

Edition 1/2012, March 14, 2012



Alfons Balmann,  
Photograph: T. Jung (IAMO)

**+++ TOP NEWS +++ IAMO expertise supports German Ministry of Agriculture**

**Since February 1 Alfons Balmann, Director of IAMO and Head of the Department Structural Change, is member of the Scientific Advisory Board at the Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection (BMELV).** Balmann was appointed for the following three years by Minister Ilse Aigner. Together with his colleagues from IAMO he is working on understanding transformation and changes within the agriculture and food sector. "We do not want to discuss our results just within the scientific community", Balmann says, "but also with representatives from politics, economics and public groups." That is why he is especially happy about the chance to join and support this committee. The Scientific Advisory Board supports the BMELV in the further development of agricultural policies. It is an independent, interdisciplinary body working in an honorary capacity and drawing up scientific opinions and statements. The main tasks include covering and analyzing the change of general conditions of global agricultural trade, demographic development, technical progress, food and energy industries and of EU policies regarding rural areas as well as agriculture, forestry and fisheries. On this base the committee prepares proposals for the further development of agricultural policies, analyzes options for sustainable land use and addresses rural development issues.

*Contact:*  
*Alfons Balmann*  
*Phone: +49 345 2928 310*  
*E-mail: [balmann@iamo.de](mailto:balmann@iamo.de)*

## Overview

Furthermore you will read in this edition:

- [IAMO Forum: Expert panel will discuss questions of „Land Grabbing“](#)
- [4th HAWEPA-Workshop: Call for Papers open until May 10](#)
- [EPIKUR project investigates agricultural potentials in Kazakhstan, Ukraine and Russia](#)
- [IAMO fosters cooperation with Ukrainian Agribusiness Club](#)
- [IAMO Graduate School appointed full member of the International Graduate Academy \(InGrA\) of Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg](#)
- [Expert panel at International Green Week Berlin was audience magnet](#)
- [First comprehensive handbook about Moldova](#)
- [Recommended: 131st EAAE Seminar](#)
- [Marten Graubner wins Junior Researcher Award for his dissertation](#)
- [Dissertation](#)
- [New Public Relations Manager](#)
- [Vacancies](#)
- [New publications](#)



Agricultural land in China,  
Foto: Z. Sun (IAMO)

into the agricultural sector. The experts will outline aspects from a theoretical as well as from a practical point of view. Expected guests are Max Spoor from the International Institute of Social Studies of the Erasmus University Rotterdam, Klaus Deiniger, who is a Lead Economist in the Rural Development Group at the World Bank Group, Alexej Lissitsa, President of the Ukrainian Agribusiness Club and Stefan Dürr, entrepreneur in the Russian agricultural market and President of the successful German-Russian EkoNiva agrarian company. Last but not least Maren Kneller, Referent of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, will complement the group.

IAMO Forum 2012 will take place from June 20 until 22 in Halle (Saale). Topic is "Land Use in Transition: Potentials and Solutions Between Abandonment and Land Grabbing". Please find a detailed conference program from the end of March on the [conference website](#). From March 16 online registration starts.

#### **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>

Contact:

Sabine Baum

Phone: +49 345 2928-219

E-mail: [forum2012@iamo.de](mailto:forum2012@iamo.de)

[back to overview](#)



The last HAWEPA workshop took place in 2010, Foto: T. Török (IAMO)

#### **4th HAWEPA workshop**

**The 4th Halle Workshop on Efficiency and Productivity Analysis (HAWEPA) will take place at IAMO on July 16-17. Topic 2012 is "Issues in Dynamic Efficiency Analysis".**

Aim of the workshop, organized by IAMO and the Halle Institute for Economic Research (IWH), is to address new developments in theoretical and empirical research in productivity and efficiency measurement. Papers on the theory of productivity and efficiency measurement as well as on all fields of empirical application, including agriculture, regulation, health economics, production, environmental economics, government and industry are welcome. You are invited to submit an elaborate abstract of up to 800 words until May 10, to [hockmann@iamo.de](mailto:hockmann@iamo.de). For more information please see the [workshop website](#), where you soon can also register for the workshop. The registration fee is 40 EUR.

