



Brussels Rural Development Briefings

A series of meetings on ACP-EU development issues

Briefing session n. 15 From Global Food Crisis to Local Food Insecurity

9th December 2009 – 8h30 – 13h00

European Commission – Berlaymont building, Rue de la Loi - Brussels

Room Walter Hallstein

<http://brusselsbriefings.net>

Biodata of speakers

Stuart Coupe - Practical Action

Dr Stuart Coupe is International Projects Manager at Practical Action. He started careers as a history/politics lecturer in UK and Venezuela. Later in 2000, Dr. Coupe switched from academic to NGO professional environment. He further represented UK NGOs at WSSD in 2002. Mr. Coupe has supported the implementation of EC funded food security and public awareness projects with Practical Action and partners in Sudan, Zambia, Kenya and Bangladesh.

Ndiogou Fall - Network of Farmers' and Agricultural Producers' Organisations of West Africa

Ndiogou Fall is chairman of the executive committee of ROPPA (Network of Farmers' and Agricultural Producers' Organisations of West Africa – <http://www.roppa.info>), the main umbrella organisation for West African farmers. ROPPA was formally founded in July 2000 and brings together organisations or "consultation frameworks" of 10 West African countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo). This structure is not closed and the medium-term goal is to welcome farmer organisations from all the member countries of ECOWAS, which represents the real West Africa. ROPPA has set itself the task of advancing family farms as the basis of the FO vision of the future for agriculture and the rural community

Hans Herren – Millennium Institute

Dr. Hans Herren, an internationally recognized scientist, is the President of the Millennium Institute (MI) since May 2005. Prior to joining MI, he was director-general of the International Center for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) in Nairobi, Kenya. He also served as director of the Africa Biological Control Center of International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), in Benin. During his professional career, Dr. Herren developed and implemented programs in the area of human, animal, plant and environmental health as they relate to insect issues. Moreover, he conceived and implemented the highly successful biological control program that saved the African cassava crop, and averted Africa's worst-ever food crisis. Over the years, Dr. Herren has moved his interests toward integrated sustainable development, in particular, linking environmental, plant, animal, and human health issues.

He earned a Ph.D. at the Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, Switzerland, and holds numerous awards that recognize his distinguished and continuing achievements in original research. Dr. Herren serves on the boards of numerous organizations, including co-chairing the

International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science & Technology, (IAASTD); chairman of BioVision, a Swiss foundation with a global mandate to alleviate poverty and improve the livelihoods of poor people while maintaining the precious natural resource base that sustains life; past president of the International Association of the Plant Protection Sciences (IAPPS); member of the US National Academy of Sciences and the Developing World Academy of Sciences; and member of the US Board of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BANR).

Philip Mikos – European Commission

Philip Mikos is Head of the Environment and Rural Development Unit at the European Commission DG Development. Italian agro-economist Philip Mikos started his European Commission career 20 years ago as a development worker in Ethiopia, followed by stints in Burundi and Uganda. Since 1995, despite frequent trips to the field, he has settled at Commission headquarters in Brussels. He oversees environment, food security and rural development in DG DEV, the Directorate-General for Development. DG DEV formulates the Commission's development policy. Along with many senior rural development experts, Philip Mikos deals with a wide range of issues affecting rural development as of world trade and economic cooperation, evolving governance structures in developing countries, donor harmonization and alignment and new ways to empower rural development workers on the ground.

David Nabarro – United Nations

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has appointed Dr. David Nabarro of the United Kingdom as his Special Representative on Food Security and Nutrition in January 2009. His career in public health includes working as an Executive Director at the WHO, and as Director of Human Development and Chief Health Adviser at the UK Department for International Development. Dr. Nabarro has more than 30 years experience of public health, nutrition and development work at country, regional and global levels, and has held positions in non-governmental organizations, universities, national Governments and the United Nations system. Dr. Nabarro, born in London, qualified as a physician in 1973. After a short period in the United Kingdom National Health Service, he worked for six years in child health and nutrition programmes in Iraq, South Asia and East Africa. He also taught for six years at the London and Liverpool Schools of Tropical Medicine, served as Chief Health and Population Adviser to the British Government's Overseas Development Administration. In 1997, he became Director for Human Development in the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID).

Hansjörg Neun - CTA

Since May 2005, German-born Dr Hansjörg Neun, became Director of CTA. He holds a PhD. in social and economic sciences. He is the author of a thesis on "transfers of technical cooperation development projects to developing countries". With considerable field experience in Africa (especially in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia and Egypt), Dr Neun has managed projects and major programmes for German and European technical development agencies. He is also skilled in negotiating with governments, donors and international institutions. In addition, he has a wide-ranging knowledge of rural development, food security and natural resource management issues. He also has hands-on experience of agriculture - while still very young he worked on his family's flower and vegetable market garden in Germany.

Before taking the helm at CTA, Dr Neun was employed as Advisor at Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

Rajul Pandya-Lorch - IFPRI

Rajul Pandya-Lorch, a Kenyan citizen of Indian origin, is head of IFPRI's 2020 Vision for Food, Agriculture, and the Environment Initiative, a global initiative that seeks to identify solutions for meeting world food needs while reducing poverty and protecting the environment. She concurrently serves as Chief of Staff in the Director General's Office.

Before taking her current position, Pandya-Lorch was special assistant to IFPRI's former director general, Per Pinstrup-Andersen. An IFPRI staff member since 1987, she has focused her research on trends in and prospects for global food security and on policies to alleviate and prevent food insecurity, poverty, and environmental degradation, with particular emphasis on sustainable development in Sub-Saharan Africa. Since October 2008 she has led a major project, "Millions Fed: Proven Successes in Agricultural Development" that document evidence on policies, programs, and investments in agricultural development that have actually reduced hunger and poverty. In recognition of her achievements, the American Agricultural Economics Association presented Pandya-Lorch, along with Per Pinstrup-Andersen and Mark Rosegrant, with its 2002 award for Distinguished Policy Contribution. Pandya-Lorch earned a bachelor's degree in economics from Wellesley College and a master's degree in public and international affairs from Princeton University.

Lluís Riera Figueras – European Commission, DG Development

Lluís Riera Figueras is Director of the Development Policy, Thematic issues directorate, at the European Commission DG Development, from January 2007.

He joined the European Commission in 1987, after a ten-years experience as Professor of European Economy and International Trade. He has been Head of Unit for the Relations with the Institutions and Coastal and Western Africa at EC DG Development from 1991 to 1996, then Director for European Social Fund operations at EC DG Employment and Social Affairs from 1996 to 2002 and Director for Instruments for Structural policies for pre-accession at DG Regional Policy from 2002 to 2006.

Steve Wiggins – ODI

Dr Steve Wiggins is an experienced agricultural economist with interests in rural livelihoods, poverty, food security and nutrition who has worked extensively in Africa and Latin America. He leads work at the Overseas Development Institute on agricultural development, food prices and biofuels.

Dr. Steve Wiggins has almost three decades worth of experience working, researching and teaching economic and management aspects of agricultural and rural development. His experience ranges from rural livelihoods, rural economies and household economies; to governance, including management, of rural development; change in farming systems, with particular interest in dairying; credit and rural banking; environmental change. His experience is combined with an extensive knowledge of Latin America and Africa. He has lived in Paraguay, Bolivia, El Salvador and Kenya; and worked widely, on shorter term studies, in Africa and Latin America. During the last five years his work has included studies of livelihoods and small-scale dairying in rural Mexico, environmental policy in Ghana, food security in Bangladesh and Southern Africa — including the impact of HIV/AIDS, the rural non-farm economy, and the future of small farms.