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Healthy diet. Photo: Fotolia

Research initiative for a healthy life

IAMO is one of 46 member institutions from 12 European countries in the European Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) 'Healthy Diet for a Healthy Life'. This Knowledge Hub is tasked with in-depth analyses of various behavioral patterns in the fields of healthy diet and physical activities under the heading 'Determinants of Diet and Physical Activity' (DEDIPAC). Generated findings will be used to develop strategies towards enhancing public health. The initial work package for the researchers comprises drawing up an overview of the large variety of studies and programs recently conducted in the participating countries and research disciplines. The project commenced in February 2014 and is funded for the next three years from the respective national research budgets. Through its participation in the DEDIPAC Knowledge Hub, IAMO seeks to intensify its long-term involvement in the field of 'Health and Nutrition'. The institute is responsible for a sub-project titled 'Consumer Preferences and Nutritional Quality'.

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Overview

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Foreign Farmworkers.
Photo: Martin Petrick

Integration of foreign skilled labor into farm businesses

In early 2014, IAMO commenced a new research project with Halle Centre for Social Research (ZSH) at the Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg and Agricultural Enterprise Barnstaedt e.G. on the topic 'Competence Management in Training Foreign Labor into Skilled Farmworkers' (Alfa Agrar). Because of increasing annuity transitions of skilled farmworkers, German agricultural businesses are threatened to lose their professional knowledge in the next few years. In response to this imminent skilled farm labor shortage, the project is aimed at enabling agribusinesses to safeguard their knowledge and competence bases through skilled foreign workers. This joint project is to bring together practical issues and experiences of an agrarian enterprise and sociological and agro-economic expertise. IAMO will conduct empirical studies of profiles and potentials of foreign labor in agriculture with a special focus on Eastern European countries. The project is funded by the Federal Ministry for

Education and Research (BMBF).

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COMPETE project presents initial results



Food shop. Photo: Fotolia

The project titled 'International Comparisons of Product Supply Chains in the Agro-Food Sectors: Determinants of their Competitiveness and Performance on EU and International Markets' (COMPETE) presents first research findings since its inception in October 2012.

The work of the COMPETE consortium, made up of 16 European institutions, has focused to date inter alia on studies of foreign trade flows in various agri-food chains (grain, milk, pork, fruit and vegetables). The first analysis of competitiveness indicators demonstrates that about 27 per cent of EU agricultural and food products are competitive on the world market. The EU has notably competitive advantages in processed products. Observations in recent years have shown that the competitiveness of the EU-27 has increasingly come under pressure. The share of EU-27 countries in key export markets has decreased despite an increasing value of foreign trade flows. This development was prompted by the intensified presence of BRIC countries in international markets. Results obtained so far were discussed at numerous events, e.g. the meeting of the Sherpa Group of the High Level Forum for a Better Functioning Food Supply Chain in November 2013 in Brussels, Belgium. The cooperation project COMPETE is scheduled for three years and is financially supported the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration. [For further information, please, go to the COMPETE Newsletter or webpage.](#)

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IAMO Forum 2014



IAMO Forum. Photo:
Johannes Findeis

'The Rise of the 'Emerging Economies': Towards Functioning Agricultural Markets and Trade Relations?' is the title of the upcoming IAMO Forum 2014 from 25 to 27 June in Halle (Saale).

Each conference day will start with a plenary session of international renowned researchers addressing one of the following topics: 'Emerging Economies - Are They the Future Global Food Basket?' (25 June), 'Volatility and Speculation on Agricultural Markets' (26 June) and 'Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership' (27 June). The discussions are continued within several parallel sessions. In addition, a business-oriented session entitled 'Wheat Supply Chains in CIS Countries: Challenges and Prospects' will be held on the first day. The speakers are Alexander Korbut, Russian Grain Union, Eugenij Gan, Union of Grain Processors and Bakers of Kazakhstan, and Vladimir Osadchuk, Noble Resources Ukraine LLC. An organised session on the project 'The Global Food Crisis - Impact on Wheat Markets and Trade in the Caucasus and Central Asia and the Role of Kazakhstan, Russia and Ukraine' that is financed by the Volkswagen Foundation will take place on the last conference day. Kym Anderson, University of Adelaide, Australia, and Michael Carter, UC Davis, USA, will give lectures in this session. The IAMO Forum 2014 is jointly hosted by IAMO and the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) and the International Agricultural Trade Research Consortium (IATRC). [Further information about the conference and online registration can be found here.](#)

IAMO Forum 2014
The Rise of the 'Emerging Economies': Towards Functioning
Agricultural Markets and Trade Relations?
25 – 27 June 2014 | Halle (Saale)
www.iamo.de/forum/2014

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Workshop. Photo: Fotolia

DAAD Workshop 'Regional Economic Cooperation in Central Asia'

At the end of this year, IAMO will host a DAAD Workshop in Halle (Saale) titled 'Regional Economic Cooperation in Central Asia: Agricultural Production and Trade', funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The workshop will be organised in cooperation with the Regional Environment Centre of Central Asia in Kazakhstan, Agricultural University Samarkand in Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyz National Agricultural University. The aim of this event is to provide a platform for knowledge exchange by inviting researchers from Central Asian countries. Latest research findings regarding regional economic cooperation and sustainable development in the agricultural sector of this region will be presented and discussed. Keynote speakers during the three-day workshop will be IAMO researchers Thomas Glauben, Linde Goetz and Martin Petrick as well as Iskandar Abdullaev from the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia.

