The Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Central and Eastern Europe (IAMO) investigates the development of agricultural and food sectors in Central and Eastern Europe, Central and East Asia with particular emphasis on changes caused by transition. The reorganisation of the sectors has required institutional and national economic reforms, liberalisation of markets, and adaptations at an individual operational level. IAMO analyses the various interactions of these aspects and draws economic, agricultural and political conclusions from its research intended to aid in the progress of transition. To realise these research assignments, IAMO endeavours to increase scientific cooperation with economic and agricultural economic research institutions. For this reason the Institute promotes the development of networks within the academic community.

Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Central and Eastern Europe (IAMO)
Theodor-Lieser-Str. 2
06120 Halle, Germany

Dr. Martin Petrick
Phone +49 345 2928 100
Fax +49 345 2928 199
petrick@iamo.de

www.iamo.de

The Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group (SWG) in South Eastern Europe is an international intergovernmental organisation, consisting of governmental institutions responsible for agriculture and rural development in respective countries and territories of South Eastern Europe.

The SWG addresses the current challenges in the countries of South Eastern Europe and strives to manage the complexities of the relationships among the countries on regional level in order to overcome many of the limitations and meet the goals that reflect the international community's commitment to sustainable development.

The SWG is working to empower and promote sustainable principles on rural development, through networking and permanent cooperation between all stakeholders of rural development in the region of South Eastern Europe.

The general objective of the SWG is to facilitate the identification of mutual needs and interests, support joint planning of cross-border rural development projects, as well as support different institutions in meeting the needs of the countries.

Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group (SWG) in SEE
Head Office/Secretariat of the SWG
III Makedonska Brigada bb, PO Box 659
1000 Skopje, Macedonia

Boban Ilic
Phone +389 2 3217708
Fax +389 2 3217244
boban.ilic@swg-seerural.org

www.seerural.org

InWEnt - Capacity Building International, Germany, is a non-profit organisation with worldwide operations dedicated to human resource development, advanced training, and dialogue. Our capacity building programmes are directed at experts and executives from politics, administration, the business community, and civil society. We are commissioned by the German federal government to assist with the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations. In addition, we provide the German business sector with support for public private partnership projects. Through exchange programmes, InWEnt also offers young people from Germany the opportunity to gain professional experience abroad.

InWEnt – Internationale Weiterbildung und Entwicklung gGmbH
Capacity Building International, Germany
Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 40
53113 Bonn, Germany
Phone +49 228 4460–0
Fax +49 228 4460–1766

InWEnt – Internationale Weiterbildung und Entwicklung gGmbH
Natural Resources and Biodiversity Division
Lindenstr. 41, Zschortau
04519 Rackwitz, Germany

Dr. Henriette Stange
Phone +49 34202 845 403
Fax +49 34202 845 777
henriette.stange@inwent.org

www.inwent.org

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) is a federally owned organisation. We work worldwide in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development. Our mandate is to support the German Government in achieving its development objectives. We provide viable, forward-looking solutions for political, economic, ecological and social development in a globalised world. Sometimes working under difficult conditions, we promote complex reforms and change processes. Our corporate objective is to improve people's lives on a sustainable basis.

Our core competency is capacity development. Capacity is the ability of people, organisations and societies to shape development on a sustainable basis. This entails identifying problems and then developing and successfully implementing strategies to reach solutions. We support developing and emerging countries in building their capacities and managing the learning and change processes involved.

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH
Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1-5
65726 Eschborn, Germany

Dr. Detlev Böttcher
Phone +49 6196 79 1423
Fax +49619679801423
detlev.boettcher@gtz.de

www.gtz.de

5.021-0003-2010 - Juni 2010

Regional Conference, October 27-30, 2010

Agricultural Policy Forum 2010

on "Bridging the gap: Agricultural and rural development policies in South Eastern Europe facing the challenge of EU compliance"

Background

Within the process of approaching the European Union (EU), countries in South Eastern Europe (SEE) have made remarkable progress in agricultural and rural development. Nevertheless, the region still faces major challenges. The agricultural and rural sector plays a crucial role, herein. Respective tasks the sector has to fulfil are heterogeneous, complex and policy relevant.

