

EAT - The Stockholm Food Forum

There are forums on food, on health and on sustainability - and now, finally, a forum that incorporates all three fields in a globally effective way: EAT - The Stockholm Food Forum is a by-invitation-only arena where business, science and politics will be able to share insight and ideas, which in turn can help us reach our common goal of sustainably feeding a healthy world population.

The forum will be held on the 20th and 21st of May, 2014 at the Hotel Clarion Sign in Stockholm.

EAT is the brainchild of Norwegian philanthropist and MD/PhD, Gunhild Stordalen and the Stordalen Foundation. It is co-chaired by professor Johan Rockström of the Stockholm Resilience Centre and is supported by - among others - The Lancet and the Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise.

EAT will spearhead a holistic approach to today's food related challenges. Population growth, climate change, human health, resource and ecosystem management, sustainability and food security are independent, yet closely interacting fields of science and research - but they are also exciting business opportunities and important political issues. By creating an informal forum, which encourages dialogue and discourse, EAT will invite leading scientists, policymakers and business professionals for the express purpose of advancing integrated solutions for humanity.

As the world slowly moves from the have-and-have-nots to the have-and-have-plenty, the strain on our natural resources and living ecosystems increase. With overpopulation and urbanization we all have to rethink the concept of society. Daily violations of human and animal rights make us question the very essence of solidarity and justice. Food and health issues poses questions that requires answers from us all - from politicians, scientists

and multinational companies, to the farmer in his field and each individual consumer...

Today, there is a marked increase in non-communicable diseases and malnutrition. With economic development we see a dangerous transition towards more energy-dense diets that are high in fat, sugar and salt and low in micronutrients and dietary fibre.

Our overexploited ecosystems, degrading lands, fresh and salt water pollution, overfishing and loss of biodiversity put us at risk of crossing potentially catastrophic thresholds as resilience is lost.

Agriculture and deforestation contribute significantly the green house effect, which in turn increase the risk of crop failure and loss of livestock, in particular for the most vulnerable countries.

Rapid globalization already has adverse effects on trade and pricing, while complex trade greatens the distance from farm to fork.

We need to act fast in a co-ordinated effort. EAT - The Stockholm Food Forum - is a common platform for business, politics and science to debate the big issues surrounding health and the environment. Thus, those invited to the forum will be able to participate in writing the agenda, which in turn will shape our future.

EAT will endeavour to reach a consensus on the definition and implementation of *sustainable healthy diets*, through mapping out gaps in knowledge and improving the current evidence base. The forum will further encourage political decision makers to implement national integrated food policies in light of global sustainability. Business leaders in all stages of the food chain will, on the basis of the latest scientific research, be encouraged to develop sustainable solutions to gain competitive advantages. EAT will also seek to increase public awareness in

food related questions and create consumer guidelines to a healthier way of life.

Two EAT-prizes will be awarded each year: One individual and one corporate prize for innovation within the fields of food, health and sustainability.

In May 2014, the first annual Stockholm Food Forum - EAT - will welcome participants from all over the world to help set goals and guidelines for a healthy, food secure and sustainable future. In an informal atmosphere, reflected by the warmth and generosity of its host city, the forum will offer lectures and panel discussions featuring global leaders in the fields of science, politics and business. But more than that, it will also offer a truly unique arena for interdisciplinary dialogue.