

Patrick Cortbaoui

Managing Director

Margaret A. Gilliam Institute for Global Food Security

Dr. Cortbaoui is an agricultural engineer, food security consultant and project manager with over 15 years track record in providing solutions to alleviate food insecurity in different regions of the world including North America, Latin America & the Caribbean, Africa, Middle East and Asia. This is done through the establishment and implementation of pre-/post-production technologies and sustainable food management strategies and programs that meet the requirements of the producer, the retailer and the consumer while improving resource-use efficiency along agri-food value chains. He has wide expertise in management encompassing Research-for Development, Partnership Building and Resource Mobilization, Strategic and Operational Planning, Communication and Outreach Management, and Team Mentoring and Training. He currently serves as the Managing Director at the Margaret A. Gilliam Institute for Global Food Security of McGill University, strengthening the Institute's role and partnership between academia, the private sector, governments and NGOs. In this capacity, he oversees all operations, functions and activities of the Institute. He is responsible for giving the proper strategic direction and implementing a high-quality vision. Dr. Cortbaoui received his PhD. in Bioresource Engineering from McGill University. His interest was to develop and validate engineering solutions to reducing post-harvest losses of fresh fruits and vegetables thereby increasing food availability without compromising the environment.



Research and Scientific Expertise

Sustainable Food Systems and Food Security: While the world is looking to feed 10 billion people by 2050 without compromising the environment, Dr. Cortbaoui is interested in providing solutions to alleviate Global Food Insecurity and contributing to "a world free of hunger" through sustainable food management strategies and programs.

Food Wastage Measurement: Preventing food wastage requires innovations in measuring the extent of these wastes/losses. Dr. Cortbaoui studies the application of reliable methodologies to effectively quantify food wastage.

Food Quality Management: Food quality management is composed of food quality and management components. Through effective food quality management, Dr. Cortbaoui studies different practices to increase food availability and therefore, alleviating food insecurity along value chain segments.

Postharvest Technology: Improved technologies in postharvest lead to conservation of the food quality and quantity. Therefore, Dr. Cortbaoui conducts research on postharvest technologies during food handling and processing to extend the shelf life and to maintain high quality and quantity of food.

Agricultural Resource-use Efficiency: Current modes of food production exerts enormous strain on natural resources such as water, land and fossil fuels, which are limited, scarce and irreplaceable. In this respect, Dr. Cortbaoui studies new practices and technologies for soil, energy and water conservation to secure sustainable food systems for many decades to come.

