



Editorial

The fifth FFA, presented in these pages, was an opportunity to discuss, with high profile panellists and a very large audience, the major challenge of our time: how to increase production by 70% to feed 9 billion people, in a context of resources scarcity of soil and water, while coping with climate change. For Franz FISCHLER, the stakes are high and its geopolitical dimension cannot be ignored. The world needs to produce more from less, and the new CAP must help Europe play a leadership role in this area. Brazil's spectacular example as a net agricultural exporter has shown us that sustainable solutions exist, with regards to resources, through research and innovation. Europe needs to develop its R & D, because we already import agricultural products from over 45 million hectares outside the EU! The current CAP reform does not seem to take into account this parameter.

Other amazing examples were presented, such as that of 'Neorurale', offering new solutions based on the re-use of nutrients, thus reducing our dependence on fertilizer imports from foreign countries, while providing a major environmental service. The Vice-Presidents of Deutz Fahr and Yara also demonstrated their desire to increase performance wherever possible. Similarly our initiative, the Pollinator Network initiative - PNi, is a contribution to increasing productivity whilst enhancing biodiversity; the living stand made by Syngenta attracted the interest of many guests, including the Commissioner for Agriculture.

Our ambition is to fully reconcile production and the environment, a message that many Forum participants understood. Satellite conferences planned in Spain, France, Czech Republic and Croatia, will continue these discussions and you will be informed via the FFA website.

Thierry de l'ESCAILLE
Secretary General



FFA2012 called for ambitious EU agricultural policy fit for the 21st century

On the 27th of March, the Forum for the Future of Agriculture (FFA) celebrated its fifth anniversary with a call for the EU to put in place an ambitious new agriculture policy fit for the 21st century. The new Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) must enable Europe to make an effective contribution to food and environmental security at home and abroad. This means greater focus on knowledge transfer and innovation in farm technology and practices as well as incentivising farmers to provide the public goods and services Europe needs.



➤ **FFA2012 called for ambitious EU agricultural policy fit for the 21st century**

Speakers, including representatives from European Commission, European Parliament, European Council, as well as across the food and farming chain, NGOs, and civil society addressed more than 1,400 delegates. The floor was also given to the younger generation who shared their visions for the future of agriculture.

Delegates welcomed several aspects of the Commission's CAP reform proposal:

- a fairer sharing of rewards throughout the food chain
- the greening of Pillar 1 support
- promoting water savings
- tackling price volatility
- simplification for small farmers
- streamlining of cross-compliance rules
- proposed doubling of the R&D budget for agriculture and the innovation partnerships

But they expressed concern about the vagueness, lack of ambition and direction of some elements:

- targeting of support could have a negative impact on productivity, sustainability and simplification
- redistribution of direct aid could adversely affect incentives to increase productivity and the environmental and economic sustainability of agricultural production
- vagueness of the new risk management tool kit and its ex-post approach with no reflection as regards preventive treatment of risk

Participants called for:

- more coherence between Pillar 1 and Pillar 2
- taking better account of the European Parliament (DESS and LYON reports) advocating incentives for additional public goods production by farmers
- targeted, applied research and innovation for sustainable intensification of production, decoupling farm production from resource use
- reduction of regulatory blockers which prevent farmers and growers from taking up more disease, drought resistant and healthier high quality products preserving the environment
- more investment in knowledge transfer, education, training
- better extension services to help farmers increase both competitiveness and sustainability

About FFA

The annual Forum is an initiative of the European Landowners' Organization (ELO) and Syngenta. It brings together a diverse range of stakeholders to catalyze thinking on the way European agriculture needs to respond to the major challenges that it faces in delivering food and environmental security. The Forum was created in 2008 in response to a belief that many EU policies impacting on

agriculture are focused on solving yesterday's problems, such as overproduction, and do not deal with the new challenges and market opportunities.

Challenges include feeding a growing world population, demand for a higher quality diet, increased demand for renewable sources of energy and changing weather patterns. With limited arable land available, there is a need to sustainably maximize production from that already under cultivation.

Below we have the pleasure to present the key points of the six sessions which covered this years' Forum. The discussions from the Brussels meeting will be pursue during FFA regional events.

To follow up dates and venues or watch all sessions and additional materials please visit the site: www.forumforagriculture.com

Improving Food Security: Geo-technology and global governance.



Parag KHANNA

The geostrategic considerations led the organisers to invite one of the leading voices on global affairs, Parag KHANNA, Director of the Hybrid Reality Institute, a research and advisory group focused on human-technology co-evolution. Mr KHANNA was US President Barack OBAMA's foreign policy advisor during his first election campaign, and has just published a book entitled "How to Run the World".

He said: *"The food crises (...) is a complex interrelationship, when North is scared of terrorism, while the South needs more food security and fair trade. (...) I do believe we have entered a new age which requires a new term: geo-technology, understood as a multi-actor system. (...) The events of the past year have taught us that the global food system is nothing less than a foundation of geopolitical stability - or instability. We*

have to devote all our scientific, technological and policy tools to ensuring food security for a growing planet. (...) The private sector- including industries and NGOs- may be more willing to share technology than governments. This would be a 'win-win' for the world. The market for technology is too large for us to think of winners and losers."

He concluded by highlighting the interlinkages between the global economy and the fragile global ecosystem – where making them both more resilient can only happen through local and regional measures. He noted that the European Union can be an inspiration on how to manage a balance between economic growth, social security and environment protection, in the world of 'new diplomacy'.

