



# 2009

## ANNUAL REPORT

Sustainable Agriculture Initiative Platform



**THOUGHTS FOR FOOD**



Looking back at the year that has just ended and at what the SAI Platform has achieved thanks to the continuous support of its Member companies, I am happy to confirm that 2009 has been a very good year for us.

During 2009 the SAI Platform has grown, in stature and maturity.

In stature because we are being recognised internationally as the partner to talk with regarding sustainable agriculture: we established a strong relationship with the IDF, with whom we signed the Global Dairy Agenda at the World Dairy Summit, we were invited to speak at the IAMA conference, and many more conferences and roundtables.

We matured through the service we now provide to our members. We held a successful conference in Washington and we organised 2 specific seminars: one on water and agriculture, and the other one on how to create a tailor made in house training for our members to spread knowledge about sustainable agriculture throughout the various company departments.

But the conference and seminars were just one of the efforts we make to communicate about Sustainable Agriculture. For the first time we engaged in ambitious publications: we produced a unique Benchmark Study of Agriculture Schemes, to give guidance to our

members on the myriad of certification schemes, and a useful Short Guide to Sustainable Agriculture, to show through case studies that sustainable agriculture is possible at industry level and already happening. I am also very proud that our Working Groups published their crop specific Principles and Practices in a new harmonized version.

Organising events and printing publications is not sufficient to achieve our task. Networking and cooperating with other stakeholders is also vital, especially for an organisation that aims at having a worldwide outreach. We consolidated our special relation with the Sustainable Food Laboratory and the Keystone Centre Field to Market, with the Global Dairy Platform which became our Affiliate member, with the CIAA (Confederation of Food and Drink Industries of the EU) and with our friends of European Initiative for Sustainable Development in Agriculture (EISA).

We started 7 years ago with the goal of making the SAI Platform the Centre of Reference for Sustainable Agriculture worldwide and by looking at what we achieved; it is with renewed enthusiasm that our plans for the future remain ambitious!

Hans Jöhr,  
Corporate Head of Agriculture – Nestlé  
President of the SAI Platform

## Why the SAI Platform?

Why should the food industry get involved in sustainable agriculture, one would ask. A superficial reply would be: for corporate social responsibility policy or to publicise a better image of the company. But the answer is much simpler and it is in front of our eyes: *The availability of food in the future.*

There is an urgent need to effectively address the consequences on global agricultural production of climate change, population increase, exponential food demand growth and biofuels policies.

The food industry, being the biggest purchaser of agricultural raw materials, is aware that, in order to be able to rely on a constant and increasing supply of agricultural raw materials, these must be grown in a sustainable manner.

This is why Danone, Nestlé and Unilever founded the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative in a joint effort to support Sustainable Agricultural practices worldwide. Soon other major players joined and today the SAI Platform counts 25 members.

The SAI Platform's approach aims at implementing the three pillars of sustainability - social economical and environmental - into mainstream agriculture and through the whole food chain.

## New Members



Cayuga Marketing LLC (CM) is comprised of 22 large farm business owners who own and manage assets in excess of \$300 million USD, with 520 employees, who milk approximately 28,000 mature cows at 28 sites and marketed 675,000,000

lbs. (300,000,000 litres) of milk and had gross product sales over \$130 million USD in 2008. Initially created to better market the milk, got soon engaged in all aspects of dairy production. It began in 1997 with a project with Cornell University, looking into a solution for minimizing the loss of nutrients from dairy farms. In 2002 a national organic residual management company was hired to do a worldwide research for proven technologies that would reduce any nutrient losses, odours, and other negative effects. Current efforts are to secure a long term energy sale agreement with a utility specialised in renewable energy to collect the biogas and produce electricity with it. A dairy nutritionist is employed to improve coordination of diets and milk attributes, so CM farms have higher levels of milk production per cow and higher quality.



