



Agricultural Development and Support: Experience from the past, prospects for the future.

Public meeting in Copenhagen on 18th March 2010, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Venue: Eigtveds Pakhus, Asiatisk Plads 2

The 2008 World Development Report pointed out that increased support to agriculture is vital for economic development and improved food security. Since then, fluctuations in international food prices and the economic crisis have further emphasized the need to take a fresh look at what works and what does not work in terms of promoting food production and agricultural development.

Support to agriculture has held a fairly prominent role in Danish development cooperation and the meeting on the 18th March 2010 in Copenhagen will feed into ongoing Danish and international discussions on development and the role of agriculture in development and in promoting food security and combating hunger. A range of donor agencies and evaluation offices have expressed their interest in the topic and the meeting thus aims at bringing together development practitioners, researchers, representatives of partner countries, donor agencies and their evaluation departments to discuss experience in the field and possible ways forward.

Tentative programme:

8:30 – 9:00: Registration and coffee

9:00 – 9:15: Welcome by State Secretary for Development Policy, Ib Petersen

9:15 – 9:45: *Agricultural development: dealing with the awkward sector?* Presentation by Steve Wiggins, Research Fellow and Programme Leader, Overseas Development Institute (ODI).

9:45 – 10:15: *Millions Fed – Proven Successes in Agricultural Development.* Presentation by Rajul Pandya-Lorch, Head of the 2020 Vision Initiative, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).

10:15 – 10:45: *Agricultural value chain interventions in Africa: What works, when and how?* Presentation by Stefano Ponte, Senior Researcher, Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS).

10:45 – 11:15: Coffee break

11.15 – 11.45: *Public support to agricultural development in Uganda: experiences and lessons learned.* By Dr. Bernard Bashaasha, Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, Faculty of Agriculture, Makerere University.

11.45 – 12.15: *Climate change, agriculture and food security in Africa.* By Simon Anderson, International Institute for Environment and Development, IIED.

12:15-12:30: Introduction to group work

12:30 – 13:00: Sandwiches

13:00 – 14:30: Group discussions:

Group A: Agriculture and agribusiness/value chain development (introduction by Olav Juul Sørensen, University of Aalborg and Lone Riisgaard, Danish Institute for Development Studies, DIIS) (*This group will meet in Room III for group discussion*).

Group B: Food security in Africa: the role of agricultural research and extension (introduction by Ian Christoplos, DIIS and Anne Sørensen from the Danish Development Research Network, DDRN). (*This group will meet in Room IV*).

Group C: Climate change, agriculture and food security in Africa (introduction by Simon Anderson, Institute for Environment and Development, IIED and Christine Roehrer, DfID). (*This group will meet in Room F*).

14.30 – 15:00: Coffee break

15:00 – 15:30: Feed-back from group discussions

15:30 – 16:45: Panel discussion: Policy directions for the future.

In the Panel: Steve Wiggins, ODI; Ranjul Pandya-Lorch, IFPRI; Garry Smith, FAO; Lucciano Lavizzari Director, Evaluation Unit, IFAD; Bernard Bashaasha, Makerere University, Simon Anderson, IIED.

16:45 – 17:00: Closure by Klaus Bustrup, Danida Board chairman.

The meeting is organised by the Evaluation Department and the Technical Advisory Services in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in cooperation with the Danish Development Research Network, DDRN.

To register for the event please send an e-mail to Iona Eberle at ie@ddrn.dk no later than March 15, 2010. When you send you registration, please indicate which group you would like to attend during group discussions (A, B or C above).