



## 2010-2014 RESEARCH THEMES AND THEMES COORDINATORS

THEME 1	THE NATURAL RESOURCES CHALLENGE	THEME 1 COORDINATOR
	<p>The sustainable use and protection of natural resources is essential to support continued food production and quality of life for humans, domestic animals, and wildlife. Accountability for judicious use of natural resources includes a holistic approach to cause-and-effect relationships throughout the agri-food chain.</p> <p>Efficient use of natural resources includes: activities in the production of livestock, forestry products, food-crops and fisheries to provide new, specialty and value added products; and innovative approaches to assessing the vulnerability of the environment to management practices that involve renewable resources considerations.</p>	<p><b>To be confirmed</b></p>
THEME 2	SUSTAINABILITY IN PRACTICE	THEME 2 COORDINATOR
	<p>Sustainable agricultural systems are an attractive area of research, as they target maintenance of resources and biodiversity within a productive agricultural system. An ideal agricultural system would maintain or even increase productivity into the future, with minimal inputs, while conserving natural resources and protecting the environment.</p> <p>This theme aims to fund activities that link research to adopting sustainable practices, tackle issues that have historically limited such adoption, and bridge research disciplines. Activities in this field include: social and bio-economic considerations, and scientific research aimed at providing the information and justification land managers need to assess the risk of adopting new practices that predominately offer long-term benefits in return for a more stable natural resource base.</p>	<p><b>To be confirmed</b></p>
THEME 3	THE FOOD CHAIN	THEME 3 COORDINATOR
	<p>This theme includes new approaches for the production of valuable and safe materials and substances within agricultural and agri-food systems which have long-term impacts on the food chain. It will promote research on the scientific links between food production systems, food safety and environmental outcomes. It will include analysis of public perceptions of both traditional and new products. Research will encompass primary production to end-consumption and deal equally with plant and animal organisms. Special attention will be given to results from the post-genomic (proteomics) area and to the impact of new technologies.</p> <p>This theme promotes research on animal and plant pathogenesis, and animal and plant pests, which have an impact on preservation of agricultural products and on the sustainability of farming.</p>	<p><b>To be confirmed</b></p>