European Commission

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

LAUNCH EVENT

SPEAKERS

28 November 2018

Brussels, Berlaymont, Walter Hallstein Room

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Speakers

Vladimír Šucha

Director-General,
Joint Research Centre,
European Commission

Vladimír Šucha is Director-General of the Joint Research Centre, the European Commission's science and knowledge service since 2014. Between 2012 and 2013, he was Deputy DG of the JRC. Prior to that, he served as Director for Culture and Media in the Directorate-General for Education and Culture and he pursued a long-term academic and research career, being a full professor in Slovakia and visiting professor/scientist at different academic institutions research, education and culture.

Christos Stylianides

Commissioner
for Humanitarian Aid
& Crisis Management

Christos Stylianides is European Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management since 2014. Just before that, he was appointed Ebola Coordinator for the European Union in Western Africa by the European Council. He also served as Member of the European Parliament and as Government Spokesperson of the Republic of Cyprus (in 2013-2014 and in 1998-1999). During that time, he was responsible for the management of the Government's communication strategy and the Government's Press and Information Office.

Tibor Navracsics

Commissioner
for Education, Culture,
Youth and Sport,
European Commission

Tibor Navracsics is European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport since 2014. Prior to that, he served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and as Member of the Parliament in his country, Hungary. After pursuing his Doctoral Degree in Political Science at the Eötvös Loránd University in 1999, he became Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law and Political Sciences in the same University. From 1997 to 2000, he was Secretary-General of the Hungarian Political Science Association.

Phil Hogan

Commissioner
for Agriculture
and Rural Development,
European Commission

Prior to becoming Commissioner, **Phil Hogan** served in the Irish Parliament for more than 25 years. In this role, he became Spokesperson for the food industry, consumer affairs and regional policy issues in Europe. Between 2011 and 2014, he served as Minister for the Environment and Local Government of the Irish Government and, in the context of a broad-ranging agenda, implemented the biggest reform of local governments since the foundation of the Irish State.

Josefa Sacko

Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union

Josefa L.C. Sacko is Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union Commission and a leading African agronomist. Prior to that, she was a Special Adviser in Angola, her home country, to two Ministers: the Minister of Environment, where she also served as Ambassador responsible for Climate Change, and the Minister of Agriculture, where Mme Sacko oversaw Food Security, Eradication of Hunger and Poverty Reduction. During her prior long-term tenure at the Inter African Coffee Organization (IACO), she successfully advocated for the empowerment of small scale coffee farmers across the continent.

José Graziano da Silva

Director General, Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations

José Graziano da Silva is Director General of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) since 2011. First-ever elected FAO Director General from Latin America, he is currently serving his second term. Professor of Agricultural Economics at the Campinas State University (Brazil), Graziano da Silva has been working on food security, rural development and agriculture for over 30 years. His vision can be summarized in one sentence: 'There can be no food security without peace, and no lasting peace without food security'.

Giovanni de Santi

Director, Sustainable Resources Directorate, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

Giovanni de Santi is Director for the 'Sustainable Resources' Directorate at the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission since 2017. He's been working for the JRC since 1985, managing high level projects and experts's group in the fields of energy, transport, mechanical/nuclear engineering and environmental science. Prior to this role, he was Director for the JRC 'Competences' and 'Energy, Transport & Climate' Directorates. He holds a PhD degree in Fluidodynamics (Technical University of Munich) and a MSc degree in Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering (University of Pisa).

Carla Montesi

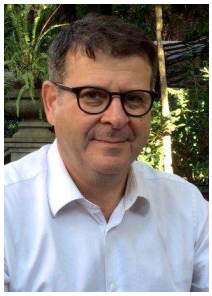
Planet and Prosperity Directorate, DG International Cooperation and Development, European Commission

Carla Montesi was appointed Director at the European Commission's Directorate General for Development and Cooperation in 2014. She is responsible for the geographical coordination of the EU's cooperation programmes in Western and Central Africa. Prior to that, she was holding the position of Director at the Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries. Mrs Montesi's earlier career encompassed diverse responsibilities in the field of EU external policy for development and cooperation both at Headquarters and in EU Delegations in Africa.

Leonardo Mizzi

Head of Unit Rural Development, Food Security, Nutrition, DG International Cooperation and Development, European Commission

Prior to becoming Head of Unit in 'Rural development, Food security and Nutrition' at DG DEVCO, **Leonard Mizzi** covered this position for 10 years in DG Agriculture and Rural Development, where he dealt initially with agritrade and development (2007-2014) and then with inter-institutional issues (2015-2016). He is specialised in governance, agriculture, food security and nutrition in the Mediterranean and Sub Saharan African regions. He holds a PhD in Agricultural economics (University of Reading, UK) and authored several scientific publications on these topics.



