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Overview

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Market in Thailand. Photo: Anja Peter

+++ TOP NEWS + + + Decentralisation and Participation

New DFG research project carries out institutional analysis of decentralisation and options of stakeholders for participation in agro-rural policy design. The research project of [Gertrud Buchenrieder](#) and [Insa Theesfeld](#) deals with the question of participation at the Thailand example. The researchers want to find out if decentralisation promotes or obstructs participation of farmers in agro-rural policy design. Their hypothesis is that participation leads to better policy design and implementation. In this research project Buchenrieder and Theesfeld will innovatively adapt and apply the "Institutional Analysis and Development (IAD) Framework", originally developed by Nobel prize laureate Elinor Ostrom. The project is financed by the German Research Foundation DFG.

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Bricked stations - in Saxony-Anhalt no rare view. Photo: Hauke Schnicke

Demographic Change

New research project on socio-economic impacts of demographic change. Since May Wolfgang Weiß is with IAMO. Together with Gertrud Buchenrieder the geographer works on the research project "Socio-economic impacts of demographic change in rural areas of Saxony-Anhalt". The project funded by the Saxony-Anhalt Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs aims at an integrative research at the pivot point of demography, economy and politics. Among others the mutual dependency between demographic and agri-structural changes and its socio-economic effects on rural areas shall be analysed and assessed. In the face of the rapid demographic changes Weiß furthermore wants to take a closer look on the funding instruments of the European Union, the German government and the federal German states.

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FORUM 2010 JUNE 16-18 Institutions in Transition

Management of state-owned agricultural land and agriculture in Korea

Two special sessions complete the conference programme of the IAMO Forum 2010. Organised by BVVG (Bodenverwertungs- und -verwaltungs) GmbH, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) and IAMO a special session will deal with management of state-owned agricultural land. The session will highlight the importance and the challenges of a sound and effective state-land management in the light of various external drivers, such as climate change, increasing global competition for agricultural raw material as well as migration and rural demographic developments. As add-on to the IAMO Forum 2010 a special session is hosted on "What about Korea: The next transition candidate?". The session is organised by Kangwon National University Korea (KNU), Korea Rural Economic Institute (KREI) and IAMO and will give an overview on the up to date situation in North and South Korea and stimulate scientific knowledge exchange in the subject area. There is no fee for this add-on. For detailed information on IAMO Forum 2010 in general and the registration please see <http://forum2010.iamo.de/>.

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<http://forum2010.iamo.de/>
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Parliamentary Evening.
Photo: Peter Himsel |
Leibniz Association

Parliamentary Evening

IAMO took part at Parliamentary Evening of the Leibniz Association in Berlin. On May 18 Leibniz Association hosted the Parliamentary Evening "Energy - Food - Climate. With Agricultural Research into a Sustainable Future". More than 250 guests, politicians, representatives of science organisations and associations as well as journalists, came to get a deeper insight into the Association's research activities in the field of agriculture. Part of the event was a panel discussion on the evening's general topic. Next to Ministerialdirigent Clemens Neumann (BMELV), Adalbert Kienle (German Farmer's Association), Prof. Dr. Hans Heinrich Blotvogel (TU Dortmund University and Academy for Spatial Research and Planning), Prof. Dr. Hubert Wiggering (Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research), Prof. Dr. Manfred Schwerin (Leibniz Institute for Farm Animal Biology), Prof. Dr. Thomas Glauben (IAMO) joined the panel discussion. They discussed challenges of today's agricultural research in the face of climate change and global food crisis. Furthermore, at the IAMO booth guest could have a chat with IAMO researchers and browse through selected publications.

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For the third time IAMO and IWH are hosting the Halle Workshop on Efficiency and Productivity Analysis HAWEPA from June 28-29. On invitation of IAMO and the Halle Institute for Economic Research (IWH) Rolf Färe from the Depart. of Economics and the Depart. of Agricultural and Resource Economics of the Oregon State University will explain at the HAWEPA workshop "The directional distance function and its applicability in applied research" and Pierre Ouellette from the Départ. des Sciences Économiques of the Université du Québec à Montréal will speak about "Dynamics, uncertainty and the analysis of production structures". For more information please see the [workshop website](#). Here you can also register for the workshop. The fee is 40 EUR.