#### **4th Halle Workshop on Efficiency and Productivity Analysis HAWEPA**

*Issues in Dynamic and Efficiency Analysis*

16-17 July 2012, Halle (Saale)

Workshop language: English

Contact:

Heinrich Hockmann

Phone: +49 345 2928 225

E-mail: [hockmann@iamo.de](mailto:hockmann@iamo.de)

[back to overview](#)



Recultivable areas,  
Photograph: F. Schierhorn  
(IAMO)

## EPIKUR project

**In May 2012 IAMO starts the research project "Economic and natural potentials of agricultural production and carbon trade-offs in Kazakhstan, Ukraine, and Russia", in short EPIKUR. Managed by Daniel Müller and Heinrich Hockmann (both IAMO) an international researcher team will identify and assess over the next three years the potentials of agricultural production on the basis of efficiency gains and abandoned agricultural land in the above mentioned countries.**

Regarding the question of how to solve the challenge of feeding a growing world population, these countries belong to the most promising of the former Soviet Union states. The researchers want to figure out potential efficiency gains by combining crop growth models with the estimation of farm-level efficiency. By the means of a spatial allocation model recultivation potentials of abandoned agricultural land shall be identified. EPIKUR will assess future production potentials considering scenarios of technological progress, climate change and economic efficiency of recultivation. The final results will include a trade-off analysis between the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions associated with the recultivation and its economic gains. Local partners are the Russian Institute for Agricultural Problems and Informatics (VIAPI), the Ukrainian Agribusiness Club (UCAB) and the Analytical Centre of Economic Policy in the Agricultural Sector (ACEPAS).

*Contact:*

*Daniel Müller*

*Phone: +49 345 2928 328*

*E-mail: [mueller@iamo.de](mailto:mueller@iamo.de)*

*Heinrich Hockmann*

*Phone: +49 345 2928 225*

*E-mail: [hockmann@iamo.de](mailto:hockmann@iamo.de)*

[back to overview](#)



Conclusion of contract in  
Berlin, Photograph: R.  
Honeit (IAMO)

## IAMO fosters cooperation with UCAB

**In the presence of the Ukrainian agricultural minister Mykola Prysyzhnyuk a cooperation contract was signed between IAMO and the Ukrainian Agribusiness Club (UCAB) in the context of this year's International Green Week in Berlin.** Objective of this cooperation is to create a stronger scientific network and collaboration. Therefore, more joint research projects, workshops and events shall be initiated and organized. Furthermore, both partners want to promote young researchers and offer them the possibility to visit and learn more about the partner institution. This year UCAB opens a new school for agricultural sciences because skilled workers are urgently needed in the Ukrainian agricultural sector. IAMO will support this project with all its scientific expertise.

UCAB was founded in 2007 and represents the interests of Ukrainian agricultural major holdings. By now it is established as most influential organization in the Ukraine in this field.

*Contact:*

*Alfons Balmann*

*Phone: +49 345 2928 300*

*E-mail: [balmann@iamo.de](mailto:balmann@iamo.de)*

[back to overview](#)

**IAMO Graduate School is full member of InGrA**

**On March 6, as first institution of a Leibniz Institute, the IAMO Graduate School became full member of the International Graduate Academy (InGrA) of Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU).** InGrA stands for best conditions when doing a Ph.D.: it supports students up to the successful completion of a doctoral thesis and entrance into a professional career and offers a disciplinary and trans-disciplinary qualification program. Gesine Foljanty-Jost, Executive Director of InGrA and Prorektor of the MLU, Executive Manager Klaus-Peter Meinicke as well as other members of the directorate welcomed the new full member. Martin Petrick, speaker of the IAMO Graduate School, is delighted about the new opportunity to stronger cooperate and network with the university. The IAMO Graduate School offers a structured training programme for all IAMO Ph.D. students in agricultural and food economics. At the moment 28 young researchers are working on their thesis at IAMO.

