



# CORK 2.0

## EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT 5-6 SEPTEMBER 2016



### PROGRAMME

#EU\_Cork2

#### MONDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER 2016

10:00 *Registration* *Room: Atrium*

13:30 – 14:30 *Welcome coffee* *Room: Kiltegan Suite*

14:30 – 15:30 **Opening Session** *Room: Estuary Suite*

**Chair: Heino von Meyer, OECD**

*Welcome address by **Michael Creed**, Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Ireland*

- **Phil Hogan**, Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development
- **Czesław Adam Siekierski**, President of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, European Parliament
- **Gabriela Matečná**, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Slovakia

15:30 – 16:00 *Visit to the Market Place  
Coffee break* *Room: Kiltegan Suite*

16:00 – 18:15 **Work in parallel sessions**

**PARALLEL SESSION 1** **Jobs, Growth and Investment in the agri-food supply chain and the wider rural economy**

*Room: Estuary Suite*

**Kick off presentations by:**

- **Sophia Davidova**, Professor, University of Kent, UK and Honorary Director of the Centre of European Agri-Environmental Studies(CEAS)
- **Jean-Christophe Bureau**, Professor, AgroParisTech and Head of Joint Research Team of Public Economics of INRA, France

Investments play a pivotal role in the sustainability of the agri-food chain. The capacity to provide or catalyse such investments is a key challenge for the CAP in view of the Commission priority of Jobs, Growth and Investments. This workshop will look at sustainable solutions for competitive and economically viable agriculture and rural areas. Particular attention needs to be given to issues such as increased competition on global markets, better risk management, quality requirements, enhancing cooperation, and developing new business models and value chains – bioeconomy and circular economy.

**PARALLEL SESSION 2** **Rural environment, climate & water**

*Room: Syndicate*

**Kick off presentations by:**

- **Helena Gómez-Macpherson**, Senior Scientist at the Institute of Sustainable Agriculture (CSIC), Cordoba, Spain
- **David Baldock**, Executive Director of the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP)

The CAP is the key EU instrument to encourage sustainable resource management and the delivery of public goods related to the environment and climate. This workshop will look at the challenges related to issues such as sustainable intensification, emission mitigation, sustainable water management (quantity and quality) and a more result-oriented delivery towards biodiversity, soil and water objectives.

**PARALLEL SESSION 3** **Targeting innovation to farmers' needs**

*Room: Gallery Restaurant*

**Kick off presentations by**

- **Jane Rickson**, Professor, School of Water, Energy and Environment at Cranfield University, UK
- **Emil Erjavec**, Full Professor of Agricultural Policy and Economics at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

Agri-food is likely to benefit from breakthrough innovation in several areas in the coming decades. Challenges like climate change, an increasingly competitive international environment, and continued changes in the organisation of the supply chain require innovation. Opportunities offered by developments

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in ICT, breeding, and new markets hold promises for an innovative agriculture sector but would need to be further developed to take into account different types of farmers' needs. To meet these challenges and grasp the opportunities offered by innovation, farmers need to become knowledge workers. This workshop will address innovation needs and discuss policy answers regarding knowledge creation, transfer and sharing.

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**PARALLEL  
SESSION 4**

**Rural viability**

**Room: Maple Suite**

**Kick off presentations by**

- **Hans-Olof Stålgren**, Senior Officer at the Swedish Rural Network and Policy Area Coordinator for Fishery and Aquaculture for the Baltic Sea Region
- **Carmen Hubbard**, Senior Researcher, Centre of Rural Economy and lecturer in the School of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, Newcastle University, UK

Demographic changes bring new opportunities but also challenges to the wider rural economy. Rural exodus reduces skills and knowledge needed to promote rural entrepreneurship. In some areas, this is further exacerbated by a lack of basic services. At the same time, rural areas can benefit from an influx of highly skilled urban dwellers. Broadband and ICT developments are breaking down many boundaries and rural areas must pick up on this trend and promote smart solutions and benefit from the growth in the digital economy. Improving rural-urban linkages could promote rural competitiveness and reduce the rural-urban drift of the population. A more integrated approach at regional level between villages and urban centres coupled with a better management of the rural-urban interactions can increase growth opportunities, job creation and quality of life. Rural areas also offer solutions for new societal challenges such as for instance the need to integrate migrants and refugees. Some rural areas have successfully turned this challenge into an opportunity, adding new skills and critical mass for the provision of basic services.

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18:25 Transfer to the University College Cork (UCC)

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19:00 – 22:00 *Cocktail and walking dinner at the University College Cork (UCC)*

**Key-note speech** by **Gunter Pauli**, Author of the Blue Economy

## TUESDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER 2016

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09:00 – 10:30 **Work in Parallel sessions** (continued)

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10:30 – 11:00 *Coffee break*

*Room: Kiltegan Suite*

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11:00 – 12:30 **Panel on innovative and alternative delivery mechanisms**

*Room: Estuary Suite*

**Chair: Allan Buckwell**, Emeritus Prof. Agricultural Economics, Imperial College London

- **Doug O'Brien**, Senior Policy Advisor for Rural Affairs with the White House Domestic Policy Council
  - **Werner Schmidt**, Director, Environment and Sustainable Territorial Development, European Investment Bank (EIB)
  - **Janez Potočnik**, Co-Chair of the International Resource Panel (IRP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
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12:30 – 14:00 *Lunch*

*Room: Kiltegan Suite*

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14:00 – 15:30 **Plenary: reporting from the groups**

*Room: Estuary Suite*

**Chair: Allan Buckwell**, Emeritus Prof. Agricultural Economics, Imperial College London

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15:30 – 16:00 *Coffee break*

*Room: Kiltegan Suite*

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16:00 – 17:00 **Presentation of new Cork Declaration**

*Room: Estuary Suite*

**Chair: Heino von Meyer**, OECD

- Remarks by **Dr Franz Fischler**, Former Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development, initiator of the 1996 Cork Conference
  - Remarks and Closing by **Commissioner Phil Hogan**
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17:00 – 18:00 *Closing cocktail*

*Room: Kiltegan Suite*

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