



The Agro-Food Industry as Engine for Growth and Wealth in Africa

18 - 20 June 2008 * FAO Headquarters * Rome, Italy

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**The AgriBusiness Forum 2008 is action-focused and aimed at practical solutions.
You enter the Forum – and we build your business bridge.**

1ST DAY – WEDNESDAY 18TH JUNE 2008

09.30 Registration

11.00 **Brief presentation of Participants – part I**

12.00 **Workshop: Innovation Strategy and Regional Innovation Systems**

Ilan Bijaoui, Director – International Innovation & Business Institute, Israel

Claudia Degli Esposti, Head of regional marketing unit – ERVET Emilia-Romagna, Italy

13.00 Networking Lunch

14.00 **Brief presentation of Participants – part II**

15.30 **Official Opening Session of the AgriBusiness Forum 2008**

Pierre Mathijsen, President EMRC, former Director General at the European Commission

James G. Butler, Deputy Director General – FAO, Italy

Mireille Guigaz, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of France to the FAO, Italy

Bart-Jan Krouwel, Managing Director – CSR, Rabobank, The Netherlands

Key Note Speaker: Dr Franz Fischler, EU Commissioner for Agriculture & Rural Development from 1995 to 2004 and Chairman of the Ecosocial Forum Europe

16.30 **Projects Incubator: Innovative Agro-Industry Projects from Africa**

EMRC AgriBusiness Award will be presented to the best project during the Gala Evening

17.00 **Networking place: One-to-One Sectoral Business Meetings**

19.30 Networking Dinner

2ND DAY – THURSDAY 19TH JUNE 2008

09.00 Welcome Opening of the AgriBusiness Forum's Technical Sessions

Idit Miller, VP & Managing Director EMRC

09.15 **Session I: PPP in Agriculture as a Platform for Growth and Wealth**

Moderator: *Geoffrey C. Mrema, Director, Rural Infrastructure and Agro-industries Division – FAO*

- The Role and Relevance of Public-Private Partnerships in Food and Agriculture
- Reinforcing the participation of the private sector and Private-Public cooperation: paving the way for effective exit strategies
- Challenges to face and lessons to be learnt
- The Millennium Villages Programme of the Earth Institute at Columbia University

Calvin Miller, Senior Officer for Rural Finance - FAO, Italy

Rustom Masalawala, Associate Director - The Earth Institute at Columbia University, USA

Nick Railston-Brown, Country Director - TechnoServe, Ghana

Sean de Cleene, VP Africa Programmes & Business development – YARA International, Norway

10.15 **PPP case:** Partnering to Benefit African Subsistence Farmers – the Monsanto case

Philippe Castaing, Vice-President Corporate Affairs for Europe & Africa – Monsanto, USA
Jennifer Ann Thomson, Professor of Microbiology - University of Cape Town, South Africa

10.45 Coffee Break

11.15 **Session II: Investing and Financing African Agro-Food Industry**

Moderator: *Charles Thijs, Managing Director - Cofip Enterprises, Belgium*

Part I: Responsible financing solutions to boost the agro-food industry in view of sustainable growth

Louis Bernard Ngassa-Batonga, Agribusiness Sector Leader for Sub-Saharan Africa – IFC (Int'l Finance Corporation), USA

Pierre van Hedel, Managing Director – Rabobank Foundation, The Netherlands

Daniel Kalbassou, General Director – Credit du Sahel, Cameroon

Part II: How can donors contribute to strengthen the agro-food sector?

Kevin Cleaver, Assistant President Prog. Mgt Devl. – IFAD (Int'l Fund for Agric. Dev.), Italy

Prabhu Pingali, Head Agr Policy & Statistics, Agr Dev. Prog. – Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, USA

Maurits de Koning, Senior Economist, Royal Tropical Institute – KIT, The Netherlands

Christoph Langenkamp, Task Leader Agriculture & Rural Policy - GDPRD (Global Donor Platform for Rural Development) and Ministry of Economic Cooperation & Development, Germany

Denise Wolter, Economist, Dev. Center – OECD (Org. for Economic Cooperation & Dev.), France

12.45 **Q&A session**

Participants are invited to debate with speakers

13.15 Networking Lunch

14.15 **Session III: Research and Innovation for a sustainable growth in agriculture: best practices and experiences learnt**

Monty Jones, Executive Secretary – FARA (Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa), Ghana

Desire Poquet, Vice-President – ANOPACI – Ivory Coast

Suresh K. Raina, Programme Leader – ICIPE (African Insect Science for Food & Health), Kenya

Ides De Willebois, Director Eastern & Southern Africa – IFAD, Italy

15.15 Coffee Break

15.45 **Session IV: Adding Value to Agricultural Products**

Part I: Making use of local raw material to replace imports and promote production of finished products in Africa – the Heineken case

Henk Knipscheer, Sr Managing Director Global Operations – Winrock International, USA

Mark E. van Rijn, Manager Company & Society - Heineken, The Netherlands

John Mbonu, General Manager, SLBL (Sierra Leone Brewery Ltd) – Heineken, Sierra Leone

Part II: Creating wealth and ensuring food security at grass root levels of the AgriBusiness sector in Africa – the Olam case

Moochikal D. Ramesh, President & Regional Head S&E Africa – Olam International, South Africa

Chris Brett, Senior VP Head of Corporate Social Responsibility – Olam International, South Africa
Robert Thornton, CEO - West African Enterprise Capital (WAEC), Ivory Coast

18.00 **Networking place: One-to-One Sectorial Business Meetings**

20.30 **Gala Evening:** Presentation of the **EMRC AGRIBUSINESS AWARDS 2008** to selected leaders of research, business and policy, in the presence of European and African Ministers and the business community

Special Guest: Youssou N'Dour, Performer & Founder of Birima Microfinance Project

3RD DAY – FRIDAY 20TH JUNE 2008

09.00 **Session V: Alternative Partnerships for Rural Development**

Part I: Enabling Rural Economy - using ICT and spatial data resources to build self-sustaining rural communities

Ghislain Gonzalez – Spot Image, Infoterra, UK
Walter Mayer, CEO – Progis Software, Austria

Part II: Developing 21st century agriculture in Africa - empowering agro-enterprise to enhance the economic and social wealth of communities – the Diageo case

John Harrod, Corporate Relations Director, Diageo Africa
Samuel Bello, Grains Supply Manager, Guinness Nigeria
Lawrence Maina, Agricultural Manager, East African Maltings - Uganda

11.00 Coffee Break

Part III: Making the private sector grow: innovative funds for SMEs

Hugh Scott, CEO – Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund (AECF), Dep. For Int'l Dev. (DFID), UK
Jon Maguire, CEO – Africa Invest, UK & Malawi

Part IV: Addressing major health challenges in the agricultural sector: providing services communities through public private partnership programmes with food producers, international agencies and NGOs

Moderator: Michel Lavollay, Senior Advisor on Health (HIV-Malaria-TB), Belgium
Raphael Agneroh, Manager - Agence Nationale de Développement Rural, Côte d'Ivoire
Robin Landis Programme Adviser HIV/AIDS Service – WFP, Italy
Bradley Buck, Director Business & Practice Expansion, Intl Development, Land O'Lakes Inc., USA

13.15 **Closure of the Forum & final remarks**

Presentation of the conclusions and recommendations from the experts and delegates

13.45 Networking Lunch

14.45 Mini-Tour of Rome (Saint Peter – Coliseum – Piazza di Spagna – and a lot more...)

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