European Commission

The European Commission's Knowledge Centre for Global Food and Nutrition Security

LAUNCH EVENT PROGRAMME

28 November 2018

Brussels, Berlaymont, Walter Hallstein Room

28 November 2018
Brussels, Berlaymont, Walter Hallstein Room

Programme

The **Knowledge Centre for Global Food and Nutrition Security** is aiming at improving actions to reduce food insecurity and malnutrition in food insecure third countries. It will, on one hand, gather, synthetize and facilitate access to Commission's knowledge regarding food and nutrition security. On the other hand, it will make the latest innovative solutions and research insights available for a more efficient action.

14:00 – 14:30	**Welcome coffee and registration**
14:30 – 16:10	**High level opening session**
	Moderator: **Vladimir Šucha,** Director-General, Joint Research Centre, European Commission
14:30 – 15:40	Opening remarks
	Tibor Navracsics, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, European Commission
	Christos Stylianides, Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid & Crisis Management, European Commission
	Josefa Sacko, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union
	Phil Hogan, Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission
	Video message by Jose Graziano da Silva, Director General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
15:40 – 16:10	Launch of the European Commission's **Knowledge Centre for Global Food and Nutrition Security** - Remarks
	Giovanni de Santi, Director, Sustainable Resources Directorate, Joint Research Centre, European Commission
	Carla Montesi, Director, Planet and Prosperity Directorate, DG International Cooperation and Development, European Commission

16:10 – 16:30	**Coffee Break**
16:30 - 17:50	**Panel discussion: Towards better knowledge management on Food and Nutrition Security**
	Moderator: **Leonard Mizzi,** Head of Unit Rural Development, Food Security, Nutrition, DG International Cooperation and Development, European Commission
	Keynote introduction by **Patrick Caron,** President of the High Level Panel of Experts of the United Nations Committee on World Food Security (CFS)
	Panel discussion
	Franz Fischler, President, European Forum Alpbach, Vienna
	Wolfgang Burtscher, Deputy Director General, DG Research, Science and Innovation High level representative, Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
	Roberto Ridolfi, Special Advisor on strategy and financing development for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
	Sara Savastano, Director, United Nations International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
	Enrico Pausilli, Deputy Director, United Nations World Food Programme, Belgium
17:50 - 18:00	**Closing session**
	Vladimir Šucha, Director General, Joint Research Centre, European Commission
18:00	**Networking Cocktail**

Concept paper

1. BACKGROUND

Food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture are together the main sector of EU development cooperation interventions over the period 2014-2020. It is the focal sector of EU assistance in more than 60 developing countries, with around € 9 billion allocated, including geographic envelopes and thematic actions. It is also the first priority of the High Level Policy Dialogue on research and innovation EU – African Union with a 2016 – 2020 budget in the order of € 150 million. Global food security is also one of five policy coherence for development (PCD) priorities set by the EU in 2009. Thus, global food security is an important area for the common agricultural policy (CAP).

2. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE KNOWLEDGE CENTRE FOR GLOBAL FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

This Knowledge Centre will support the EU global commitment to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition through a dedicated, reinforced science-policy interface and a fostered inter-policy dialogue. It will be established as the Commission's central knowledge hub on Food and Nutrition Security, including food safety aspects directly influencing food and nutrition security.

The geographical scope is focused on countries in which food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture is a focal sector for EU intervention. It will not address the possible food and nutrition security issues existing within the EU or developed/ emerging countries, but may examine the impact of their policies on food and nutrition security in food insecure countries, particularly under the policy coherence angle.

3. MAIN ACTIVITIES AND DELIVERABLES

The main purpose is to set-up a Commission *one-stop-shop* to give access to food and nutrition security information and knowledge currently scattered in various Directorates General and beyond. It will also be the place where coordinated action is taken on priority topics to provide state of the art knowledge and analysis for policy making.

The Knowledge Centre will:

- Make the existing information and tools available (data, information, expertise) available to (EU) policy makers and stakeholders through a dedicated user-friendly web platform;
- Identify priority topics for the European Commission action and fostering progress towards better knowledge on these topics. On cross-cutting topics, the Knowledge Centre will facilitate collaborative work between relevant DGs[1];

[1] Currently DGs DEVCO, ECHO, RTD, AGRI, MARE, SANTE, ENV, CLIMA, TRADE plus EEAC.

- Promote the European Commission role in generating new knowledge in particular through the AU-EU High level policy dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation;

- Link with and support to the existing international initiatives in liaison with main international agencies in food and nutrition security.

4. GOVERNANCE

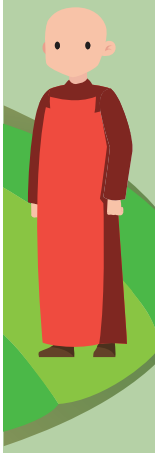
The governance should be lean and agile in order to fully drawn on complementarities and synergies. A Steering Committee should meet once or twice a year to decide on strategic decisions and work priorities for the year. It will be composed of Director-level representatives of the EU services involved and co-chaired by DG JRC and DEVCO. In preparation of the launch of the Knowledge Centre, a consultation will be organised with interested EU services in order to further discuss the scope, objectives and its operational modalities.

5. MID-TERM ROADMAPS

The Steering Committee will adopt a series of roadmaps for action on priority topics. The roadmaps will give the timeline of realisations over a period of 1 to 3 years and be accompanied by a short concept explaining the rationale, objective and partnership dimension of the action. Cross-DGs working groups will be formed to mobilise existing knowledge from different services and angles of view in the Commission. Use of external expertise will be made, according to needs.

The outputs of these actions will vary in function of the objective, ranging from stock-taking reports on the current knowledge base, to identification of knowledge gaps for policy making, preparation of high level international commitments or formation of a concrete decision base for Commission intervention. This is the case on food crises for example, a typical priority topic, where the Global Report on food crises will continue to receive special attention from DEVCO, ECHO and JRC as the reference base, not only for Commission intervention but also to build a stronger and better coordinated international response.

NOTES



© European Union, 2018