



Federal Ministry  
of Food  
and Agriculture

**GLOBAL**  
**FORUM** OF **FOOD**  
**AGRICULTURE**

# 11<sup>th</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA)

“Agriculture Goes Digital – Smart Solutions for Future Farming”

Please save the date:  
17 - 19 January 2019, Berlin

[www.gffa-berlin.de](http://www.gffa-berlin.de)

[bmel.de](http://bmel.de)



 Messe Berlin



# “Agriculture Goes Digital – Smart Solutions for Future Farming”

The current world population of around 7 billion people is expected to reach 9.7 billion by 2050. Feeding these people with the available scarce natural resources will be the most urgent global challenge of our future. We need to make smart, efficient and sustainable use of these resources and their potential around the globe.

The opportunities offered by innovations and technologies in the digital age are a key factor in ensuring food security. These are, in part, cost-efficient, readily available and can be applied almost anywhere in the world. Today already, digital solutions enable farmers to manage their farms in a way that is more resource-conserving and environmentally-friendly, reduce losses along the value-added chain, increase yields or gain easier access to counselling services.

Nevertheless, there are always unresolved questions regarding the benefits and implications for the environment, industry and society that result from the use of technologies. Against this backdrop, the following questions, inter alia, are to be discussed at the 11<sup>th</sup> GFFA in Berlin:

- What is the **potential** offered by digital technologies and innovations?
- How do farmers gain **access** to these and how can they be tailored to meet their needs and the needs of consumers?
- How can we ensure **data sovereignty** and **data security**?
- How can we build **confidence** for digital technologies and innovations?

The GFFA is the world's leading international conference on key issues regarding the future of the global agri-food industry. The GFFA focuses on the issue of food security and has taken place during the International Green Week (IGW) in Berlin on an annual basis since 2009. Over 2,000 international visitors from the industry, science, civil society and politics attend the numerous public events of GFFA each year. The political highlight is the Agriculture Ministers' Conference attended by around 70 Ministers.

The diverse range of events under GFFA 2019 are to act as a driver at the beginning of the year and will look at the subject from every angle. The following events, inter alia, have been scheduled for GFFA 2019:

- 17 January 2019: **Kick-off event, expert panels, innovation exchange**
- 18 January 2019: **Expert panels, high-level panels, innovation exchange**
- 19 January 2019: **Agriculture Ministers' Conference (not public)**



*Dear Madam/Sir,*

*We already have Davos for economic policy and the Munich Security Conference for security policy. We want to use the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture to build on that for the agricultural sector. I would be delighted if you would reserve this date and if I could welcome you to the GFFA in January 2019.*

*With kind regards,*

*Yours, Julia Klöckner  
Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture*