

Edition 4/2011, Dezember 13, 2011



+++ TOP NEWS +++ International Green Week 2012

In January 2012, IAMO will host the symposium "Agricultural Investments in Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan – "Land Grabbing" or Development Opportunity?" at the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture in the scope of the International Green Week. Large scale investment in agricultural land has increasingly become subject of media attention and scientific research – by now with a predominant focus on Africa. But significant investments in farmland can also be observed in the post-socialist countries. The session brings together perspectives from science, policy, and the private sector. We invited Mykola Prysjaschnjuk, Minister for Agriculture in Ukraine (solicited), Yevgeniy I. Aman, Executive Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture in Kazakhstan (solicited), Oane Visser, assistant professor at the Department Cultural Anthropology and Development Studies of the Radboud University Nijmegen (Netherlands), and Stefan Dürr, founder of EkoNiva, a Russian-German company group. The session will hence provide a multifaceted view on both foreign as well as domestic investments in farmland and its likely future impacts on the agricultural sector and rural economies in Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan.

Agricultural Investments in Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan – "Land Grabbing" or Development Opportunity?

IAMO symposium

Global Forum for Food and Agriculture | International Green Week 2012

20 January 2012, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | ICC Berlin

Simultaneous translation into German, English and Russian available.

The entrance is free. Please register on the GFFA website:

<http://www.gffa-berlin.de/en.html>.

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Overview

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Thomas Herzfeld Photo:
Timea Jung (IAMO)

New Director

Since 1 October 2011, Thomas Herzfeld is Head of the Department External Environment for Agriculture and Policy Analysis and member of the IAMO directorate. At the same time he is becoming professor for "Politics and Institutions in the Agricultural Sector" at the Institute of Agricultural and Nutrition Science of the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg. Herzfeld was born Halle. Before coming to IAMO he worked as an assistant professor in the „Agricultural Economics und Rural Policy Group" of the University Wageningen (Netherlands). At IAMO, he plans to strengthen research activities concerning China, Central Asian and GUS countries as well as the current and future EU acceding countries. Besides Herzfeld, Alfons Balmann, Thomas Glauben and Hannelore Zerjeski belong to the IAMO directorate.

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FORUM 2012

JUNE 20-22
Land Use in Transition



Abandoned land in Russia |
Photo: Alexander
Prishchepov (IAMO)

IAMO Forum 2012: Second Call

Online submission to IAMO Forum 2012 is now open. Until 27 January 2012, paper proposals with up to 1.500 words and proposals for mini-symposia can be submitted. Further information can be found on <http://forum2012.iamo.de>.

IAMO Forum 2012 is entitled "Land Use in Transition: Potentials and Solutions between Abandonment and Land Grabbing". The conference is hosted by IAMO in collaboration with [Humboldt University of Berlin \(Geomatics Lab\)](#) and the [University of Wisconsin-Madison \(SILVIS Lab\)](#). The conference will feature distinguished and internationally renowned keynote speakers such as Klaus Deininger (World Bank), Helmut Haberl (University of Klagenfurt), Grigory Ioffe (Radford University), Max Spoor (Erasmus University Rotterdam), Jo Swinnen (University of Leuven), and Peter Verborg (University Amsterdam).

IAMO Forum 2012

Land Use in Transition: Potentials and Solutions between Abandonment and Land Grabbing

20 - 22 June 2012, Halle (Saale)

Conference language: English

<http://forum2012.iamo.de>

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Water Management

Insa Theesfeld (IAMO), Christian Schleyer (Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Germany) and Andreas Thiel (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany) were successful in submitting a session to the international conference Planet Under Pressure 2012. It focuses on integrated water resource management and brings together scholars and management officials from Europe, Central Asia and Africa in order to evaluate country experiences, reflect on salient examples, assess institutional implications of reforms and research gaps, as well as identify factors of success. The [conference Planet Under Pressure](#) takes place from 26-29 March 2012 in London. It will focus the scientific community's and the wider world's attention on climate, ecological

degradation, human well-being, planetary thresholds, food security, energy, governance across scales and poverty alleviation. It aims to provide scientific leadership towards the 2012 UN Rio +20 conference.

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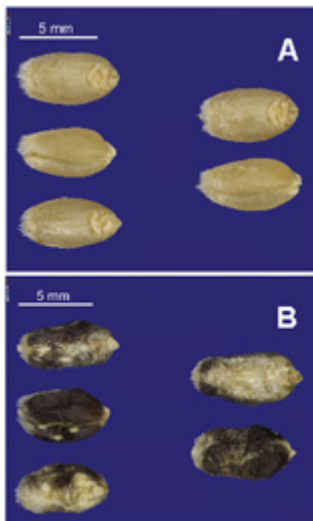
Wind erosion on agricultural crop land in the Kulunda Steppe | Photo: Tobias Meinel

Sustainable Land Use in Russian Steppes

In December the kick off meeting to a joint research project about sustainable land use in the Russian Kulunda Steppe will take place. IAMO is one of the project partners. Manfred Frühauf, professor at the Institute for Geosciences of the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU) coordinates the project, IAMO researcher Insa Theesfeld manages a subproject on social and institutional impact factors on changes in land use, and Daniel Müller works in a subproject which analyses the decision making processes of agribusinesses to generate a better understanding for dominating land use strategies. All in all 16 German partners, among them universities, research institutes, and businesses, collaborate in the project titled "Kulunda: How to prevent the next 'Global Dust Bowl'? – Ecological and economical strategies for a sustainable land use in the Russian Steppes: A contribution to climate adaption". The project partners aim at a close collaboration with Russian science, economy and administration. The Kulunda project is funded with 3.2 million euro by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research in the framework of the "Sustainable land management" programme.

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Corn with low and high (below) content of anthocyanins Photo: Heike Ernst (IPK Gatersleben)

Ingredients from Plants Beneficial to Health

The two IAMO researchers Viola Bruschi and Ramona Teuber work together with Hans-Peter Mock from the Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research (IPK) in Gatersleben at a project about anthocyanins in corn. Anthocyanins are secondary plant ingredients which are believed to be very beneficial to health. The project which is funded for three years in the framework of the newly founded ScienceCampus Halle "Plant-based Bioeconomy" consists of two subprojects. The subproject carried out at the IPK deals with the impact of environmental factors on the content of anthocyanins as well as the influence of higher content on harvest parameters. Another aspect looked at is the stability of the anthocyanins during processing. At IAMO, analysis on consumer acceptance and willingness to pay for such corn products will be carried out. Of special interest will hereby be questions of the impact of different information scenarios.

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IAMO and MLU are partners in a joint project | Photo: Fotolia

Plant-based Innovations and Climate Change

Thomas Glauben (IAMO) together with Michael Grings, Norbert Hirschauer and Peter Wagner of the Department of Agricultural Science from Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU) realise a project about the evaluation and assessment of risk influenced and entrepreneurial adaption processes and their consequences on agricultural markets in the context of climate change and biotechnological innovations. This project too is supported for three years in the framework of the ScienceCampus Halle "Plant-based Bioeconomy". It consists of two subprojects. One subproject deals with the consequences of climate influenced risks for agricultural markets, the other focuses on the evaluation of bioeconomical innovations from the point of view of farmers.

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Nadine Wettstein Photo: Timea Jung (IAMO)

Most Promising Prize of Agriculture

IAMO PhD student Nadine Wettstein received the Most Promising Prize of Agriculture. The prize launched by the [agrarzeitung](#) is endowed with all in all 15,000 Euro. It is given to junior managers from agricultural trade and industry and junior scientists who with their ideas and projects take an active part in up to date developments in agribusiness. Wettstein is one of six prize winners nominated by a jury of twelve experts. At IAMO she works in the DFG research project "Formation of prices and buyer behaviour in food retailing: An analysis in consideration of dynamic processes" and writes a thesis about brand loyalty in grocery shopping. She regularly puts up the progress of her work for discussions at national and international conferences and publishes in scientific journals. Especially the transfer of knowledge beyond the circle of experts plays an important role to her. Therefore, she published several articles in agricultural journals and was involved in the organisation of events for a non-scientific audience. Since the age of 18 Wettstein is completely amaurotic.