*Contact:*  
*Martin Petrick*  
*Phone: +49 345 2928 120*  
*E-Mail: [petrick@iamo.de](mailto:petrick@iamo.de)*

[back to overview](#)



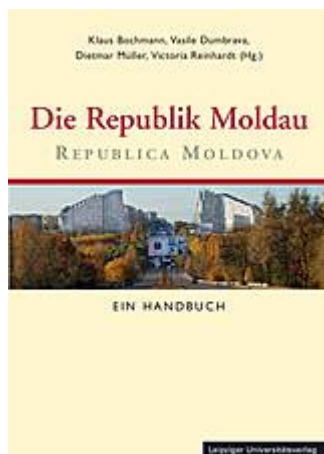
Lively discussions about foreign agricultural investments, Photograph: K. Leimer (IAMO)

**International Green Week in Berlin: IAMO expert panel was audience magnet**

**More than 250 interested guests attended the IAMO panel at the International Green Week in Berlin in January. Renowned experts from science, economics as well as from politics discussed the question whether agricultural investments in Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan are 'Land Grabbing' or a development opportunity.** Alfons Balmann (IAMO) highlighted the importance of foreign investors for a successful agricultural sector in these countries, where often sufficient venture capital and know how is missing. Stefan Dürr, who is doing business in Russia since 18 years, explained that investments in social infrastructure like a kindergarden or a soccer club can be of interest for entrepreneurs as well, by making the location more attractive for qualified young employees. Oane Visser (Radboud University Nijmegen) pointed out the risks of large-scale agricultural investments. For example they often encourage the cultivation of mono cultures and by a growing technologization can result in the decline of employment opportunities. Insights from Ukraine contributed Oleksandr Kuts, Director of the Food Department of the Ukrainian Ministry of Agriculture. Gulmira Issayeva, Advisor for the Kazakhstan Minister of Agriculture, explained the situation in her country. As there are at the moment no statistics available about the extent of foreign investments in these countries, the question how and with what consequences foreign entrepreneurs invest on a large-scale in the agricultural sector remains an up to date and big issue.

*Contact:*  
*Rebekka Honeit*  
*Phone: +49 345 2928 330*  
*E-mail: [honeit@iamo.de](mailto:honeit@iamo.de)*

[back to overview](#)



**Recommended: Book premiere "Die Republik Moldau – Ein Handbuch" (Moldova – a handbook)**

**For the first German comprehensive handbook about Moldova IAMO researcher Martin Petrick contributed the chapter about agriculture. It gives an overview on the economic situation of the agricultural sector in the country.** Besides the biogeographic conditions, the structure of production and foreign trade with agricultural products Petrick explains the historic development of the agricultural production and its market-oriented transformation since 1991. The German handbook, published at the Leipziger Universitätsverlag, further contains information on topics like history and remembrance, regions and population, nation, politics and administration, economy, society as well as culture and science. The book premiere will take place in the context of the Leipzig Book Fair on March 16, 6pm, at the Centre for Area Studies (Thomaskirchhof 20, Leipzig).

*Contact:*  
*Martin Petrick*  
*Phone: +49 345 2928 120*  
*E-Mail: [petrick@iamo.de](mailto:petrick@iamo.de)*

[back to overview](#)



**Recommended: 131st EAAE Seminar**

**The 131st EAAE Seminar will take place in Prague on September 18-19, 2012. Topic will be "Innovation for Agricultural Competitiveness and Sustainability of Rural Areas".** Besides IAMO Director Alfons Balmann, who is chairing the International Programme Committee, IAMO researcher Jarmila Curtiss is involved in the organization. The seminar is connected to the annual conference "Agricultural Perspectives" of the Faculty of Economics and Management of the Czech University of Life Sciences. The call for papers is open till March 31, 2012; for posters till April 27. For more information please see the [seminar webpage](#).

*Contact:*  
*Jarmila Curtiss*  
*Phone: +49 345 2928 235*  
*E-Mail: [curtiss@iamo.de](mailto:curtiss@iamo.de)*

[back to overview](#)



Prize-winner Marten Graubner, Photograph: S. Mundt

**Junior Researcher Award**

**For his doctor's thesis about "The Spatial Dimension of Pricing and Competition in Agricultural Markets" IAMO researcher Marten Graubner received a Junior Researcher Award of the [Gesellschaft für Informatik in der Land-, Forst- und Ernährungswirtschaft e.V. \(GIL\)](#).** The award, established in 1992, is endowed with 500 Euro and honours excellent scientific work in the field of agricultural informatics. In his thesis Graubner analyses price development and competition in spatially differentiated markets. Therefore, he developed amongst other things the computer based simulation model SPAbCoM (Spatial Agent-based Competition Model). The model takes into consideration the spatial allocation of production and processing of most agricultural products and the associated transportation costs. Graubner's results allow a better understanding of the development of prices and the competitive conduct of for example dairy companies on the raw milk market. Besides, they are also relevant for economic questions in general like spatial price discrimination or product differentiation. We congratulate.

