



Student Case Competition

Food Security through
Innovation &
Sustainability

20
24



ISAM International
School of Agr
Management

WORLD CONFERENCE
ALMERÍA, SPAIN

IFAMA 2024 Spain

IFAMA 2024 Spain is a global conference organized every year by IFAMA (International Food and Agri Management Association) together with another collaborating institution. The 34th edition is organized by IFAMA and ISAM (International School of Agri Management).

The event comprises three parts: **Symposium, Business Forum and Case Study Competition.** You can come to the three or choose one of them to discover, learn and network with academics and professionals from around the world who are focused on the agribusiness sector. This is the topic of 2024:

Food Security through
Innovation & Sustainability



The Organizers



IFAMA is a vibrant global association with members in more than 80 countries. For over 33 years IFAMA has served as a networking organization acting as a bridge between the agribusiness industry, researchers, educators, government, consumer groups and non-governmental organizations.

IFAMA convenes experts from industry, academia, government and NGOS from around the world to share, learn, and build on the latest global innovations and research trends that are driving the food and ag sector.

World Conferences & Online Events

Annually, IFAMA hosts an international conference that attracts participants from a variety of different agriculture and agrifood sectors. All in-person conference contain hybrid components for virtual attendees and throughout the year we host webinars, workshops, competitions and podcasts.

Flagship Journal of Agribusiness

IFAMA publishes its own academic journal since 1990. The International Food and Agribusiness Management Review (IFAMR) features high-quality, peer-reviewed articles focused on the practice of management in the food and agribusiness industry. It provides managers, researchers, and teachers a place to publish their latest research findings and a Forum to share new ideas.

Learning Tools

IFAMA develops and showcases the best practices of using case studies as a method to facilitate problem-solving and knowledge transfer. These resources are available for classroom and corporate use. IFAMA also offers workshops and webinars on both case study writing and has a full library of published teaching cases available to members.

A Growing Network of Early Career Professionals

IFAMA actively promotes the food and ag sector as an industry of choice; and offers many types of professional development opportunities because we know that the future of feeding people on the planet rests in the hands of the next generation.

We are highly committed to rapidly expanding our global network in order facilitate collaborations and partnerships among our partners.

The Organizers



The International School of Agri Management is the first Business School 100% dedicated to the Agricultural Sector. In collaboration with agri-companies and other institutions, ISAM provides agribusiness training programs around the world, in online and face-to-face format.

ISAM is based in Almería (Spain) one of the biggest agricultural hubs in the world and provides agribusiness training for different profiles (young professionals and executives) through professors who are active professionals in global top agri-companies.



— Agribusiness MBAs

ISAM provides Agribusiness MBAs in face-to-face and online formats and in two languages: English or Spanish. With them, students get a 360° overview of the Agribusiness Sector and all the departments of the companies involved in the supply chain.

All of them have a strong focus on Entrepreneurship, Technology, Innovation and Sustainability.

— Short Agribusiness Programs

Students from all over the world choose ISAM to develop their skills through short programs like HR or Executive Development.

Also, one of these programs is the Study Trip to Almería's Agricultural Model, with which students travel to Almería (Spain) to visit agri-companies, network and learn with ISAM professors during four intensive days.



Student Case Competition

DESCRIPTION

The IFAMA Student Case Study Competition is the leading global case championship for students and young professionals in the food and agribusiness sector.

Since 2005, IFAMA annually provides teams from top universities and private sector companies an opportunity to showcase their analytical and problem-solving skills before judges and conference attendees.

WHY COMPETE?

Although universities offer superior education that equips their graduates with the essential skills needed for their chosen profession, this activity gives competitors an unparalleled opportunity to develop the soft skills that are so vitally needed in our industry today to fill important leadership roles in the future.



Student Case Competition

BENEFITS

- 1 It provides a global stage to showcase **problem-solving and analytical skills**.
- 2 It strengthens **team-building** capacities—as teams cohesively work together to solve a common goal and real-world problem.
- 3 It challenges teams to be creative and **innovative-think outside the box**.
- 4 Team members learn to **think sharply** on their feet.
- 5 Team members dig deep into theories and practices while **using their instincts**.