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Remittances and Poverty in Kosovo

For their study "Remittances, Poverty and Inequality in Rural Kosovar Household", IAMO scholars Judith Möllers and Wiebke Meyer were awarded with a prize launched by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The prize was offered to outstanding analyses of the representative survey dataset of the Kosovo Remittance Study 2010, which was commissioned by UNDP, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the IMF together with the Central Bank, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, and the Statistical Office of Kosovo. The two researchers focus in their study on rural Kosovar households and analyse the effect of remittances on income distribution and poverty. The international jury awarded the paper in the category "Best Critical Thinking Study". The awards ceremony will take place in the beginning of 2012 in Prishtina (Kosovo).

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GEWISOLA Best Presentation Award

IAMO researcher Ivan Djuric was awarded for the best presentation at the 51th Annual Conference of the German Society of Economic and Social Sciences in Agriculture (GEWISOLA, 28-30 September 2011). Djuric presented the paper "Effects of the Governmental Market Interventions on the Wheat Market in Serbia During the Food Crisis 2007/2008" written by Djuric in collaboration with Linde Götz and Thomas Glauben, also IAMO researchers. They analyzed how export restrictions of the Serbian government during the global food crisis 2007/2008 affected the domestic wheat market. The results suggest that the interventions not only reduced the market stability, but also led to an price increase which was not intended by the government.

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Balgah Roland Azibo,
Christina Herzlieb, Lili Jia,
Amanda Sahrbacher (from
top left to bottom right)

Dissertations

During the last months, several IAMO postgraduates successfully defended their doctoral theses. Balgah Roland Azibo's work focused on "Managing natural risks and shocks. Informal response dynamics and the role of nonprofit organization". Christina Herzlieb's research was about "Management of Supply Chain Networks: Elaboration of a Multidimensional Management Concept for the Fishing Sector Following the Balanced Scorecard". Lili Jia successfully defended her work about "Land fragmentation and off-farm labor supply in China". Amanda Sahrbacher dealt with "Impacts of CAP reforms on farm structures and performance disparities - An agent-based approach". Congratulations!

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Vacancies

At the moment, there are several vacancies at IAMO. For the new research project about anthocyanins in corn as well as the research project about plant-based innovations and climate change of the ScienceCampus Halle "Plant-based Bioeconomy" several PhD students are wanted. Furthermore, a press officer is wanted (parental leave cover). Deadline for applications is 31 December 2011 respectively 31 January 2012. [For the](#)



Picture: Gerd Altmann |
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Merry Christmas

This is the last edition of the IAMO Newsletter in 2011. We would like to thank you for your interest and wish you and your family a happy holiday season and good health and lots of success in the New Year.

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New Publications

[all publications](#)

IAMO Annual 2011 [Download](#)

IAMO Policy Brief

WEISS, W., PETRICK, M. (2011): Was anderen noch bevorsteht: Ländliche Regionen in Ostdeutschland als Beobachtungslabor für den demographischen Wandel, *IAMO Policy Brief No. 4*, Halle (Saale). [Download](#)

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

KASARJYAN, M. (2011): Improving the functioning of the rural financial markets of Armenia, *Studies on the Agricultural and Food Sector in Central and Eastern Europe, Vol. 62*, Halle (Saale). [Download](#)

IAMO Discussion Paper

PETRICK, M., WANDEL, J., KARSTEN, K. (2011): Farm Restructuring and Agricultural Recovery in Kazakhstan's Grain Region: An Update, *IAMO Discussion Paper No. 137*, Halle (Saale). [Download](#)

Articles in Peer-reviewed Journals

BALGAH, A., BUCHENRIEDER, G. (2011): Does technology adoption reduce risks for smallholder farmers in Cameroon?, *Pakistan Journal of Social Sciences*, Vol. 8, No. 1, pp.13-22.

BAUMANN, M., KUEMMERLE, T., ELBAKIDZE, M., OZDOGAN, M., RADELOFF, V., KEULER, N., PRISHCHEPOV, A., KRULOV, I., HOSTERT, P. (2011): Patterns and drivers of post-socialist farmland abandonment in Western Ukraine, *Land Use Policy*, Vol. 28, No. 3, pp.552-562.

