



European Agricultural
Fund for Rural
Development: European
investments in rural
areas



Conference „Ensuring Food Security: Estonia, Europe, the World“ (Rural and agricultural development after 2013)

15 June 2011, in Tartu (Estonia)

Estonian Rural Economy Research Centre is organizing in a close cooperation with the **Estonian Ministry of Agriculture** and the **Estonian University of Life Sciences** a conference "Ensuring Food Security: Estonia, Europe, the World" (in the context of CAP future). Conference will take place on 15 June 2011 in Tartu in Dorpat Conference Centre (<http://www.dorpat.ee/Conference>).

The objective of the conference is to give an overview of live rural and agricultural policy developments, particularly of the new challenges the European Union and the world have to face, and to improve the dialogue between rural entrepreneurs/agricultural producers and politicians. The intention is to open the subject of the future of the EU Common Agricultural Policy and food security as widely as possible. Therefore, representatives of different countries have been invited to take the floor at the conference.

The conference is targeted at the undertakings and organisations engaged in the rural economy, policy makers.

PROGRAMME

9.30 – 10.00 Arrival and welcome coffee
Chairman – Andres OOPKAUP, Deputy Secretary General for Agricultural and Trade Policies, Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Estonia

PLENARY MEETING

10.00 – 10.20 Address of welcome – Kalvi KÕVA, chairman of the Rural Affairs Committee of The Parliament of Estonia
10.20 – 10.40 EU measures to be taken to secure food security in the context of debates on the CAP after 2013 – Representative of the European Parliament Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (TBC)
10.40 – 11.00 Future of the Common Agricultural Policy in the context of innovation and food security – Sören KISSMEYER-NIELSSEN, head of Unit of Rural Development Programmes of the Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development
11.00 – 11.30 Opportunities of Estonian agriculture and food security – Prof. Urmas VARBLANE, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, University of Tartu (TBC)
11.30 – 12.00 Challenges related to global food security and the relevant role of Europe – Representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations FAO (TBC)
12.00 – 13.30 Lunch
13.30 – 15.30 **WORKING GROUPS (simultaneous):**

A. Food security – an obligation of each country or a global commitment? What can Estonia offer? Global challenges related to food security? What are the opportunities of Estonia to be represented on the world market? How could we make use of Estonian weaknesses (peripherisation and low density of population) for food production?

- Chair – Sirje POTISSEPP, Director of the Association of Estonian Food Industry
- Rapporteur – Ants VIIRA, Researcher of the Institute of Economics and Social Sciences of the Estonian University of Life Sciences
- Food security – an obligation of each country or a global commitment – Foreign speaker (max. 20 minutes) - prof. Kostas KARANTININIS, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
- What is the unused potential of Estonia to ensure food security? – Estonian speaker (max. 20 minutes) – Olav KREEN, agricultural producer
- Discussion

B. Environment: How to link two big goals – alleviation of climate change and assurance of food security? What are the main challenges agricultural producers have to face and how to link environmental public goods to that? How to find balance between the provision of environmental public goods and demand?

- Chair – Aleksei LOTMAN, spokesperson of Estonian Greens
- Rapporteur – representative of the Institute of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Estonian University of Life Sciences (TBC)
- The role of environmental public goods in delivering food security – Foreign speaker (max 20 minutes) – Jana POLAKOVA, Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP)
- What are the main challenges agricultural producers have to face and how to link environmental public goods to that? – Estonian speaker (max. 20 minutes) – Meelis MÖTTUS, agricultural producer
- Discussion

C. Territorial balance: Key factors of the viability of rural areas – local resource and alternative possibilities to use it (marketing, services etc). Local initiative and local resource as factors to achieve territorial balance.

- Chair – Roomet SÖRMUS, chairman of the Estonian Chamber of Agriculture and Commerce
- Rapporteur – Prof. Rando VÄRNIK, Director of the Institute of Economics and Social Sciences of the Estonian University of Life Sciences
- What are the opportunities to give value added to local recourses through alternative market channels (especially using ICT as a tool) – Foreign speaker (max. 20 minutes) – John HANNAFIN, Tipperary Institute, Ireland
- Example – local resource and alternative marketing channels – Estonian speaker (max. 20 minutes) – Merle VALL, director of the NGO Tasty South-Estonia
- Discussion

15.30 – 16.15 Coffee break

PLENARY MEETING

- 16.15 – 16.30 Working group A summary, main conclusions – Ants-Hannes VIIRA
- 16.30 – 16.45 Working group B summary, main conclusions – rapporteur of the working group B
- 16.45 – 17.00 Working group C summary, main conclusions – Rando VÄRNIK
- 17.00 – 17.30 Summary – Toomas KEVVAI, Deputy Secretary General for Rural Development and Fisheries Policy, Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Estonia

Technical information:

- Conference is free of charge
- Working languages are English and Estonian
- Additional information: Reve Lambur (leading specialist of Estonian Rural Network), email reve@maainfo.ee, tel +372 384 9728, conference webpage: www.maainfo.ee/CAPconference2011