UN Report's findings call Food Harvest 2020 into doubt, according to An Taisce

By Margaret Donnelly on April 3, 2014

Food Harvest 2020 will not contribute to increasing food security, according to An Taisce.

An Taisce, The National Trust for Ireland, has welcomed the recent publication of a report by the outgoing United Nations Special Rapporteur on the right to food, Olivier de Schutter. However, it says, the findings of the report raise fresh concerns about export oriented agricultural policies, such as the industry-led and Irish government-supported Food Harvest 2020 programme.

Of key relevance to Ireland is the UN report’s recommendation that, “wealthy countries must move away from export-driven agricultural policies and leave space instead for small-scale farmers in developing countries to supply local markets”. FH2020’s crude export-oriented target of achieving a 50% increase in the volume of Irish dairy production is totally inconsistent with this recommendation, according to An Taisce.

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