

## Themenvorschläge Masterarbeiten/ Topics for Master theses

(co-)supervised by staff members of the Department of External Environment for Agriculture and Policy Analysis, Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO), Halle (Saale)

We are interested in integrating M.Sc. students into our ongoing research projects. Therefore, we offer to support and (co-)supervise M.Sc. theses (German or English). If necessary, we will assist in finding appropriate supervisors at the home university. For theses relying on field research abroad we will assist in applying for financial support (e.g. from DAAD). For requests or own suggestions for topics please contact the respective supervisor, preferably via e-mail [*name*][at]iamo.de.

### **Agricultural policy and institutional change**

1. Financing of the Common Agricultural Policy: Trade-off between budget constraints and reform pressure
2. EU support for private stocking of agricultural products: Evidence of hidden export subsidy?
3. Activity of the BVVG: Is an economic assessment possible?
4. Do inferior agricultural products exist? The role of economic development, competition on land and agricultural policies for the development of grain production in China

Supervisor: Herzfeld

5. Economics of cotton harvesting in Central Asia (field study)
6. Factors affecting efficiency of state-controlled and commercial farms in Uzbekistan

Co-supervisor: Djanibekov

## Rural development

7. Farm exit strategies in Southeastern Europe – is rural non-farm employment a sustainable alternative source for rural livelihoods? (field study in selected country)
8. Farm commercialization strategies – barriers and facilitators for smallholders' access to agricultural markets (field study in selected Southeastern European country)

Co-supervisor: Möllers

9. Impact of off-farm income on productivity and intensity of smallholders
10. Determinants of farmers' strategies to cope with water scarcity

Co-supervisor: Djanibekov

11. Demographic change and the provision of public services in remote rural areas: Is there a role for agriculture?

Co-supervisor: Wolz

12. Social trust and mental models in local collective action in transition (literature review and/or field study at country level)
13. Participatory governance in transition countries: which transition-related factors need to be considered to ensure effectiveness of the approach? (literature review and/or field study at country level)

Co-supervisor: Kvartiuk

## Migration

14. The role of norms for migration and remitting decisions: review of literature and empirical evidence for South-eastern Europe (or another region of interest).
15. The role of norms for (rural) return migration in a South-eastern European country (e.g. Kosovo, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova): gender perspective on return, reintegration and returnees' potential to become agents of change.

Co-supervisor: Möllers/Dufhues

16. Return migration narratives – Rural return migrants as positive or negative role models in South-eastern Europe (literature review and/or field study at country level)
17. Return migrants as agents of change in the rural economy – Effects of return migrants on farm and non-farm business activities in South-eastern Europe (field study at country level)
18. Staying when everybody else is leaving – Non-migration in high out-migration countries in South-eastern Europe (field study at country level)
19. Normative and comparative reference groups of rural non-migrants (field study at country level) within the migration/return migration nexus in South-eastern Europe (field study at country level)

Co-supervisor: Dufhues/Möllers

20. Where to go? – Multinomial regression analysis of destination choices of internal migrants in rural Kazakhstan (desktop study with survey data)

Co-supervisor: Dufhues

21. Migration potential of the highly qualified workforce from Eastern Europe and the lack of qualified personnel in Eastern German agriculture (literature review and/or field study at country level)

Co-supervisor: Kvartiuk

### **Organisation of agricultural production**

22. Development and perspectives of agricultural producer cooperatives in East Germany/Romania/Bulgaria (Czech Republic, Slovakia) since 1990 (literature review and/or field study at country level)
23. Development and perspectives of alternative food networks in transition economies since 1990 (literature review and/or field study at country level)

Co-supervisor: Wolz/Möllers

24. Problems and experience of agricultural service cooperatives in Vietnam since the adoption of the Cooperative Law in 1997 (literature review and/or field study at country level)
25. Problems and experience of agricultural service cooperatives in China since the adoption of the Cooperative Law in 2007 (literature review and/or field study at country level)
26. Options and perspectives of agricultural services cooperatives in transition economies (literature review and/or field study at country level) (literature review and/or field study at country level)
27. Re-emergence of rural saving and credit cooperatives in transition economies: success and failures (literature review and/or field study at country level)

Co-supervisor: Wolz