



European  
Commission

# Local Agriculture and Short Food Supply Chains

>20 april 2012  
Brussels





# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

08:45 - 09:30 Registration

## OPENING SPEECHES

09:30 - 10:30 *Chairman: François-Xavier Simon, Agra Europe*

- > Dacian Cioloş, *European Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development*
- > John Dalli, *European Commissioner for Health and Consumer Policy*
- > Mette Gjerskov, *President of the Agriculture and Fisheries Council, Minister for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, Denmark*
- > Video message by HRH The Prince of Wales

## PLENARY SESSION: LOCAL AGRICULTURE IN EUROPE TODAY

10:30 - 11:10

- > Mercedes Bresso, *President, Committee of the Regions: Local food systems*
- > Jerzy Plewa, *Deputy Director-General, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission: Policy measures under the CAP that offer opportunities*
- > Bernard Van Goethem, *Director, DG Health and Consumer Policy, European Commission: The legal framework, derogations, facts and figures*

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11:10 - 11:30 Coffee/tea break

## WORKSHOPS

11:30 - 13:00 **3 parallel workshops (see below for details)**

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13:00 - 14:30 Lunch

14:30 - 15:30 Parallel workshops – continuing

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15:30 - 16:00 Coffee/tea break

## CLOSING SESSION

16:00-18:00 *Moderator: François-Xavier Simon, Agra Europe*

Workshop outcomes (synthesis by the rapporteurs of replies to the workshop questions)

Panel discussion

- > Commissioner Dacian Cioloş
- > Commissioner John Dalli
- > Reinhold Messner
- > Carlo Petrini, Slow Food

## PARALLEL WORKSHOPS

### WORKSHOP A

#### TOWARDS AN APPROPRIATE POLICY FRAMEWORK

Chair: T. Haniotis, *Director, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission*

Rapporteur: Prof Michael Dower, *University of Gloucestershire*

#### 11:30 - 12:30 Presentations

##### Member State administration:

Needs, use of existing support and problems encountered.

- > Mieczysław Paradowski, *Deputy Director of Rural Development Department, Ministry of Agriculture*
- > Dr Martin Pazeller, *Abteilungsdirektor Autonome Provinz Bolzano*

##### Farmers:

- > José Miguel Afonso Fernandes, *European Coordination Via Campesina*
- > Věra Dvorská, *CEJA, European Council of Young Farmers*

#### 12:30 - 13:00 Questions and answers on presentations

#### 14:30 - 15:30 Workshop discussion based on the following questions proposed by the rapporteur:

1. What measures are now offered by the CAP (Pillars 1 and 2) which can assist local agriculture by enabling small farmers to survive and to thrive and to work with others in short food supply chains ?
2. How far are those measures actually deployed in national and regional programmes ?
3. What is the take-up of these measures ? What barriers appear to limit that take-up ?
4. Looking ahead to the next programming period :
  - a. what is the scale and nature of the opportunity to promote local agriculture, as a significant part of rural development programmes ?
  - b. what continuing, improved or new measures should the CAP 2014-2020 offer in order to seize that opportunity and to realise the benefits that local agriculture can bring at local, national and European level ?

## PARALLEL WORKSHOPS

### WORKSHOP B

#### FACILITATING MARKET ACCESS FOR LOCAL FARMERS

Chair: María Angeles Benítez Salas, *Director, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission*

Rapporteur: Dr Catherine Darrot, *Agrocampus de Rennes*

#### 11:30 - 12:30 Presentations

##### Farmers:

- > Sally Jackson, *representative of FARMA (UK Farmers' Retail & Markets Association), involved in GOAL (genuine own and local) schemes*
- > Hans Leo, *Natural Dairy Products of Tegernsee*

##### Consumer perspective:

- > Stephanie Cabantous, *AMAP (Association pour le Maintien d'une Agriculture Paysanne)*

##### Research:

- > Dr. Moya Kneafsey, *University of Coventry*

#### 12:30 - 13:00 Questions and answers on presentations

#### 14:30 - 15:30 Workshop discussion based on the following questions proposed by the rapporteur:

1. How can we value the relationship producer-consumer? How can the participants in short chains differentiate and value their products?
2. What can be done at the EU level in order to contribute to a smoother consumer-producer relationship and more added value in the chain?
3. How could the EU action level support the local social cooperation which often characterise short supply chains?
4. What could be done to ease and support the links with local intermediaries (eg. processing of products, retailers, restaurants, procurement contracts of public agencies such as schools and hospitals)?

## PARALLEL WORKSHOPS

### WORKSHOP C

#### A BETTER USE OF THE HYGIENE AND FOOD SAFETY REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR SMALL FOOD PRODUCERS

Chair: Koen Van Dyck, *Head of Unit, DG Health and Consumer Policy*

Rapporteur: Gianluca Brunori, *University of Pisa*

#### 11:30 - 12:30 Presentations

##### Member State administration:

Experience in adapting certain hygiene requirements or excluding some activities from the scope of the Hygiene package

> Dr. Ulrich Herzog, *Chief Veterinary Officer*

##### Farmers:

> Maria Anca Dalmaso, *producer of canned fruits and vegetables, Casa de pe Deal*

> Rolando Manfredini, *Coldiretti*

##### Consumers:

> Gemma Trigueros, *Organisation of Consumers and Users Spain (OCU)*

#### 12:30 - 13:00 Questions and answers on presentations

#### 14:30 - 15:00 Workshop discussion based on the following questions proposed by the rapporteur:

1. What are the specificities of the local production and short food supply chains in terms of sanitary norms? What is necessary to achieve consumer safety standards? Which derogations are justified?
2. Some flexibility in the application of hygiene rules to short food chains is already foreseen in the hygiene package. What are the barriers to a full application of this flexibility?
3. How can we harmonise the relationship between production and economic sustainability on the one hand and sanitary and veterinary standards on the other hand, taking into account the food safety requirements in the context of simple processing and short shelf life?



**All conference material, including a recording of the conference,  
will be available on the website**

[http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/events/small-farmers-conference-2012\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/events/small-farmers-conference-2012_en.htm)