



HUMBOLDT-
UNIVERSITÄT
ZU BERLIN



International Expert Conference

Fragile Lives 2024: Program Overview

1 - 2 October 2024
Berlin, Germany

Fragile Lives is a new annual conference on the use of rigorous, scientific evidence for improving livelihoods, food security and peace around the world, held in Berlin, Germany.

This first edition of Fragile Lives will focus on how poly-crises shape individuals, institutions, and interventions.

Across three themes, we will examine the drivers, dynamics, and impacts of poly-crises, spanning violent conflict, humanitarian emergencies, and the climate crisis:

1. **Achieving Zero Hunger** - How do we best increase food security in poly-crises?
2. **Lives and Livelihoods** - How do people respond to and cope with poly-crises around the world?
3. **Peace and Prosperity** - How can rigorous evidence inform the design of effective peacebuilding measures?

Fragile Lives 2024 will:

1. Present **rigorous analyses** of questions of significant policy interest in the compounding challenges poly-crises;
2. Discuss how **causal evidence** can be used to develop new policy to improve the lives and livelihoods of people affected by such shocks and poly-crises;
3. Offer **novel policy recommendations** for how to protect and support vulnerable households and institutions; and
4. Connect **academia and practice** across disciplines, institutions, sectors, and countries to facilitate learning on how to deal with our increasingly uncertain and challenging world.

Fragile Lives 2024 will take place on 1 - 2 October 2024 at Unter den Linden 6, 10117 Berlin in Germany. It is organized jointly by the Zero Hunger Lab of Humboldt-University of Berlin with IRI THESys and Leibniz Institute of Vegetables and Ornamental Crops (IGZ). The conference will run from 9am to 9pm on 1 October, and from 9am to 5pm on 2 October.

Preliminary Program

OPENING REMARKS

Julia von Blumenthal - President, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Martina Brockmeier - President, Leibniz Gemeinschaft

Deike Potzel - Director General for Crisis Prevention, Stabilisation, Peace Building, and Humanitarian Assistance, German Federal Foreign Office

KEYNOTE SPEECHES

Agnes Quisumbing - Senior Research Fellow, International Food Policy Research Institute

Agnes Quisumbing is a Senior Research Fellow in the Poverty, Gender, and Inclusion Unit at IFPRI in Washington, DC. She co-leads a research program that examines how closing the gap between men's and women's ownership and control of assets may lead to better development outcomes.

Ibrahim Elbadawi - Managing Director, Economic Research Forum

Ibrahim Elbadawi is the Managing Director of the Economic Research Forum, a regional network dedicated to promoting high quality economic research to contribute to sustainable development in the Arab countries, Iran and Turkey. He was also Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Republic of Sudan (Sept 2019-July 2020) and Lead Economist at the Development Research Group of the World Bank.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Fragile Lives 2024 will co-host a range of sessions with international donors, research institutes, and government ministries on some of the most pressing issues of today, as well as the annual workshops of the Households in Conflict Network (HiCN), the Leibniz Environment And Development Symposium (LEADS), and the Methods Working Group of German Association for Peace and Conflict Studies (AFK Methods) - thereby bringing together global experts from academia, research, and practice.

Below are examples of sessions filtered by conference theme.

Achieving Zero Hunger:

- Agriculture and Household Welfare
- Poly-Crises and Food Insecurity
- Climatic Shocks
- Agriculture and Conflict
- Impact of Humanitarian Assistance
- Impacts of Climate Change

Lives and Livelihoods:

- Climate Poly-Crises: Tipping Points, Adaptive Capacity, and Causal Mechanisms
- Building Local Resilience in Syria
- Mental Health in the Middle East
- Impacts of Aid
- Embedding Research in Local Realities
- Weather Shocks and Households
- The Role of Smaller Organizations in System-Wide Learning
- Governance and Crises
- Climate Adaptation and Migration

Peace and Prosperity:

- War Exposure and Cooperation
- Women in Wartime
- Combating Violence Against Women and Girls
- Rigorous Micro-level Evidence in Peacebuilding
- Climate and Conflict
- Integration and Community Cohesion
- Mental Health and Conflict
- Methods in Conflict Research
- Impacts of Media
- Role of Sanctions
- Postwar Legacies
- Data on Rebel Recruitment
- Conflict, Fragility, and Migration
- Conflict and Trust; Economic Impacts of Conflict
- Healthcare under Conflict
- Migration and Security

Organizations contributing experts to these sessions include: 3ie, Climate Analytics, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), Global Solutions Initiative, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), SPARK, UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER), Universität Konstanz, Université de Genève, UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO), What Works, and XCEPT, among others.

Fragile Lives 2024 is supported by a range of partner institutions, whom we thank for their support, including: Leibniz Institute for Vegetable and Ornamental Crops (IGZ), IRI THESys, ISDC - International Security and Development Center, the Households in Conflict Network (HiCN), the German Association for Peace and Conflict Studies, the Leibniz Association (specifically [ATB](#), [GIGA](#), [IGZ](#), [RWI](#), [PIK](#), [ZALF](#), and [ZMT](#)), and the German Foundation for Peace Research.

Contact: fragilelives@zerohunger.de / events@humboldt-innovation.de

Conference Website: <https://zerohunger.de/fragile-lives/>

Registration Site: <https://hi.converia.de/frontend/index.php?sub=121>