He engaged in a discussion with Christopher DELGADO, Strategy and Policy Adviser for Agriculture and Rural development, World Bank and Frans van DEALE, Head of Cabinet to the President of the European Council. Mr DELGADO pointed out that even if trade is seen as being part of the solution to improving food security, 85% of food is still produced and consumed in the same country. Mr van DEALE remarked that the global multilateral systems are not in crises but are mutating- as in the EU's case. Furthermore, technology is not difficult to transfer, but it is more about opening the markets, as shown in the WTO Doha round.

Price volatility, supply, isolation, and food reserves were also tackled as urgent issues- in a world lacking trust in global governance and political distraction.



Brazil's global agricultural strategy for food and the environment



Mauricio Antonio LOPES

The 1st session was devoted to the recent experience of Brazil which became recently the 6th world economy. The keynote was delivered by Mauricio Antonio LOPES who as Executive-President of the Brazilian Agricultural Research Association (EMBRAPA) has experienced Brazil's impressive change from a country that was once food insecure to one of the largest food exporters in the world. He gave his insight into how that change has been driven, and the importance of focusing on research and development in the agricultural sector. He highlighted the success story of Brazilian agriculture: "We have been able to combine public policies, institutional building, human resource development and research and innovation to accelerate our competitiveness in agriculture. Because of this, Brazil has ensured its food security in less than 40 years. Also, it is impressive how we advanced towards more sustainable systems. Today we realize that "Green Economy" & "Economic Growth" are not necessarily antagonists, but complementary in the process of development."

Responses were given by Tony LONG, Di-

rector General of the European Office, WWF; Didier NEDELEC, Director General for Grain Market, InVivo; Pekka PESONEN, Secretary General, COPA-COGECA; José Manuel SILVA-RODRIGUEZ, Director General for Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission. Being impressed by the changes adopted in the approach by the Brazilian government to maintain the biodiversity "heritage", they all underlined the need to combine various solutions to achieve a path to a more sustainable future, but also keeping in mind its economic sustainability. More emphasis for research and innovation, sharing the experience and more relationship – especially with Africa- were mentioned. The role of the private sector, family farming, management of stocks and forestry code were also debate with the public.

The final question was devoted to the issue of globalisation – for production, price volatility and availability of natural resources.

The figures presented below are the voting results of the FFA participants.



For a more innovative EU agriculture and food sector.



Allen HERSHKOWITZ

The second session, introduced by Deputy Director General for Research Rudolf STROHMEIER, who presented the Commission's position on Innovation and science to make EU agriculture more innovative, followed by a discussion of a distinguished panel of experts : John ATKIN, CEO, Syngenta; Francesco CAROZZA, Vice Chairman, Same Deutz-Frahr and Allen HERSHKOWITZ, Senior Scientist, Natural Resources Defence Council (NRDC).

The key note speaker, R.STROHMEIER spoke about the need to address global challenges with new targeted research tools which ought to be better financed and promoted. A better synergy and optimisation between Research and the CAP will enable the development of a sustainable agricultural system. New types of integration and thinking are needed in various fields including livestock systems, water use, soil nutrients, use of biotechnology or promotion of organic farming, bio refineries, etc; but also in areas as food markets, rural development, and supply chains. To tackle those issues, a Europe 2020 flagship initiative, aimed at securing Europe's global competitiveness, was proposed under the name Horizon 2020: being a financial instrument implementing the Innovation Union to be run from 2014 to 2020, with an €80 billion budget, with one of six sub-programme dedicated to food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bio-economy. He also mentioned the importance of the development of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) with the Euro-

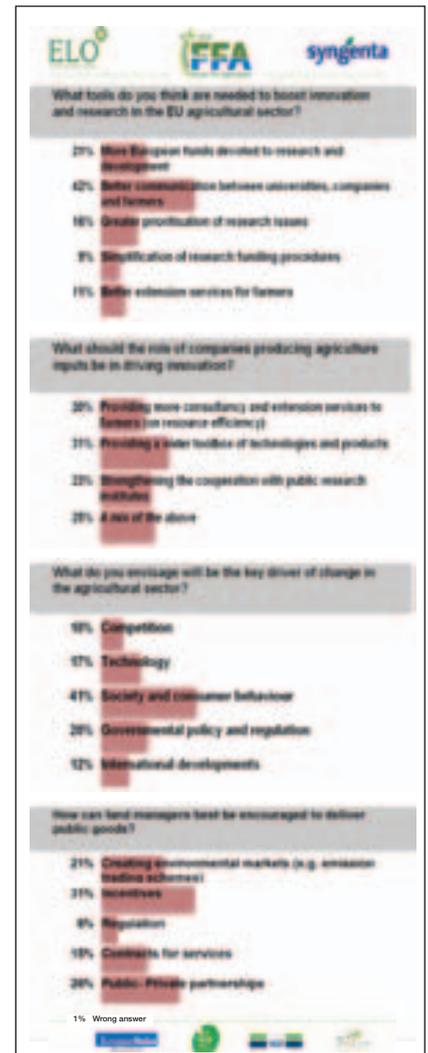
pean Commission acting as facilitator. Research will allow new roles to farmers and farming communities in delivering public goods such as food security or energy supply, enabling to cover the entire food value chain.

