

# 3rd SCAR-Foresight

XXIV EURAGRI Members Conference 2010

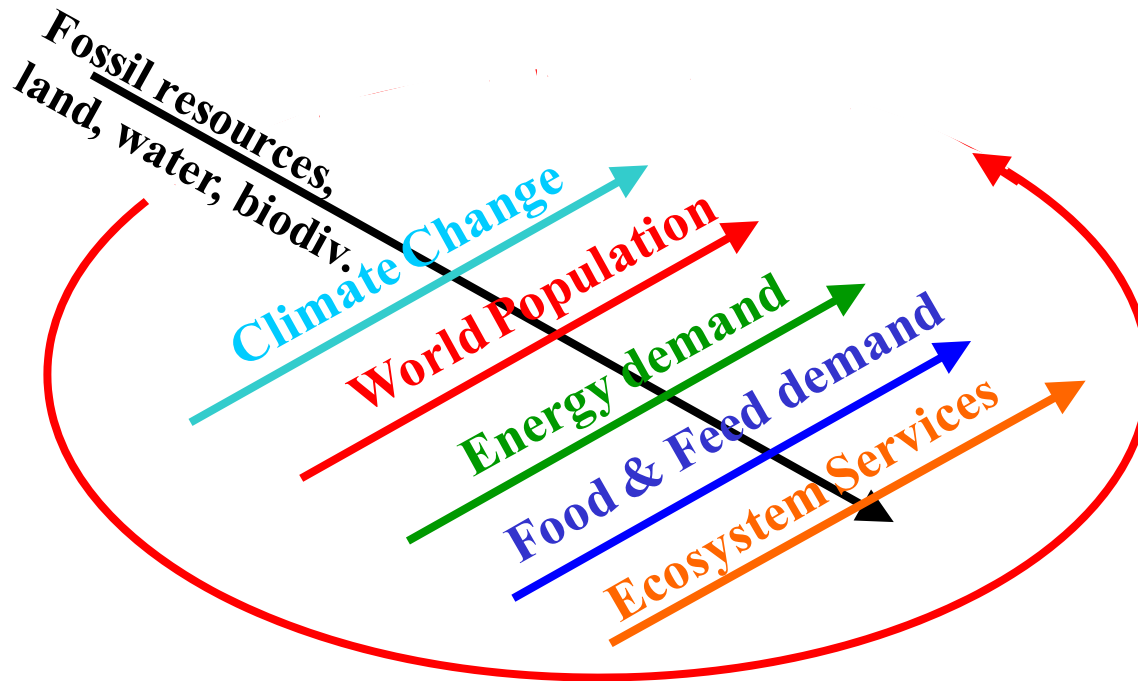
Broadening the Agricultural Challenges to Green Growth

Helsinki, 6-7 September 2010

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# Major global challenges: we have to face realities ahead of us



**These different driving forces are interconnected via many feed backs contributing to the opaqueness of the systems dynamics and the uncertainty about future developments and possible surprises.**

**In such uncertain times it becomes particular important to have an effective foresight monitoring and early warning mechanism in place capable of identifying possible threats as well as potential development opportunities!**

# Europe 2020 Strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth

## Some key messages:

- Europe faces a moment of transformation.
- The crises has wiped out years of economic and social progress.
- The world is moving fast & long-term challenges intensify.
- Europe must act to avoid decline.

## The way forward:

Building an innovative and resource efficient Europe which enables a greener more competitive growth!

## It is the moment of truth:

We have to get our priorities right! That is where SCAR can help.



## The SCAR foresight process

### 1<sup>st</sup> Foresight exercise : Disruption Scenarios (June 2006 – June 2007)

- *June-December 2006:* Appointment of a Foresight Expert Group (FEG)
- *29-30 March 2007:* Stakeholders workshop in Stockholm
- *26-27 June 2007:* Conference “*Towards Future Challenges of Agricultural Research in Europe* => *Key messages for research priority setting*
- *15 December 2008:* Communication from EC to EP and Council

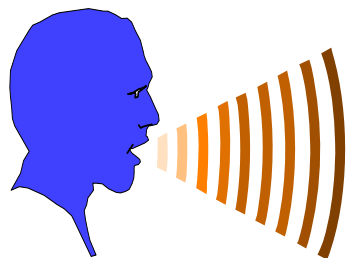
### 2<sup>nd</sup> Foresight exercise : Horizon Scanning and analysis (June 2008 – December 2008)

- *June-December 2008:* Appointment of a Consultancy Expert Group (CEG)
- *January 2009:* Synthesis report + **SCAR comments** + dissemination
- *26-28 May 2009:* Conference “*Sustainable development - a challenge for European Research*” - Foresight session “*global change and agriculture*”

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Foresight exercise starting on 6 May 2010 looking at scarcities in the long term

- *mid October 2010* Discussion of 1st conclusions in a workshop
- *December 2010* Discussion of draft conclusions at SCAR-Plenary
- *Spring 2011* Conference with broad stakeholder participation

**FORESIGHT  
 SIGNALLING  
 &  
 MONITORING  
 MECHANISM**



## Key messages of 2nd Foresight

- Conventional agriculture has been successful in the past in increasing productivity, but this has come with an environmental cost!
- In the light of expected climate change plus the pressures on natural and other resources we need to rethink the way we produce, process, retail and purchase food!
- In order to make progress on a sustainable development path innovative research is essential to meet the challenge of growing more food on limited land for a still growing global population, with less energy and other scarce inputs while improving ecosystems resilience capacity and exploring all possibilities to adapt to and to control climate change!

## Starting Point for 3rd SCAR Foresight Exercise in 2010

To achieve long-term sustainability more is needed than just increasing efficiency and productivity!

There is an urgent need to drastically reduce resource use (material & energy) in all parts of the food chain!

Expected resource scarcities & adverse environmental impacts plus competition for land/water & growing demand for food and non-food products are a major challenge to agriculture & food security.

Considering these interconnected challenges which will increase when more feedbacks kick-in, it is essential to take a longer-term perspective & prepare the ground for the necessary transitions towards a world with resource constraints and environmental limits!



## The 3rd SCAR Foresight Exercise in 2010 will

Build on the previous foresight reports (particularly the 2nd one).

The experts will carry out this scanning & monitoring exercise by looking at:

- Those environmental and resource issues that may become important in a 30-40 years perspective and that may impede the further use of current technologies
- The mid- to long-term research needs thereof
- The basic ingredients for a long-term vision building with stakeholders

that can help to decouple production from the presently high resource dependence and to build more resilient and environmentally benign (sustainable) agriculture systems able to feed 9 billion people by 2050.



## 3rd SCAR-Foresight:

### Tentative Roadmap

- Start of contract & 1st Meeting with FEG3 26 May
- FEG work in progress report at SCAR-WG Meeting on 29 June
- 1st Expert feedback to SCAR-FG + commenting 8 September
- Discussion of 1st conclusions in a workshop 6 October
- Discussion of revised draft conclusions at SCAR-Plenary 8 December
- Final report expected by end Jan. 2011
- Stakeholder Conference with broad participation spring 2011