

## **The World Forum for a Responsible Economy Arras 2016**

### **Third agricultural revolution: Towards a sustainable, connected and inclusive agriculture**

#### **General presentation of the conference – Part 1 Sustainable agriculture**

The first speaker for the theoretical meeting of the World Forum was Mr Philippe RAPENEAU. He started with a word of welcome to thank the speakers and the audience, and gave us a few words about Arras city, where the meeting took place, the TRI and its positioning towards agriculture and environment. He has also exposed the challenges of tomorrow and especially the population growth.

The world population is expected to reach 9 billion people by 2050 and to be fed with good quality product and still take care of the environment. For this, it will coping with political instability and climate diversity which are two major limiting factors.

He spoke about the group Alliance, and he expressed some good practice (different planners approach, agro ecology, sustainable agriculture...) which could stamp out the discrepancy between urban and rural.

Mr Philippe VASSEUR was the second speaker of the day. His principal subject is the third agricultural revolution and He explained us the characteristics. Moreover, for him, the agricultural sector has not to be viewed only in crisis. The landscape is changing, it is upset and the agricultural sector is always in mutation. It can be very beneficial. The agriculture is adapting and it has always adapted.

For example, the methanisation and other innovations, the massification of the retail sector, the sustainable, connected and inclusive agriculture are different methods of the new revolution and the world is concerned.

The most important problem in the century is the water. It is the main factor of development or not. In addition, the farmland decreases each year.

According to Mr VASSEUR, the news technologies could solve these problems and the future challenges. Our heritage, our diversity, our environment has to be conserved through collective work, and the development of urban agriculture.

The last speaker of the introduction session was Mr Jean-Bernard BAYARD.

He joins Mr VASSEUR about the aspect of agricultural mutation and the new technologies as a solution. And He insisted on another point: the future is in the investment of external persons, particulars, young people in school or other institute and organisations. There is anything established in this new revolution and there are many ideas and many reflexions.

At the national level, we have to call into question. We have to study the future of trade and agriculture. "A lot of raw materials produced in France by French producers are processed in neighbouring countries".

We have to think collectively to deliver the goods of the population which increase and respect the environment. All the responsibilities has to be shared, each trade bring his contribution.

The urban agriculture is a little link makes for the transformation and the revolution of the agricultural sector. It has to be present in all territories because in 2050, 2/3 of the surface will be urbanized.

THIENPONT Jean-Baptiste