Dr. Isnawati Hidayah

Economist and researcher in food security, nutrition and gender inequality

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Economist, researcher and consultant working at the intersection of development economics and public health. My work focuses on food security, nutrition, poverty, inequality and gender inequality in rural and agrifood systems. I bring hands-on grassroots experience in Indonesian villages, national policy research at CELIOS, and global engagement with FAO, the World Food Forum and the United Nations. Top Agri-food Pioneer 2024 (World Food Prize Foundation).

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Food security and nutrition
- Poverty, inequality and social protection
- Sustainable agrifood systems
- Impact assessment, surveys and fieldwork
- Development economics, rural development
- Gender inequality and women's empowerment
- Public policy and programme evaluation
- Systematic and scoping literature reviews

EDUCATION

2026 — **PhD in Economics**, Department of Economics and Law, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy

PhD in Public Health (food security and nutrition), Department of Public Health and Primary Care, Leiden University, the Netherlands

Dissertation: Breaking the Cycle of Food Insecurity and Malnutrition in Indonesia: Insights from Parametric and Non-Parametric Estimates

2019 — **MSc International Development Studies**, specialisation in Economic Development, Wageningen University & Research, the Netherlands

2016 — **Bachelor in Development Economics**, Universitas Negeri Malang, Indonesia

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2025–present — **Senior Researcher**, Center of Economic and Law Studies (CELIOS), *Jakarta*

Policy research on food security, the Free Nutritious Meals programme, cooperatives and rural economies.

2023–present — **Member, Young Scientists Group**, World Food Forum, FAO

Evidence and policy recommendations on youth and young women in agrifood systems.

2020–present — **Founder and Director**, ROTASI Institute, *Indonesia*

Research and community initiatives on rural development, food security and sustainability.

Current — **Lead**, 4Better Global Coalition

Connecting grassroots networks and young women farmers to global agrifood advocacy.

2024–2025 — **Economic Consultant**, Asian Development Bank Institute (*remote*)

Well-being and nutrition security in Asia, with gender-disaggregated analysis.

2024	**Economist (Consultant)**, Conservation Strategy Fund and WWF Indonesia Impact assessments of coastal aquaculture in East Java and surveys on economic and health impacts.
2023–2024	**Local Research Partner**, Wageningen University & Research Livestock, zoonotic disease, antimicrobial resistance and food security in Indonesia.
2021–2022	**Consultant**, Rikolto Indonesia Sustainability assessment of coffee cooperatives in East Nusa Tenggara.
2016–2020	**Earlier roles**, INDEF, Wageningen, Göttingen, PUPUK Policy analysis, food consumption research in Uganda, gender research and community fieldwork.

HONOURS AND INVITED CONTRIBUTIONS

2025	Speaker, UN High-Level Political Forum side event on young women in agrifood systems, *New York* Expert, UN Expert Group Meeting on SDG 5 (Gender Equality) and its interlinkages Speaker, global launch of FAO's *The Status of Youth in Agrifood Systems* Speaker, FAO Office of Youth and Women side event at CSW69 Panellist, FAO Science and Innovation Forum (also 2024)
2024	Top Agri-food Pioneer, World Food Prize Foundation
2022	4Nation Award in Social Science, ForMIND; Best Research Institute, SDGs Action Awards (for ROTASI)
2021	Doctoral Fellowship, Sapienza University of Rome

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Hidayah, I., Valerio, E., Askar, M. W., & Fajri Gusnansyah, M. N. (2026). ICT adoption and household economic outcomes among women entrepreneurs in Indonesia's agri-food system. *Gender, Technology and Development*, 30(2).

World Food Forum Young Scientists Group (2025). *Elevating young women's visibility in agrifood systems: Ahead of the International Year of the Woman Farmer 2026*. FAO, Rome.

Hidayah, I., Palmisano, F., & Kiefte-de Jong, J. Does greater subjective well-being lead to improved food and nutrition security? A path analysis using the Indonesian Family Life Survey. *Asian Development Bank*.

Soseco, T., **Hidayah, I.**, & Rini, A. D. Gender determinant on Multidimensional Poverty Index: Evidence from Indonesia. *Jurnal Ilmu Sosial dan Ilmu Politik*, 26(2).

Soseco, T., **Hidayah, I.**, Cahayati, N., & Leksono, F. T. (2024). Access to technology to increase food resilience in rural households in Indonesia. *Economia Agro-Alimentare / Food Economy*, 26(1).

SKILLS AND SERVICE

Languages	Indonesian (native), English (fluent)
Methods	STATA, R, SPSS, EViews, NVivo, LaTeX; IFLS and LSMS survey data
Peer review	Springer Nature journals, 2025–2026

A detailed CV and full publication list are available on request.