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Challenges in food security in Brazil and Latin America

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Food security exists when all people at all time have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life. Food and agricultural industries add value to and increase demand for farm outputs, in that way contributing to poverty reduction and food security. Food and nutritional insecurity in Latin America and the Caribbean continue to be treated by the challenge for reducing of its population affected by hunger, and its complete eradication by 2025. Over the past 20 years, the Latin America and the Caribbean region has significantly increased its share in global agricultural trade. Forecast models show the region could take an even larger role as a global food and agricultural produce supplier. Infrastructure, trade regulations and institutions are among the most significant constraints for future expansion. Food security is consistently seen as one of the key challenges for the coming decades. By the year 2050, the world will need to produce enough food to feed more than 2 billion additional people, compared to the current 7.2 billion. Most of the population growth will be concentrated in developing countries, adding pressure to their development needs. To meet future food demand, agricultural production will need to increase by 50-70%, according to different estimates. And this will happen as the impacts of climate change are projected to intensify overall, particularly hitting the poorest and most vulnerable countries. Increasing global food production will be just a part of the story. The other side is trade, or more precisely, ensuring that food exports from countries with a natural comparative advantage can increase and reach those most in need. In this context Latin America and Caribbean can meet this global challenge: Providing knowledge, technologies, materials and technological systems to increase the base structuring knowledge and promote innovation in agribusiness with a focus on food safety and new fronts opened by food technology, food quality, nutraceutical and functional foods.

Biography

Suzana C S Lannes is Associate Professor III at Pharmaceutical Sciences School at University of São Paulo. She is President of Brazilian Society of Food Science and Technology-sbCTA, and Vice President of Brazilian Association of Rheology. She has published papers in reputed journals, book chapters, and has been serving as Editor in Chief of Food Science and Technology-CTA Journal. Develop research works in the Food Science and Technology area, on the following subjects: rheology, physics of foods, development of special and nutritional food formulations and study of fats and some fat foods.

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