Novus creates animal health and nutrition solutions and has more than 70 products based on solid scientific research. With a team of more than 350 people worldwide, offices in more than 20 countries, 25 doctors in Veterinary Medicine and more than 40

Nutritionists Ph.D. and Masters-level. Novus's vision is to help feed the world affordable, wholesome food and achieve a higher quality of life and their mission is to make a clear difference in sustainably meeting the growing global needs for nutrition and health. *"At Novus International, we believe that sound research & development is the foundation for success in developing and delivering solutions to customers, and working with suppliers and value-chain partners to improve performance and sustainability. It is the combination of satisfying stakeholder demands around the all sustainability factors – environment, social and economical – that is the cornerstone of our commitment to developing products and practices that improve productivity, health, animal well-being and food safety."*



Started with two flour mills in the 1860s and revolutionized the milling industry, producing flour with superior baking properties. General Mills today is the world's 6th largest food company.

General Mills (GM) has formalized its sustainability program in 2003. The analysis and framework for measuring a company's environmental impact is being rolled out throughout GM so systematic improvements can be made. GM worked on developing sustainable agricultural practices such as water conservation with the Green Giant brand and then working with contract growers around the world to apply these best practices. GM's Agriculture Research department set ambitious goals to further reduce the environmental impact: reduce insecticide applications, reduce herbicide use, reduce water use by using more efficient drip irrigation technology and by planting non-economic cover crops to hold the soil and nutrients in place, to reduce soil erosion and to create wildlife habitat around agriculture areas.



PepsiCo is a world leader in convenient snacks, foods and beverages with revenues of more than \$43 billion and over 198,000 employees. PepsiCo's vision is put into action through programs and a focus on environmental stewardship, activities to

benefit society, and a commitment to build shareholder value by making PepsiCo a truly sustainable company. PepsiCo is committed to achieving business and financial success while leaving a positive imprint on society, delivering *Performance with Purpose*. Financial success (*Performance*) must go hand-in-hand with social and environmental responsibilities (*Purpose*). Performance with Purpose is at the heart of every aspect of PepsiCo's business: "By integrating a commitment to social and environmental performance into all of our businesses, we're able to manufacture our products more efficiently and economically, attract even more of the world's best talent, and sharpen our competitive edge in markets all over the world".



# Working Groups

## Dairy



**Jean-Pierre Rennaud,**  
*Environment Director*  
Danone

The WG published the revised Principles and Practices for Sustainable Dairy Production, including comments received by the national Committees of the International Dairy Federation (IDF). It also drafted a list of indicators that may be used by farmers to assess their farm progress towards sustainability.

Urged by the pressing climate change issue and faced with the fact that no common methodology had been developed yet for the dairy sector to measure green house gas (GHG) emissions, the group published a "Discussion paper on GHG emissions" and engaged in consultations with stakeholders groups towards such development.

The working group helped develop and co-signed the Global Dairy Agenda for Action, and launched a Green Paper to report about business initiatives on climate change.

Members of the Working Group: Cayuga Marketing, Danone, Fonterra, FrieslandCampina, General Mills, Kraft, McDonald's, Nestlé, Unilever.



### SAI - IDF roadmap for collaboration

*On February 10, 2009, SAI Platform and the International Dairy Federation (IDF) signed a Roadmap for Collaboration, to cooperate and share information, to promote the implementation of sustainable dairy farming.*

## Arable & Vegetable Crops



**David Pendlington,**  
*Sustainable Agriculture*  
*Programme Co-ordinator*  
Unilever

Since March 2009 the WG has a new Chairman, David Pendlington from Unilever, who succeeded Tony van Leersum from McCain.

The WG started an inventory of what they source, where, identifying the sustainability challenges per region/crop and updated the mission statement. The WG merged and updated the Principles and Practices from the former WG Cereals and WG Potatoes & Vegetables. The next step is to implement them at a large scale. A workshop in Poland is planned as one way to seek for this; the group seeks other opportunities to use the collective power and responsibility to build capacity.

