



**MINISTERIUM
FÜR EIN
LEBENSWERTES
ÖSTERREICH**

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INVITATION
FORESTS, FOOD AND LIFE

EXPO 2015

B R E A T H E
A U S T R I A

MILANO



On the occasion of EXPO Milano 2015 his Excellency
Mr. ANDRÄ RUPPRECHTER, Federal Minister of Agriculture,
Forestry, Environment and Water Management of Austria invites to a

PANEL DISCUSSION

with

RIGOBERTA MENCHU

Peace Nobel Laureate

EDUARDO ROJAS-BRIALES

EXPO Commissioner and Assistant Director General, FAO

BHASKAR VIRA

University of Cambridge and IUFRO

JAMES ASTILL

Political Editor and Bagehot Columnist of The Economist

ANDRÄ RUPPRECHTER

Federal Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Austria

WHEN:

25. June 2015, 18:00-21:00

WHERE:

EXPO Milano 2015

Austrian Pavilion

Expo 2015, Via Cristina Belgioioso, 20157 Milano, Italia

(<http://www.expoaustria.at/>)

THE THEME OF THE WORLD EXPO 2015 IN MILANO

“Feeding the Planet - Energy for Life” points to the enormous challenges the rapid growth of the worlds’ population puts in front of us?



At present some 800 million people are undernourished worldwide, and population estimates for 2050 reach over 9 billion people. Food security and nutrition, supply with fresh water and energy, are key concerns for our planets future.

At EXPO Milano 2015 Austria is presenting a living forest on an area of 560 square meters. Therewith, the Austrian EXPO Pavilion creates a direct link between mankind, the environment and the climate. How does this relate to the EXPO theme? Forests provide a vital source of food and nutrition to millions of people living in and near forests the world over. They also provide firewood for cooking to 35 % of the global population. Forests are vital for the provision of water, they protect agricultural soils and are home to 80% of the terrestrial world's biodiversity. They are also a source of renewable raw materials and energy and help mitigate climate change. Thus, forests are essential for food production and feeding the planet. However, in many parts of the world the loss and degradation of forests exacerbate the problem of food insecurity, while in other parts the growing demand for food, fibres, energy and other goods increase the risk of forest overexploitation. To protect, maintain and enhance the benefits of forests for food production and quality of life requires appropriate government systems and management concepts at all levels.

The eminent international Panel will discuss respective solutions.

After the session 'Unseen Science – See Aural Woods' will accompany musically a provided buffet with snacks and refreshments sourced in forests.



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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



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