



Autumn is a wonderful season. When I was a teenager it made me gloomy. That changed in one autumn when I biked some 25 km every day to the school where I taught as a young teacher before I really graduated. I enjoyed the smell of the early mornings with a low hanging sun, the radiant colors of the trees and the work on the fields. It was only then that I realized the meaning of autumn, the season of the harvest. The curiosity of what nature and hard work had brought. This experience has never left me. I hope that this autumn brings you the same satisfaction, starting with this newsletter that makes me proud of our members, your efforts to merge profitability and care for the farms, the fields and the people who work there.

...but a New Zealand member kindly pointed me yesterday at the fact that it is spring on the other side of the world, where the snow now melts. We are marvelous, global group.

*Peter-Erik Ywema, General Manager of the SAI Platform*

### New affiliate member: GFRAS joins the SAI Platform

We are happy to announce that the SAI Platform has a new affiliate member: the Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS).

GFRAS' mission is to provide advocacy and leadership on pluralistic, demand-driven rural advisory services. GFRAS does this in the context of the global development agenda, with a goal of promoting sustainable growth and reducing poverty.

To know more visit: <http://www.g-fras.org>



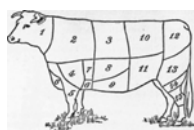
### New Chapter to be established in Poland



As a result of the workshop held in Poland last spring, a group of local food companies asked to establish a SAI Platform chapter. The enthusiastic

feedback and the great potential impact convinced both the SAI Platform and the GlobalGAP to unite resources: a kick off fund of EUR 10.000 has been granted by both GlobalGAP and SAI Platform.

### New Working Group on Meat Sustainability in view



The creation of a working group on meat is being explored by some of our members, with McDonald's hosting and supporting. A preliminary meeting was held to define the group's agenda and to identify a potential core group.

### Workshop on Sustainable Pest Management

The WG Fruit held its first workshop on the issue of Sustainable Pest Management (SPM). The event, open to all SAI members, was hosted by the WG chairman, Ernesto Brovelli at Coca-Cola Europe in Berlin.

Two leading professors highlighted options for better practices, a farmer shared experience of alternative approaches, a representative of the processing industry discussed risks and associated management and an official of the German Ministry of Agriculture described legislative frameworks in the EU countries related to this

### Talking about us?



"Convince just 100 key companies to go sustainable and" WWF's Jason Clay says "global markets will shift to protect the planet our consumption has already out-grown". Watch this extraor-

hugely important subject.

See [report of meeting](#)

dinary presentation totally aligned with us!

## Working Group on Water and Agriculture

### Roll-out water pilot project launched in India

The Working Group on Water and Agriculture (WGWA) has chosen to collaborate with the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) to conduct a “roll-out project” aimed at scaling up the use of good water management practices, and related tools, in North-West India. The project will last two years with an overall budget of EUR 70.000. Coca-Cola, Nestle, PepsiCo and Unilever have already committed some funding to the project. We would welcome other companies to contribute through financial support and/or in kind support from local staff.



### 11 technical briefs published

Last Summer, the Working Group on Water and Agriculture (WGWA), thanks to the contribution of the consultant Javiera Charad, published 11 technical documents related to water use and conservation at farm level.

The technical briefs are accessible through our web-based library on:

[www.saiplatform.org/library](http://www.saiplatform.org/library)

## Sign up to the SAI Platform Seminars



18-19 October 2010 - IMD, Lausanne, Switzerland.

Training Workshop “Embedding Sustainable Agriculture Strategies in Companies”, organized together with the business school International Institute for Management Development (IMD).

“A highly interactive workshop which will provide participants with an in-depth understanding of the risks and opportunities for food companies around sustainable agriculture, as well as tangible take aways to embed sustainable agriculture in their day-to-day activities.”



13 December 2010 - IUCN Global headquarters, Gland, Switzerland.

Seminar on “Ecosystems and Biodiversity Preservation for Agribusiness : Issues and Opportunities”, organized together with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

“Learn about the risks and benefits for your companies’ businesses of preserving ecosystems and biodiversity throughout the food chain”

To register contact us now - limited places available!

