



Rewriting the Rules... ...to secure our future food

Chair: Prof. Elisabeth Dowler

Professor, Food and Social Policy, University of Warwick. Member, DEFRA's Food Policy Council¹

Keynote address: Geoff Tansey

Joseph Rowntree Visionary and BBC Radio 4 Food and Farming Awards best food campaigner 2008²

"we need to see better, more just rules and rule making processes that are supportive of the sharing of knowledge, scientific and technical skills about food and developing poor producers' livelihoods."

28 September 2009

10:30 – 16:00

(buffet lunch and refreshments provided)

Dragon Hall, 17 Stukeley Street, London

WC2B 5LT (nearest tube: Holborn)

Over the next few months there will be many processes and meetings, discussing urgent solutions to rising hunger and the multiple crises affecting the world's food system, which UK Food Group members will attend. These include meetings around World Food Day, the European Food Security Group (on which the UK Food Group represents BOND), the FAO High level Expert Forum on "How to feed the World in 2050", the Committee on World Food Security, the November 2009 World Food Summit and parallel people's forum for food sovereignty in Rome. This UK Food Group meeting for World Food Day will help members prepare for these processes and for the future challenges to the world's food system...

Panellists

Kerstin Lanje	Senior Adviser World Trade and Food, Germanwatch (lead consortium member of the EC project 'African smallholders in focus')	Removing the trade threats including t of the EU's Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs).
Michel Pimbert	Director Sustainable Agriculture, Biodiversity and Livelihoods; International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)	Changing 'models of production'
Saquina Filimone Mucavele	ROSA, Mozambique (Rede de ONG's/ Associações em Serviço da Agricultura e Segurança Alimentar)	Recognising and supporting rural women's contribution
Julian Oram	Head of Policy, World Development Movement (WDM)	Preventing speculation in food
Helen Rimmer	Food Chain campaigner, Friends of the Earth	Changing livestock production and consumption
Patrick Mulvany	Co-chair UKFG and Senior Policy Adviser, PracticalAction,	Towards food sovereignty – changing access, and control of the food system

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UK Food Group is an independent network within Sustain: the alliance for better food and farming Charity No. 1018643; Company Reg. No. 02673194, England

Our one day conference, *Rewriting the Rules...to secure our future food*, will identify and propose changes to some selected national and international rules and regulations that need to be “rewritten” if we are to secure future food supplies in ways that are socially and environmentally sustainable. The food sovereignty framework can provide the backdrop for these proposals.

The programme will be participative with contributions from many in plenary and working groups. The panellists will introduce the topics in a plenary session for which rules must be changed. The participants will then divide into working groups to discuss specific changes and alternatives. Topics can include trade agreements including Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs), access to productive resources, agricultural models of production, refocusing on small-scale food providers, changing consumption and trade, speculation in food. Further ideas from participants will be welcome. Each working group will have specialist inputs from participants and panellists and will be moderated by a member of the UK Food Group committee.

The outputs of the meeting will include a ‘list’ of achievable changes. They will contribute to our joint EC project consortium’s work on trade and agriculture, focused on African smallholders, and will inform UK Food Group members in key meetings in the UK, Europe and internationally. They will also contribute to the discourse on healing our dysfunctional food system that leaves one billion hungry and makes one billion obese, forces small-scale food providers off the land and their fishing grounds, and threatens the environment.

AGENDA / approx timings

10:00	Registration	Arrivals and coffee
10:30	Introductions	UKFG Co-Chair and Liz Dowler
10:40	Keynote address	Geoff Tansey
	Questions	
11:20	Panel presentations	
	Clarifications	
12:45	Organising working groups	
13:00		
13:45	Working groups	
15:00	Plenary	
15:45	Closing comments	Liz Dowler and UKFG Co-Chair
16:00	Conference ends	Tea and depart
16:30	<i>Optional informal meeting to prepare for EFSG in Brussels on 5 October</i>	<i>UKFG / EFSG members</i>

**Registration fee to include refreshments and buffet lunch: £20 (full) /
£10 (UK Food Group paid up members). Concessions available (students etc.)**

To register, please contact:

Paola Guzman; Tel: +44 (0)20 7713 5813; Email: paola@sustainweb.org

1. *Liz Dowler is a member of the Food Ethics Council and the UK National Heart Forum. Recent publications, with colleagues, include “Reconnecting Consumers, Producers and Food: Exploring Alternatives”.*

2. *Geoff Tansey is a Joseph Rowntree Visionary for a Just and Peaceful World - Working for a fair and sustainable food system; Winner, Derek Cooper Award for best food campaigner/ educator, BBC Radio 4 Food and Farming Awards 2008; Member and Trustee, Food Ethics Council; and co-editor of “The Future Control of Food”, Earthscan .*

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