



Brussels Policy Briefing n° 22

The water we eat: challenges and opportunities for ACP in times of scarcity

Wednesday 13 April 2011 – 8h30 – 13h00

European Commission, Berlaymont Building: Rue de la Loi 200, Room Walter Hallstein

<http://brusselsbriefings.net>

PRESS RELEASE

The world is on the brink of an unprecedented water crisis. Water is likely to be the most important strategic resource by the end of the next decade and the key to achieving global economic development. During the Brussels Development Briefing on “The Water we eat : challenges for ACP countries in times of scarcity” to be held on April 13th, 2011, the Technical Center for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), DG DEVCO of the European Commission the ACP Secretariat, CONCORD, and other partners will bring together policy experts, practitioners and academics to talk about the current and emerging challenges related to the link between agriculture and water management.

In the first panel from 8.45 a.m. to 10.15 a.m., speakers will focus on the challenges that water poses to agriculture and food security. The panel will feature David Molden from the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) and Tony Allan from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London who launched the concept of virtual trade water and Dyborn Chibonga from the Malawian farmer organisation NASFAM among others and Shiney Varghese from IATP in the USA on water scarcity and the right to food.

In the second panel from 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m., speakers will concentrate on the policy options and future governance to secure water for all. Discussants include Charlotte de Fraiture, International Water Management Institute (IWMI) on the solutions to agricultural water management, Ruth Matthews, Executive Director of the Water Footprint Network and Elijah Phiri, Professor of Soil Science at the University of Zambia among others.

The conference will take place in the Berlaymont Building of the European Commission (Room Walter Hallstein). To register, please visit <http://brusselsbriefings.net> where you will find additional information about the speakers and the topic. If you are unable to attend in person, you can access a live webstream in English and French at <http://bit.ly/i8bHYL>. You can also ask us your questions about the event to Brussels.briefings@cta.int. We will do our best to bring them into the debate.

You can also address any questions or journalistic enquiries to Brussels.briefings@cta.int. For additional information, please consult the document we attached to this email.