



Official Participant

Report Template for EU Events at EXPO

Event Title :	Global Food Security Challenges	Date:	7-8 August 2015
Event Organiser:	E2/E5		
Event Target Group:	International agricultural economists, academic and agricultural stakeholders, NGO's		
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Event Concept

Global food security, the overarching theme of the Expo Milano 2015, remains high on the policy agenda. Still there is a growing difficulty for scientists and policy makers to keep up with the expanding volume of information about the challenge of meeting human food and nutritional needs while preserving natural resources.

This 2-day pre-ICAE event organised by the European Commission with the European Association of Agricultural Economists (EAAE) and the International Agricultural Trade Research Consortium (IATRC) at the margins of the Expo Milan 2015, gathered more than 30 high level speakers from academia, major international organisations and governments to provide a closer look at the various dimensions of food security.

Expected Outcomes

Based on recent food security scenario analysis, to help identify the main drivers that will impact food security in coming decades, in particular the role of productivity, technological breakthroughs, different agricultural models, regional developments, policies and other factors also beyond market fundamentals.

Main Conclusions

Important challenges remain, new are upcoming
 Population and income growth will put further pressure on our already constraint resource base. While availability of nutritious food remains an obstacle in some regions, the challenge of climate change will likely exacerbate the issue. Limitations in access to food mainly relate to persisting income disparities, while the food utilization challenge is linked to both under- and overnourishment. Stability largely depends on the resistance of the supply base to shocks, of which climate change is the most prominent.

Options for the future
 To tackle the issue of FNS, a food systems approach, with coherence across many domains, is advocated. At the demand side, the issues of nutrition and health are becoming increasingly central to the discussions. At the supply side, agricultural production has the challenging task to simultaneously provide private and public goods. A next Green Revolution has the potential to further increase productivity in the light of climate change while limiting additional stress on our resource base. Which production practices to stimulate remains an issue of debate. Different agricultural models based on different principles are emerging. While many of the solutions could be region-specific, the global interplay demands coordinated approaches, amongst others in the trade policy arena. Increased linkages between public, private research and practice are another prerequisite.

What follow-up actions emerged from this event?

- Publication of a Brief on Global Food Security Challenges, recapitulating the main messages from the conference – November 2015

- Presentation at the EU Agricultural Outlook Conference (Brussels, 1 and 2 December 2015) of the Global food security challenges, lessons from EXPO Milan conference, Franz Fischler, former Commissioner for Agriculture and Fisheries
- Other institutions will also use the material provided during and after the Conference