The main theme of the webinar is the development of the bioeconomy and the new emphasis on natural capital for sustainable growth in the framework of the G20 discussion of present and future international policies. A reconsideration of the traditional paradigm of development based on economic growth is in order, especially after the Covid 19 crisis has exposed the critical fragility of our society and the present and future dangers of mindless reliance on market automatisms.

The great development of the bioeconomy in recent times and the risks created by climate change and new and unpredictable pathogens suggest that global investment in natural capital and technological progress together are key factors to achieve sustainable development, but also that they require critical complementary investment in human capital, health and social infrastructure. Beyond the increase in food production and conservation, we need to look at a new sustainable basis for population growth, human capital enhancement and the management of natural resources, which respects nature and at the same time takes advantage of the latest results of research and science.

Technical changes in the field of biotechnology will be important to increase productivity and diversify production and trade, promoting greater PVS participation to higher value-added segments of global value chains. Sustainable financing of innovations that capitalize on the new achievements of genetic engineering will also be critical to improve nutrition and health and limit the damages from climate change, and destruction of biodiversity.