



UNIVERSITÀ
CATTOLICA
del Sacro Cuore



Scientific Colloquium

The Hope for a Nourished Planet: what agenda for Catholic Universities?

May 5th afternoon - May 6th morning

Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore
Cremona Campus, Italy

Structure of the Meeting

May 5th

13.00 Light lunch

14.00 **Opening**

Prof. Elena Beccalli, Rector of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

H.E. Msgr. Carlo Maria Polvani, Secretary of the Dicastery for Culture and Education

Prof. Isabel Capelo Gil, Rector of the Universidade Católica Portuguesa (UCP)
and President of the International Federation of Catholic Universities

14.40 **Introduction**

Prof. Pier Sandro Cocconcelli, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

15.00 **Main Lecture 1**

Role of higher education and training for combating undernourishment

Jean Leonard Touadi, Senior Advisor, FAO

15.30 **Main Lecture 2**

***Global hunger, climate change adaptation and international trade:
challenges and opportunities for Africa***

Prof. Miet Maertens, KU Leuven

Parallel sessions

16.00 **Round Table 1**

Tackling Malnutrition: Best Practices for Ensuring Food Security and Safety

Chair: Prof. Paola Battilani, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

Rapporteur: Prof. Daniela Bassi, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

16.15 **RECTORS' MEETING ON UNI.TED! PROJECT**

18.00 **Mass celebration in the Cremona Cathedral**

19.15 Violin Museum of Cremona - Giovanni Arvedi Auditorium

Musical audition of violins: Stradivari, Amati e Guarneri

20.45 **Social Dinner**

May 6th

9.00 **Main Lecture 3**

The transitions of food systems for combating undernourishment

Prof. Philippe Baret, UC Louvain

9.30 **Round Table 2**

***Innovation Capacity, New technologies, Food System Growth: role and responsibility
of the of Agricultural and Food Research***

Chair: Prof. Paolo Ajmone Marsan, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

Rapporteur: Prof. Riccardo Negrini, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

10.45 **Coffee break**

11.00 **Main Lecture 4**

Competence building and scientific research for African agro-food system development

Prof. Jane Akot, Uganda Martyrs University

11.30 **Round Table 3**

Universities, Networks, and Transdisciplinary Research: Advancing Agro-Food System Development

Chair: Prof. Edoardo Puglisi, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

Rapporteur: Lucrezia Lamastra, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

12.30 **Conclusion and Outcomes**

Chairs and Rapporteurs

13.30 **Light Lunch**

The conference venue



Cremona is a charming Italian city where history, music, and art harmoniously blend to create an unforgettable experience; situated in the heart of Po Valley (called Pianura Padana), it is a hidden gem that beckons travelers with its rich heritage, exquisite craftsmanship, and melodious symphonies.

Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore's Cremona campus, the **conference venue**, is in the center of the city, in the 15th-century **Santa Monica Monastery** complex.

Completed in 2020, the renovation of Santa Monica was carried out on the initiative of the Arvedi Buschini Foundation, with the contribution of the Lombardy Region, the Municipality and Province of Cremona, Università Cattolica and Cariplo Foundation. Once used for monastery life, these ancient spaces have found a new use, where cutting-edge technology, history, and art are merged in an ideal environment for the development of a unique cultural and educational project, suitable for the territory but with an outlook open to the world.

The venue is located a short walk from the train station and Cremona's iconic cathedral square.

Address

Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore
Santa Monica campus
Via Bissolati, 74 - Cremona (Italy)

Transfers

Cremona is served by the three airports of Milan: Malpensa MXP, Linate LIN, Orio Bergamo BGY.

The town is about one hour and a half from Milan by car (approximately 100 km) and about one hour by train from Milan's Central Station.

A shuttle service will be provided between Milan and Cremona on the morning of May 5th, leaving at 11.15 a.m. from a location that will be communicated later.

A similar service from Cremona to Milan will be offered on the afternoon of May 6th.

Accommodation

Reservations should be made directly with the hotel. Participants of the Colloquium will have a special rate at the [Hotel Impero of Cremona](#). Please book by writing to impero@cremonahotels.it or by calling +39 0372 43414. To take advantage of the special rate mention code HOPE UNICATT 2025 when reserving your room.

Double room (single occupancy) € 85,00

The price includes breakfast.

You will be asked to pay a city tax per person per night.

Other recommended hotels in Cremona are:

Hotel Delle Arti (<https://www.dellearti.com/>); Hotel Continental (<https://www.hotelcontinentalcremona.it/>);

Hotel Astoria (<https://www.hotelastoriacremona.com/>)
