Reinforced Policy Interaction and Stakeholder Engagement

Mella Frewen
Director General FoodDrinkEurope

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The EU food and drink industry in 2010

Turnover

€956.2 billion

Largest manufacturing sector
in the EU (16.0%)

Employment

4.1 million people

Leading employer in the EU
manufacturing sector (14.6%)

SMEs[1]

48.7% of food and drink turnover

63.0% of food and drink employment

External trade

Exports €65.3 billion
(+21.5% compared to 2009)

Imports €55.5 billion
(+9.3% compared to 2009)

Trade balance €9.8 billion

Net exporter of food and drink products

Number of companies[1]

274,000

Fragmented industry

Value added[1]
(% of EU GDP)

2%

Slight increase

Consumption
(% of household expenditure)

13%

Stable

EU market share in global exports

17.8% (20.4% in 2000)

Shrinking share in global markets
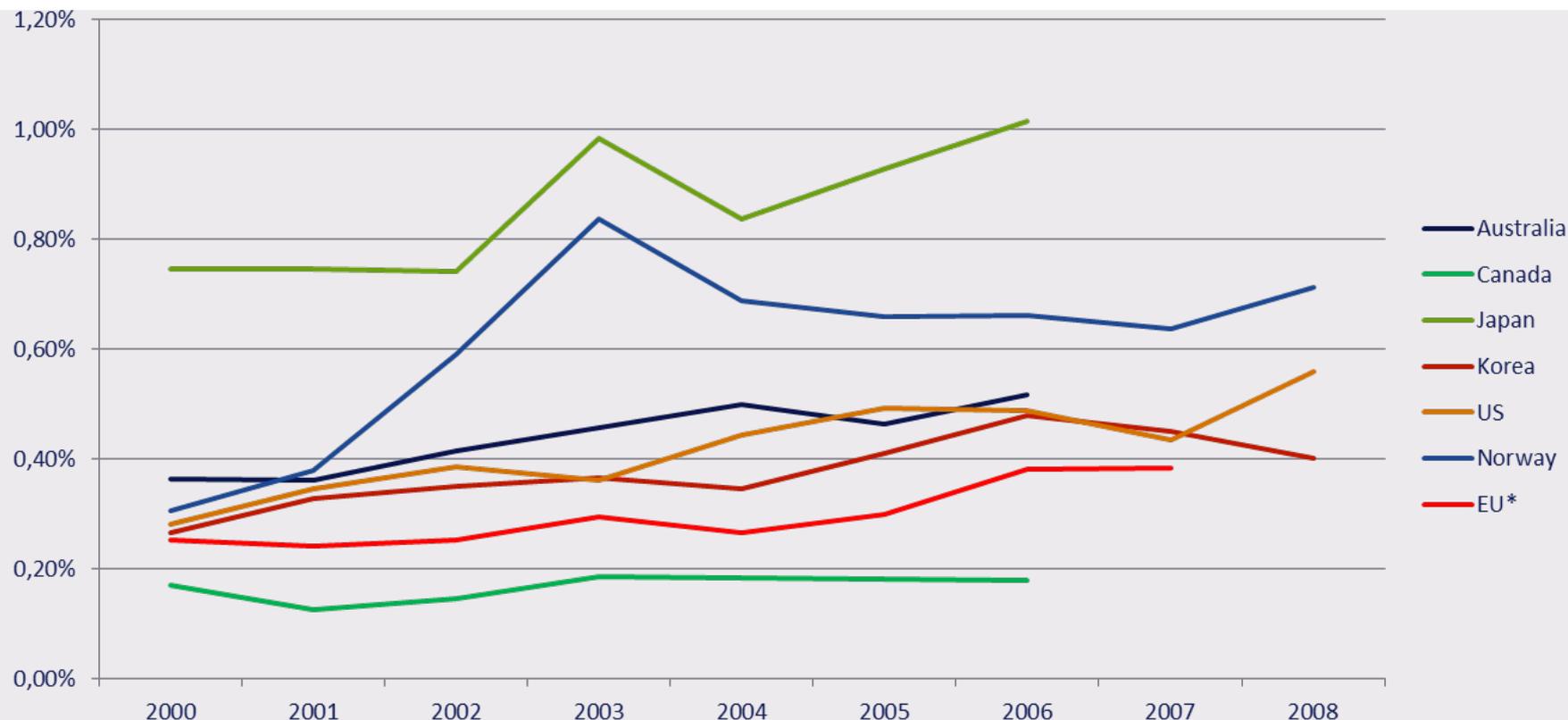
R&D[2]
(% of food and drink output)

0.38%

Stable

(1) 2009 data
(2) 2007 data

Sources: Eurostat; UN COMTRADE; OECD

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R&D as a percentage of industry output for the food and drink industry in various countries (%) (2000=100)

Legend: Australia, Canada, Japan, Korea, US, Norway, EU*

Source: OECD STAN statistics

Global Challenges

Including:

- Feeding the 9 billion

- Obesity/malnutrition/starvation

- Ageing population

- Urbanisation

- Climate change (impact on food production)

- Sustainability of food production

- Reducing food waste

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EU Challenges
Bottlenecks to Innovation

Including:

- Burdensome regulatory framework

- Coherence of regulatory requirements

- Uncertainty in decision making

- Intellectual property rights

- Knowledge transfer to SMEs

- Training and education

A possible response

- ETP Food for Life

- PPPs – Food KIC (2014)

- International cooperation

- EIP – European Innovation Partnership

- Horizon 2020

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Conclusions

If the food industry is to play its part in achieving the goals of the EU 2020 strategy (i.e. smart sustainable inclusive growth and job creation), we need:

- **Legal certainty**

- **Intellectual property rights**

- **Skilled workers (retaining top talents)**

- **A harmonised and holistic innovation policy for food**

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