

# NEW EU-AFRICA AND FARM TO FORK STRATEGIES:

PROMOTING THE GLOBAL TRANSITION  
TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE AGRI-FOOD SYSTEM

---



OCTOBER 2020  
@VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE

**HOSTED BY**

MARLENE MORTLER MEP  
CHAIR OF THE AGRICULTURE, FOOD & CONSUMERS WORKING GROUP

---



## PROGRAMME

WELCOME & OPENING

**MARLENE MORTLER (tbc)**

Vice-Chair Delegation for Relations with South Africa,  
EPP Rapporteur for the AGRI Committee Opinion on a New EU-Africa Strategy,  
EPP Rapporteur for the DEVE Committee Opinion on the Farm to Fork Strategy

SPEECHES OF HONOUR

**DR GERD MÜLLER (tbc)**

Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development

**JACKSON MTHEMBU (tbc)**

Minister in the Presidency of the Republic of South Africa

INTERVENTIONS

**KOEN DOENS (tbc)**

Director General for DG DEVCO European Commission

**AGNES KALIBATA (tbc)**

Special Envoy for UN 2021 Food Systems Summit; President, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)

**LAWRENCE HADDAH (tbc)**

Executive Director Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)

**RODRIGO DE LAPUERTA (tbc)**

Director of the FAO Liaison Office to the European Union and Belgium

**SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF WG H&N South Africa (tba)**

MODERATION

**ANNE SCHLEY (tbc)**

Hanns Seidl Foundation, EU Project Coordinator for Development Policy Dialogue

## ABOUT THIS VIRTUAL EVENT

For reaching the Sustainable Development Goal of Zero Hunger in Africa through joint efforts, the EU must address the challenges of nutrition and food security by boosting a safe and sustainable agri-food system globally. Therefore, the Farm to Fork Strategy together with New EU-Africa Strategy, aim to promote the Global Transition towards a robust and resilient food system to ensure the access of affordable and safe food for everyone while protecting natural resources and combating climate change. A shift towards a sustainable agri-food system would also lead to social, health and environmental benefits and would offer economic incentives. By using trade deals and through the cooperation with African governments, stakeholder and other partners, the EU will ensure a successful global transition with international standards of agri-food products complying with European high safety and sustainable standards.

This event will highlight the African perspective on the global transition of the Farm to Fork Strategy to ensure the access to healthy, nutritious and affordable food for all citizens and a better protection of natural ecosystems to also build up resilience to possible future diseases and pandemics. It will stress the need for collaboration between African Countries and the EU to ensure knowledge exchanges, strengthening partnerships and financial and technical cooperation for projects to meet the aims of the Farm to Fork- and EU-Africa Strategy ensuring a transition towards a sustainable agri-food system.

## ABOUT SME CONNECT

[SME Connect](#), founded in 2017, is now a vast network and an umbrella organization for SMEs and their supporters seeking to maximise the impact of SMEs on national levels. SME Connect is non-political but advised by a non-profit board of politicians made up of all constructive political groups. The [Working Group on Health & Nutrition](#) was established to bring together SME actors of the food sector, stakeholders and policymakers to raise the awareness of the role of nutrition in tackling health challenges as well as the need for more significant investments in innovation to promote sustainable agri-food production systems, whilst also ensuring our food safety systems work for SMEs