

HIGH LEVEL DINNER:

Delivering the Sustainable Development Goals through Innovation

Tuesday, October 18, 2016

Rome Cavalieri, Rome

SPEAKERS:

Master of Ceremonies:

Jaine Chisholm Caunt (UK), Chair of the International Agri-Food Network

Greetings:

Remarks by H.E. Amira Gornass, Chair of CFS

Thank you to the Chair, Charlotte Hebebrand, IFA

Fire-Starter:

Tara Nathan

Executive Vice President for Public Private Partnerships at MasterCard

Closing:

Klaus Kraemer

Director, Sight & Life & DSM

KEY THEMES & DISCUSSION POINTS

During the evening, 190 Ambassadors, country representatives, NGOs, scientists, UN Agencies, and private sector representatives discussed means to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals through Innovation.

Each table was guided by a facilitator and rapporteur. Discussion was lively, and delegates came up with many concrete recommendations for fostering innovation in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Ways to foster innovation:

- Creating Partnerships with Government, Academia, Smallholders, Private Sectors and Civil Societies
- Invest in research, including through public private partnerships, academia, and government agencies
- Government Partnerships that focus on long term solutions rather than going straight to regulations
- Consider unusual partners
- Knowledge as empowerment; invest in education
- The importance of making knowledge accessible to connect through dialogue and to involve government to develop public extension services
- Empower smallholders and more women
- Diversification to minimize risk (decreasing volatility of the entire production portfolio)
- Value adding processing at local level
- Multi stakeholder platforms for networking, exchange of information, share cases
- Business models that include traditional local knowledge
- Promotion of agriculture biotechnologies
- Institute global reporting standards for companies against the SDG's in the same manner as global financial reporting standards
- Recognize that the world is not "Business as Usual" – encourage new paradigm thinking, looking for win-win opportunities for all.
- Are partners should question themselves and focus efforts. Ask "where can we have the greatest impact?"
- Focus on the importance of access to Internet & Technology
- Trust building initiations and transparency across stakeholder groups

MAIN CONCLUSIONS

In order to achieve the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals innovation is a cornerstone.

It is imperative that significant investments are made in technologies and infrastructure. These investments can then foster the sharing of knowledge empowerment and innovation advancements globally.

When creating new platforms of innovation it would be important to analyze the local and historical methods to ensure the results will be used by the end users. It would also be important to develop SGD indicators to measure the innovation outcomes.

New and creative partnerships models are required, and need to be implemented with full transparency and involve all stakeholders and actors including all levels of Government, Smallholders, the Private Sector and Civil Societies. Trust and cooperation between stakeholders is a must for the Sustainable Development Goals to be reached.