*Contact:*  
*Marten Graubner*  
*Phone: +49 345 2928 320*

E-mail: [graubner@iamo.de](mailto:graubner@iamo.de)

[back to overview](#)



Sabine Baum, Photograph: private

### Dissertation

**In January IAMO researcher Sabine Baum successfully defended her doctor's thesis about "The level of interregional disparities and approaches for the development of rural areas in Central and Eastern Europe".** In her thesis Baum analyses the extent and variation of interregional disparities in Central and Eastern Europe and discusses theoretically the need and potential embodiment of local policy measures. Taking the example of Poland she examines the potentials of agrotourism as a means to generate non-agricultural employment opportunities. We congratulate.

Contact:  
Sabine Baum  
Phone: +49 345 2928 219  
E-mail: [baum@iamo.de](mailto:baum@iamo.de)

[back to overview](#)



Maternity leave replacement: Eva Martinek, Photograph: private

### Contact person for journalists

**New Public Relations Manager.** On February 1, Eva Martinek joined Public Relations at IAMO. At the end of April she will be in charge as maternity leave cover for Rebekka Honeit and Britta Paasche. She already is available as contact person for journalists and media representatives.

Public Relations  
Phone: +49 345 2928 330  
E-mail: [presse@iamo.de](mailto:presse@iamo.de)

[back to overview](#)



### Vacancies

**Vacant positions.** For the EPIKUR project IAMO is seeking four Ph.D. students. A Post Doc position is offered in the Department Agricultural Markets, Marketing and World Agricultural Trade. Furthermore, IAMO is seeking a Research Coordinator and offers two vocational training positions as Specialist in Media and Information Services, branch library, and Office Clerk. [For detailed job descriptions please see here.](#)

[back to overview](#)



## New publications

### IAMO Annual 2012 [Download](#)

### IAMO Policy Brief

SAHRBACHER, C., BALMANN, A., OSTERMEYER, A., SCHÖNAU, F. (2011): GAP-Reformvorschläge der EU-Kommission: Was sind die Auswirkungen einer Kappung der Direktzahlungen?, Nr. 5, Halle (Saale). [Download](#)

### Further selected publications

BASKIN, L., PRISHCHEPOV, A. (2011): Dynamics of moose (*Alces alces*) populations in the Volga River basin, *Povolžskij Ėkologičeskij Žurnal*, Jg. 10, Nr. 2, S. 218-222.

BAUM, S. (2011): The Tourist Potential of Rural Areas in Poland, *Eastern European Countryside*, Vol. 17, pp. 107-135.

FRITZSCH, J. (Hrsg: *AgEcon Search*) (2011): A composite fuzzy indicator for assessing farm household potential for non-farm income diversification, <http://purl.umn.edu/114349>.

GLAUBEN, T., HERZFELD, T., LOY, J.-P., RENNER, S., HOCKMANN, H. (2012): The Impact of Fiscal Policies on Agricultural Household Decisions, *Economic Modelling*, Vol. 29, No. 2, pp. 166-177.

GLAUBEN, T., T., HERZFELD, S., ROZELLE, X., WANG, 2012. Persistent Poverty in Rural China: Where, Why and How to Escape?, *World Development* 40 (4), 784-795.

HERZFELD, T., JONGENEEL, R. (2012): Why do farmers behave as they do? Understanding compliance with rural, agricultural, and food attribute standards, *Land Use Policy*, Vol. 29, No. 1, pp. 250-260.

