



Dear Readers,

25th of June
2007

With a timely and fascinating scientific programme, as well as prominent speakers, the IAMO Forum 2007 stands to be the focus of interest during upcoming weeks. In addition, we wish to share information about workshops which researchers from IAMO have organised in both Brussels and China, and to highlight the achievements of two of our IAMO colleagues.

The IAMO Directorate
(Alfons Balmann, Executive Director, Gertrud Buchenrieder, Thomas Glauben, Hannelore Zerjeski)

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How to manage sustainable rural development?

This year's IAMO Forum, titled "Sustainable rural development: what is the role of the agri-food sector?", will take place in Halle (Saale) from Wednesday 27th June to Friday 29th June, 2007. Keynote speakers are: Joachim von Braun, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI, USA); Daniel W. Bromley, University of Wisconsin-Madison (USA); Katarzyna Duczowska-Małysz, Warsaw School of Economics (Poland); Achim Fock, The World Bank (USA); Huang Jikun, Center for Chinese Agriculture Policy (CCAP, China); Alexander Vassilevich Petrikov, Russian Academy of Agricultural Sciences, All-Russian Institute of Agrarian Problems and Informatics (Russia); Peter Wehrheim, European Commission (Brussels); and Tom Reardon, University of Michigan (USA). For more information, please visit: <http://www.iamo.de/forum0/forum2007.html>

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DFG-project proposal „Agroholding“ has been approved right now

The DFG-project proposal "Agroholdings in the Russian agri-food sector: formation, functioning and development perspectives" has been approved right now. The German-Research Foundation (DFG) granted about 350.000 Euro for this project. Heinrich Hockmann, Gertrud Buchenrieder and Thomas Glauben are planning to carry out the project in cooperation with the Moscow based Allrussian Research Institute for Agricultural Economics (VNIIESCh = Vserossijskij naučno-issledovatel'skij institut ekonomiki sel'skogo

chozjajstvo).

The project analyses astonishing developments within the Russian agriculture and food economy: the emergence of strong vertical and diagonal integrated structures named agrohholdings. Such highly integrated structures are not known from Western market economies. This raises questions about the formation, functions, development perspectives and economic effects of agrohholdings. The New Institutional Economics provides the theoretical foundation of the case studies, which are envisaged. Expected results of the research project are detailed information about the emergence, the operational as well as regional, sectoral and economic effects of agrohholdings in Russia. In addition, this project shall make a substantial contribution to test the validity of common Western theories to explain vertical and diagonal integration under very different cultural, economic and political conditions.

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Presentation of research results to EU-staff

Kathrin Happe and Martin Petrick recently presented new research findings to employees of the European Commission during a workshop in Brussels. The seminar was conducted by Happe and Petrick at the invitation of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG Agri). Based on the results of two international research projects, Happe presented policy impacts on the structural development of the agricultural sector in the enlarged EU. Petrick presented analyses of projects about rural development partnerships in the new EU member states. The focus of discussion was the perspectives of future rural development policies. Antonis Constantinou, head of the Direction E II "Rural Development Programmes" of DG Agri, addressed 60 European Commission employees during the meeting. Thanks to positive feedback, DG Agri is interested in further such meetings.

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Gertrud Buchenrieder elected to IAAE Council

Beginning on the 1st of March, Gertrud Buchenrieder, the head of IAMO's agricultural policy department, began serving a three-year term as one of four German Council Members of the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE), which is considered to be the biggest association of agrarian economists. The German members of IAAE are represented by Country Representative Dieter Kirschke (Humboldt-University of Berlin) and further Counsel Members Stephan von Cramon-Taubadel (Georg-August-University Göttingen) and Manfred Zeller (University Hohenheim).

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IAMO researchers organise sessions in Changsha (China)

In connection with the annual meeting of the Chinese Economists Society (CES) in Changsha, Hunan Province, China, which will take place from the 28th to the 30th of July 2007, IAMO staff have organised the session "Rural development during transition: the role of agriculture".

