Good afternoon everyone and thank you for having invited me and for giving me the opportunity to briefly take the floor. It is a pleasure to be here at the Innovation Day, and to see how many are here to share their knowledge and to try to find solutions to solve challenges concerning rural development and climate change adaptation.

As representative of Israel I am honored to introduce you some of the Israeli experts dealing with public and private sectors in the field of innovation vis-à-vis farming and agriculture. Approximately half of the land in Israel is semi-arid with very little access to water. Imagine an expanse of rock and sand with an average of 355 sunny days and barely an inch of rain each year... turned into lush fields of crop.

I do believe that – thanks to the amount of knowledge and experience we have on the field – we might be helpful for many farmers around the world; we might help them to manage conditions of water scarcity and hot and dry climate, and to flourish.

I hope there will be many other wonderful occasions as this one, to keep working all together towards a greener and better agriculture, and I wish you all the best of luck in your job.

Thank you.