BELAYA, V., HANF, J. (2011): Ausländische Direktinvestitionen als Antrieb für Veränderungen in der russischen Landwirtschaft, *Berichte über Landwirtschaft*, Vol. 89, No. 2, pp.112-133.

DUFHUES, T., BUCHENRIEDER, G., QUOC, H. D., MUNGLUNG, N. (2011): Social capital and loan repayment performance in Southeast Asia, *Journal of Socio-Economics*, Vol. 40, No. 5, pp.679-691.

HANSEN, H., TEUBER, R. (2011): Assessing the impacts of EU's common agricultural policy on regional convergence: sub-national evidence from Germany, *Applied Economics*, Vol. 43, No. 26, pp.3755-3765.

HOSTERT, P., KUEMMERLE, T., PRISHCHEPOV, A., SIEBER, A., LAMBIN, E.,

RADELOFF, V. (2011): Rapid land use change after socio-economic disturbances: the collapse of the Soviet Union versus Chernobyl, *Environmental Research Letters*, Vol. 6, No. 4, S.1-8.

LUO, R., ZHANG, L., LIU, C., ZHAO, Q., SHI, Y., MILLER, G., YU, E., SHARBONO, B., MEDINA, A., ROZELLE, S., MARTORELL, R. (2011): Anaemia among Students of Rural China's Elementary Schools: Prevalence and Correlates in Ningxia and Qinghai's Poor Counties, *Journal of Health, Population and Nutrition*, Vol. 29, No. 5, S.471-485.

MÖLLERS, J., BUCHENRIEDER, G. (2011): Effects of Rural Non-farm Employment on Household Welfare and Income Distribution of Small Farms in Croatia, *Quarterly Journal of International Agriculture*, Vol. 50, No. 3, pp.217-235.

MÖLLERS, J. (2011): Effects of Rural Non-farm Employment on Poverty and Income Distribution: Evidence for Macedonia and Slovenia, *Journal of Income Distribution*, Vol. 20, No. 2, pp.23-37.

OELOFSE, M., HØGH-JENSEN, H., ABREU, L., ALMEIDA, G., EL-ARABY, A., QIAO, Y., SULTAN, T., NEERGAARD, A. (2011): Organic farm conventionalisation and farmer practices in China, Brazil and Egypt, *Agronomy for Sustainable Development*, Vol. 31, No. 4, pp.689-698.

RAMA, K., THEESFELD, I. (2011): The Strengths and Weaknesses of Albania's Customary Rules in Natural Resource Management in the Light of Devolution Policies, *Quarterly Journal of International Agriculture*, Vol. 50, No. 4, S.369-387.

SIRIEIX, L., KLEDAL, P., SULTAN, T. (2011): Organic food consumers' trade-offs between local or imported, conventional or organic products: a qualitative study in Shanghai, *International Journal of Consumer Studies*, Vol. 35, No. 6, pp.670-678.

VALENTINOV, V. (2011): The meaning of nonprofit organization: insights from classical institutionalism, *Journal of Economic Issues*, Vol. 45, No. 4, S.901-915.

WANDEL, J. (2011): Business groups and competition in post-Soviet transition economies: The case of Russian "agroholdings", *The Review of Austrian Economics*, Vol. 24, No. 4, pp.403-450.

WEGENER, S., LABAR, K., PETRICK, M., MARQUARDT, D., THEESFELD, I., BUCHENRIEDER, G. (2011): Administering the Common Agricultural Policy in Bulgaria and Romania: obstacles to accountability and administrative capacity, *International Review of Administrative Sciences*, Vol. 77, No. 3, S.583-608.

ZHANG, Y., WANG, X., GLAUBEN, T., BRÜMMER, B. (2011): The Impact of Land Reallocation on Technical Efficiency - Evidence from China, *Agricultural Economics*, Vol. 42, No. 4, pp.495-507.

Further Selected Publications

HERRMANN, R., TEUBER, R. (2011): Geographically Differentiated Products, in: Lusk, J., J. Roosen and S. Fox (eds.), *The (Oxford) Handbook on the Economics of Food Consumption and Policy*, Oxford University Press, Chapter 33, pp. 811-842.

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