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Sonia Akter is Assistant Professor at the Lee Kuan Yew (LKY) School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore. Her research is situated on the nexus of agriculture, environment and development in the Asia-Pacific region. She has worked extensively on agricultural microinsurance, women's empowerment and gender equity in agriculture in South and Southeast Asia. She is presently a Senior Editor for the journal *Food Security* and an Associate Editor for the journal *Asia & the Pacific Policy Studies*. She graduated with a PhD in Environmental Management and Development from the Australian National University in 2010, and holds a MS degree in Economics from York University, Canada. She was Scientist at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) where she led the Gender Research Team and was the coordinator for gender research of the Global Rice Science Partnership (GRiSP) program of the CGIAR (2014-2015). Prior to that, she was Senior Researcher at Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research-UFZ, Leipzig, Germany (2011-2013). She has (co)authored over 20 publications, including journal articles, books and book chapters. She has served in numerous advisory roles and expert panels including as Advisor of IRRI Gender Research Program (2015-2016) and a member of the impact assessment panel of the Seeds of Life program of the Australian Center for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) (2015-2016).

SESSIONS

[» PUBLIC AGRICULTURAL EXPENDITURE AND FOOD INSECURITY NEXUS IN LOW AND LOWER-MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES: EVIDENCE FROM CROSS-COUNTRY PANEL DATA FOR 1990-2014](#)