

Participants

Participants should have an academic education in the area of social sciences, e.g. agricultural economics, economics, sociology, political science, or a similar discipline. According to its training character, the course especially wants to attract junior scientists engaged in post-graduate or post-doctoral studies up to 35 years of age from EU, associated as well as third countries. Young researchers from Central and Eastern European countries are particularly encouraged to apply. Applicants are expected to submit and present a paper and to take an active role in the discussions.

Application and Deadlines

The application should contain information on the applicant's academic education and current research work, his or her present position and affiliation, and include a CV and a list of publications. Applicants are also requested to submit two-page abstracts of a paper showing his or her research work. Deadline for both the application and the abstract is 31 August 2006. Notification on the acceptance of the application and the paper will take place by 8 September 2006. Deadline for submission of full papers is 22 September 2006. The papers will be distributed to the workshop participants who are expected to read them in advance and to give a short presentation of their paper. Please send applications and abstracts to:

Marlis Werner, Institute for Cooperative Studies, Humboldt University Berlin, Unter den Linden 6, 10099 Berlin, Germany, Phone ++49 30 2093 6500, Fax. ++49 30 2093 6501, email: ifg@agrار.hu-berlin.de

Venue

Institute of Agricultural Economics
Bul. Tzarigradsko shose 125
1113 Sofia, Bulgaria
www.iai-bg.com

Cost and Financial Support

The European Community provides financial support to eligible participants covering travel costs as well as accommodation and subsistence costs of about 600 € and participation fee of 100 €.

Organisers

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MACE

Modern Agriculture in Central and Eastern Europe: Tools for the Analysis and Management of Rural Change

Marie Curie Project coordinated by
Humboldt University Berlin

First Announcement

Marie Curie Training Course

on

Cooperatives in Transition Countries

at the

Institute of Agricultural Economics

9-13 October 2006

Sofia, Bulgaria

Organised by:

Institute for Cooperative Studies Berlin
Institute of Agricultural Economics Sofia

Training for Junior Researchers

The training course will be organised by the Institute for Cooperative Studies, Humboldt University Berlin, Germany, and the Institute of Agricultural Economics, Sofia, Bulgaria. It is the first training course in the series of events offered by the Marie Curie Project on “Modern Agriculture in Central and Eastern Europe: Tools for the Analysis and Management of Rural Change” (**MACE**). This announcement wants to draw the attention of junior researchers interested in cooperative science, e.g. post-doctoral researchers and advanced PhD students, to this training opportunity and invites them to apply for participation. Applicants from Central and Eastern European Countries (CEECs) are particularly encouraged to apply, but applications from other EU, associated or non-EU countries are also welcome. The course will take place from 9-13 October 2006 in Sofia, Bulgaria. More information on MACE and a detailed training course programme will be published on: www.mace-events.org.

Objectives of the Marie Curie Project

The MACE Project seeks to enhance the capacity for agricultural research in the scientific community of the CEECs and thus to contribute to managing the process of agricultural modernisation in these transition countries. It is coordinated by Humboldt University Berlin, Germany, and jointly conducted with the following partners: Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Central and Eastern Europe Halle, Germany, Research Institute of Agricultural Economics Prague, Czech Republic, Warsaw University, Poland, Corvinus University Budapest, Hungary, Slovak University of Agriculture

Nitra, Slovakia, Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus, Germany, Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Engineering Bornim, Germany, Institute of Agricultural Economics Sofia, Bulgaria, Institute of Agricultural Economics Bucharest, Romania, and Timiryazev Academy, Russia. The programme entails a coherent series of conferences, summer schools, and training courses jointly organised with partners in Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Russia and Slovakia. The series of events offers unique training opportunities for junior researchers who want to join an international network.

Subjects of the Training Course

The course will introduce the participants to the present state of research on cooperation as a participatory institutional arrangement and co-operatives as a mode of economic and social organisation. Particular emphasis will be put on analytical and conceptual frameworks that serve as heuristics for cooperative studies and on institutional approaches which represent a foundation for co-operative theory. The course will also deal with empirical methodologies for analysing co-operatives, their institutional design, institutional performance and institutional change. Special issues, characteristics and developments regarding co-operatives and their institutional environment in transition countries will be one of the main topics. The emergence and design of new co-operatives and new forms of cooperation as well as the relevance of cooperation and cooperatives for rural development will also be included. The role of the state in providing a stimulating institutional and reli-

able legal framework for self-organisation will receive special attention. Participants will present their own work on cooperative issues and discuss research questions which they consider important for their research. The course will enable junior researchers to deepen their knowledge in cooperative sciences, acquire research skills and to make contacts with experts in these areas and other young researchers working on cooperative issues from across Europe.

Instructors

Prof. Dr. Nicole Göler von Ravensburg
University of Applied Sciences Frankfurt/M., Germany, Faculty of Social Work and Health

Dr. habil. Ivan Boevsky
Senior Researcher in the Institute of Agricultural Economics, Sofia, Bulgaria,

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Konrad Hagedorn
Humboldt University Berlin, Division of Resource Economics; Executive Director of the Institute for Cooperative Studies, Germany

Dr. rer. agr. Markus Hanisch
Humboldt University Berlin, Managing Director and Senior Researcher in the Institute for Cooperative Studies, Germany

Dr. Constantine Iliopoulos
Director of the Agricultural Economics and Policy Research Institute, National Agricultural Research Foundation, Athens, Greece

Prof. Dr. Ruerd Ruben
Radboud University Nijmegen, Chair of Development Studies and Director of the Centre for International Development Issues Nijmegen, The Netherlands