Student Case Competition

BENEFITS

- 6 Teams meet peers from around the world. They see how others **tackle the same challenges** and learn from different perspectives.
- 7 Participants form bonds globally with **future colleagues** and mentors that can span their professional careers.
- 8 Individuals get noticed by industry professionals and **talent recruiters** both regionally and globally.
- 9 Students and young professionals **broaden their global view of the food system**, as they learn from high-level experts who are committed solving the challenges that are impacting the future of the food and agribusiness industry.

Quotes from Previous Sponsors



It's such a privilege to be involved with the IFAMA Student Case Competition. The ideas and visions applied to real world problems that come out during this intense competition underpin my belief in the next generation of agricultural leaders. They are the ones who will bring the agricultural innovations of tomorrow to the cutting edge of food and value chain sustainability. Supporting the talents and skill sets of these young leaders and watching them flourish is why Bayer sees the IFAMA student Case Competition as such an engaging and valuable initiative."

**Ronald Guendel, Global Head
Partnerships, Food Value Chain, Bayer**



"The lifeblood of every organization is its talent and developing the next generation of innovators and leaders in agriculture is critical to our ongoing success. The annual IFAMA case competition showcases future leaders in our industry as they demonstrate their ability and skills at proposing viable solutions to real-world challenges. As one of the world's leading agriculture companies, Syngenta is proud to support IFAMA's strategy to identify, nurture and develop the next generation of professionals in the global agribusiness community."

**Vern Hawkins, President, Syngenta Crop
Protection, Region Director-North America**



Quotes from Previous Sponsors



"Investing in the next generation of agriculturists is the primary focus of CHS Corporate Citizenship and the CHS Foundation. Partnering with the colleges and universities participating in the IFAMA World Forum was an exceptional example of how CHS works on behalf of its farmer and rancher owners. Talent is a key to unlocking the potential of agribusiness globally."

**William Nelson, Former
President of CHS Foundation**



"IFAMA provides a mechanism for helping young people understand not only the value of their formal education but what skills are most needed to enter the job market—these skills are changing almost overnight. The responsiveness of being prepared can only be accomplished if you have both private industry and academia there talking to each other."

**Hans Johr, C-Level Advisor, Former, Corp.
Head of Agriculture, Nestlé, Switzerland**



"IFAMA events has great students and student interactions. I see immense talent there. As the CEO of a company operating globally, it was a great chance to find some talented folks to come to work in my organization." ."

**Thad Simons, Former CEO of Novus
International**



Quotes from 2023 Competitors

"Excellent, very inspiring and motivating."

"It was an amazing challenge and a great experience to apply our knowledge to solve real issues. It also served as an opportunity to meet young professionals with similar interests.."

"It is fantastic to learn, work as a team, and flex strategic thinking skills."

"I was on a team, and it was a completely invaluable experience that is rarely offered. I enjoyed the experience regardless of the results."

"Inspiring experience, I have hope for our future."

"A really amazing opportunity! It was so good!"

"I loved competing on a team. I learned a lot and had some interesting and complicated case studies."

"Awesome competing as a student, It was very challenging, but a great learning experience."



How to prepare for the competition

- 1** Read the Case Competition Guidelines on IFAMA's website.
- 2** Learn how to use the Case Method approach to problem solving.
- 3** .Instructors can contact IFAMA for recommendations on teaching cases published by IFAMA that can be used for preparation.
- 4** Use IFAMA's resource library of preparation videos from previous years.
- 5** Seek other practice case resources available online.
- 6** Practice solving cases in 4-hour time blocks
- 7** Rehearse in front of instructors or other classmates to get feedback on how to improve your presenting skills
- 8** Plan to attend a online preparation session for the 2024 Student Case Competition in February 2024. If you can't attend, ask for the video.

Getting There > Develop a Budget

Team Registration Fees (4 full days of the conference)

3-4 member team	1250€
5 member team	1450 €
Individual	495 €

Lodging

Budget accommodations approximately 50€ per person. Breakfast is typically included. IFAMA will supply recommendations.

Past Conference Tours

Agri-tour field trips are planned for the day following the conference. Prices will vary, budget 100€.

Flights and other Tansports

They vary depending upon departure location

Miscelaneous expenses

Gifts, extra activities

Meals

4 lunches	Provided
2 dinners	Provided
Networking breaks	Provided
Breakfast	Not provided

If your team needs to raise additional funds in order to participate, IFAMA can provide sample template letters and suggest ways to find potential sponsors.



For more information contact:

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Questions?

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