

TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FOOD POLICY

BUILDING A FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SYSTEM THAT WORKS
FOR ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH, ECONOMIES AND TASTE

11 MARCH

1.30 PM – 5 PM | PERMANENT
REPRESENTATION OF THE
NETHERLANDS IN BRUSSELS

EVENT CO-ORGANISED BY THE EUROPEAN PUBLIC HEALTH
ALLIANCE AND THE EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL BUREAU

The event will give fresh impetus to the debate about a coherent and sustainable food and agricultural policy.

Inspired by the Netherlands Scientific Council for Government Policy report **“Towards a food policy”**, the event will discuss *why* we need more coherence in the food and agricultural system and *what* key features a sustainable food policy should pose. The event is also an opportunity to show that a sustainable food system is not a just a dream, but already in the making.

Following analysis by the Netherlands Scientific Council for Government Policy, the global food and agricultural system faces three main challenges:

1. Ecological sustainability
2. Public health
3. Food net resilience

In today's world, it is no longer sufficient to conceive the ecological sustainability of food production primarily as an agricultural issue, and food related public health problems as issues of consumer choices.

This is why the *“time has come for an explicit, comprehensive food policy”*.



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PROGRAMME

- 13.30 – 14.00 | *Registration*
- 14.00 – 14.40 | *Opening remarks, keynote intervention*
- Opening remarks by EEB
- Rob van Brouwershaven, Director, Plant Supply Chain and Food Quality Department, Netherlands Ministry of Economic Affairs**
Observations on food policy by the Dutch government.
- Prof. Gerard de Vries and Josta de Hoog, Netherlands Scientific Council for Government Policy**
Co-authors of ground-breaking report "Towards a Food Policy": why do we need a coherent food policy? Q&A
- 14.40 – 15.10 | *Conceptualising a sustainable food policy*
- Prof. Tim Lang, Centre for Food Policy, City University London**
For many years engaged in academic and public research and debate about the direction of food policy. What would a sustainable food policy need to be and do? Q&A
- 15.10 – 15.30 | *Coffee Break*
- 15.30 – 17.00 | *Panel debate, moderated by Monique Goyens, Director General of BEUC (The European Consumer Organisation)*
- David Baldock, Executive Director, Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP)**
Policy options to encourage more sustainable food choices and how they could influence changes in agriculture.
- Dr. Aileen Robertson, Metropolitan University College, Denmark**
Food policy and nutrition, overcoming inequalities in access to healthy food.
- Peter Beznec, Director, Centre for Health and Development Murska Sobota**
Municipalities across Europe are building sustainable food strategies, examples from Slovenia.
- Jean-Pierre de Leener, Organic vegetable grower, Member of SlowFood**
What is needed for a resilient farm? (How) can policy contribute?
- Katrien Barrat, Consultant on food initiatives, Co-founder "De Fermetisten"**
Insight on market trends, opportunities and difficulties faced by innovative food chain SMEs.
- 17.00 – 17.15 | *Closing Remarks*
- Peter Power, Head of Cabinet European Commissioner Phil Hogan**
Observations on food policy by the Cabinet of European Commissioner Phil Hogan
- Afterword by EPHA
- 17.15 | *Reception*