



Call for papers

Global Agribusiness Conference

9 - 13 September 2012
Perth, Australia

Risk Management & Mitigation in Agri-Food Chains

Globalisation and liberalisation is changing the nature and structure of the agri-food industry. Every actor within the agri-food supply chain has been affected by globalisation. Through globalisation, food producers have access to a wider source of raw materials and new market opportunities. Globalisation also provides consumers with a greater variety of choice and value-added products. However, globalisation also presents food producers with a large number of challenges. The agri-food industry is vulnerable to disruptions in areas such as food processing, food safety, changing customer requirements, competition, market pressure, legal/statutory requirements and climate change.

In Asia, food prices have increased by nearly 40%, dramatically reducing living standards for the poor, who on average spend 50 – 70% of their income on food. Other factors contributing to the food crisis include: (1) population pressures, (2) urbanisation and changing lifestyles, (3) the expansion of modern retailing, (4) environmental degradation and pollution, and (5) climate change. The increasing incidence of natural disasters, rising sea levels and drought seriously threaten future food supplies.

In such a volatile environment, there is an immediate need for good risk management practices to identify and manage risk. Good risk management increases the probability of success and reduces both the probability of failure and uncertainty.

To address these issues, we have assembled some of the world's leading academics and industry practitioners to provide examples of best practice associated with minimising risk in agri-food supply chains. Concurrent with this, we also offer an opportunity for participants to share their results, recent experiences, and to extend their networks.

International Institute of Agri-Food Security (IIAFS)

FOOD QUALITY FOR HEALTH

towards a more resilient food future

The IIAFS was established in November 2011 with a broad but targeted agenda that focuses on building new linkages in quality food for health, agriculture, agribusiness, climate change, supply chains and lifestyle choices to address the growing concerns for food security and effective food policies. It brings together the collective expertise from all four faculties at Curtin University: Curtin Business School, Health Sciences, Humanities, and Science and Engineering. A team approach with collaborative partnerships including local, national and international industry, government and non-government agencies, private sector and community groups, and other academic institutions, will work towards improving the efficiency and accessibility of quality food production and distribution. With the emerging emphasis on food security and health, a tightly coupled multi-disciplinary approach is required for finding innovative research solutions that can be effectively applied.

IIAFS has four main research themes:

- (1) Food quality and improved health outcomes
- (2) Socio-economic dimensions of resilience in food industries and associated communities
- (3) Sustainable agri-food production systems
- (4) Local, national and global food security and a Graduate Research Training Program for Agri-food and Health: FOODSolutions.

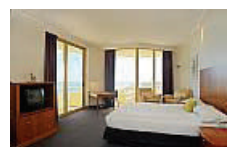
An important challenge for the IIAFS to tackle is the decreasing number of enrolments in agriculture and agribusiness across Australia. Innovative approaches are essential for attracting and engaging students, emerging researchers, farmers and policymakers to build the capacity required to meet the anticipated demand.



Curtin University

GLOBAL AGRIBUSINESS CONFERENCE

Risk Management & Mitigation in Agri-Food Chains



Conference Venue:

The Rendezvous Observation City Hotel is Perth's iconic beachfront hotel overlooking Scarborough Beach and the Indian Ocean. A leisurely 30-minute drive from the airport and just 15 minutes from the CBD, there's no better place to stay in Perth. The hotel provides first-class conference facilities in a vibrant and versatile setting. The hotel is ideally situated for convenient access to the Port City of Fremantle, Hillarys Boat Harbour, Rottnest Island, the Swan Valley, popular shopping destinations and championship golf courses.

Visit <http://www.rendezvoushotels.com/> for more information.

Call for papers:

Interested academics, development practitioners and researchers are invited to submit a full paper on any of the following topics:

- Managing price risks
- Climate change
- Supply chain relationships
- Business structures
- Foreign investment
- Adoption of new technology
- New product innovation
- Global food security
- Sustainable food consumption
- Harmonisation of private standards
- The changing structure of agriculture production

Submitted papers will be subject to a double blind peer review.

Papers should be formatted in a style similar to that used by Agricultural Systems: http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/journaldescription.cws_home/405851/description#description

Full papers are to be submitted to the conference organiser electronically by April 30, 2012.

Conference organiser:

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Important dates:

Submission of papers: April 30, 2012

Authors notified: May 30, 2012

Early bird registration: Before July 31, 2012

Submission of final papers: July 30, 2012



TENTATIVE PROGRAM

Sunday, Sept 9

We get the conference underway with registration (from 4pm) and an informal cocktail reception (from 6pm) in the Ocean Room of the Rendezvous Observation City Hotel.

Monday, Sept 10—Plenary Session

Proceedings will formally start with a traditional welcome to the land by the indigenous Noongar people upon whose land we meet. After the official launch of the International Institute of Agri-Food Security, in three plenary sessions, 12 invited speakers will each address the conference on a range of topics associated with risk management and mitigation in agri-food chains.

The conference dinner will be held that evening in the Swan Valley.

Tuesday, Sept 11—Industry Forum

In an innovative mixed mode approach, four highly focused workshops will be conducted in parallel with the contributed papers. In each workshop, 2-4 keynote speakers will be invited to present their perspectives for just 10 minutes. Having expressed a range of views, a professional moderator will then guide the discussion from the floor for the remaining time.

The evening is free.

Wednesday, Sept 12— Education Forum

Using a similar approach to the previous day, an education forum; addressing the declining number in agribusiness enrolments, will take place in parallel with contributed papers.

The evening is free.

Thursday, Sept 13—Field Tour

For our interstate and international visitors, one or more one day field tours will be arranged to provide participants with a snapshot of agribusiness in Western Australia.

Registration:

Conference delegates will have the choice of attending the one day plenary forum and/or the industry forum and/or the education forum or register for a three-day package.

When registering, delegates will be asked if they wish to attend the cocktail reception, the conference dinner and/or the one-day field trip.

For more information:

http://www.business.curtin.edu.au/business/agribusiness_conference (copy and paste the link)

