



OECD Conference on Agricultural Knowledge systems (AKS): Responding to Global Food Security and Climate Change Challenges

Paris, 15-17 June 2011

OECD Conference Centre, 2 rue André-Pascal, 75016 Paris, France
Room CC15

Draft Agenda (14 June)

Wednesday 15 June 2011	
9:30-9:45	<p>Session 1. Context and purpose of the Conference</p> <p>Introductory speech by Mr. Ken Ash, Director of Trade and Agriculture (TAD), OECD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome • Purpose of the Conference: Explore how to foster the development and adoption of innovation at national and global level in order to meet global food security and climate change challenges. The conference will look at developments in AKS institutions and relationships between the different components at national and international level, discuss whether they are functioning and are responsive to emerging issues. It will review incentives and disincentives to both public and private activities in the AKS, and will look at policy coherence and best practices. • Background questions: What are the global challenges related to food security and climate change? What is expected from AKS? What technological and organizational solutions are available or being developed? How can they contribute to meeting those global challenges? • Outline of the Conference: Description of the various components of AKS, their relationships and their functioning; Are they responsive to new challenges (Session 2)? What can be done to improve the situation (Session 3)? How do they respond to broader policy objectives? (Session 4) • Context of the Conference: The OECD has organized two AKS meetings in the past; A recent OECD Symposium identified a number of challenges for the food and agricultural sector; The Ministerial Communiqué outlined the importance of innovation to tackle food security and climate change issues, The outcomes of the Conference will provide valuable inputs into the OECD project on innovation systems in the Programme of Work and Budget of the Committee for agriculture for 2011-12; The Conference will be one of the events organized to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Committee for agriculture; There are a number of links with recent or on-going OECD work in TAD and other Directorates and elsewhere. The Conference is organised in collaboration with the OECD Co-operative Research Project (CRP). <p>Presentation of the OECD Co-operative Research Project by Dr. Leena Finér, Finnish Forest Research Institute, CRP theme co-ordinator.</p>

9:45-13:00	<p>Session 2. How well do AKS respond to new challenges?</p>
	<p>Chair: Mr. Yvon Martel, Chief Scientist, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada</p> <p>Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do AKS function? How are they organized? What are the relationships between the different components: education, R&D and extension; private and public sectors, agricultural production and other food chain elements; national/international? Who does what? How do national and international institutions and the public and private sectors (research, education, extension) work together? How have they evolved to respond to new challenges in the past? • How do they respond to new challenges? How are priorities defined and implemented? How well do AKS react to new challenges? Do they provide the innovations needed on time? Are technologies adapted and accessible to those who need it? What incentives work? What disincentives do they face? Can we identify best AKS practices? <p>Keynote speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global and U.S. trends in agricultural R&D in a global food security setting, <i>Pr. Julian Alston, UC Davis, United States</i> • Agriculture knowledge and innovation systems in transition - Findings from the EU SCAR Collaborative Working Group on AKIS, <i>Mr. Krijn Poppe, Chief Science Officer at Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation, the Netherlands</i> • Australia's approach to rural research, development and extension, <i>Mr. Allen Grant, Executive manager, Agricultural Productivity Division, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), Australia</i> • China's Agricultural Innovation System: Issues and Reform, <i>Pr. Ruifa Hu, School of Management and Economics, Beijing Institute of Technology, and Jikun Huang, Center for Chinese Agricultural Policy, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China</i> • Agricultural R&D in Africa: Investment, human capacity, and policy constraints, <i>Mr. Gert-Jan Stads, program coordinator of the Agricultural Science & Technology Indicators (ASTI) initiative at the Rome office of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)</i> <p>Discussant: Ms. Leticia Deschamps, Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)</p> <p>General discussion</p>
13:00-14:30	Lunch Break
	<p>Session 3. Improving the responsiveness of AKS</p>
	<p>Theme: How can the functioning of AKS, the coherence between the different components and the responsiveness of the whole system to food security and climate change challenges be improved? What kind of national and international, private and public institutions, regulatory framework, and incentive/disincentive structures can facilitate the development of adapted solutions and their adoption by producers and consumers? What specific role for governments and international organisations?</p> <p>A range of issues are discussed in successive sub-sessions.</p>

