



Sustainable Development of the Indian Food & Beverage Retail sector

## Retail Supply Chain Summit 2013: Inaugural Address

Dr. Arno Schaefer, Minister Counsellor,  
Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to  
India

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- Dr. Arno Schaefer is the Minister Counsellor, Head of Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to India. He recognizes retail as an emerging sector with emerging challenges as well as increasing opportunities. Retail contributes about 11% to the European GDP. Focussing on sustainability in retail, he stressed upon 'Switch'ing from traditional to more modern and sustainable practices by use of technology and innovation. He addressed key areas such as improvement in energy efficiency, better production methods and involvement of all stakeholders including the policy makers to create integrated markets and move towards a sustainable economy.
- The key aspects he focused on included:
  - European integrated markets, Switch Project, sustainable economy, easy access to consumer goods, policy makers, legislators, sustainable practices by all, use better production methods, energy efficiency, technology driven improvements