Research needs and visions for innovation and sustainability – why ENSSSER is engaged

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ENSSER:  
• advocates the use of science and technology in the public interest. This means benign and peaceful uses of natural processes, scientific discoveries and technological developments.  
• promotes critical European and international discourse on new technologies, their impacts and their regulation  
• participates in developing alternative options within technology policy, strengthening innovation and long term sustainability, while prioritizing public and environmental safety.  
• contributes to shaping models for more democratic and participatory agenda-setting.

http://www.ensser.org
As we are exceeding planetary boundaries for safe operation of humans

Rockström et al. 2009, Nature
…this has triggered the **simultaneous** degradation of...
Industrialized agriculture part of the problem!

Will/Must end soon:
Peak oil, peak water, peak phosphorous, peak nitrogen, peak soil, ....

Uniform production system – one model fits all, environmental differences are made to fit the needs of industrial agriculture. High input, high tech - unsustainable

Extraction/mining – Export – Industrial value chains

http://www.foodincmovie.com
THE ANALYSES ARE DONE!

TODAY, THERE IS A WORLD OF ASYMMETRIC DEVELOPMENT… 
….THAT MUST CHANGE!

Business as usual no option anymore!!

ENSSER, Brussels, 26 Jun 2013
The CHALLENGE before us:

Conversion towards sustainable, agro-ecological system

http://www.foodincmovie.com
The way forward for AGRICULTURE:

MULTIFUNCTIONALITY OF AGRICULTURE

ENSSER, Brussels, 26 Jun 2013
A shift will include:

- *the internalisation of externalities* ....
- Development of *context – specific and localized technologies*
- *decentralized solution options*
- *diversified farms, food processing*
- *Short / local supply- and value-chains*
- *democratic decision-making and participation*
Agroecology offers solutions

Increase, develop and disseminate agro-ecological methods through knowledge, science and technology to reduce environmental problems and increase productivity.

Agriculture becomes part of the solution!
Sustainable agroecological models need to be developed AND embedded in an enabling socio-political and economic context.

These main themes were identified and will be addressed:

- Transformation knowledge
- European innovation partnerships for agroecology
- Common Agricultural Policies (CAP) in support of Agroecology
- Progressive research agenda setting
THANK YOU!