



Annual Meeting 2008

Fédération Nationale du Crédit Agricole, Paris, 11-12 September 2008

11 September 2008. 15h00 – 18h00

Investing in agriculture in a context of higher food prices – Views from EastAgri members

Moderator: Charles Riemenschneider, Director, Investment Centre, FAO

- Welcoming notes by **Michel Clavé**, Head, Agriculture & Agrifood, Crédit Agricole S.A, and **Charles Riemenschneider**, Director, Investment Centre Division, FAO
- **Philippe Vinçon**, Deputy Director, International Relations, French Ministry of Agriculture
- **Stefan Tangermann**, Director, Trade and Agriculture Directorate, OECD

Soaring food prices and the EastAgri region

- **Gilles Mettetal**, Director, Agribusiness, and **Heike Harmgart**, Economist, Office of the Chief Economist, EBRD

Financing the food chain in transition economies: revisiting EBRD's priorities in a context of higher food prices? Transition challenges in agribusiness.

- **Renate Kloeppinger-Todd**, Rural Finance Advisor, Agricultural and Rural Development Department, World Bank

Main messages on rural finance from the World Development Report (WDR) 2008

Q&A's

Coffee break

- **Kaj Mortensen**, Head of Unit, Pre-Accession Assistance to Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission

EU's support to agricultural and rural development in pre-accession and neighbouring countries.

- **Yves Péju**, Managing Director, Crédit Agricole Consultants

Can agriculture develop without agricultural banks? Crédit Agricole's perspective on the special features of agricultural banks. Crédit Agricole's network in the EastAgri region and its involvement in agriculture financing.

- **Stepan Gishyan**, Chief Executive Officer, ACBA - Crédit Agricole Bank CJSC, Armenia

The role of ACBA-Crédit Agricole in financing and supporting Armenia's agricultural sector

Q&A's

- **Emmanuel Hidier**, Senior Economist, Investment Centre Division, FAO

Presentation of EastAgri's activities. Introduction to the round table discussions on 12 September 2008

Cocktail reception hosted by the EBRD (18h00)

12 September 2008. 9h00 – 12h30

Parallel round tables

① Instruments for agricultural financing and risk management in the EastAgri region

Moderator: Frank Hollinger, Rural Finance Officer, FAO

During this round table, participants will review existing financial instruments available in the EastAgri region for agricultural investment – from agricultural insurance schemes to warehouse receipts systems and commodities and futures markets. The discussion will be informed by the preliminary results of an on-going regional study carried out under the FAO/World Bank cooperation. It will be an occasion for EastAgri members to identify areas where their interventions could make a difference in the field of agricultural finance.

② Soaring food prices: a window of opportunities for Russia and Ukraine?

Moderator: Eugenia Serova, Senior Advisor, FAO

This round table will aim at exploring what the immediate responses of Russian and Ukrainian producers to soaring food prices have been so far (exports of grain vs. domestic meat consumption, wheat vs. corn, rapeseed vs. wheat, meat self-sufficiency vs. meat imports, etc). Participants will discuss the implications of these changes on the investment options of EastAgri members and other players, as well as possible policy directions for governments of the region.

③ Adding value to the agricultural production of the EastAgri region: Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs), Quality Labels and Geographical Indications

Moderator: Gilles Mettetal, Director, Agribusiness, EBRD

This session will be an occasion to examine how value can be added to certain agricultural products in the region by promoting quality and geographical origin. The respective roles of private and public sector stakeholders to develop marketing approaches based on quality and terroir will be debated. Examples of successful promotion of local products will be discussed, as well as the investments required for launching quality and geographical origin labels.

④ Participatory approaches to rural development in the Western Balkans

Moderator: Kaj Mortensen, DG Agriculture, European Commission

*Participants will explore new approaches to rural development, drawing lessons from programmes implemented in the EU **including the applications of integrated local approaches** (LEADER, etc), and evaluating their possible application to the Western Balkans in the particular context of EastAgri members' investment projects. The conceptual background underpinning these approaches, e.g. the endogenous growth theory, will also be presented to the audience.*

12 September 2008. 14h00 – 16h00

Wrap-up session

- Round tables conclusions and way forward for EastAgri and its members

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