



**ETP Stakeholders event
“Five years of the ETP Food for Life
Boosting research for competitiveness
Vision for Europe 2020”
3rd March 2010**

Foreword

It is a great pleasure to introduce you to the Special Edition Newsletter dedicated to the ETP Stakeholders event “*Five years of the ETP Food for Life: Boosting research for competitiveness; A Vision for Europe 2020*”. Below you will find full details of the event as well as the agenda.

Pleasant reading!

Julian Drausinger
Chairman of the Communication
Training & Technology Transfer Working
Group

Background information

As an innovative and progressive industry, the food sector has a vested interest in science-based research. As a result, CIAA and its members are committed to promoting a culture of research and innovation in the agri-food sector, paying particular attention to the specificities and needs of SMEs.

To this end, and under the auspices of the CIAA, the European Technology Platform (ETP) “Food for Life” was created in 2005.

Since its establishment, the ETP has forged strong links with European industry organisations, universities and research institutions, funding bodies in individual Member States, the European Commission and consumer groups across the EU. It has focalised major research needs at the forefront of agri-food research agenda to secure a

successful and dynamic European food industry. This has been achieved through indicating what resources might be needed, where they might come from and what other non-research issues will have to be addressed to ensure the European Research Area for the food sector becomes a reality.

It is now time to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the ETP through a stakeholder event entitled: “Five years of the ETP Food for Life: Boosting research for competitiveness; A Vision for Europe 2020”

This stakeholder event will be held in Brussels on 3 March 2010. The aim of the event is to bring together key stakeholders of the food sector to share the progress made by the Platform over the last couple of years as well as to share with them our vision for the future.

The Stakeholder event will involve a wide group of stakeholders, including industrialists and academics, the research community, SMEs and large companies.

Presentations will be made by high-level representatives from the European Commission as well as the food sector and will feature an overview of the Seventh Framework Programme (see: <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7>) process from a variety of perspectives.

In the afternoon session, group workshops will be organised as a significant part of the update process for the Implementation Action Plan of “Food For Life” project, with the aim of putting in action the research priorities outlined within the three Key Thrusts.

The agenda for the ETP Stakeholders event is available at: <http://www.ciaa.be/documents/events/invitation%20stakeholders%20event.pdf>

The main objectives of the event are to:

- Strengthen the linkage with Stakeholders and with the other Technology Platforms of the Knowledge Based Bio-Economy (KBBE ETPs);
- Foster implementation of the ETP at the National level (via the Nation Technology Platforms through a Mirror Group), at multinational level (KBBE ETPs, ERA Nets, and other relevant players) and finally within the EU institutions (European Commission);
- Provide key stakeholders with an outlook on the future research objectives of industry and programmes supporting innovation for SMEs;
- Boost the participation of food companies in the European research arena;
- Promote active dialogue between participants by organising three parallel workshops in order to give stakeholders the possibility to participate and develop new ideas for future activities of the three Working Groups focussed on the work of the three main pillars of ETP work.

For further information on the ETP stakeholder event, please contact:

Roberta Mancina
r.mancia@ciaa.eu

Next ETP Food for Life events:

- ETP Stakeholder event
Brussels, 3 March 2010
Stanhope Hotel
- Meeting of the ETP Member States Mirror Group
Brussels, 4 March 2010
- Meeting on the National "Food for Life" Technology Platforms
Brussels, 4 March 2010



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