

Conference: Beyond the Crossroads

Introductory Remarks

Persistent Problems

Since in April 2008 the final Intergovernmental Panel in Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa, has accepted the reports and summaries of the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD), its core questions and issues have become even more urgent. How to

- reduce hunger and poverty,
- improve rural livelihoods and human health, and
- reach equitable, socially, environmentally and economically sustainable development?

While many international political summits and conferences on hunger and international aid have been taken place and pleasant final communiqués been aired, real politics in most countries turned out to do business as usual. Just the same pattern we've seen following the I. Assessment Report (AR) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in 1990. But at the time when the IV. AR of the IPCC has been published in 2007, national and global politics finally noticed, taking the findings and conclusions seriously and indicating that it is of utmost importance to deliver complex assessments to decision makers not once but time and again. The Millennium Development Goals (MDG), especially MDG 1 might not be accomplished until 2015, other MDG show also a very mixed balance. In 2011, as in 2010, nearly one billion people are suffering from hunger.

New Issues

Additionally, some drivers and issues turn out to contribute to economic, social and institutional results, which might counteract MDG and the findings of IAASTD, such as

- policies subsidizing fuels from biomass for transportation in the EU and other countries, resulting in conflicts and competition on land also in food-insecure countries,
 - rapid growth of foreign and domestic investments in land, foremost in countries of the South, for industrial and food export purposes, exacerbating conflicts on land especially for the most vulnerable peoples,
 - expansion of global, vertical integrated agro-food corporations in many not and newly industrialized countries, such not only building an overwhelming power with regard to producers but also shaping a consumers culture which heavily relies on fat, sugars and processed food,
 - global agro-food corporations also use and promote industrialized forms of poultry-, pork- and cattle-farming, such maximising environmental and health impacts.
- On the other hand, many signs of an agriculture, which sustains the

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health of soils, ecosystems and people all over the world, give hope and evidence that agriculture is essential for socially fair and ecologically sustainable development and for poverty eradication.

Linking food security, sustainability science and sustainability politics

The time is right to convene an initiative to analyse the impact of IAASTD, to look at emerging issues and to strengthen endeavours for a permanent assessment on agriculture within a broad, participatory, and transparent global network in which UN-organisations like UNEP and FAO play a key role as much as civil society organisations, scientists and interested national governments from the South and the North.

To support this aim, we have launched a "Berlin Declaration" with which as many scientists, decision makers and civil society representatives can declare their commitment to the sake of a regular global agricultural assessment.

For more information, please visit www.zukunftderernaehrung.org.

Organisational Details

Venues

International Conference: Urania Berlin e.V.
An der Urania 17
10787 Berlin

Public Event: Rotes Rathaus Berlin
Rathausstraße 15
10178 Berlin

Registration and questions please via email to:
info@zukunftderernaehrung.org/
via fax to: +49 30 2065 4858

Registration fee

EUR 20,- / reduced EUR 5,-

Bank details: VDW e.V.
GLS-Bank
BLZ 43060967
Account No. 4022787501

Keyword: „Beyond the Crossroads Conference“

Future of Food

VDW Project Food and Conflicts www.zukunftderernaehrung.org



Federation of German Scientists, Germany (FGS)

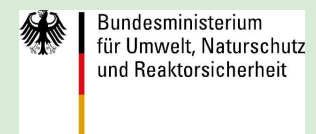
Organizer:

VDW VEREINIGUNG DEUTSCHER WISSENSCHAFTLER E.V.

Co-Organizers:



Sponsors:



Provisional Conference Program

Beyond the Crossroads: New Issues & Persistent Problems. Linking food security, sustainability science & sustainability politics.

- As of November 1st, 2011—

Wednesday, November 9th 2011

Main Focus: Analysis

10.30 **Welcome & Opening**
Ulrich Bartosch, Chair FGS, Germany

1st PLENARY SESSION

10.45 **Global food security: How to get the camel through the eye of the needle**

Hans Herren, Millennium Institute, USA

11.15 **IAASTD, MDGs and sustainability politics. Progress, backlash and how to overcome the main obstacles**

Achim Steiner, UNEP

11.45 **Scientific, traditional and local knowledge. Paradigms and organization of sustainability oriented R&D for food security**