14:30-18:00	<p>Session 3.A. Institutional Framework</p>
	<p>Chair: Pr. James Fraser Muir, International development and research advisor and evaluator, Professor Emeritus, University of Stirling, Scotland, United Kingdom</p> <p>Questions:</p> <p>How to strengthen linkages between components and dimensions of AKS (education, R&D, extension; public, private and other institutional sectors; national/regional/international levels, along the food chain; technological/institutional and marketing innovations)? And improve coherence in the whole system?</p> <p>Keynote speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience with CGIAR reorganisation, <i>Mr. Lloyd Le Page, Chief Executive Officer of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)</i> • Institutional reforms of AKS in New Zealand and International Networks in AKS, <i>Ms. Karla Falloon, Counsellor (Science and Technology), New Zealand Ministry of Science and Innovation, New Zealand Mission to the European Union, Brussels</i> • Innovative institutional approaches for agricultural knowledge system management in India, <i>Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Assistant Director General in Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India</i> • Transmission of agricultural knowledge: from agricultural extension to "Internet platforms, <i>Mr. José Abellán Gómez, Deputy General Citizen Information, Documentation and Publications, Ministry of Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs, and Mr. Jaume Sió Torres, Deputy-Director of Rural Innovation within the Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Food and Natural Environment Department of the Catalan Regional Government, Spain</i> • Responses of the French AKS to new challenges, <i>Dr. Pascal Bergeret, DGER, MAAPRAT, France</i> <p>General discussion</p>
<p>Thursday 16 June 2011</p>	
9:30-11:00	<p>Session 3.B. Public/private roles</p>
	<p>Chair: Mrs. Eva Blanco Medio, Agricultural Councillor, Permanent Delegation of Spain to the OECD</p> <p>Questions:</p> <p>What role for private and public sector in education, R&D and extension? What defines the boundaries: market failures, public goods? How to strengthen complementarities between private and public sector?</p> <p>Keynote speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IPRs and the role public and levy funded research: Some Lessons from International Experience, <i>Pr. Richard Gray, University of Saskatchewan, Canada</i> • The role of business in working with government to develop agricultural knowledge systems for global challenges: New Zealand experience, <i>Mr. Phil O'Reilly, CEO of BusinessNZ, New Zealand</i> • Partnerships in Agricultural Innovation Systems: Who puts them together? And what comes next?, <i>Dr. Andy Hall, UNU-MERIT, Netherlands</i> <p>Discussant: Dr. Laurens Klerkx, Communication and Innovation Studies Group, Wageningen University, The Netherlands</p> <p>General discussion</p>

11:30-13:00	<p>Session 3.C. Regulatory framework conducive to innovation</p>
	<p>Chair: Dr. Nordine Cheikh, Director, Regulatory Sciences, Monsanto Company</p> <p>Questions:</p> <p>What are best practices regarding regulations about Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and authorisation of innovations?</p> <p>Keynote speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU system for health and consumer protection, <i>Mr. Niall Gerlitz, EU Commission, Directorate General for Health and Consumer Policy</i> • The U.S. approach for fostering new biological technologies and assuring their safety, <i>Dr. Michael Schechtman, Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, United States</i> • “Breeding Business”: Plant Breeder’s Rights and Patent Rights in the Plant Breeding Business, <i>Mr. Hans Dons, Management Studies Group, Wageningen University, The Netherlands</i> <p>Discussant: Mr. Dominic Muyldermans, Senior Legal Consultant to CropLife International</p> <p>General discussion</p>
13:00-14:30	Lunch Break
14:30-18:00	<p>Session 3.D. Facilitating adoption of innovations and technology transfers</p>
	<p>Chair: Ms. Eija Pehu, World Bank</p> <p>Questions:</p> <p>How to encourage innovations that are needed? How to facilitate adaptation and adoption? How to reduce the gap between demand and needs?</p> <p>Keynote speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A successful example of local technology innovation and adoption by combining knowledge of traditional farmers and modern scientists, <i>Dr. Masa Iwanaga, President, Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS)</i> • Technology transfer in South Africa, <i>Dr. Julian B. Jaftha, Director, Genetic Resources, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, South Africa</i> • A commercial farmer's experience with biotechnology, <i>Mr. Jaco Minnaar, South Africa</i> • Technology transfer and extension in Latin America, <i>Mr. Matthew McMahon, consultant</i> • Agricultural innovation and challenges in promotion of knowledge and information flows in agrifood systems in Brazil, <i>Dr. Maurício Antônio Lopes, R&D Executive Director, EMBRAPA, Brazil</i> <p>Discussants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. John Preissing, Senior Officer for Extension systems at the Research and Extension branch of FAO (OEKR) • Mr. Thomas Schäfer, Senior Director, Innovation Office, Novozymes <p>General discussion</p>

Friday 17 June 2011	
10:00-12:30	<p>Session 4. Responding to broader policy objectives</p> <p>Questions:</p> <p>How to improve the coherence of AKS with broader policy objectives? What incentives need to be put in place and disincentives removed?</p> <p>Summary of findings from previous sessions and animator: Pr. David Blandford, <i>The Pennsylvania State University, United States</i></p> <p>Panel discussion including high level government officials and representatives of R&D systems, including implications for the role and functioning of AKS in OECD and selected non-OECD countries.</p> <p>Panel members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Marion Zalay, Director DGER, MAAPRAT, France • Pr. Herman Eijsackers, Wageningen University, Netherlands • Dr. Pierre Bascou, DG-AGRI, EU Commission • Dr. Masa Iwanaga, President, JIRCAS, Japan • Pr. Roger N. Beachy, President Emeritus, Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, and Prof. Department of Biology, Washington University, St. Louis, MO; Former Director National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, United States • Dr. Kasdi Subagyono, Director Indonesian Center for Agricultural Technology Assessment and Development (ICATAD), Indonesia • Farmers representative (tbc) <p>General discussion</p>
12:30-13:00	<p>Concluding remarks by OECD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implications for OECD work

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There will be coffee/tea breaks of 30 minutes at appropriate times during each session.

A cocktail party will take place on 15 June at 6:00 pm.

Information on the workshop can be accessed at: www.oecd.org/agriculture/policies/innovation