Besides the regular meeting, the WG organised a field trip to the Skylark project and co-organized a farmers event with EISA in September near Vienna (here the new set of P&P was discussed with the EISA farmers community).

Members of the Working Group: Agrarfrost, Agrotterra, CIO Parma, Farm Frites, General Mills, Kellogg, Kraft, Lamb Weston - Meijer, McCain, McDonald's, PepsiCo, Unilever.



## Coffee



**Stefanie Miltenburg,**  
*Director International*  
*Corporate Social*  
*Responsibility*  
Sara Lee

Stefanie Miltenburg from Sara Lee, was appointed new Chairman of the WG. She replaces Patrick Leheup from Nestlé.

The WG finalized and published a toolbox to facilitate best practices' implementation. The 4C sent an official thank you letter praising the work done and asking if they can include it in their library.

The Working Group Coffee executed an outcome analysis of four pilot projects which aimed at implementing sustainable coffee production under SAI Platform umbrella, throughout 2004-2009.

The study brought valuable findings and recommendations for the future (see text box)

Members of the Working Group: Kraft, Nestlé, Sara Lee, Tchibo.

### "Outcome Analysis" of SAI Coffee projects

- The implementation of our Principles and Practices do bring tangible sustainability benefits to the producers and the environment.
- The projects with the largest income impacts share a number of characteristics, including strong focus on technical training (e.g. farmer field schools), record keeping, quality improvement, stakeholder involvement and emphasis on participatory approaches.
- A working group should establish a clear and strong protocol for pilot projects launch and reporting in order to ensure that these pilots will bring real value. Amongst several recommendations for such protocol, the following ones are particularly important: get a clear and real commitment from the pilot projects' responsible companies towards the working group and the wish to share possibly competitive information relating to sustainability; have a "theory of change" in mind at the beginning of each pilot project in order to identify the main areas of possible impact; use SMART economic, environmental and social indicators; foster regular exchange of information between pilot projects, throughout and in-between yearly workshops; and provide assistance to the pilots from the working group itself.

## Water & Agriculture



**Sikke Meerman,**  
Sustainable Agriculture  
Senior Agronomist  
Unilever



The WG thoroughly followed the discussions held within the Water Footprint Network (WFn) and published a "Discussion paper" which highlighted the weaknesses and gaps in the actual method developed to measure the water footprint of a product, and thereafter engaged in the WFn discussions to try and help develop a better common methodology.

Members of the WG managed half a dozen pilot projects in various regions of the world, aimed at testing better water management practices at farm level. All of these projects showed that better practices and some new technologies (such as drip irrigation) can make dramatic positive contributions towards water conservation. This is why the WG organised a seminar on water management (see next page) and developed on Site platform website a database of good farm practices relating to water management, which links to several practical recommendations and tools for farmers to be able to implement those practices.

Members of the Working Group: Coca-Cola, Danone, Fonterra, Lamb Weston - Meijer, McCain, McDonald's, Nestlé, Unilever.

*SAI Platform's developed website a database of good farm practices relating to water management*  
[www.saiplatform.org](http://www.saiplatform.org)

## Fruit



**Idwin W. Bouman,**  
Manager SHEQA &  
Food Safety  
Royal Friesland  
Campina

The WG published its Principles and Practices, and to guide its future activities, the WG developed a diagnostic tool, which resulted in a list of fields of action based on the priorities of WG members. From this list, it was clear that one of the main priorities was understanding and measuring greenhouse gas emissions of fruit production. Therefore the WG appointed the renowned Swiss research centre ART (Agroscope Reckenholz-Tänikon Research Station) to perform a literature review of existing publications and data on the carbon footprint and water footprint of fruit. The researchers presented the first phase at a milestone meeting in Rotterdam, gathering inputs and fine-tuning the research. The final presentation was followed by a list of recommendations issued from the literature study.