John ATKIN, Chief Operating Officer at Syngenta and founding partner of FFA, commented: "Today, people rightly talk about agriculture sustainability in economic, social, and environmental terms. This was not the case five years ago. However, Europe's excessively cautious approach to farm technologies is unnecessary and acts as a barrier to sustainably closing the productivity gap. The EU and Member States must make a choice – are we going to just talk about innovation or will we really act to ensure that innovation gets into the hands of farmers who need it to grow more, high quality and affordable food, using fewer natural resource?" F.CAROZZA underlined the need for more self-confidence in the EU, by delivering best varieties and high quality products. He regretted that the investments done

by the equipment sector in R&D on energy input – especially in mitigation of Climate Change – are not directly 'felt' by the farmer. A. HERSHKOWITZ focused on the definition of 'sustainability' in the world with a growing population. He emphasised the need to tackle both production and consumption side issues, as well as the risks to use 21st century biotechnology solutions in the developing world or misplaced subsidies (OECD report).

The discussion was pursued around a 'clash of perspectives' – sustainability as watch word versus maximisation of efficiency. All panellists underlined the need for an open debate on the targets of agriculture research in the EU and the rest of the world.

The figures presented below are the voting results of the FFA participants.





Paolo de CASTRO, Simon COVENEY, Dacian CIOLOȘ, Stephen SACKUR

CAP reform: where next.

The 3rd session was devoted to the CAP reform. It was introduced by the keynote speech of the Commissioner Dacian CIOLOȘ, and followed by presentations by European Parliament Chairman of the Committee for Agriculture and Rural development, Paolo de CASTRO, and Irish Minister for Agriculture, Marine and Food, Simon COVENEY, who will hold the Council's Presidency at the time where most likely the decision on the CAP reform will be taken. All three reflected on and discussed the future priorities and expectations regarding the CAP, and particularly how farm and rural support can be adapted to new objectives and realities.

Commissioner CIOLOȘ spoke about how to reconcile the expectations of the markets and of society, opening a new path for Europe and its farmers. Mr CIOLOȘ said, 'Farmers need a clear line for the coming years, also at budgetary level. They need a clear line at political level, with a reform which shows the way. We must not sell ideological illusions. On the contrary, we must offer instruments on which we are capable of finding a consensus among 27 Member States. We must find instruments which can be effective, taking account of reality and today's challenges.

(...)The CAP has to be understood by citizens and taxpayers. I do not know whether you have already tried to explain the principles of decoupling or historic rights to someone who hasn't been 'initiated' in the CAP. It is a difficult task. (...) The second problem is that of the means of action. As I have said, we have dismantled a certain vision of framed market management. This had to be done. We must rethink the role of public authorities, make our instruments coherent again, particularly direct payments, and review the position of professional operators, particularly as regards market management. The professionals must have the means to face up to markets sustainably. European agriculture needs to be enabled to perform its main function of producing food. At the same time, it must not forget its wider services to society – the management of natural resources and the economic development of rural communities."

Paolo de CASTRO underlined the responsibility and the need to be as fast as possible, facing with the new and challenging co-decision procedure in which MEPs, for the first time, have equal say on farm policy. He stressed the need to balance competitiveness and sustainability (especially greening) and protect farmer incomes

(risk management, market and price volatility), both in the agricultural and the forestry sectors. The debate will be pursued after the European Parliament's rapporteurs will present their "vision" for the CAP reform policy in June.

Minister COVENEY called on all three EU institutions to work on a 'twin track' towards a timely deal, as the new rules should be in place by January 2014. He acknowledged that sustainable intensification of food production, responsible stewardship of the environment and maintenance of a developing rural economy should be achieved keeping in mind new, smart and green growth, to enhance economic, environmental and social dimension of the CAP. The reform process should be reinforced, but a 'one size fits all' approach throughout the EU wouldn't be the best solution. He underlined that "Ireland will make every effort to secure an agreement on the CAP reform during its Presidency of the EU next year."

All panellists highlighted that the future CAP, in order to remain a common policy, should provide solutions both for sectors and regions.

Reconciling productive agriculture with the environment: closing the loop.

This session dealt with the sustainability aspects of the CAP reform. Janez POTOČNIK, the European Commissioner for the Environment provided his view about future policy to ensure greater protection of the environment alongside a more productive agriculture.

He stated: „Agriculture is not just the production of food, and it is challenged not just by the environment, but also by offers of shortcuts to higher production even when such higher production is not sustainable.

I believe that a true partnership between agriculture and the environment is possible and that it is possible to reconcile productive agriculture with sustainable and efficient use of natural resources. My and the Commission's answer to this lies in our attempt to green the CAP, and for this, we proposed the three greening measures that are now on the table and respond to the very challenges of water, biodiversity, land use, soil protection and reduced pollution burden. These greening measures - protection of permanent pasture, crop diversification and ecological focus areas - are designed with the idea of sustainable agriculture and environmental protection at their very heart. (...) On top of water and biodiversity as two key elements for food production, another two complementary factors should be added in view to increase agriculture productivity and its output in a sustainable manner: improved knowledge base and its successful transfer into practice; and reducing of food waste.

(...) Environment and agriculture can no longer be separated. They need to walk hand in hand. The greening of the CAP represents a further coming together of environmental and agricultural interests.

