



Brussels Policy Briefing n. 48

Strengthening rural livelihoods in the face of rapid urbanisation in Africa

Organised by CTA, BMZ/GIZ, ACP Secretariat, European Commission (DG DEVCO) and Concord

20th March 2017, 14h00-18h00

ACP Secretariat, Avenue Georges Henri 451, 1200 Brussels

<http://brusselsbriefings.net>

Programme

13h00-14h00 Registration and light Lunch

14h00-14h30 Introduction of the Briefing: *Isolina Boto, Manager, CTA Brussels Office*

Introductory remarks: *Olusola Ojo, Expert Sustainable Economic Development and Trade, ACP Secretariat; Annelene Bremer, Senior Policy Officer, Rural Development, Land Rights, Forestry, BMZ; Michael Hailu, Director, CTA*

14h30-16h00 Panel 1: Potential of closer rural-urban linkages for rural transformation and job creation

Chair: *H.E Johnson Mwangi Weru, Ambassador of Kenya to the EU*

Panellists:

- Fostering Rural-Urban links and the implications for the rural economy
Steve Wiggins, Senior Researcher, ODI
- Employment opportunities in West African food systems
Thomas Allen, Economist, Sahel and West Africa Club Secretariat, OECD SWAC
- Agri-Business-Led Employment for Youth in African Agriculture: new opportunities
Edson Mpyisi, Principal Agricultural Economist, Coordinator, Agropoles and Agro-Industrial Parks, Agriculture and Agro-Industry Department, African Development Bank Group
- Applying a territorial lens to rural development: West Kenya portfolio
Petra Jacobi, Project Manager, GIZ

16h00-16h15 Coffee Break

16h15-18h00 Panel 2: Creating opportunities for rural youth in transforming food systems

Chair: *H.E. Mr Amadou Diop, Ambassador of Senegal to the EU*

Panellists:

- Fostering employment through territorial development
Denis Pesche, sociologist at CIRAD and member of the Research Unit ART-Dev 'Actors, Resources and Territories in Development' (Montpellier University)
- Opportunities for young entrepreneurs in serving urban or semi-urban markets
Nono Dimakatso Sekhoto, African Farmers' Association of South Africa
- Adding value to local products for urban markets
Omar Ouedraogo, Fédération des professionnels agricoles du Burkina (FEPA/B)

Closing remarks