In order to facilitate policy decision making in SEE, the Agricultural Policy Forum (APF) was established in 2001 by InWEnt – Capacity Building International, Germany and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) as a major contribution of German technical cooperation to agricultural and rural transition processes. Since then they have supported these processes by a series of nine APFs in Germany and SEE. As a result of former APFs, the Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group (SWG), since 2009 an international intergovernmental organisation, was established. The SWG has been in charge of past APFs taking place in SEE. Years ago, the Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Central and Eastern Europe (IAMO) and SWG joined InWEnt and GTZ in steering this conference.

Forum Objective and Topics

The APF 2010 will again provide a platform for international dialogue on policy settings and perspectives.

Its overall objective is to foster the implementation of EU-like agricultural and rural development policies in SEE with respect to a further integration of the region's agricultural and rural sector into the EU.

Against this background, the following subjects have been identified as most promising with respect to an open-minded discussion:

- Analysis of the status quo of policy making in the region and comparison with the desired outcome within an enlarged EU.
- Discussion on the financial, institutional and administrative setting to meet the challenges.
- Development of a policy environment that is flexible enough to deal with moving targets such as the Common Agricultural Policy of the EU and global challenges.

The forum will formulate an agenda providing guidelines for suitable agricultural and rural development policies in SEE.

Target Group

The conference is designed for executives and decision makers from ministries, governmental and non-governmental organisations from the agri-food sector as well as rural areas in SEE. High-level representatives of German and international policy and development institutions dealing with the topic will be invited to participate as well.

Working language will be English.

Contact and Information

For further details, please contact the organising team.

The following internet link will keep you updated on any information about the conference: www.gc21.inwent.org/eu-see/apf2010

Venue and Timing

The forum will be held at the Radisson Blu Parkhotel in Dresden-Radebeul from October 27th to 30th, 2010.

Technical Information

InWEnt, GTZ, SWG and IAMO would highly appreciate your participation in this forum. For registration, kindly complete the online form on the above-mentioned website.

For invited participants from partner institutions in SEE and for resource persons, the conference fee and the costs for accommodation and travel will be covered by the organisers. They will also make travel arrangements for these invitees.

Other interested participants from German and international institutions are cordially invited to participate in the forum as well. Detailed information on the conference fee can be obtained from the above website under the link "Registration".

The fee covers admission to all sessions and the field trip, refreshments, lunch and dinner on conference days as well as a volume of the proceedings.

The organisers will be very pleased to receive your registration and welcome you at the APF 2010 in Dresden-Radebeul.

Wednesday, October 27th, 2010

16:00 - 20.00	Arrival of participants / Registration
20:00 - 22:00	Get together

Thursday, October 28th, 2010

08:00 - 09:00	Registration
09:00 - 09:45	Official opening: Welcome addresses (BMZ, SWG, GTZ/InWEnt)
	Introduction into the overall programme (GTZ/InWEnt)
09:45 - 10:45	Keynote speech: Agricultural and rural development policies in SEE facing the challenge of EU compliance (World Bank and European Commission requested)
11:15 - 12:15	Thematic speech: Agricultural policies in the Balkans - the difficult task of defining and monitoring strategic priorities (E. Erjavec, University of Ljubljana)
12:15 - 13:15	Thematic speech: Problems and challenges in formulating and implementing an EU-conform rural development strategy in SEE (U. Koester, University of Kiel)
13:15 - 15:00	Lunch break
15:00 - 18:30	Two working group sessions:
	Working group A: Opportunities for and obstacles to agricultural policies
	Working group B: Opportunities for and obstacles to rural development policies
20:00 - 22:00	Official reception

Friday, October 29th, 2010

08:45 - 09:00	Introduction to the programme of the day
09:00 - 10:30	Thematic speeches:
	Socio-economic and political challenges of SEE countries on the road towards EU after 2013 (V. Gligorov, Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies)
	The future of the CAP and agriculture in SEE post 2013 (P. Bascou, European Commission)
11:00 - 16:00	Two working group sessions:
	Working group C: Improvement of administrative and institutional capacities
	Working group D: Mastering structural challenges for agriculture and in rural areas
16:30 - 18:00	Presentation and discussion of working group results
In the evening	Dinner / Informal get together

Saturday, October 30th, 2010

08:15 - 08:30	Introduction to the programme of the day
08:30 - 10:00	Podium discussion: Competitiveness of the agricultural and food sector in SEE in relation to European and international markets
10:30 - 12:00	Formulation and approval of the Agenda of APF 2010
	Official closing
12:00 - 19:00	Field trip
20:00 - 22:00	Farewell dinner