The invitation to organise these two sessions came about through the growing interest, particularly in China, in IAMO's work related to transition analysis. The members of the CES do research in the field of economic and social development in China. Xiaobing Wang and Stephan Brosig, both from IAMO, in May organised the session "Agricultural Restructuring during Transition" at the CES conference "Economic Transition at Midlife: Lessons from the Development of Markets and Institutions" in Portorož, Slovenia. For further information, please see: <http://www.china-ces.org>

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Ph.D. thesis on Labour market behaviour of Chinese rural households during transition defended

On Mai 7, 2007, Xiaobing Wang successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis on "Labour market behaviour of Chinese rural households during transition". The work was supervised by Thomas Glauben and contributes to solving shortfalls in the economic development of rural areas in China. Wang's thesis empirically analyses the labour market behaviour of Chinese rural households. Using an agricultural household model as a theoretical framework, labour market decisions of rural households are analysed in a static as well as dynamic aspect. For calculations, statistical procedures are employed. The base data relies on micro-level panel data from the relatively rich Zhejiang province from 1995 to 2002.

The author tackles three empiric questions: First, to identify the determinants of decisions about participation in the labour market, a discreet choice approach is econometrically estimated. Participation refers to the employment of family members outside the household, or the hiring of external labour for employment in the household's agricultural production. In a second step, the quantitative supply- and demand-reactions of off-farm labour supply for family members, respective to their demand for hired labour, are determined with the help of panel models. Finally, by applying discrete hazard models to the panel data, the author evaluates the dynamics of households' participation in labour markets.

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Recent Publications

[complete publication list](#)

IAMO Annual

IAMO 2007 is now available in English and Russian

Studies on the Agricultural and Food Sector in Central and Eastern Europe

PETRIK, M., BUCHENRIEDER, G. (Eds.) (2007): Sustainable rural development: What is the role of the agri-food sector?, Studies on the Agricultural and Food Sector in Central and Eastern Europe, Vol. 39, Halle (Saale).

ZVI LERMAN, DAVID SEDIK, NIKOLAI PUGACHOV, ALEKSANDR GONCHARUK (2007): Rethinking agricultural reform in Ukraine, Studies on the Agricultural and

Food Sector in Central and Eastern Europe, Vol. 38, Halle (Saale).

РАУШАН БОКУШЕВА, ОЛАФ ХАЙДЕЛЬБАХ, ТАЛГАТ КУСАЙЫНОВ (2007): Страхование посевов в Казахстане: Анализ возможностей эффективного управления рисками, Studies on the Agricultural and Food Sector in Central and Eastern Europe, Vol. 37, Halle (Saale).

IAMO Discussion Papers

RUNGSURIYAWIBOON, S., WANG, X. (2007): Agricultural efficiency and productivity in China: A metafrontier approach, , Halle (Saale), <http://www.iamo.de/dok/dp104.pdf>.

GRAMZOW, A. (2007): Oddolne inicjatywy jako szansa poprawy jakości życia na wsi? Wyniki studium przypadku w Bałtowie (Południowo-Wschodnia Polska), Halle (Saale), <http://www.iamo.de/dok/dp103.pdf>

Further selected publications

BAUM, S., STANGE, H., WEINGARTEN, P. (2007): Employment in agriculture in the enlarged European Union, pp. 4-13. Bokusheva, R., Valentinov, V., Anpilogova, V. (2007): The investment behaviour of Russian farms, pp. 53-71.

BREUSTEDT, G., GLAUBEN, T. (2007): Driving forces behind exiting from farming in Western Europe, pp. 115-127.

HOCKMANN, H., KOPSIDIS, M. (2007): What kind of technological change for Russian agriculture? The transition crisis of 1991-2005 from the induced innovation theory perspective, pp. 35-52.

HOCKMANN, H., VÖNEKI, É. (2007): Market power in the Hungarian milk chain, in: Faculty of Economics, University of Split (Eds.): Enterprise in transition. Proceedings, Split-Bol, pp. 266-268.

LISSITSA, A., RUNGSURIYAWIBOON, S., PARKHOMENKO, S. (2007): How far are the transition countries from the economic standards of the European Union? Measuring efficiency and growth in agriculture, pp. 53-78.

RUNGSURIYAWIBOON, S., LISSITSA, A. (2007): Agricultural productivity growth in the European Union and transition countries, pp. 1-12.

VALENTINOV, V. (2007): Some reflections on the transaction cost theory of nonprofit organization, pp. 52-67.

WANG, X., HERZFELD, T., GLAUBEN, T. (2007): Labor allocation in transition: Evidence from Chinese rural households, pp. 287-308.

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