## Short news

- Sarah Paterson, Fonterra, is the new Chair of the WG Dairy, following Jean Pierre Renaud’s resignation. Didier Moreau, Danone, is the co-chair.
- Richard Burkinshaw, Kellogg, and Ian Hope Johnstone, PepsiCo, are the new co-chairs of the WG Arable and Vegetable Crops
- Richard Heathcote, Heineken, joined the WG Fruit
- Ernesto Brovelli, Coca-Cola spoke at the Agriculture 2.0 Global Investments, New York, 14-Sept
- Peter Erik Ywema presented the SAI Platform at the European Commission, DG Environment, 14-Sept.
- Meat Sustainability WG exploratory meeting: 5 October, London
- Tetra Pack / SAI Platform brainstorming meeting “Towards Sustainable Dairy products” - 12 October, Brussels

## Other meetings

- 30 September, Business Forum “Green and Competitive”, Astana, Kazakhstan (parallel event of the Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific) [www.unescap.org/mced6](http://www.unescap.org/mced6)
- 28-30 September, MetroAg Summit 2010 — 1st Global Summit on Metropolitan Agriculture, Rotterdam, The Netherlands. Organized by TransForum and Reos Partners
- 4-7 October 2010, Madrid - European Congress on Conservation Agriculture: Towards agro- environmental, climate and energetic sustainabil-

- culture. Towards agro-environmental, climate and energetic sustainability [www.eurocongressca.eu](http://www.eurocongressca.eu)
- 1-4 November Global Conference on Sustainable Beef, Denver, Colorado USA. <http://www.sustainablelivestock.org/>
  - 8-11 November, World Dairy Summit, Auckland New Zealand organized by the IDF, main sponsor Fonterra. [www.wds2010.com](http://www.wds2010.com)
  - 16-18 November, Entebbe, Uganda. Common conference on "ICT-technologies, equipment and know-how for integrated and sustainable land- and farm-management" <http://www.progis.com/events/uganda2010/index.html>
  - 18-19 November, Brussels, CIAA Congress [www.ciaacongress2010.eu](http://www.ciaacongress2010.eu)
  - 26-29th September 2011 - 5th World Congress of Conservation Agriculture incorporating 3rd Farming Systems Design Conference, Brisbane Australia. <http://www.wcca2011.org/>

## Visit our new website

Here are some of the characteristics:

1) Direct access to key sections and features from the homepage:

- Direct access to Working Groups' sections
- Direct access to key SAI Platform publications (all Principles and Practices, Benchmarking tool, Guide to sustainable agriculture etc)
- Direct overview through a monthly calendar of upcoming internal and external meetings
- Access to the three films on SAI Platform, latest news and Members area [www.saiplatform.org](http://www.saiplatform.org)

2) New customized, intuitive and user-friendly Members' area:

- Type in your ID and password once for good (by checking the "remember me" box)
- Once you log in, you access a customized Members' area with a list of latest documents posted, upcoming events and news relating to the group/s in which you are active
- When you click on a working group of your choice (on the left-hand side), you access a new internal page entirely dedicated to that working group, which includes: all documents related to that group, upcoming meetings and related documents (agenda etc) as well as list of working group members and their contact details.

<http://extranet.saiplatform.org>

Forgot your password? Contact the [Secretariat](#)

3) New user-friendly library of documents relating to SA:

- More than 200 documents included
- Easy search through an intuitive system that allows to search by word and/or filter by document type (guidelines, presentations, practical tools etc) and subject (key crops, climate change, water, social etc)
- Main details of each document specified in the list: title, publication date, author, and document type (pdf, powerpoint etc)

[www.saiplatform.org/library](http://www.saiplatform.org/library)

4) Other features:

- Revamped sections on the working groups with key related documents
- New section outlining "special projects" such as the IMD training material, identification of sustainability indicators, and work on climate change
- Sections on Governance, Members, Secretariat and Background Documents

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*If you have information to share about your activities, events or publications please feel free to use this newsletter as an opportunity to reach all the other SAI Platform members. Email us at [info@saiplatform.org](mailto:info@saiplatform.org) and we will publish it in the next issue*

To remove your name from our mailing list, please reply to this email with : "unsubscribe"

Questions or comments? E-mail us at [info@saiplatform.org](mailto:info@saiplatform.org) or call +32-2-500 87 57

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