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Agroholdings farm up to 100.000 hectare. Photo: IAMO

Agroholdings

IAMO PhD student Andriy Matyukha for research work at the Higher School of Economics (HSE) in Moscow. From February 8 till April 30 Andriy Matyukha was staying at the Institute for Industrial and Market Studies of the Higher School of Economics (HSE) in Moscow. During his stay Matyukha was supervised by Dr. Andrej Jakovlev, Director of the Institute and Vice Rector of the HSE. At the HSE he was working on his dissertation, which he is writing in the framework of the agroholdings research project. The Institute for Industrial and Market Studies is already working on this topic for quite some time now; Jakovlev and his colleagues are regarded as leading experts in this field in Russia. Besides the opportunity to exchange ideas with the Russian researchers Matyukha also had the chance to use empirical data of the HSE. The institute also supported him in his own field work and was for example helpful in establishing contacts with representatives of agri-food businesses and associations. In Moscow Matyukha also collaborated with Dr. Andrej Kolesnikov, Director of the Oblast Belgorod Branch of the All-Russia Research Institute. In February Kolesnikov had been staying at IAMO for some weeks to work with his German colleagues on the project "Agroholdings in the Russian Agri-Food Sector".

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Irrigation agriculture in the Harran Plains, Turkey.
Photo: Oscar Schmidt

Water Management

From March 22 till April 9 IAMO PhD student Oscar Schmidt has been guest of the Faculty of Agriculture of the Harran University in Şanlıurfa. In the framework of his dissertation Oscar Schmidt visited the Harran Plains in the Turkish province Şanlıurfa. The region was one of the first to get a huge amount of subsidised water by a multi-billion US-Dollar irrigation, electricity and infrastructural project of the Turkish government in the middle of the 1990s. As a result the former rather marginal agriculture in the arid area was changed into a intensified and export oriented irrigation agriculture. Still, it is uncertain how social and ecological sustainable this will be. For example there now is an increase in damage caused by salinisation and water wastage. Also, massive social conflicts have been caused by the implementation of the project. Schmidt investigates in his dissertation the development of institutions of water management since the middle of the 1990s as well as their up to date characteristics and significance for the

increased social and ecologic problems of the region.

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Strong as a tree ... Regional development needs supporters. Photo: Britta Paasche

Teaching

From April 12-30 IAMO researcher Vladislav Valentinov has been visiting scholar at the [European Research Institute on Cooperatives and Social Enterprises in Trento, Italy](#). At the institute he was holding a research seminar on "Institutional economics of nonprofit organisation". Furthermore, he gave lectures on theory of institutional economics, cooperatives and nonprofit organisations at the International Graduate School on Local Development of the University Trento. Institutional economics is the focus of Valentinov's research. In February he succeeded in winning a [Schumpeter Fellowship of the Volkswagen Foundation](#) for his research project "Third sector organizations in rural development: a theoretical and empirical analysis".

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Agata Pieniadz, Jon H. Hanf.
Photos: Sibylle Mundt

Knowledge transfer

Since April Agata Pieniadz and Jon H. Hanf offer their expertise to the [European Commission](#) respectively the [Hochschule RheinMain](#). Pieniadz now works as Scientific Officer in the Unit E3: Food – Health – Well-being of the Directorate E: Biotechnologies, Agriculture, Food of the DG Research at the European Commission and Hanf is Professor for International Wine Business at the Hochschule RheinMain, University of Applied Sciences Wiesbaden, Rüsselsheim, Geisenheim. Both researchers are still closely connected with IAMO.

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IAMO building in Halle.
Photo: Sibylle Mundt

Vacancy

IAMO is looking for a Graduate Student for the project "Third sector organizations in rural development". Application deadline is July 15, 2010. [Please see here for the detailed job description.](#)

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Recent Publications

[All publications](#)

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

RAMANOVICH, M. (2010): Zur Bestimmung der Wettbewerbsfähigkeit des weißrussischen Milchsektors: Aussagefähigkeit von Wettbewerbsindikatoren und Entwicklung eines kohärenten Messungskonzepts, *Studies on the agricultural and food sector in Central and Eastern Europe, Bd. 53*, Halle (Saale). [Download](#)

External Monographs

HANSSON, H., LARSÉN, K., OEHLMÉR, B. (Hrsg.) (2010): Drivers and Restraints for Economically Efficient Farm Production, *Agriculture Issues and Policies Series, Nova Science Publishers, Inc., New York*.