Today it is no longer a matter of questioning whether productive agriculture and the environment can walk hand in hand. It is about aligning existing policies, closing the loop and placing the environment at the heart of agricultural



Janez POTOČNIK

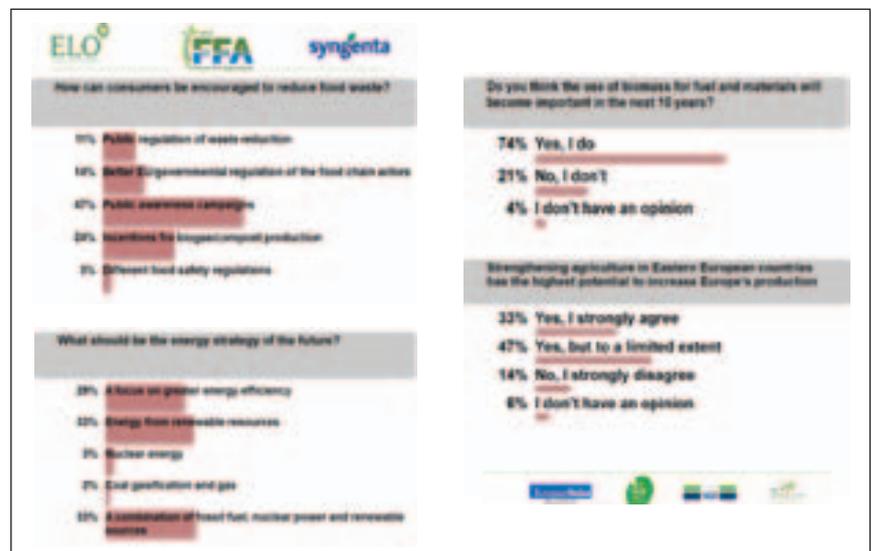
policy. And thank farmers, also by financially rewarding them for helping us deliver a public good which is healthy and sustainable environment. (...)

He engaged in a discussion with a panel of experts including Friedrich BARTH, Vice Chairman, European Water Partnership; Stefano BOCCHI, Professor in Agronomy and Cropping Systems, University of Milan, Ariel BRUNNER, Head of EU policies, Birdlife International and Egil HOGNA, Senior Vice President, Head of Downstream, Yara International ASA. The discussion concentrated around the

tremendous challenge: how to produce more with less in a sustainable way, with the use of water as one of the examples.

Share of best practices in applying nutrients were also mentioned. The new concept of 'food sovereignty', as well as the change of the agro-ecology paradigm, were presented. The issue of responsibility, long term vision and mutual trust was enhanced in all actions to be undertaken.

The figures presented below are the voting results of the FFA participants.





Gabriele SACCHETTINI, Louise KNOPS, Slavina GEORGIEVA, Fritz van EVERDINGEN, Mémona HINTERMANN, Franz FISCHLER

The Young vision- how does the future generation see food and environmental security.

The Forum ended with a session dedicated to the next generation, who are involved in agriculture, and will be directly affected by the challenges of the future since they will implement the changes we seek to address today.

In this panel Franz FISCHLER asked Slavina GEORGIEVA, PHD Candidate, Thought for Food; Louise KNOPS, Centre for European Policy Studies and Research assistant for the European Greens; Gabriele SACCHETTINI, PHD Student, OPERA Research studies; Fritz van EVERDINGEN, Farmer, member of Young Friends of the Countryside about their vision as future caretakers of the land.

Several questions raised during this session focused on :

- productivity, environment and resource efficiency: in the future, how can the European agricultural sector contribute to global food security; what will be expected from farmers in the future: high quality food or cheap

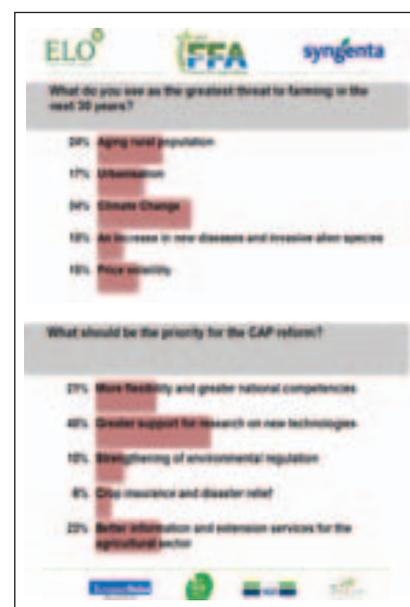
food; what will be the key driver of change in the agricultural sector in the EU: will it be the economy, technology, society, consumer behaviour, governmental policy or something completely different.

- energy & innovation: the past has shown that the rising price of oil leads directly to an increase in food prices and food insecurity, today with some analysts predicting the price will effectively double to 200\$ per barrel what could be done to reduce oil price provoking food insecurity, is it possible to “decouple” oil prices from food prices; what does a high-tech agricultural sector mean twenty years from now; is sustainable intensification of farming possible.
- rural development policy : how can agriculture contribute in new ways to economic growth; how aging and growing population will affect the evolution of our rural areas; does the CAP respond to future demand and supply conditions in the light of expected demographic and climatic developments.

All panellists underlined the need to bet-

ter explain to European consumers their daily basis choices on the evolution of the agricultural sector.

The figures presented below are the voting results of the FFA participants.





Franz FISCHLER

Agriculture in Europe has a future if we give it a future - conclusions of the conference by Franz FISCHLER, FFA Chairman.

The key word in this 2012 FFA conference has been complexity and this will continue in the future given that agriculture cannot be seen as a standalone policy: it should be an integral part of security, environmental, health, climate, and economic policy and in the future, these policies all need to ingrate agriculture into their strategy. The EU2020 strategy which doesn't mention agriculture should therefore be seen as a failure to understand this message.