Members of the Working Group: Coca-Cola, Danone, FrieslandCampina, Nestlé, PepsiCo, Unilever.

### Literature review of carbon and water footprints of fruit production

*The WG on Fruit commissioned this study with a focus for oranges and strawberries in selected countries: respectively Brazil, China, Florida and Spain for oranges and China, Morocco and Poland for the strawberries. The study is available on SAI Platform's website.*



## Principles and Practices

The Working Groups, in a joint effort, reviewed their Principles and Practices (P&Ps), published them in a harmonised format, and made them available to the public on the SAI Platform website.

Each document provides a set of P&Ps for the mainstream market in all regions of the world. It is meant to be revised regularly on the basis of practical experience. Furthermore, it is meant to be completed with specific guidelines and practical tools based on local innovations and adapted to local prevailing conditions (according to the region and its climates, ecological variables, farming systems, cultures etc) as well as respecting national laws and regulations.

The Basic framework looks as follows:

1. Item. An item refers to an object of management.
2. Principles identify the objective(s) of what should be accomplished with regard to an item.
3. Recommended Practices provide a set of identified non-exclusive tools and measures that can be implemented to achieve the objective(s) of a principle.

The P&Ps are divided in four sections: Sustainable Farming Systems, Economic Sustainability, Social Sustainability and Environmental Sustainability.



# SAI Platform Seminars

## Training Workshop: “Rolling Out Sustainable Agriculture in Food Companies”



SAI Platform received from some of its members the request to develop a tailor made training on sustainable agriculture. This originated from the need to inform and educate company departments, from marketing to procurement, from communications to brand management, on what sustainable agriculture is about, its value and the business opportunities.

SAI Platform has therefore chosen one of the world's leading executive education institutes – the IMD – to cooperate in developing such training course.

This workshop was aimed at testing draft materials developed to provide SAI Platform member companies and their staff with a tailor-made training on sustainable agriculture.

The workshop was articulated in five modules over two days.

The first day was geared towards “sustainability change agents”, the second day towards “mainstream managers” willing to learn more about SA and how to build the business case around it.



The five modules tested by the participants were:

- Breaking down organizational hurdles
- Leading change in the organization
- Setting the context for SA
- The business case for SA
- SAI Platform

## Seminar on water management

The subject of this third SAI Platform seminar was chosen at last General Assembly by the majority of members – which illustrates a growing concern amongst the industry about the availability of water resources and its potential impact on the business.

The seminar, which was organized by the Working Group on Water & Agriculture (WGWA), had three main objectives:

- 1) have a better understanding of today's situation in relation to the food industry;
- 2) have a better understanding of what some key players are doing in that matter;
- 3) identify gaps and explore how we could contribute to filling these in - independently or through common actions.

The chairman of the WGWA Sikke Meerman set the scene, exposing why does water management at farm level matter for the food industry. Among the experts invited to speak: Deborah Bossio,

theme leader on productive water use at IWMI addressed the issue of water management in agriculture, challenges and way forward; Derk Kuiper, from the Water Footprint Network, presented the water footprint methodology.

In this occasion WGWA members presented their own projects:

- Coca-Cola: The Water Footprint of a soft drink
- Nestlé: Drip-irrigation and crop-sensor for tomato production in Parma, Italy
- McCain: Drip-irrigation for Potato production in India
- McDonald's: Flagship farms
- Unilever: Drip-irrigation for strawberry production in China.



# The Global Dairy Agenda for Action

In an unprecedented level of cooperation across national borders, the wider dairy supply chain has come together for the first time to address the challenge of climate change. The Global Dairy Agenda for Action is the industry's commitment to making a positive contribution to global action to address climate change. Building on initiatives to date, the Agenda for Action is a commitment by the world's dairy farmers, associations and companies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions per unit of dairy production as part of its contribution to help address global warming. The Agenda for Action has been developed with input from across the dairy supply chain and from a wide range of dairy producing countries, including developing countries, and was signed at the World Dairy Summit in Berlin on 24 September 2009 by the SAI Platform, IDF, GDP, IFAP, EDA, FEPALE, ESADA.

