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The IAMO building in Halle (Saale), Germany. Photo: Sibylle Mundt

IAMO adopts new name

Dear Sir or Madam,

at the beginning of the year, the Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Central and Eastern Europe was renamed the **Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies**. The acronym IAMO is still valid.

The new institute name reflects the long-standing pursuit of extending the research regions covered by the Germany-based institute. Besides research projects on developments in Central and Eastern Europe, IAMO researchers also analyze transition processes in the agricultural and food sectors in rural areas of Southeastern Europe and Central and Eastern Asia. The focus of IAMO's research is on economic, social and political issues.

IAMO analyses show that the economic and political reform processes in the former European and Asian planned economies led to differences in their respective developments. As some countries have established market economies and democracies and show considerable successes, other countries still face serious economic, social and political problems. Nevertheless, all these countries possess histories that have a major impact on their present and future developmental paths. In the future, enormous efforts and competences in research and knowledge transfer are needed to understand this impact, as well as to master the particular challenges that it presents. With the new institute name, the **Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies** takes into account that this group of countries provides relevant future research questions, the answers to which are of global interest.

IAMO researchers make a substantial contribution towards the understanding of, and improvement in, business ideas, processes of competition and innovation, structural change and the development of economic policy measures, as well as living conditions in rural regions. Furthermore, among the institute's core tasks is the qualification of young researchers from Germany and abroad.

We are delighted about your interest in the scientific work of the **Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO)**. The next IAMO newsletter with all the latest news on research projects, events and publications is going to be published in March. Until then please have a look on our website www.iamo.de.

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