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“FOOD PRINT”: The environmental cost of food

CNRxEXPO together with:



11 July 2015

Italian Pavilion - Expo 2015, Milan
from 2.00 to 5.00



Coordinator: Pierpaolo Duce

Organizing Secretary: Enrico Vagnoni & Elena Campus

Institute of Biometeorology (IBIMET)

The Food-print event is intended to give answers to the challenge posed by Expo 2015 – “Is it possible to ensure good, healthy, sufficient and sustainable food for all mankind?” – stimulating the debate within the world of science, and between science and society. In particular, the event is an initiative for thinking over, discussing and disseminating our scientific knowledge about the environmental cost of the production and consumption of food, with a specific focus on food products from livestock production systems.

The action strategy is based on the life-cycle thinking approach, used for identifying the contents as well as the target audience. From a scientific point of view, this approach allows measuring food sustainability under all its aspects/dimensions, providing a holistic and multi-perspective vision of the environmental implications related to the life cycle of food: from the extraction of raw materials to the emissions into the environment due to farming practices, from the use of natural resources to the consumption of packaged foods, until the end of life of food products.

The structure of the Food-print event recalls the menu of a restaurant and is inspired by the typical creativity of a convivial lunch. Therefore, speeches will be developed following the order and rhythm of the dishes: from appetizers to desserts, we will share studies, research, techniques and experiences on the big issue of quality and environmental sustainability of food. Just as mealtimes recall the idea of an open and direct discussion, so the Food-print meeting appears as an opportunity for exchanges and deepening, made of listening and mutual stimulation. The ‘dishes’ will be prepared by leading national and international experts: researchers, agro-industrial producers, and policy makers.

Recalling the daily experience of sitting around a table and having meal, we’d like also to spread two main messages: (i) Food-print themes concern practical life and daily habits of each of us; (ii) every choice we make, starting with the food we eat around the table, has specific impacts on the local and global natural systems where we live.

The target audience includes all possible stakeholders, looking, in particular, at specific audiences that are able to multiply the impact of the messages: students, researchers, livestock and agro-industry producers, civil society organizations, policy makers, media.

The Food-print event is accompanied by other actions of systematization and strengthening, designed to transmit the legacies of knowledge, values, competencies and behaviors on the theme of the event. A first initiative on the environmental cost of food was recently carried out in Jesolo, Venice, as part of a series of workshops on smart agri-food chains. Finally, in mid-fall, a seminar on the process of greening in agriculture will take place in Sardinia.

AGENDA

OUR CHEF’S SUGGESTIONS

Michael Dimock (President Roots of Change)

WELCOME DRINKS AND SNACKS

Donatella Spano (Councillor for the Environment - Region of Sardinia)

APÉRITIF

The environmental cost of food: the case study of livestock farming

Pierpaolo Duce (CNR IBIMET)

THE MENU

Environmental implications of livestock farming

Carolyn Imede Opio (FAO)

RECIPES

Life Cycle Assessment of food products: How useful is it for consumers and retailers?

Gérard Gaillard (Agroscope)

THE DISH OF THE DAY

Environmental footprint of food: Case studies

Paolo Masoni (ENEA)

THE HOUSE SPECIALTY

The unbearable lightness of organic foods

Stefano di Marco (CNR IBIMET)

RECIPES FOR A DELICIOUS DESSERT

Communicating the environmental impact

Angelo Vittorio Zambrini, Mirella Di Stefano (Granarolo s.p.a.)

THE BILL, PLEASE

Who pays the bill?

Marco Vannini (University of Sassari)

AFTER-LUNCH TALKS

Problems on the table: improving the environmental performance of the agri-food chains

Riccardo Rifici (Ministry of the Environment of Italy)

Environmental sustainability in Sardinia: past actions and future prospects

Gianluca Cocco (Region of Sardinia)