In order to facilitate the dairy industry's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote the long term sustainable supply of milk and dairy products, the global dairy industry will:

- Promote the development of a standard methodology framework for assessing the carbon footprint of milk and dairy products based on robust science;
- Promote adoption of world's best practices within the global dairy sector and actions ;
- Seek to advance the establishment of tools to facilitate measurement and monitoring of emissions both on-farm and in dairy manufacturing;
- Promote improved farmer understanding of agricultural emissions and opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions on farm;
- Support sharing information and aligning research efforts to develop cost effective mitigation technologies for both on farm and manufacturing application.

Along with the Green Paper cataloguing specific initiatives and commitments, the Agenda for Action is a living document that will provide a platform for future cooperation and action by the dairy supply chain. It is expected that the actions and commitments recorded will develop over time as the dairy supply chain works together alongside other stakeholders to achieve the objectives originally set out.



*Signatories of the Declaration, Global Dairy Agenda for Action, l-r Toon van Hooijdonk (GDP), Richard Doyle (IDF), Bertus de Jongh (ESADA), Alfonso Mancada (FEPALE), Wesley Judd (IFAP), Hans Jöhr (SAI Platform), Werner Buck (EDA) and Brian Weech (WWF)*





# Publications

## Agriculture Standards Benchmark Study

We commissioned this high added value study with the aim of investigating and comparing some of the most influential agricultural production standards worldwide.

The objective of it is to give SAI Platform members further insight into the various agriculture production, certification and verification schemes in order to facilitate sustainable sourcing. It is meant to help members through the myriad of available agriculture schemes and provide some guidance.

This study can be utilized in a procurement context as a tool for answering initial questions that arise as one seeks the best and most appropriate method to ensure sustainably produced agricultural raw materials. The first part of this study utilizes color coding to provide the reader with a high level graphic overview of the criteria evaluated. It gives the user a chance to assess each of the standards at a glance. This is followed by a more in-depth written analysis of each of the standards, further explaining why the standard was judged in the corresponding manner.



## Short Guide to Sustainable Agriculture

Sustainability is a social, an environmental and a business opportunity. For businesses, sustainability can enable to enhance brands, meet new market demands, ensure reliable supply of products, reduce risks, reduce the use of energy and materials, and comply with standards. Consumers are more and more interested in how the food they eat has been produced, the impact it has on environment, biodiversity, farm workers, climate change etc.

The intention of this booklet is to give an easy understanding of sustainable agriculture and its main issues by showing success stories of the food industry. With this work, which we developed together with our friends of the Sustainable Food Lab, the reader will be able to show that sustainable agriculture is not only possible at conceptual level, but it is already happening – a reality as business practice.



## Financials

### DAO FINANCIAL EXPERTS SARL

Swiss financial experts. Contributing to the success of the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative (SAI).

Report of the statutory auditors  
on the limited statutory examination  
to the Executive Committee and  
the Ordinary General Assembly of  
Sustainable Agriculture Initiative (SAI), Geneva

As statutory auditors, we have examined the financial statements (balance sheet, income statement and notes) of Sustainable Agriculture Initiative (SAI) Association, for the year ended December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Executive Committee. Our responsibility is to perform a limited statutory examination on these financial statements. We confirm that we meet the licensing and independence requirements as stipulated by Swiss law.

We conducted our examination in accordance with the Swiss Standard on the Limited Statutory Examination. This standard requires that we plan and perform a limited statutory examination to identify material misstatements in the financial statements. A limited statutory examination consists primarily of inquiries of company personnel and analytical procedures as well as detailed tests of company documents as considered necessary in the circumstances. However, the testing of operation of processes and the internal control system, as well as inquiries and further testing procedures to detect fraud or other legal violations, are not within the scope of this examination.