This conference has dealt with this complexity in agriculture and has tried to offer solutions. A key message has been the need to optimise sustainability and competitiveness across the whole food chain and not to focus on the primary sector alone. This will involve a paradigm shift from producing more, to producing more smartly, as well as widening our horizons to engage with policies and opportunities outside of the CAP. Europe must also consider what role it wishes to play in contributing to global food security. Should we limit our role to that of

mere producer of food? Or instead look to how we can transfer our technologies to help other regions produce more? We also need to decide which technologies and regions are best suited and able to produce more from less. Brazil has shown us that tropical and sub-tropical regions are also well-placed to produce efficiently, but so will be Northern regions such as Russia and Canada in the future. As a net exporter of just one commodity (wheat), should Europe concentrate on making a different sort of contribution to global food security? Europe's key strength and competitive

advantage is in the processing and logistics sector and as a producer of high quality produce, therefore, shouldn't we also look to how we can best transfer these technologies and systems to other parts of the world? Perhaps we should also consider how to transfer democracy, an element which is sadly missing in many parts of the world most grievously affected by food security.

On the CAP, we have discussed how to get more output with less input. We have discussed the strategy behind the new leg-

islative proposal and have raised some important questions: what does it mean to sustainably intensify our production? What is a knowledge-based agricultural sector in reality? What are the true production-chain policies which can support improvements in the food chain? Is our Rural Development Policy (RDP) a real RDP or merely another way to support farmers and should we broaden this approach? Stephen SACKUR also raised the question of where the most profound change in agricultural policy should come from. However, a clear cut answer to that question has not been found today so that discussion should continue.

Looking at Commissioner CIOLOȘ' proposals for the new CAP we see many positive elements such as the natural disaster package which is a real innovation compared to the existing framework. We also have seen positive signals supporting innovation, small farmers and young farmers. However, regarding the difficult question of price volatility we find uncertainty

and lack of a clear strategy. If, as the proposal posits, we transfer the competence to manage volatility to the Commission in the case of a crisis, do we not adopt a merely defensive approach? Should we really wait for a crisis to be upon us before searching for a solution? Or is it not better to define a more proactive system to deal with the breakdown of markets in the future?

Interestingly, the conference has not touched on the issue of red tape and simplification which is for me still a concern. It is not enough that we say 30% of Europe's farmers will now benefit from a simplified small farmer scheme? More work needs to be done in this area. We must also engage with the social dimension of the CAP which has historically been a basis of this policy. To be sure, we won't be able to explain to the general public in the future the necessity of direct support without taking into account social questions which include the question of agricultural incomes. This basis for the CAP will remain

valid for as long as farm incomes are lower than average worker incomes by 30% in the EU as they are today. We should link this debate to the one surrounding the future of the EU structural policy. If we move to larger farm sizes, we can't escape the problem of farm labourers leaving this sector and needing alternative employment. Can we be sure to generate such work in peripheral rural regions? In order to do so, these policies need to be better linked.

Finally, we must not reduce the CAP to a discussion on whether or not 7% is the correct figure for the planned ecological focus areas. It may be a holy figure but it has no scientific basis neither is it based on any in-depth impact assessment. As a conclusion, the worst idea we could have would be to quit the CAP, instead we must embrace it. Agriculture in Europe has a future if we give it a future. Thanks to the speakers, panellists and organisers!





Thierry de l'ESCAILLE, Corrado PIRZIO-BIROLI, Franz FISCHLER, Alain-Dominique QUINTART

Interview with representatives of founding parties of the Forum for the Future of Agriculture (FFA)

What is the purpose of the Forum for Agriculture (FFA)?

Alain-Dominique QUINTART (ADQ), Director EU Policies for Syngenta: The purpose of the Forum is to stimulate open discussions on the future of European and global agriculture, and assess what should, and what can, be achieved over time, attaching equal weight to two challenges: food security and environmental security. The FFA provides an excellent opportunity to demonstrate that sustainable intensive agriculture can be achieved.

Corrado PIRZIO-BIROLI (CPB), ELO President, Vice-Chairman of RISE Foundation: One important purpose of the Forum is to bring together land managers, environmentalists, academia, EU institutions and all other stakeholders in productive and sustainable agriculture. We want to show to land managers that they need to devote bigger attention to

produce public goods beyond food and fibre, to environmentalists that the farmer needs to be economically and socially sustainable, and to political decision makers that all this cannot just happen by itself, but requires appropriate strategies, structures, means and governance. It requires also cooperation among all interested stakeholders and the involvement of public utilities and the private non-agricultural sector as well.

Thierry de l'ESCAILLE (TDE), ELO Secretary General: Land managers are the best custodians of rural areas which are the bedrock of the food production system in Europe. European farmers already do a great deal to preserve soil, water and biodiversity. But higher environmental standards will need to be respected by all farmers whilst undertaking very different farming practices across the EU. Our Forum is one of the best places to pursue discussions and take actions around those topics.

Why did the ELO and Syngenta decide to create this forum?

ADQ: One of the FFA's main attributes is

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that it combines the industry strengths of Syngenta with a stakeholder representative (ELO), something which is unique in the area of agriculture.

CPB: None of the existing conferences provided the necessary critical mass of participating decision-makers in agriculture, rural development and the environment, leaving a gap that we felt was worth filling. The massive response in the growing number of participants, which passed 1,400 this year, proves that our idea was timely.

TDE: When one looks at the amount of events that have been dealing with the CAP, you notice that none have been looking at it with a broad point of view, tackling what we consider as the real issue for European agriculture: shall we be able to feed the world or at least ourselves with at the same time improving the quality of the environment?

Why this particular focus for this year's meeting?

ADQ: For this year's FFA we decided to focus on resource efficiency, innovation and governance. In terms of resource efficiency we looked at how we can grow more from less. We tried to answer the question of how innovation in agriculture can be effectively encouraged and



utilized. With regards to governance, we focused on the current reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). There was also a case study on Brazil, which highlighted the lessons to be learnt for European agriculture.