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Information stand at the Halle Career Fair. Photo: Daniela Schimming

Halle Career Fair 2014

IAMO will present itself on 22 May 2014 in Halle (Saale) at science meets companies, a major career fair for agricultural, nutritional and natural sciences in Central Germany. Students interested in doctoral thesis projects in an agricultural science institution will receive comprehensive information in the presentation 'Career in Sciences'. IAMO researcher Martin Petrick will explain the various fields of professional activity, career options and prerequisites for application. The IAMO information stand will be staffed by PhD students who can be asked for their personal professional experiences. The career fair will be hosted by Studentische Förderinitiative der Naturwissenschaften e.V. and Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg.

Career Fair science meets companies
22 May 2014 | Bio-Zentrum at the Weinbergcampus | Halle (Saale)
www.sfi-halle.de

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Panel discussion at the GFFA 2014. Photo: Frank Nuernberger

Eastern Europe panel at International Green Week 2014

A panel discussion titled 'Eastern Europe as Key Region to Contribute to Global Food Security' was hosted by IAMO in cooperation with the Committee on Eastern European Economic Relations (OA) as part of the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) in Berlin on 17 January 2014. The deputy ministers of agriculture of Russia, Aleksandr Petrikov, and Ukraine, Oleksandr Sen, presented the agricultural policy strategies and provisions of their countries at this event that was attended by some 300 visitors. Besides the deputy ministers, panelists included business representatives Alex Lissitsa, Industrial Milk Company in Kiev, Stefan Dürr, EkoNiva Group of Companies in Moscow, and Reiner Best, Evonik Industries AG in Essen, as well as the researcher and IAMO director Alfons Balmann, who took part in the ensuing panel discussion. The participants concluded that, when it comes to coping with existing challenges and establishing appropriate agricultural policy framework conditions, Russia and Ukraine possessed considerable development potentials to increase agricultural production. Based on the current situation in Ukraine, it is uncertain whether and how the potentials would be used in order to make a vital contribution to global food security. [Please find detailed information of the GFFA panel discussion here.](#)

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IAMO Policy Briefs. Photo: Marie Blankenburg

IAMO Policy Briefs

The series of publications IAMO Policy Brief has published socially relevant research findings of the institute. Under the responsibility of IAMO director Thomas Glauben, several researchers of various universities and institutes published IAMO Policy Brief 12 on 'Index Funds' Financial Speculation with Agricultural Commodities: Functioning. Effects.' in December 2013. The publication describes the influence of long-only index funds on price determination and market performance in the agricultural sector and, in view of the current state of knowledge, advises against drastic market entry regulations. In IAMO Policy Brief 13 'Agriculture in Peripheral Rural Areas: Last Hope to Safeguard Services of General Interest?', authors Axel Wolz, Wolfgang Weiß and Thomas Herzfeld discuss the issue to which extent agriculture is affected by demographic change and whether it can make a contribution to public services. Also in January 2014, IAMO director Alfons Balmann and researcher Christoph Sahrbacher published IAMO Policy Brief 14 titled 'More than "Museum Premiums"? On First-Hectare and Young Farmers' Aid under the EU Agricultural Policy'. The paper is a critical discussion of the implementation resolutions of the Conference of German Ministers of Agriculture regarding the current EU agricultural reform. [The publications are available for free-of-charge downloading on the IAMO webpage.](#)

If you like to receive the print versions of the IAMO Policy Briefs, from now on, please send an e-mail with your address to presse@iamo.de.

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Personalia

Since January 2014, IAMO researcher **Daniel Mueller** and Darla Munroe of Ohio State University are new editors-in-chief of the 'Journal of Land Use Science'. +++ **Ivan Djuric** successfully completed his doctoral thesis on 'Impact of Policy Measures on Wheat-to-Bread Supply Chain During the Global Commodity Price Peaks: The Case of Serbia' with summa cum laude on 27 January 2014.



New publications

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IAMO Annual 2014 [Download](#)

IAMO Policy Briefs

Balmann, A., Sahrbacher, C. (2014): Mehr als "Museumsprämien"? Zur Förderung der ersten Hektare und Junglandwirte im Rahmen der EU-Agrarpolitik, Nr. 14, Halle (Saale). [Download](#)

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Will, M. G., Prehn, S., Pies, I., Glauben, T. (2013): Does Financial Speculation with Agricultural Commodities Cause Hunger? - A Reply to our Critics, Discussionpaper / Chair for Economic Ethics, Martin-Luther-

Further selected publications

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