Patrick Caron

President of the High Level Panel of Experts of the United Nations Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

Patrick Caron has been appointed by the Bureau of the UN Committee on World Food Security as President of the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) of the United Nations on World Food Security. He served as Chair of the HLPE Steering Committee for the mandate 2015-2017. He holds a PhD in development geography and is a specialist of farming systems and territorial dynamics, with a special focus on livestock farming. He joined CIRAD in 1988 where he has been Director-General for research and strategy from 2010 to 2016, after having served as Scientific Director for the 'Territories, Environment and People' Department of CIRAD (2001-2004) and as Director of the 'Environments and Societies' Department from 2007 to 2010. His work relates to the analysis of the role of agriculture and livestock in rural transformations, particularly in Brazil, Southern Africa and the Near East. He specially looks at the trans-scales combination of processes and actions (from household to international levels) which underpin changes at the territorial level, and, in return, at the capacity of territory to play a regulatory function. He is a member of many institutional and inter-institutional bodies. He is chairing the Scientific Council of AgroParisTech and is a member of several journals' editorial committees. He also worked in several scientific committees of international conferences. In 2015, he chaired the Organizing committee of the Global Science Conference on Climate Smart Agriculture (Montpellier, France), in 2016 the international conference Agrichains and sustainable development. He is the author of more than two hundred publications.

Franz Fischler

President, European Forum Alpbach, Vienna

Franz Fischler is President of the European Forum Alpbach. He is an Austrian politician and was the European Union's Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries from 1995 to 2004. Franz Fischler also chaired the Expo 2015 EU Scientific Steering Committee. Born in Absam (Tyrol), he studied agriculture at the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences of Vienna (Austria). He worked as University assistant from 1973 to 1979, then for the Tyrol Chamber of Agriculture, finally as its director from 1985 to 1989. Between 1989 and 1994, Fischler was Federal Minister for Agriculture and Forestry, and since 1990 elected Member of National Council. In 1995 he became European Commissioner in Brussels, responsible for agriculture and rural development. In 1999 fisheries also became

part of his responsibilities. At the 1999 Berlin summit, Franz Fischler had significant influence on the Agenda 2000. In 2011, Austria has decided to nominate Dr. Franz Fischler as a candidate for the position of director general of FAO.

Wolfgang Burtscher

Deputy Director General, DG Research, Science and Innovation

Wolfgang Burtscher is Deputy Director-General of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, responsible for Open Innovation, Open Science, Open to the World. An Austrian national, Wolfgang Burtscher acted before joining DG Research and Innovation as a Director in DG Agriculture of the European Commission since 2000. Before joining the Commission in 2000 Mr Burtscher was representative of the Länder at the Austrian Permanent Representation to the EU. From 1992 to 1996, he was Director of European Affairs in the Vorarlberg administration. Previously, from 1990 to 1992, he was a legal advisor at the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) in Geneva, at the time of negotiations on the European Economic Area (EEA). He focused particularly on the free circulation of goods and capital and on competition issues. Between 1983 and 1990 he was a lecturer in International and European Law at the University of Innsbruck. Wolfgang Burtscher holds a PhD in Law and a qualification from the Institut Européen des Hautes Etudes Internationales in Nice.

Sara Savastano

Director of the Research and Impact Assessment Division of IFAD

Sara Savastano is the Director of Research and Impact Assessment (RIA) Division of the Strategy and Knowledge Department at the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Prior to her current appointment, she was Senior Economist at the World Bank with the Development Economic Group. From 2008 to 2016 Sara was Assistant Professor in Economics at the University of Rome Tor Vergata. Before the University she served as an Economist at the Public Investment Evaluation Unit of the Italian Ministry of Finance. She is secretary general of ICABR, the International Consortium on Applied Bioeconomy Research. Her research focuses on land policies and institutions, rural development, agriculture efficiency and productivity, technology adoption. She has been consultant to FAO, World Bank, IFPRI, and other public and private institutions. She holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Rome Tor Vergata.

Roberto Ridolfi

Special Advisor on strategy and financing development for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Dr Roberto Ridolfi, Ph.D. is seconded from the European Union to FAO in Rome as Special Adviser for Strategy and Financing Development, as of January 2018. Dr Ridolfi was Director for Sustainable Growth and; Development well as Director for& Planet and Prosperity at the Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO) of the European Commission (2013 - 2017). He was

instrumental in developing main policy innovations on the role of the private sector in development, the promotion of financial instruments and blending, notably in the areas of renewable energy and productive agriculture launching, inter alia, initiatives like ELECTRIFI and AGRIFI and, most notably though the conception and the start - up of the 44 Billion EUR European External Investment Plan and the European Fund for Sustainable Development.

Enrico Pausilli

Deputy Director at World Food Programme

Mr. Enrico Pausilli joined WFP in 1995 in headquarters and has since served in diverse functional and management roles, in both HQ and field operations and participated in many complex emergencies. He currently serves as Deputy Director of the World Food Programme Office responsible for establishing and fostering relationships with European Union institutions and the Belgian government. His previous assignments include Head of the ICT Emergency Preparedness & Response and External Relations Unit in Rome, Head of Office in Jonglei State, South Sudan and Senior Programme Policy Officer in Ethiopia. Mr. Pausilli is a national of Italy and holds a diploma in accounting and a Master's degree in Mathematics and Computer Science.

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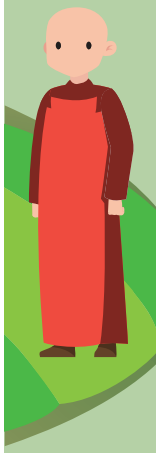

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