CPB: The main focus was a look into the future, taking Brazil as an example of tremendous progress in agricultural productivity and sustainability, and also, more generally, a discussion on R&D, technology, and resource efficiency, which had been neglected in the past.

TDE: This year we are putting the focus on the need for research and development at the EU level. In comparison with the situation in Brazil one may say that Europeans are not ambitious enough and they seem to be traumatized with the way research and development is treated, for example GM research. When it goes to Research and Development in agriculture often hold negative connotations, however, when it is in the context of pharmaceuticals, nobody express any concerns as the technology is perceived as useful. But we have made very little progress in improving our yields for the last twelve years, therefore it is becoming urgent to put money into research. In the FFA sub-regional events to come this year in Czech Republic, Aix en Provence, Madrid, and even in Washington, we'll be discussing this issue with the local and regional perspective, among other key issues for the agricultural sector.

If you had desired outcomes following this year's meeting, what would they be?

ADQ: It would be three outcomes:

1. the realization that technology can make a difference in bringing solutions to the challenge of increasing food demand in a constrained world, as demonstrated by the case study on Brazil;
2. the recognition that innovation in agriculture, that is so much talked about these days in Brussels, needs to have a proper regulatory framework which enables farmers to have access to innovation;
3. and that the importance of privately funded research is recognized in shaping the direction of innovation in agriculture.

CPB: The need to boost applied research with direct relevance to increasing productivity as well as sustainability, and to discuss necessary improvements in the Commission's CAP reform proposals in both respects. To that effect, the FFA has brought key players from the European Parliament, Commission and Council around the same table at a crucial time for reform.

TDE: I would underline the need for the acceptance of technology, knowing that access to the right technology can make a difference in food and environment security.



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Strong interest and endorsement at FFA for Pollinator Network initiative (PNi) and Multifunctional Landscapes.



As hosts of the Forum for the Future of Agriculture (FFA), ELO and Syngenta took the opportunity to promote those both initiatives. The message was visualized by Syngenta's impressive multifunctional landscapes exhibition, which effectively brought the farm to Brussels and received strong endorsement from speakers and delegates alike. During the event various ELO members and members of the EU commission signed up for a field day to learn more on Multifunctional Landscapes and PNi.

Key points on how to create multifunctional benefits from field margins.

Multifunctional Landscapes can deliver a sustainable use of resources to provide safe, healthy and affordable food. Syngenta's field margins approach aims to identify and solve multifunctional landscape issues in a practical manner. Our goal is to promote economically viable intensive agriculture that demonstrates that modern farming and environmental management can coexist in the same field. Building on the success of Operation Pollinator in 13 European countries, the concept of multi-functional field margins integrates the protection of water and soil, together with the enhancement of biodiversity. Field margins play a crucial role for protecting soil and water and to

enhance biodiversity on farms. Due to climate change, a growing world population, limited productive agricultural land and a scarcity of natural resources, sustainable intensive agriculture is essential for maintaining a healthy natural environment and meeting the needs of a growing global food demand. Today, it is possible to balance competitive farming with biodiversity conservation and the protection of natural resources. Establishing multi-functional field margins can:

- Significantly increase biodiversity
 - Improve yields from better pollination
 - Deliver soil and water protection measures
 - Qualify for additional environmental payments
 - Develop strong links with retailers
- Syngenta's multi-functional field margins help to meet future EU policy goals and objectives for a retailer's Corporate Social Responsibility plans to demonstrate good governance of food supplies.

Key points on Pollinator Network initiative (PNi).

The Pollinator Network initiative aims to boost the number of pollinating insects, such as bumble bees, solitary bees, hoverflies and butterflies by creating essential habitats on field margins and in low productive areas. This objective can provide for multiple benefits to farmers and land managers in helping them to comply with the "greening" requirements included in the new CAP proposal.

ELO in collaboration with Syngenta organised the 1st Workshop of the Pollinator Network initiative (PNi) dedicated to the implementation of multifunctional field margins/pollinator strips in the EU on the 2nd of March 2012, in Brussels at ELO office.

For their participation, the potential members of the PNi were provided with an overall introduction of the project and training on the field including agronomic advices from an expert to improve their management on private estates. The Workshop of the 2nd of March is the result of a very first step of series of workshops that are planned in 2012 to give the opportunity to inspire farmers that show some interest for the field margins and pollinator strips. They will have the opportunity through various training sessions to learn what are the impacts and the outcomes of the implementation of such greening measures for agriculture, biodiversity and farm profitability.

Thierry de l'ESCAILLE, Secretary General, ELO, opened the workshop by enhancing the importance of such an initiative and gave the floor to Patrick WEISS, Syngenta, who presented the project. Geoff COATES, Syngenta, introduced to the participants the variety of options that farmers could have on their own field. The workshop was followed by a field trip to the Leefdaal Estate, which is managed by Agriland to showcase how field margins are realized in practice. Geoff Coates, the expert for habitat design on commercial farms from Syngenta explained the participants how to implement and how to manage their field margins in order to contribute to their field's biodiversity.

**Delphine DUPEUX, ELO
Patrick WEISS, Syngenta**

To find more information on field margins please follow the link:
http://www.europeanlandowners.org/files/pdf/2011/Field%20Margins/LR_02340_Field%20Margins%20Newsletter_NOV2011.pdf

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EVOLVING AGRICULTURE.

