or book-length authored, co-authored, or edited publications, including books on agriculture and rural development and major influential evaluations of the World Bank and other international organizations, and well over 130 book chapters, papers, articles, and other writings in the areas of food and agriculture, the environment, public health, science and technology, aid and finance, and evaluation, covering Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

### Selected publications:

*Food for All: International Organizations and the Transformation of Agriculture*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2021 (co-authors: Manmohan Agarwal, Brian C. Baldwin, and Sambuddha Goswami).

<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/food-for-all-9780198755173>

<https://fdslive.oup.com/www.oup.com/academic/pdf/openaccess/9780198755173.pdf>

*Patterns of Structural Transformation and Agricultural Productivity Growth. With Special Focus on Brazil, China, Indonesia, and India*. Pune: Hind Law House Publications for Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, 2018 (co-authors: Manmohan Agarwal and Sambuddha Goswami).

*Managing a Global Resource: Challenges of Forest Conservation and Development*. Piscataway, NJ: Transaction Publishers, 2002.

- Intellectual Property Rights in Agriculture: The World Bank's Role in Assisting Borrower and Member Countries*, Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development Department, World Bank: Washington, DC, 1999 (co-authors: William Lesser and Gesa Horstkotte-Wessler).
- Aid to African Agriculture: Lessons from Two Decades of Donors' Experience*, editor. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1992.
- Transitions in Development: The Role of Aid and Commercial Flows*. Editor. San Francisco: Institute for Contemporary Studies Press, 1991 (co-editor: Ijaz Nabi).
- The Design of Rural Development: Lessons from Africa*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1975. Published in French, 1977. Third printing, 1979, included a new chapter entitled, "A Revisit to African Rural Development."
- Food Grain Marketing in India: Private Performance and Public Policy*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1971.
- Developing Rural India: Plan and Practice*, Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1968 (co-authors: John W. Mellor, Sheldon R. Simon, and Thomas F. Weaver).
- "Governance of the 'Big Five' International Organizations Concerned with Food Security and Nutrition." In the *Handbook of International Food and Agricultural Policies. Global Challenges for Future Food and Agricultural Policies*, edited by D. Blandford and K. Hassapoyannes, Chapter 18. Singapore: World Scientific, 2019 (co-author: Sambuddha Goswami).
- "Structural Transformation and the Transition from Concessional Assistance to Commercial Flows: The Past and Possible Future Contributions of the World Bank." In *Agriculture and Rural Development in a Globalizing World: Challenges and Opportunities*, edited by Prabhu Pingali and Gershon Feder, Chapter 16. London: Routledge, 2017 (co-authors: Sambuddha Goswami and Gianluigi Nico).
- "Doubling Farmers' Income under Climate Change." In *Agriculture under Climate Change: Threats, Strategies and Policies*, edited by V.V. Belavadi, N. Nataraja Karaba, and N.R. Gangadharappa, Chapter 68. India, Allied Publishers Pvt. Ltd, 2017.
- "Growth of Land, Labor and Total Factor Productivity in Agriculture in Brazil, India, Indonesia, and China." In *World Scientific Reference on Asia and the World Economy, Vol. 1: Sustainability of Growth*, edited by Manmohan Agarwal, Jiahua Pan, and John Whalley. Singapore: World Scientific, 2015 (co-authors: Manmohan Agarwal and Sambuddha Goswami).
- Measuring Food and Nutrition Security: An Independent Technical Assessment and User's Guide for Existing Indicators*, Food Security Information Network (FSIN), Rome, 2016 (co-authors: William A. Masters, Joyce Kinabo, J. V. Meenakshi, Bharat Ramaswami, and Julia Tagwireyi, with Winnie F. L. Bell and Sambuddha Goswami).  
<http://www.fsincop.net/topics/fns-measurement/en/>.
- Do We Have the Right Data? Towards Better Measurement of High Priority Indicators to Eradicate Hunger and Assure Healthy Food for All*, Panel 1 "Food and Nutrition Security Analysis: Data availability, access, and analysis" Background Paper for African Union Commission (AUC)–FSIN Technical Consultation Food and Nutrition Security and Resilience Analysis, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, November, 17–19 2015, (co-author: Joyce Kinabo, with inputs from William A. Masters, J.V. Meenakshi, Bharat Ramaswami, Julia Tagwireyi, Winnie F. L. Bell, and Sambuddha Goswami).
- "The CGIAR Reforms: Old and New Challenges" (co-authors: Kendra White and Sambuddha Goswami), background paper for "Options for CGIAR Governing Structure and Decision Making" and "Mid-Term Review Panel of the CGIAR Reform," 2014.
- Independent External Evaluation (IEE) of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, with a panel led by Keith Bezanson and Leif Christophersen, 2008*, served as lead panel member for evaluation of the FAO's Technical Work, involving a Core Team of 13 consultants and Quality Assurance Advisors, 2008.
- Strengthening the World Bank's Role in Global Programs and Partnerships*. World Bank Operations Evaluation Department. Washington, DC: World Bank, 2006 (co-editor: Rachel Vernon Weaving).
- The CGIAR at 31: An Independent Meta-Evaluation of the Consultative Group of International*

- Agricultural Research*. Served as the Task Team Leader. World Bank OED, 2004.
- “Moving towards ‘One CGIAR’.” *Rural 21: The International Journal for Rural Development*. 44 (1): 11–13, March 17, 2021.
- “Achieving Sustainable Healthy Food Systems: The Need for Actual Food Consumption Data for Measuring Food Insecurity and Its Consequences.” *Economic and Political Weekly LVI* (7): 40–7, February 3, 2021 (co-authors: Sambuddha Goswami and Mesfin Mergia Mekonnen).
- “Growing Water Scarcities: Responses of India and China.” *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy*. Published online February 2, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1002/aepp.13146>
- “Agricultural Policy Reforms: Roles of Markets and States in China and India.” *Global Food Security* 2020 Sep; 26:100371. doi: 10.1016/j.gfs.2020.100371. Epub Apr 28, 2020.
- “How to Clean Up the Ganges?” Editorial, *Science* 362 (6414): 503, November 2, 2018 (co-authors: Tushaar Shah and Chittaranjan Ray).
- “The Fourth Industrial Revolution, Agricultural and Rural Innovation, and Implications for Public Policy and Investments: A case of India,” *Agricultural Economics*, 48 (issue S1): 87–100, November 2017, (co-author: Sambuddha Goswami).

### **Areas of expertise**

With experience in research on agricultural and rural development, operations, policy analysis, and evaluation, Uma Lele has published extensively, contributing over 130 book chapters, papers, articles, and other writings on food and agriculture, the environment, public health, science and technology, and finance.