Further selected publications

APPEL, F., OSTERMEYER, A., BALMANN, A., LARSÉN, K. (2010): Improving an agent-based model by using interdisciplinary approaches for analyzing structural change in agriculture, in: Chai, Sun-Ki; Salerno, John J.; Mabry, Patricia L. (Hrsg.): *Advances in Social Computing (Third Conference on Social Computing, Behavioral Modeling, and Prediction, SBP 2010, Bethesda, MD, USA, 30.-31.03.2010)*, S. 360-366.

BAKUCS, Z., FERTÖ, I., HOCKMANN, H., PEREKHOZHUK, O. (2010): Estimating Oligopsony Power in the Hungarian Market for Slaughter Hogs, *Eastern European Economics, Vol. 48, No. 1*, pp. 64-78.

BALGAH, R. A., BUCHENRIEDER, G. (2010): Targeting and outreach to the poor by rural development nonprofit organizations in Cameroon, *Research in Development Economics and Policy No. 1/2010*, Stuttgart.

BALGAH, R. A., VALENTINOV, V., BUCHENRIEDER, G. (2010): Nonprofit extension in rural Cameroon: A study of demand and supply determinants, *International Journal of Social Economics, Vol. 5, No. 37*, pp. 391-399.

CONSMUELLER, N., BECKMANN, V., PETRICK, M. (2010): An econometric analysis of regional adoption patterns of Bt maize in Germany, *Agricultural Economics, Vol. 41, No. 3-4*, pp. 275-284.

ILIOPOULOS, C., VALENTINOV, V.: (2009): Toward an economics of the rural third sector. *International Journal of Agricultural Resources, Governance and Ecology, 8(5-6)*, pp. 439-456.

PIENIADZ, A., WANDEL, J., GLAUBEN, T., HANF, J. H. (2010): 20 Jahre Transformation der Landwirtschaft in Mittel- und Osteuropa: Errungenschaften und Herausforderungen, *Berichte über Landwirtschaft, Jg. 88, Nr. 1*, S. 118-146.

PIENIADZ, A., HANF, J. H., WEGENER, S., VOICILAS, D. M. (2010): Vertical Coordination as a Driving Force for Structural Change in the Romanian Dairy Market, *Studies in Agricultural Economics, Vol. 111*, pp. 23-36.

RECKE, R., HANF, J. H. (2010): Nährwertprofile und ihre Konsequenzen – Klein- und Mittelständische Unternehmen im Fokus, *Journal für Verbraucherschutz und Lebensmittelsicherheit, Jg. 5, Nr. Online*.

THEESFELD, I., SCHLEYER, C., AZNAR, O. (2010): The Procedure for Institutional Compatibility Assessment: Ex-ante Policy Assessment from an Institutional Perspective., *Journal of Institutional Economics, Vol. 6, No. 3*, pp. 377-399.

THEESFELD, I., SCHLEYER, C., HAGEDORN, K., CALLOIS, J.-M., AZNAR, O., ALKAN-OLSSON, J. (2010): The Institutional Dimension in Policy Assessment, in: Brouwer, Floor M.; Ittersum, Martin K. (Hrsg.): *Environmental and Agricultural Modeling: Integrated Approaches for Policy*

Impact Assessment, S. 37-59.

UTHES, S., SATTLER, C., ZANDER, P., PIORR, A., MATZDORF, B., DAMGAARD, M., SAHRBACHER, A., SCHULER, J., KJELDEN, C., HEINRICH, U., FISCHER, H. (2010): Modeling a farm population to estimate on-farm compliance costs and environmental effects of a grassland extensification scheme at the regional scale, *Agricultural Systems*, Vol. 103, No. 5, pp. 282-293.

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