

Ag Allies Conference

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Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Dr. Robert Johansson has been the Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Chief Economist since 2015. As Chief Economist, he is responsible for the Department's agricultural forecasts and projections and for advising the Secretary of Agriculture on economic implications of alternative programs, regulations, and legislative proposals.



Dr. Johansson also serves as the Chairman of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Board of Directors. Previously he has worked at USDA's Economic Research Service, at the Office of Management and Budget, the Congressional Budget Office, the White House Council of Economic Advisers, and served as USDA's first Acting Deputy Undersecretary of the Farm Production and Conservation mission area in 2017.

He received his B.A. in economics from Northwestern University and then served with the U.S. Peace Corps from 1990 to 1995. After returning to his home State of Minnesota, he received his Ph.D. in Agricultural & Applied Economics from the University of Minnesota in 2000. His research has spanned a wide range of issues, including biofuels policy, water quality and quantity policies, regulatory economics, food security, and regional modeling of agricultural systems.