Based on our limited statutory examination, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements and the proposed appropriation of available earnings do not comply with Swiss law and the company's articles of incorporation.

Geneva, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
DAO Financial Experts Sarl

Daniel Osterlag  
Auditor in charge

Enclosure:  
- Financial statements (balance sheet, income statement)

Ex. 00 - Enclosure 01 (CP 000), 12/14 version 100,000, 010-0001 - Fax 022 910 43 00

## Balance sheet as at December 31, 2009

### ASSETS

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS | € 368.994,37 |
| FIXED ASSETS   | € -          |
| TOTAL ASSETS   | € 368.994,37 |

### LIABILITIES AND FORTUNE

|                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| CURRENT LIABILITIES           | € 177.276,47 |
| FORTUNE                       | € 191.717,90 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FORTUNE | € 368.994,37 |

### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 2009

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| TOTAL INCOME      | € 532.928,37 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES    | € 615.035,15 |
| FUND BALANCE 2009 | € -82.106,78 |

## SAI Platform's Second Conference



### SAI Platform's Second Conference

Together with the Sustainable Food Lab and Field to Market: The Keystone Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture, the SAI Platform hosted in Lansdowne Virginia from 18 to 20 March 2009 the three-day conference "Growing a 21st Century Agricultural Revolution".

New approaches being taken by the private sector and partners to "green" the food supply chain in the U.S. and internationally were the focus of the conference. The highly interactive event addressed key issues such as water, climate, energy, biodiversity, poverty and key strategies such as partnering in value chains, embedding performance metrics, incentives for better practices, and building institutional infrastructure in farming communities.



The conference, which was attended by more than 250 participants from agribusiness, the food industry, and NGOs, engaged a wide variety of players in the food system in discovering what they can do in their own supply chains and policies.

# Cooperations and partnerships

The SAI Platform in the last year has developed and consolidated working relationships with major players in the field of agriculture, food production and sustainable development.

## CIAA



The CIAA, Confederation of Food and Drink Industries of the EU, represents the food and drink industry – the first industrial sector, major employer and exporter in the EU.

The CIAA is a favoured partner of European and international institutions, thanks to its longstanding work on issues such as food quality and safety, nutrition and health, novel foods, labelling, agricultural policy, international trade matters, sustainable development, respect for the environment and enlargement.

CIAA's permanent secretariat, based in Brussels, maintains close contacts with European and international institutions and has become a major partner in consultations on food-related developments.

## EISA



The European Initiative for Sustainable Development in Agriculture (EISA) was founded in May 2001 as an alliance of seven European national organisations for the promotion of Integrated Farming. EISA's members are strongly committed to sustainable agriculture, which is economically viable, environmentally responsible and socially acceptable and seek its achievement through the promotion and further development of Integrated Farming. A Common Codex, outlining the foundations of Integrated Farming, has been adopted by EISA and its member organisations. It defines general principles and procedures of Integrated Farming at the individual farm level and considers aspects of food production, economic viability, producer and consumer safety, social responsibility and conservation of the environment in a balanced manner.

## GDP



Founded in 2006 by Fonterra, Campina, Dairy Farmers of America and Arla Foods, in alliance with the International Dairy Federation (IDF), Global Dairy Platform is an international non-profit organisation that provides direction and drive to the dairy industry. Its members are leading dairy corporations, cooperatives and associations who are uniting to strengthen their interests around the world. Based outside of Chicago, GDP is focused on sustaining and expanding global demand for milk and dairy products. To reduce duplication and enhance the return on investment, GDP provides members with robust resources and information on a pre-competitive basis. The result is valuable insight, guidance and networking for a more coordinated and focused effort across regions to promote the dairy industry.

