



Agriculture & Rural Development Day

COPENHAGEN 12 December 2009

*****Save the Date*****

Agriculture & Rural Development Day at COP15
(www.agricultureday.org)

Feeding the World in the Face Climate Change

Agriculture and Development Leaders Meet in Copenhagen to Map Priority Actions Needed to Prepare Farming for Climate Threat and Reduce Its Environmental Footprint

The ability of agriculture to adapt and withstand the impacts of climate change is one of the most pressing issues of our time. Climate change presents a very real threat to the livelihoods and food security for millions of people in developing countries. Yet, agriculture is also adding to the climate change problem. Current practices, including the conversion of forests and grasslands for crops and pasture, contribute some 31 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions.

A changing planet brings an unprecedented opportunity to turn around agriculture in developing countries, making it more sustainable, reducing its negative impacts on the global environment, and at the same time, enhancing food security.

Agriculture & Rural Development Day (ARDD) is a one-day event on **Saturday, 12 December 2009 at the Faculty of Life Sciences (LIFE) at the University of Copenhagen** that will bring together approximately 300 policymakers, negotiators, rural development practitioners, producers, civil society and the agricultural and climate change scientific community, in order to build consensus on what has to be done to fully incorporate agriculture into the post-Copenhagen climate agenda, and to discuss a clear workplan of strategies and actions needed to address climate change adaptation and mitigation in the agriculture sector.

Key speakers:

- **Tom Vilsack**, United States Secretary of Agriculture
- **Gordon Conway**, Professor of International Development, Imperial College London
- **Kanayo F. Nwanze**, President of International Fund for Agricultural Development – IFAD
- **Katherine Sierra**, CGIAR Chair and Vice President for Sustainable Development, World Bank
- **Ajay Vashee**, President of International Federation of Agricultural Producers – IFAP
- **M.S. Swaminathan**, Chairman, M.S Swaminathan Research Foundation
- **Adel El-Beltagy**, Chair of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR)

Key issues that will be discussed at ARDD:

- *Impact* of climate change on development, poverty and food security
- *Adaptation*: Triple challenge of increasing food productivity, climate resilience and reducing emissions
- *Mitigation*: Unlocking the potential of emissions markets for smallholder farmers
- *Innovations* in the agricultural sector of relevance to the climate change agenda

For more information, please visit: <http://www.agricultureday.org/event-information.html> or contact Jeff Haskins at +254 729 871 422 or jhaskins@burnesscommunications.com