

# SESSION #14: AGRI SMES WEATHERING COVID-19

## Speakers:

- Panos Varangis, Head of Agricultural Finance, Finance Competitiveness and Innovation Global Practice, World Bank Group
- Isaac Masusu, Head of Agribusiness, NMB Bank PLC
- Benjamin Njenga, Co-Founder and Chief Customer Officer, Apollo Agriculture
- David Gerbrands, Head of Advisory Services, Rabo Partnerships
- Onur Terzi, Agricultural Banking Marketing and Business Development Senior Manager, TEB
- Mariem Dkhil, Sustainable Finance Specialist, Credit Agricole du Maroc

## Main takeaways:

- COVID-19 has led to a **renewed understanding of the importance of food security** and many countries are looking to shorten agricultural supply chains moving forward.
- There has been a **rapid increase in incorporating digital payment technologies** into agriculture, with pushes to support small farmers by getting them to go digital.
- As a whole, **agri-SMEs have proven to be quite resilient**, with credit demand sustained throughout the crisis.