



**3rd Forum for the Future of Agriculture - Regional Event
Budapest, June 3, 2010**

Challenges of modern food and feed production

Over 200 participants gathered in Budapest for the first regional conference of the 2010 Forum for the Future of Agriculture. This particular conference focused primarily on the challenges of modern food and feed production. György CZERVAN, State Secretary of the Hungarian Ministry for Rural Development stated that it is essential to find the necessary solutions to develop an agricultural strategy and argued that farming should become more sustainable and multifunctional. CZERVAN underlined the importance of maintaining the CAP and also indicated that Hungary has a long tradition in agricultural expertise and research, and the country's scientists will be one of Hungary's most important assets in this respect.

Furthermore, Thierry de l'ESCAILLE, Secretary General of the European Landowners' Organization and Jethro SCHIANSKY from the RISE foundation both insisted that farmers and land managers alike need to be properly rewarded for their provision of public goods. It was stressed that both the agricultural and environmental sectors needed to make the case for a CAP budget commensurate to deal with global challenges which Europe must contribute to meeting also after 2013. This topic was also underlined by Professor Jozsef POPP from the Research Institute for Agricultural Economics who insisted that "In the CAP reform after 2013, a proper weight has to be given to good ecology and climate change".

Mark TITTERINGTON, Syngenta representative and founding partner of the FFA argued that policies similar to the CAP have to lead to stable farm incomes and enable farmers to access the best available tools, technologies and training necessary for high performance agriculture and the delivery of social and environmental public goods and services.

To conclude, this conference reinforced the need for food and environmental security to be addressed together by both the EU and Member States and demonstrated the benefits which can be delivered when this happens.