Land and soil Management Award 2011/12



Thierry de l'ESCAILLE, John ATKIN, Markus DANNER, Pia BUCELLA, Wolfgang ANGERINGER, prof. Winfried BLUM

The European Landowner's Organization (ELO) under the patronage of Commissioner for the Environment Janez POTOČNIK, the auspices of the European Commission (DG Environment and the Joint Research Centre), in association with the BOKU and Ljubljana Universities and Syngenta International had the pleasure to award the "Land and soil Management Award" at the occasion of the 5th Forum for Agriculture. The award was bestowed to Bio Austria due to its certified course "soil practitioner" for crop and grassland farmers.

Land and soil management and its threads to nature and environment are mainly dependent on the people who work with them. Thus Bio Austria aims to encourage farmers to altercate and learn with the soil, and share their experiences, offering special courses on soil and nutrient properties. They assist farmers to advance methods in a closed loop recycling management and soil fertility. The focus of the certified course "soil practitioner" for crop and grassland farmers is located in soil cultivation and

rotation, processing of organic fertilizers, protective soil management and formation of soil humus. The principle of a closed substance cycle within the farm by the means of farm-own organic fertilizer and rotating crops is always implied. Certified soil practitioners are multipliers for good soil management practise and

can advise colleagues and other interested people at different workshops and field observations.

Bio Austria received the prize of €5000 and a diploma, recognizing management practices that contribute to soil protection and improvement of environmental quality, and in particular, to mitigating threats to the natural environment. The award also recognizes the economic, social and environmental impact of the initiative, an initiative that is innovative, original and transferable.

During the ceremony Thierry de l'ESCAILLE (ELO Secretary General) and John ATKIN (Chief Operating Officer, Syngenta Crop Protection) introduced the award, which was followed by a few words from Prof. Winfried BLUM (President of the Jury, from BOKU University of Vienna) and the Director of the Nature, Biodiversity and Land Use Directorate, Pia BUCELLA, who was asked to give the award to Wolfgang ANGERINGER and Markus DANNER, with an audience of approximately 300 participants.

Ana ROCHA, ELO

ELO welcomes new projects which fit the criteria and contribute to mitigating the threats that European soils face.

The application, which you can find on the ELO's website, should be submitted directly by a European physical or legal person or a public institution working in the field of land use or land management, or indirectly through organizations.

It must contain the name of the project, the mail address (with zip code), the phone number and E-mail address, an executive summary (maximum 1 page) and the main document, describing the achievements presented for award (maximum 20 pages).

For this year prize, the applications should be sent before the **30 November 2012**. Any requests for application or further information may be submitted to the Awards Coordinator of ELO by post or mail at forest@elo.org

The FFA honours a Wildlife Estates Label Military Camp, Marche-en-Famene



Jean-Marc FOLIE (game keeper), Pierre-Paul BAUCHAU (bidder), Lieutenant-Colonel Luc DELHOUX BAM (representative of the owner), Pia BUCELLA, Director, DG Environment, European Commission, Thierry de l'ESCAILLE, Secretary General of ELO, Manuel de TILLESSE, DNF representative (Walloon Region), Commandant Jean-Louis BOUDART (Hunting advisor for the Army)

to ensure the maintenance of the conservation status of habitats and species in the camp while continuing military activities in the field.

Thierry de l'ESCAILLE, CEO of the ELO as well as Pia BUCELLA, Director at DG Environment, European Commission welcomed the efforts made on this estate to promote biodiversity, especially in forests. Already implicated in a LIFE project, the camp is committed to protect ground nesting birds and specific biotopes while regulating hunting activities. Both members of the Jury emphasized the collaborative approach that managers have privileged in involving all stakeholders in the management of the camp.

For more information please visit the site www.wildlife-estates.eu or contact us by e-mail: nature@elo.org

Delphine DUPEUX, ELO

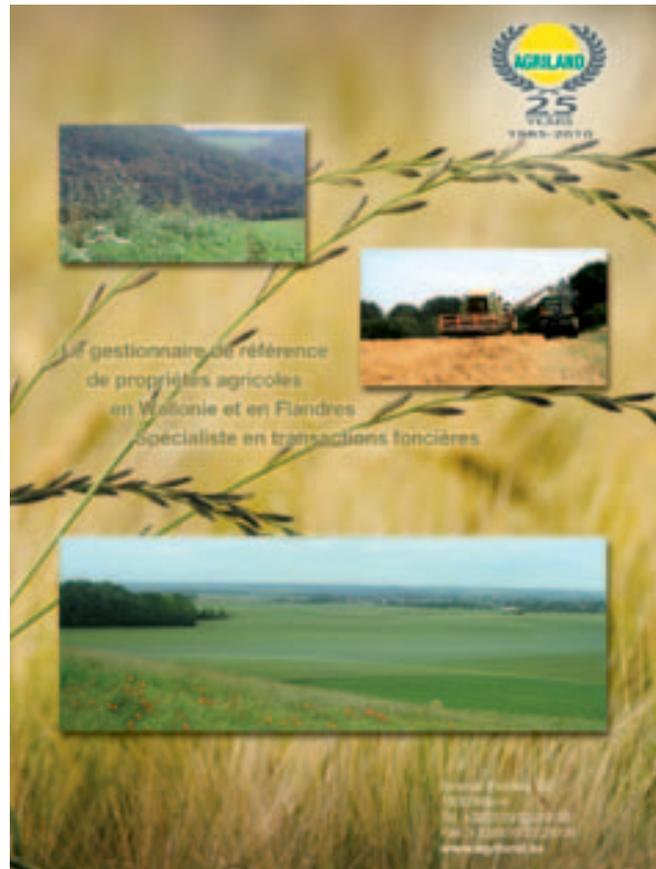
The Forum for the Future of Agriculture (FFA) is a unique opportunity to gather all key stakeholders in the field of agriculture and environment to showcase best practices such as the Wildlife Estates Label.

