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Dr. Josef Schmidhuber is the Head of FAO's Global Perspective Studies Unit. He is co-author of "World agriculture: towards 2015/2030", FAO's long-term perspective of global agriculture.

He started his professional career in 1990 as a consultant with the World Food Council, worked as an Econometrician and Economist with the FAO and as a Senior Economist with the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). He has also assumed numerous short-term assignments with private companies, banks and commodity funds as well as important public institutions such as the The World Bank, the OECD and the European Investment Bank (EIB). Mr Schmidhuber is Member of numerous international taskforces and initiatives, notably a lead author of the chapter on agriculture of the fourth assessment report of the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and member of the International Taskforce on Commodity Risk Management.

Josef Schmidhuber holds an MSc in Agricultural Economics and a PhD in Economics from the Technical University of Munich. His work has been published in several books, peer reviewed journal articles, or as documents of international organizations such as the OECD, the IPCC or the FAO. His main work areas include commodity market analysis and outlook, trade and trade liberalization in agriculture, global food and nutrition issues, climate change, as well as bioenergy and agriculture.