

Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum Keynote Seminar

Food security 2012 - taking forward the Foresight project *Global Food and Farming Futures*

Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 23rd May 2012

Venue: Wellcome Trust Lecture Hall, Royal Society, 6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Barry Gardiner MP, Leader of the Opposition's Special Envoy for Climate Change and the Environment
- 9.05 - 9.30 **Taking forward *Global Food and Farming Futures***
Sir John Beddington, Chief Scientific Adviser to HM Government and Head, Government Office for Science
- 9.30 - 9.45 Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.45 - 10.55 **Impact of the Foresight report, and implications for future practice and policymaking**
One year on from the launch of 'Global Food and Farming Futures', how is the report being used to inform policymaking and practice for food businesses, farmers and relevant NGOs? How well is the aim of 'sustainable intensification' being understood, and what progress is being made on increasing productivity whilst reducing reliance on resources and impacting less? What further challenges does the Foresight report pose for the UK food chain when dealing with producers internationally, and particularly smallholders? How has the report been received outside the UK, and what kind of initiatives have been put in place in response to the review? Following Defra's commitment to champion an integrated approach from government and other international institutions towards food security, are changes being seen in national and supranational policymaking? Does the report have the potential to go beyond being an informational resource to being a 'game-changer' for food security, and does more need to be done to ensure food security remains a high priority going forward? What should be the priorities for improving food security today?
Professor Sandy Thomas, Head of Foresight, Government Office for Science
Tom Hind, Director of Corporate Affairs, NFU
Professor Tim Benton, Champion for the UK's Global Food Security programme and Professor of Population Ecology, University of Leeds
Dr Gail Smith, Technical Manager, Sustainable Agriculture, Unilever
Lindsay Harris, Deputy Director, Food Policy Unit, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Mark Driscoll, Head, One Planet Food Programme, WWF-UK
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.55 - 11.00 **Chairman's closing remarks**
Barry Gardiner MP, Leader of the Opposition's Special Envoy for Climate Change and the Environment
- 11.00 - 11.30 Coffee
- 11.30 - 11.35 **Chairman's opening remarks**
George Freeman MP, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Science and Technology in Agriculture
- 11.35 - 11.55 **The Foresight project and next steps for tackling global hunger**
Caroline Hurford, Senior Public Information Officer, United Nations World Food Programme
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.55 - 12.55 **Innovation, science and food security - impact on food security and food price**
With the Foresight report calling for the 'sustainable intensification' of agriculture, what should be the priorities for improving productivity? How far should technology, including GM and wider crop protection measures, be used to build a more sustainable and productive food industry? Is it time for Government to re-assess the role of technology in the food chain, and are UK consumers ready to accept different production methods? Is knowledge about food security and resource efficiency being seen to affect consumer purchasing habits, and does more need to be done on changing eating habits? What is the likely impact of intensifying production on the price of food? Does more need to be done to support innovation in food production, and to build the UK research base in agricultural sciences? With the European Union having recently appointed a chief scientist for the first time, what potential is there to extend co-operation on food security concerns? How should food security concerns be built into cross-departmental policymaking, and should the need to increase food production be taken into consideration when legislating on consumer health and safety?
Professor Charles Godfray, Chair, Lead Expert Group, Global Food and Farming Futures, Foresight and Director, Oxford Martin Programme on the Future of Food, University of Oxford
Dominic Dyer, Chief Executive, Crop Protection Association
Sue Davies, Chief Policy Advisor, Which?
Dr Julian Little, Chair, Agricultural Biotechnology Council (abc)
Helen Browning, Chief Executive, Soil Association
Jack Watts, Senior Analyst, Cereals and Oilseeds, Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB)
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's closing remarks and Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum closing remarks**
George Freeman MP, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Science and Technology in Agriculture
Michael Ryan, Deputy Editor, Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum



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