



Science & Technology

**FORESIGHT**

from society to research

## Announcement

“Diversified Adaptable Food”

6-8 May, 2015 - Rome

**WG FOOD**

ANNOUNCEMENT

MAY 6 – 8 2015, ROME, ITALY

## Converging technologies for Healthy and Sustainable Food

### 1<sup>st</sup> Face to Face Workshop: **Diversified Adaptable Food**

We seek: to define key principles on which a stable, sustainable Diversified Adaptable Food Supply can be based and further developed; to identify possible obstacles; to indicate to national and international authorities and stakeholders priorities for funding research projects, and for channeling investments.

#### **The Science and Technology Foresight Project**

The National Research Council (CNR) and the Trieste Area Science Park Consortium (AREA), with the support of the Ministry of Education, University and Research, launched the **Science and Technology Foresight Project** to strengthen the development of new technologies in the medium to long term to deal with important problems related to health, food, environment, energy, transportation, safety and security (<http://foresight.cnr.it>). This initiative is motivated by the need to develop new strategic directions. A key aspect of the project is the involvement of scientists and experts from academia, government, and the private sector. A series of “face-to-face” workshops, each with its own focus on different, but correlated, sub-topics is being organized.

#### **Diversified Adaptable Food**

It is now recognized by all, that there is a strong link between health, food, and environment. In order to envisage sustainable and socially acceptable solutions for arising societal challenges, it is necessary to acquire knowledge of the specific starting conditions, as well as the diverse needs and goals. Different conditions and needs, may be due to geographic habitats, climatic niches, ethnicity, religious or social status, age, gender, hereditary or sporadic disease, occupation etc. Each problem could be addressed individually, developing specific technological solutions, but this is time-consuming and not always efficient.

An intriguing alternative is the identification of **one technological approach**, which would allow more control over the composition of food and hence adapt it to needs, providing a **Diversified Adaptable Food**. Applications should start at the farm with the raw materials, and run through the whole food chain to the fork and beyond to the disposal of food waste in the environment. All issues mentioned above can be addressed by the applications of converging technologies. These can greatly contribute to the diversification and adaptability needed for the sustainable production of healthier and safer food.

#### **f2f workshop strategy**

For the development of **Diversified Adaptable Food**, it is of primary importance that we support an approach that considers the whole food chain, a **food chain approach**, which stimulates us constantly to evaluate how the introduction of a new application at a specific step is going to affect the rest of the chain. Gathering around the table, experts with specific disciplinary skills in a highly multidisciplinary context, chosen to promote the transfer of knowledge across situations, should encourage the food chain approach, allowing us to deal with specific issues, while keeping a broad view.

We will address three main topics: agriculture, processing, and nutrition. Each one will be approached from the point of view of the developed or developing world. In addition, we will also consider the aspects of social acceptability and market accessibility. Eight experts have been asked to write a short position paper about their specific topic. These papers will be distributed to all other participants in advance. During the workshop, the eight presenters will each have ten minutes to illustrate the main points described in their paper, after which they will answer questions posed by the other participants. In addition to the speakers, approximately forty experts will be invited to attend the “face to face” workshop. They will represent the international research community, the industry, and governmental bodies. The nature of the workshop is not just informative but also constructive, therefore, this is an invitation-only workshop, and participants will be asked to be present at all sessions. Ample time will be given to small groups as well as plenary discussions.

For further information on the f2f workshop and on receiving an invitation, please contact Cecilia Bartolucci ([cecilia.bartolucci@ic.cnr.it](mailto:cecilia.bartolucci@ic.cnr.it)) or Ornela De Giacomo ([ornela.degiacomo@ic.cnr.it](mailto:ornela.degiacomo@ic.cnr.it)). The program and the background documents are available at <http://www.foresight.cnr.it>.

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**In collaboration with:**