

**15th Annual International Sustainable Development Research Conference  
July 5-8, 2009**

***"Taking up the Global Challenge: Analysing the implementation of  
innovations and governance for Sustainable Development"***

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**(Provisional Version)**

**Track nr 3E: Sustainable Agriculture**

**Track chair:** Prof. Peter de Ruiter (Wageningen University, the Netherlands),  
Prof. Oene Oenema (Wageningen University, the Netherlands)

Agriculture and food production are key elements in the sustainable development of global, regional and local communities.

First sustainability challenge regards food security. While the Millennium Development Goals aim to reduce hunger, worldwide between 800 and 900 million people are chronically hungry, and up to 2 billion people lack food security intermittently and or suffer from micro nutrient deficiency and vitamins (zinc, iron, vitamin A) due to varying degrees of poverty (source: FAO,2003). Various processes tend to worsen food availability, e.g. because of land use change (biofuel, urban and industrial development), global population growth and climate change.

Second sustainability challenge regards the development of environmental sound agricultural practices and management systems that ensures an adequate income for the farmer without severe adverse effects on the environment. This relates to the last (8th) Millennium Development Goal (Environmental sustainability). Effects of agriculture on the environment include the degradation of natural ecosystems and biological diversity on local, regional and global scales through deforestation, emissions of ammonia and greenhouse gases to the atmosphere and nitrogen and phosphorus to waters.

Both sustainability challenges ask for innovations in natural, social and economic processes and systems. In turn, these innovations ask for multidisciplinary research programs in which the interplay between these processes are addressed and which are aimed to contribute to the answers on the sustainability challenges.

Participants of the conference are invited to present their studies and views on sustainable Agriculture. Contributions may range from specific studies focusing of sustainable practices at a farm scale up to global analysis of agriculture, food production and environmental processes. The organizers especially welcome contributions that adopt multidisciplinary approaches.

Please look at the detailed instructions and deadlines for submitting your abstract and paper, using the Submission & guidelines button at the left side.