

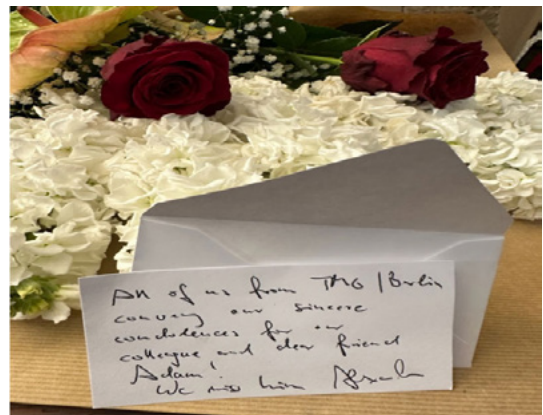
TRIBUTES FOR ADAM PRAKASH



It is with a profound sense of loss that we learned about the passing of a valued colleague and friend, Adam Prakash on Friday 7 April, 2023.

Adam worked as Senior Economics Adviser - Governance of Food Systems, where he was instrumental in bringing a computational lens to our work, exploring early warning and action systems in the context of transboundary pest/pathogen detection and control. While words will never adequately express the void left by his untimely passing, we have gathered the following reflections from colleagues who worked most closely with him at TMG Research gmbH.

We would like to express our deepest condolences to his family, friends and research colleagues.



Adam Prakash was a dear friend, very trusted colleague and a sparring partner for testing new ideas (he won most of the "fights"!)

We first met in 2008 when I was at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) when he supported my preparations for the High-Level-Summit on World Food Security and the Challenges of Climate Change and Bioenergy. The Summit gathered around 60 Heads of State and Government and more than 6,000 participants from all over the world. The preparatory process was a difficult and complex one and required careful scrutiny of all documents to ensure our facts and data were well grounded. I witnessed at close quarters one of Adam's many strengths: he was a Master of Statistics!

Years later, Adam joined us at TMG, working with our food systems research team for more than one year. His knowledge of agricultural, environmental, and economic statistics was unique. Without exaggeration, it can be said that he was one of the world's top experts in these fields. He had unparalleled technical skills in dealing with data and information, including the fields of machine learning and artificial intelligence. But he was not just a number cruncher. His ability to transform data into reliable information on up-coming threats and risks was mind blowing. This was evident in his passion for early warning systems, and his ideas on how to make the best use of terabytes of meteorological and climate data. In the last few months, Adam has been instrumental in advancing our work on how to apply digitalization for the benefit of people and the planet. He has also supported us to set up much needed databases for the nutritional value of European diets as our contribution to the Horizon Europe project, PLAN'EAT.

Adam and I regularly strategized about world food security and sustainability, and the role of digitalization in achieving these fundamental goals. We discussed how to further develop TMG as a home of reliable data and information to guide our ideas on linking global goals with local action. Adam helped us advance our ideas around the “Counter Current Principle” to answer the question: “how to initiate transformation towards sustainability” He proposed that this approach should be accompanied by different ways of interpreting and analyzing statistical information.

For these and many more reasons, Adam will be greatly missed. I will miss him greatly as an adviser, and a valued friend. My thoughts are with his family, especially his two daughters. I am grateful that I was able to say good bye to him on behalf of all his colleagues and friends in TMG.

Alexander Müller | **Founder & Managing Director**

The loss of Adam has created a profound void in our hearts. He was a colleague, teacher, mentor, and a dear friend who I could turn to for guidance, solace and laughter. Adam's razor-sharp wit and dark sense of humour always brought joy and levity to our interactions.

His unapologetic and strong-willed nature inspired our team to strive for greatness, as he always set high goals for himself and encouraged us to reach even further heights, setting a new standard of excellence for our work. Adam's intellect was truly remarkable. I have yet to encounter such a brilliant mind, capable of deftly tackling a wide range of complex and diverse topics, from insect adaptation and locust insecticides to floods, droughts, food crises, early warning systems and machine learning algorithms.

In one of his final emails, Adam playfully joked about preparing locust soup for his teenage daughters, remarking that “many flying insects taste like peanut butter” and that he could “fool them.” I had the honour of meeting his daughters and seeing him as a father. I recall observing their relationship with deep admiration. His daughters were his pride and joy, and his love and care for them knew no bounds.

Adam was a genuine source of inspiration to many, setting an example of hard work, dedication, and passion. His contributions to TMG were invaluable, and his absence will be sorely felt.

Elena Lazutkaite | **Research Associate – Food Systems**

I was shocked and heartbroken upon receiving the news of the untimely passing of Adam. I had the pleasure of first meeting Adam a decade ago in Rome. As a fresh university graduate starting her professional career, Adam was introduced to me as a magician when it came to diving into complex spreadsheets and economic assessments. Statistics and number crunching and working towards making this world a better place was his passion.

A decade later I got the privilege of working with him closely and getting to know him better. His bright mind, hard-working spirit, and dedication to what he did was extraordinary and inspirational. Knowledgeable and reliable, he was a much-valued member of our team, and his absence will be sorely felt each day as we try to continue his work and his legacy.

I will greatly miss his passion and enthusiasm, and the positivity he transferred to people around him.

Siranush Ghukasyan | Data Research Associate – Food Systems

It is with deep sadness that we mourn the sudden passing of Adam Prakash, a colleague and dear friend who dedicated much of his life to making the world a better place by finding insights and solutions from data. Adam's brilliance and tireless work ethic were truly awe-inspiring. His bold manner and deep passion, reflected in his voice, brought life and excitement to every online meeting. His colleagues could always rely on his exceptional ideas and ability to achieve more than we could have ever dreamed of. No challenge, no matter how big, seemed impossible with Adam's help. His spirit and legacy will live on in all of us who Adam has inspired so deeply. Our heartfelt condolences to Adam's daughters, family and friends. He will be greatly missed.

Olivia Riemer | Programme Lead - Food Systems Transformation & True Cost Accounting