MERCEDES DIANE GRIFFIN FORBES

MA | MPH

GLOBAL FOOD SYSTEMS • SUSTAINABILITY • GENDER EQUITY • PUBLIC HEALTH

EDUCATOR • SPEAKER • MODERATOR



ABOUT MERCEDES

Mercedes Diane Griffin Forbes, MA, MPH, is an international development consultant and educator with 20+ years in food systems, gender equity and public health. Her career includes service in the Executive Office of the UN Secretary-General and advisory work on USAID-funded initiatives, including assignments with ACDI/VOCA, Winrock International and Catholic Relief Services.
She brings field experience across Africa, Asia and Latin America into applied academic learning.

AVAILABLE FOR Guest lectures • Seminars • Workshops • Facilitated discussions • Panels • Short courses

SIGNATURE ACADEMIC SESSIONS

Gender Equity in Global Food Systems
Women's agency, access, power and participation from policy to practice.

Food Systems Are Human Systems
Why culture, behavior, equity and community matter to sustainability.

From Theory to the Field
Lessons from 20+ years implementing sustainable development internationally.

Women, Agriculture & Economic Agency
Applied lessons from work with women farmers and entrepreneurs.

Sustainability Beyond the Buzzwords
What implementation looks like in communities, organizations and agricultural value chains.



Food Tank: Nourishing the Future | Panel moderator

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Beyond the Sustainability Pledge:
Closing the Gap Between Ambition and Implementation
Porto Business School

Whose Food Stories Get Told?
Digital Storytelling, Cultural Belonging and Consumer Choice
DIAITA | University of Coimbra

Women at the Heart of Sustainable Food Systems
Greenfest Braga

TEACHING & FACILITATION

Curriculum design • Classroom teaching • Adult education • Professional workshops • Capacity building

500+ women entrepreneurs trained

AS SEEN IN foodtank THE FOOD THINK TANK · her NETWORK · SHE MEDIA

WHAT PEOPLE SAY

"Your lecture was exceptional in every regard. Your presentation was engaging, practical, and inspiring."

DR. RAVSHAN ASAMOV | Tashkent State Agrarian University

"Her analytical skills are second to none. She consistently turns strong ideas and clear strategy into meaningful impact."

DOUGLASS SNYDER | Vietnam Green Building Council

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