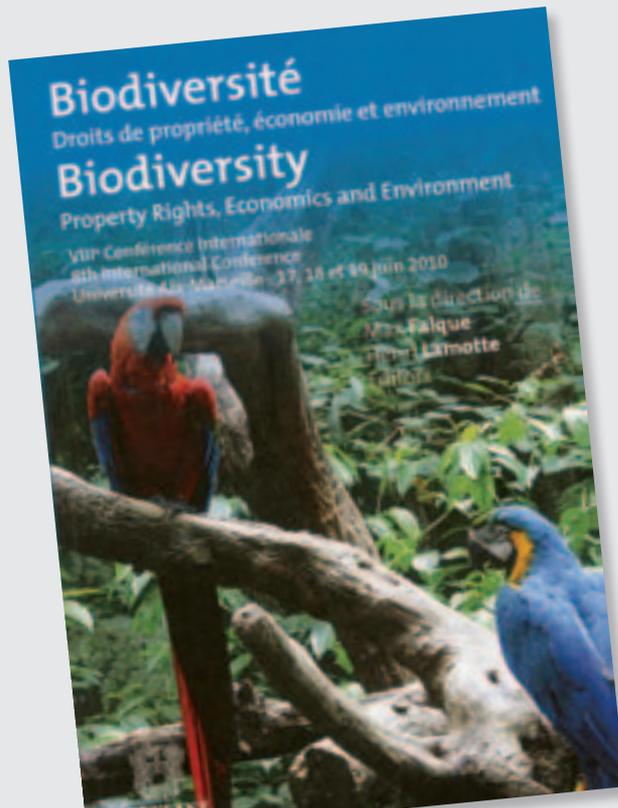
The Wildlife Estates Label has been developed to recognize and admit the exemplary management of territories in Europe. This initiative is based on a voluntary approach with the view to highlight the key role of land managers in enhancing biodiversity on their lands. Beyond the Natura 2000 network, it is a bridge between biodiversity and sustainable hunting with the view to facilitate a better communication between land managers, hunters and local authorities.

The project is built on its 17 national delegations which are responsible for spreading the initiative at the member state level. Belgium through the Walloon region was one of the forerunners of the Wildlife Estates initiative and it has helped to forge the philosophy of the project. They were also one of the first to identify criteria and complete the audits work to reward the territories.

This year, the "estate" to which the label was awarded, is a military camp, highlighting the fact that the initiatives cover territories in various forms and characteristics. The ELO is particularly attentive to promote this Public-Private Partnership which is essential for Wildlife Estates.

The ELO and the Wildlife Estates Jury were honoured to award the Military Camp, Marche-en-Famene (Belgium, Walloon region) which has developed a management strategy which aims





Biodiversity- property rights, economics and environment.

Under the direction of M.FALQUE and H.LAMOTTE
BIODIVMB, ISBN 978-2-8027-3453-6

Like the previous seven conferences on "Property Economics and Environment" the 8th International Conference, dealing with "Biodiversity" was organised by the International Center for Research on Environmental Issues (ICREI) and the University Paul Cézanne in Aix en Provence (France).

An intensive 3-days debate from the 17th-19th June 2010 allowed over 40 speakers from twelve countries to address, and occasionally be challenged by a public of over 200 academics, businessmen, civil servants, NGO, think tanks, students...

The 37 papers presented reflect a full spectrum of opinions concerning the new and somewhat unexpected role of property rights and markets for biodiversity conservations and management, especially in setting up compensation schemes in the complex diversity of formal and informal property rights.

Like for other environmental resources, it is clear that new types of property rights and markets are useful complements and/or alternative to regulation (Command and Control).

In addition two papers deal with marine biodiversity and advance the new concept of "marine cadastral register" which aims at identifying the rights of numerous and competing stakeholders.

A comprehensive index will allow the reader to identify and cross-reference all relevant topics and authors to fully understand what is at stake and become an informed participant in the current debate on our economic, social and environmental future.

Abstracts of all papers are translated in French and English.

www.bruylant.be

DIARY DATES 2012

15 March - 7 June, European Union

Consultation on Policy Options for the Blueprint to Safeguard Europe's waters
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/consultations/blueprint_en.htm

10 - 11 May, Brussels

Conference 'Soil remediation and soil sealing' organised by European Commission DG Environment http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/conference_may2012.htm

10 - 12 May, Kaunas, Lithuania

International Agriculture and Food Industry exhibition "Agrobalt", with the participation as speaker of Thierry de l'Escaille
<http://www.agrobalt.lt/>

21 - 22 May, Lisbon

General Assembly of ELO, including a public workshop on 21st May in the afternoon on the CAP reform
www.elo.org

22 - 25 May, Green Week, Brussels

"Every drop counts" - 12th edition of biggest annual conference on European environment policy, with ELO/RISE/FCS stand and LIFE+ project 3watEr stand
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/greenweek/>

4 - 6 June, Toulouse

8th International Conference on Renewable Resources & Biorefineries
<http://www.rrbconference.com/>

8 - 10 June, Vilnius

15th General Assembly of Friends of the Countryside
<http://friendsofthecountryside.org/>

20 - 22 June, Rio de Janeiro

RIO+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
<http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.html>

21 - 23 June, Aix-en-Provence

9th International Conference on Property Rights, Economics and Environment: Agriculture and forestry resources; with a session organised by ELO/FFA.



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