



**C.I.D.E ASBL**

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## ***Sustainable development and agriculture throughout the world: lucerne, an asset for the environment***

*by Arthur RIEDACKER, Research Director at INRA\**

**When:** 24 May 2007  
10.30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.  
**Where:** COPA-COGECA, 61 rue de Trèves, 1040 Brussels  
**Interpretation:** French, English, German, Spanish, Italian

Dear Sir/Madam,

Protecting the environment is essential for our quality of life today and for future generations. Combating global warming and biodiversity loss and preventing the pollution of natural resources (air, water, soil) rank among the priorities of the EU's environment policy. Nitrogen-fixing plants, including lucerne, help to meet these energy and environmental challenges.

Until now, sectoral approaches have still been too fragmented. Traditional LCAs (Life Cycle Analyses) are insufficient. To shed some light on the matter, a new methodological approach was needed, which led to the development of the **Integrated Environmental Assessment (IEA)** by **Arthur RIEDACKER, Research Director at INRA**.

During this conference, **Arthur RIEDACKER** will show what impact agricultural and forestry practices have on local efficacy in the various parts of the world, and thus the direct repercussions on the global environment. He will also indicate where possibilities for further progress lie, in particular the potential role of plants that effectively fix atmospheric nitrogen and produce plant proteins, such as lucerne.

We are very pleased to invite you to this conference. A friendly drink following the conference will enable you to continue your discussions. Please confirm whether or not you will be able to attend using the attached participation form.

Yours faithfully,

PEKKA PESONEN  
Secretary General of COPA-COGECA  
On behalf of the host organisations

*\*Arthur RIEDACKER is Research Director at **INRA** (French National Institute for Agricultural Research). As a graduate of the National Institute for Agriculture in Paris in 1967, he has specialised in matters related to agriculture, forestry, plant ecology and bioenergy for forty years.*

*Following the second oil shock in 1979, he was responsible for a priority programme on wood, bioenergy and biomaterial at the French Energy Management Agency.*

*He has been involved in various scientific reports for the Government, notably on climate change in the framework of the **IPCC**, and in negotiations at the United Nations since 1990, more especially the Convention on Climate Change and the various agreements that led to the implementation of the **KYOTO** commitments. He was head of mission for the North-South technological cooperation and for the **Inter-ministerial Mission on the Greenhouse Effect**.*

*He is also involved in combating desertification and took part in the launching of the Sahara and Sahel Observatory.*

*He has been interested in sustainable development since the Brundtland report was released in 1987. He also Director of the "4D" (Dossiers on Debates for Sustainable Development, based in Paris) and of the "International Scientific Association for Sustainable Agriculture", created at the beginning of 2007 and based in Hisar, India.*

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More information is available from the COPA-COGECA web site: [www.copa-cogeca.be](http://www.copa-cogeca.be)

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