HOU, L., Y., ZHANG, J., ZHAN, T., GLAUBEN, 2012. Marginal revenue of land and total factor productivity in Chinese agriculture. *Journal of Geographical Science* 22(1), 167-178

KOPEVA, D., PENEVA, M., BAQUEIRO, O., FRANIĆ, R., GARROD, G., HAUTDIDIER, B., IVANOVA, N., JELINEK, L., KONECNA, M., LAPLANA, R., MEYER, B., NJAVRO, M., RALEY, M., SAHRBACHER, A., TURPIN, N. (2011): Critical analysis and assessment of EU policy on multifunctional land use activities in rural areas, *Regional and Business Studies*, Vol. 3, No. 1, pp. 271-287.

MÜLLER, R., MÜLLER, D., SCHIERHORN, F., GEROLD, G., PACHECO, P. (2012): Proximate causes of deforestation in the Bolivian lowlands: an analysis of spatial dynamics, *Regional Environmental Change*, [online](#)

OSTERMEYER, A., APPEL, F., BALMANN, A. (2011): Perspektive der Biogasproduktion als Einkommensalternative vor dem Hintergrund des Milchquotenausstiegs, in: Peter Weingarten, Martin Banse, Horst Gömann, Folkhard Isermeyer, Hiltrud Nieberg, Frank Offermann, Heinz Wendt (Hrsg.): *Möglichkeiten und Grenzen der wissenschaftlichen Politikanalyse*, Schriften der Gesellschaft für Wirtschafts- und Sozialwissenschaften des Landbaus e.V., Bd. 46, S. 403-404.

OSTERMEYER, A., APPEL, F., BALMANN, A. (2011): Produktionsentwicklung in großbetrieblichen Strukturen bei Milchquotenwegfall, in: Hambrusch, J., Larcher, M. und T. Oedl-Wieser (Hrsg.): *Jahrbuch der Österreichischen Gesellschaft für Agrarökonomie*, Bd. 20 (2), S. 87-96.

PEREKHOZHUK, O., MATYUKHA, A., GLAUBEN, T. (Hrsg.) (2011): Estimating the Degree of Buyers' Market Power: Evidence from the Ukrainian Meat Processing Industry, <http://ageconsearch.umn.edu/handle/114782>.

PEREKHOZHUK, O., HOCKMANN, H., BAKUCS, Z., FERTÖ, I. (Hrsg.) (2011): Identification of Market Power in the Hungarian Dairy Industry: A Plant-Level Analysis, <http://ageconsearch.umn.edu/handle/114768>.

PETRICK, M. (2011): Zur Rolle der Unternehmer im Transformationsprozess Russlands, in: William Baumols *Markttheorie unternehmerischer Innovation*, S. 225-233.

VALENTINOV, V. (2012): Toward a holistic nonprofit economics: insights

from institutionalism and systems theory. *Journal of Bioeconomics*, 14(1), pp. 77-89.

WOLZ, A. (2011): Agricultural production cooperatives in East Germany: Transformation and future development, in: Podgorbunskich, P. et al. (Hrsg.): *Agrarnaja nauka - Osnova innovacionnogo razvitija APK*, Bd. 1, Meždunarodnaja naučno-praktičeskaja konferencija, Kurgan, 19-20.04.2011, S. 16-36.

WOLZ, A. (2011): Institutioneller Wandel der Agrarverwaltung und Agrarverbände in Ostdeutschland vor und nach der Wiedervereinigung, *Berichte über Landwirtschaft*, Jg. 89, Nr. 3, S. 455-477.

ZHANG, Y., BRÜMMER, B. (2011): Productivity change and the effects of policy reform in China's agriculture since 1979, *Asian-Pacific Economic Literature*, Vol. 25, No. 2, pp. 131-150.

[back to overview](#)

---

### **Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO)**

Theodor-Lieser-Str. 2  
06120 Halle (Saale)  
Germany

Britta Paasche  
Tel.: +49 345 29 28 330  
Fax: +49 345 29 28 499

[newsletter@iamo.de](mailto:newsletter@iamo.de)  
[www.iamo.de](http://www.iamo.de)

If you prefer to receive the German version of the IAMO newsletter in the future, please let us know by sending an e-mail to [newsletter@iamo.de](mailto:newsletter@iamo.de), subject: German.  
To unsubscribe from this newsletter please send an e-mail to [newsletter@iamo.de](mailto:newsletter@iamo.de), subject: unsubscribe.