

CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr Lassaad LACHAAL, PhD; Resident Representative
United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
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Dr. LACHAAL is a development practitioner and challenge oriented with a background in economics and over 25 years of global professional experience with Multilateral Development Banks, United Nations Development agencies, academia, research, and administration. Influential style refined by working with a wide range of people from many cultures



Dr. Lassaad LACHAAL

and disciplines.

In his recent position as Minister of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fishery, his leadership skills and readiness to engage different partners made him a successful member of government in a very critical transition process. Lachaal Contributed successfully to the attainment of transparent, credible elections and democratic transfer of power with the establishment of a new tradition of government change in a republican spirit and constitutional legitimacy.

During his term, he has sharpened the focus of the Ministry's work and concentrated his energy in delivering concrete results, achieving all targets with four record crops. His efforts have led to the reinforcement of the Ministry capacity development, reduction of administrative costs, and above all the strengthening of partnerships with international organizations. In 2014, He was elected President of the United Nations FAO 28th Regional Conference for Africa, 2014-2016.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Dec 2015- Present *Resident Representative*, UNITED NATIONS FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION

Assist the government of Niger develop policies, programs and projects to achieve food security and prevent malnutrition. This is achieved in particular by: (i) developing, promoting and overseeing strategies for addressing food security, agriculture and rural development objectives; (ii) helping the government to prevent disasters, assess damage, and assist in the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the agricultural sector; (iii) guiding technical and financial partners on country assistance priorities and on advocacy, policy, public awareness and implementation of crucial FAO national and regional initiatives.

Jan 2014 – Mai 15: *Minister of Agriculture*, REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA

As a member of a 20 senior leader Cabinet, I was responsible for agricultural production, soil and water conservation, rural development, market regulation, financial stabilization as well as the veterinary and phyto-sanitary surveillance. His passionate commitment to finalizing the 2020 Agricultural strategy will drive a new wave of change in agriculture in Tunisia, moving it away from a development program into an attractive business, to reduce dependency on food imports, generate wealth and create jobs.

- Jan 2010 – Jan 14:** **Chief Knowledge & Capacity Development Economist**, AFRICAN DEV. INSTITUTE
In charge of the monitoring of KPIs, budget and objectives of the management policy division; building and strengthening partnerships with international development agencies.
Lachaal developed and implemented training and CD activities for RMCs and ensured strategic alignment with the Bank's MTS. He played an effective role in designing and delivering CD events and took a lead role in the preparation of the institute work program. Managing Editor of the *African Development Review*.
- Feb 2008 – Jan 10:** **Deputy Director**, JOINT AFRICA INSTITUTE
Coordinated the provision of strategic orientation of CD activities; oversaw the development of training material; the design, development and delivery of CD events; ensured strategic alignment and quality of delivered workshops.
- Jun 2005 – Jan 08:** **Senior Economist**, AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP
Dr. LACHAAL sharpened the focus of research on timely development policy issues. He served as the coordinator of the African Development Bank's Economic Research Working Paper Series, the network for the Maghreb countries and the Co-managing editor of the *African Development review*. He also serves on the Board and as Reviewer to several national and international scientific journals.
- Dec 1999 – Jun 05:** **Director of the Agricultural Economics Research Department**, INRA TUNISIE
Coordinator of the *Market and Trade Policies for Mediterranean Agriculture Project*. Reviewer to several national and international leading research journals, e.g., *Small Ruminant Research*, *Agricultural Economics Review*, *La Revue Ezzaitouna ...etc*. Member of the editorial committee "*Les Annales de l'INRAT*". Member of the Search committee for the recruitment of associate professors (2004-2006). Member of Editorial board of the *African Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*.
- Apr 1996 - Nov 99:** **Associate Researcher**, INRA TUNISIE (INRAT)
- Jan 1988 - May 95:** **Research Assistant**, FOOD AND AGR. POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE (FAPRI)
- Jun 1986 – Jan 88 :** **Economist**, OFFICE DES TERRES DOMANIALES (OTD)
Group leader in the design and formulation of development strategies of OTD farm units. Put forward proposals outlining development options. Performed technical and financial follow up of OTD development projects financed by the *African Development Bank Group* and the *European Bank of Investment*. Led multi-disciplinary teams in the preparation of OTD development plans. Set goals consistent with the office development objectives, reviewed alternatives and mobilized resources to meet the stated objectives.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Lassaad LACHAAL was born in 1961 in Tunis, observing the contrast between the city and the social exclusion and poverty in which most of the rural population lived in. The quest to understand and change this reality led him to study agronomy and economics and to his life-long commitment to food security and sustainable rural development.

Dr. LACHAAL holds the following degrees:

1. **Certificate on Innovation for Economic Development**, Kennedy School of Government, 2013.
2. **Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural Economics**, Univ. of Missouri at Columbia - USA, 1994. Research published in the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 80 (1998): 534-542.
3. **Diploma in International Development**, 1993. *Emphasis on international agricultural development policies, trade and competitiveness.*
4. **Master of Arts in Economics**, Univ. of Missouri at Columbia – USA, 1993. Research published in the *Journal of Agriculture and Applied Economics*, 26 (1994): 299-310 (Research won the Distinguished Professional Contribution Award).
5. **Master of Sciences in Agricultural Economics**, Univ. of Missouri at Columbia – USA, 1991. Research published in the *Proceedings of the 25th Annual Meeting of the Decision Science Institute*, Wilmington, North Carolina, 1995.
6. **Engineer Diploma** (Bachelor of Sciences) in Agricultural Economics, INA – Tunisia, 1985.

Lassaad LACHAAL taught for several years – a senior level course on *Operations Research* and a graduate course on *Duality Theory*.

He has a strong record of **over fifty professional publications**, two of which won *Research Contribution Awards*.

ABOUT LASSAAD LACHAAL

Lassaad LACHAAL is Tunisian. He is married and father of three children. He is fully trilingual (*English, French, and Arabic*) and understands Italian. He has competence in the use of computer standard, statistical and econometric softwares (SAS, GAMS, E-views) and some familiarity with SAP.

He served as international consultant on agricultural development issues to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural development (IFAD) and the World Food Program (WFP).

Lassaad LACHAAL is the recipient of numerous awards and Honors including:

1. Commander of the Republic, Honor bestowed by the President of the Republic of Tunisia (2015),
2. President of the FAO 28th Regional Conference for Africa, ARC (2014-2016),
3. The J. William Fulbright Visiting Research Scholar Award (1997),
4. The Superior Graduate Achievement Award (1994),
5. The SAEA Distinguished Professional Contribution Award (1994),
6. The Tenth Research and Creative Activities Forum 1st Place Award (1993).