## IDF



The international Dairy Federation (IDF) is the pre-eminent source of scientific and technical expertise for all stakeholders of the dairy chain. Membership covers 53 countries and is growing. IDF accounts for about 82% of current total milk production worldwide. The mission of IDF is to represent the dairy sector worldwide by providing the best global source of scientific expertise and knowledge in support of the development and promotion of quality milk and dairy products to deliver consumers with nutrition, health and well-being. IDF is the centre for dairy expertise, developing scientific knowledge, exchanging information, addressing global developments and facilitating networking within and outside the sector.

## IDH



The mission of the Dutch Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH) is the acceleration and up-scaling of social and ecological sustainability within mainstream commodity supplies from emerging markets to the Netherlands and Western Europe. In this way, IDH is working on the Millennium Development Goals for poverty reduction, sustainable environment, and an open trading and financial system. IDH forges enterprising coalitions between government agencies, companies, trade unions and social organisations. Sector by sector, IDH gathers forces together to jointly transform the market, and make sustainable production and trade the norm. The parties work on the entire supply chain in ambitious implementation programmes. IDH works on eight improvement programmes: tropical timber, soy, nature stone, cocoa, tea, tourism, aquaculture and cotton.

## Sustainable Food Laboratory



In 2004 the core group of 32 people from different sectors came together in a consortium that now counts 70 businesses and social organizations from four continents. Its mission is to accelerate the sustainable food trend from niche to mainstream by designing and implementing innovations that make global food systems more economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable. Food Lab members have access to sustainability training, leadership development, case studies and off-the-shelf tools. Three grant funded clusters of supply chain projects aim at measuring and monetizing climate impacts, improving livelihoods in developing countries, and developing metrics to measure progress along all three dimensions of sustainability.



The growth of the Australian Chapter of SAI Platform has been remarkable in 2009: from a foundational base of 3 members in 2007, it now counts 13 highly committed members which span the agriculture, food and beverage supply chain.

SAI Platform Australia engaged in a growing number of initiatives in 2009 to build its knowledge pool about sustainable agriculture with a view to applying this information in a practical, commercial manner.

A number of members provided funding support for the Australian Chapter's first joint pilot project undertaken with the research support of the CSIRO. This report measured the impact of water use on grain crops they purchase using 'water footprinting' methodology. A number of members are considering applying this research to commodities they procure. Further collaborative projects on social sustainability are being considered at present.



SAI Platform Australia conducted a two-day field trip to Wagga Wagga NSW in November with 26 executives participating. The first day was held at Charles Sturt University and

provided an opportunity for information exchange involving a wide spectrum of speakers including leading farmers, operating at the forefront of agricultural sustainability, and with a focus on water. On the second day, farms were visited to see the benefits of innovative technologies and water management practices for sustainable crop production. Members are very keen to undertake further field trips in 2010, given the success of this inaugural trip.

SAI Platform Australia has also been a cooperating partner for our member Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation as the coordinator for applications to the Federal Government Program for Climate Change in rural industries.

The quarterly general and working group meetings were well attended by members and provided an ongoing forum to share thinking and seek solutions on forefront agricultural sustainability issues impacting agriculture, food and beverage organisations. A number of speakers were invited to update our members on cutting edge issues related to our working groups of water, climate change, customer demand, biofuels, livestock and horticulture.

The Australian Chapter of SAI Platform continues to remain in close contact with the SAI Global Platform organisation in Brussels, with regular exchange of information on initiatives and sharing publications produced for the benefit of the members. Dr Selwyn Heilbron, Secretary of the Australian Chapter, made a presentation to the 2009 General Assembly, in Geneva. In 2009 it was agreed to provide access for Global Platform members on a reciprocal basis to 'member only areas' on both websites.

### **David Koch**

*Director Global Procurement, Foster's Group  
President of SAI Platform Australia*





# Members of the SAI Platform



SAI PLATFORM

Office General Coordinates & Postal Address

43 avenue des Arts

1040 Brussels

Belgium

Tel: +32 (0)2 500 87 57

[www.saipatform.org](http://www.saipatform.org)