Janice Jiggins, Wageningen University, Netherlands

12.15 **Human rights, food security and conflicts**

Ellen Messer, Brandeis University, USA

14.00 **PARALLEL WORKING GROUPS**

1. Important Issues—old and new

Anita Idel, FGS, Germany

Constance Neely, CGIAR World Agroforestry Center, Kenya

Elba Rivera Urbina, W8 Oxfam Int., Nicaragua

Folkhard Isermeyer, Thuenen-Institute, Germany

Michael Krawinkel, University of Giessen, Germany

2. A Plethora of Conflicts

Caroline Kruckow, Church Development Service, Germany

Ellen Messer, USA

Francisco Mari, Church Development Service, Germany

Michael Windfuhr, German Institute for Human Rights

Sergei Alexanian, N.I. Vavilov Research Institute of Plant Industry, Russia

3. Receptions and perceptions of the IAASTD-Reports

Benedikt Haerlin, Foundation on Future Farming, Germany

Judi Wakhungu, African Centre for Technology Studies, Kenya

Patrick Caron, CIRAD, France

Patrick Holden, Sustainable Food Trust, U.K.

Rudolf Buntzel, Church Development Service, Germany

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4. Green Economy: Challenges for Agriculture

(organized by the Forum on Environment & Development)

Felix Prinz zu Löwenstein, Ecological Food Industry Association, Germany

Harald Grethe, University of Hohenheim, Germany

Horst Fehrenbach, Institute for Energy & Environmental Research, Germany

Tobias Reichert, Germanwatch, Germany

18.00 **Presentations of WGs recommendations**

Nikolai Fuchs, Nexus Foundation, Switzerland

18.30 **Discussion**

Thursday, November 10th, 2011

Main Focus: Strategies towards IAASTD 2

2nd PLENARY SESSION

09.00 **Building global assessment clusters for sustainability politics**

Hartmut Graßl, World Climate Research Program, Germany

09.30 **Challenges for a sustainable agriculture development in Africa**

Tumusiime Rhoda Peace, Commissioner for Rural Economy & Agriculture, African Union

09.50 **Listening to the voices of the future: Presentation of young academics from the „Future of Food“ Summer School**

Haiyan Peng, PR China;

Sisira Saddhamangala Withanachchi, Sri Lanka

10.10 **Discussion**

10.35 **Linking food policies to sustainable agriculture**

Alexander Mueller, FAO (video message)

10.50 **Core strategic issues**

Hartmut Vogtmann, German League for Nature & Environment, Germany

11.15 **PARALLEL STRATEGY WORKING GROUPS**

Strategies towards IAASTD 2—WG5

Introductory statements:

Andreas Schriber, BioVision, Switzerland

Elba Rivera Urbina, Nicaragua

David-King Ahmea, Ecumenical Farmers' Network,

ROPPA, Ghana

Strategies towards IAASTD 2—WG6

Introductory statements:

Angelika Hilbeck, Swiss Fed. Institute of Technology

Marcelo Antonio Kelh, MST, Brazil

Markus Arbenz, IFOAM, Switzerland

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Strategies: What role for agriculture at Rio +20? —WG7

(organized by the Forum on Environment & Development)

Introductory statements:

Michael Windfuhr, Germany

Rudolph Buntzel, Germany

Sophia Murphy, IATP, USA (t.b.c.)

Ulrich Hoffmann, UNCTAD

14.00 **Presentation of WGs recommendations and discussion**

Hartmut Graßl, former director World Climate Research

Prg., laureate of the environment prize of DBU, Germany

14.45 **Roundtable: Next steps ahead. Among others:**

Andreas Schriber, Switzerland

David Segovia, Bank of the South, Ecuador

Folkhard Isermeyer, Germany

Judi Wakhungu, Kenya

Michael Hamp, Program Management Department, IFAD

Michael Windfuhr, Germany

16.30 **Concluding remarks, presentation of Berlin Declaration**

Stephan Albrecht, FGS, Germany

17.00 **End of Conference**

19:00 **PUBLIC EVENT at CITY HALL BERLIN**

„Courageous Commitment to a world without hunger—
Mutiges Engagement für eine Welt ohne Hunger.“

Key note speakers:

• *David Segovia*, Bank of the South, Ecuador

• *Elba Rivera Urbina*, W8 Oxfam Int., Nicaragua

• *Hartmut Graßl*, former director of World Climate Research

Program, laureate of the environment prize of DBU

• *Judi Wakhungu*, African Centre for Technology Studies,

Kenia

• *Volker Kasch*, development policy mandatee, Misereor,

Germany

Roundtable:

Maritta von Bieberstein Koch-Weser, Earth3000, former director

general of IUCN, Germany • *Hans Herren*, Vice-Chair of

IAASTD, laureate of world food price, USA • *Gerd Müller*,

parliamentary state secretary Ministry for Agriculture, Food

and Consumer Protection, Germany

Moderator:

Christiane Grefe, DIE ZEIT, Germany