Internal Information for ZEF Staff and Guests

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NEWS ABOUT STAFF AND GUESTS*

Manfred Denich and Detlef Virchow (ZEFc senior researchers) visited Consulting und Service für Pflanzliche Rohstoffe GmbH, a partner in ZEF’s BiomassWeb project, in Dresden, Germany, on June 2. Contact: m.denich@uni-bonn.de, phone: #1864
Contact: d.virchow@uni-bonn.de, phone: # 4476

Tina Beuchelt and Detlef Virchow (ZEFc senior researchers) discussed potential collaboration options between the BiomassWeb project and The International Sustainability & Carbon Certification (ISCC) in Cologne, Germany, on June 4. Contact: beuchelt@uni-bonn.de, phone: # 1847

Christine Fürst (ZEFc senior researcher) gave a keynote on how to assess the efficiency of ecosystem services in supporting planning processes at the 8th International Conference on Innovation in Urban and Regional Planning (INPUT conference) in Naples, Italy, on June 4-6. Her talk was based on the article “Evaluating the role of ecosystem services in participatory land use planning: proposing a balanced score card”. Contact: cfuerst@uni-bonn.de, phone: # 4922

Joachim von Braun (ZEFb director) participated at a plenary panel on the Bioeconomy Day (BMBF) in Berlin, Germany, on June 5.

The BiomassWeb project organized its first one-day workshop for the project’s doctoral students at ZEF on June 5. Tina Beuchelt and Detlef Virchow (ZEFc senior researchers) informed about the overall idea of this project on bio-economy and biomass-based value webs. The doctoral students presented their planned research work.

Julia Anna Matz (ZEFb senior researcher) presented her paper on “The Short-term Impact of Price Shocks on Food Security - Evidence from Urban and Rural Ethiopia” (joint work with Matthias Kalkuhl and Getachew A. Abegaz) at the tri-annual World Congress of the International Economic Association by the Dead Sea in Jordan on June 8. In addition, she presented the same paper at the Nordic Conference on Development Economics (NCDE) in Helsinki, Finland, on June 16. Rythia Afkar (ZEFb junior researcher from Indonesia) also gave a presentation on “Education Public Spending in a Decentralized Indonesia: Do the Poor Benefit?” at the NCDE conference, which was jointly organized by the Nordic Network in Development Economics, Aalto University School of Business, and UNU-WIDER.

*In chronological order
Till Stellmacher (ZEFa senior researcher) participated in the conference “International Symposium on Society and Resource Management” at the Leibniz University in Hannover, Germany, on June 9-13. He organized a panel session on “Food security and local development in Eastern Africa”.

Contact: t.stellmacher@uni-bonn.de, phone: #4907

Mohammad Abdul Malek (ZEFb senior researcher) paid a visit to and discussed with Professor Michael Kosfeld (Goethe University, Frankfurt) mutually interesting research fields at the Goethe University on June 10.

Contact: malekr25@uni-bonn.de, phone: #1913

Tobias Wünscher (ZEFb senior researcher) visited the WASCAL Competence Center in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on June 11-13. He presented his work on farmer innovations to research staff and discussed next steps for implementing a West African socio-economic observation network which is to collect panel data for assessing climate change impacts on households. He continued his tour to Ghana, where he organized a workshop with committee members of the farmer innovation contest (June 20), formalized relationships with local partners, and took steps towards the scientific evaluation of selected farmer innovations together with local partners.

Contact: tobias.wuenscher@uni-bonn.de, phone: #1851

Joachim von Braun (ZEFb director) attended the session of the Board meeting of Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) in Rome on June 13, and chaired the panel at a session at the World Food Programme on “How can agriculture and nutrition work better together?” on June 12.

Anna-Katharina Hornidge (ZEFa senior researcher) took part in the high-level networking event “Interfaces of Science and Policy and the Role of Foundations” in Berlin, Germany, on June 16-17. The event was organized by Mercator Foundation, Sussex University, and Forum Internationale Wissenschaft, University of Bonn.

Contact: hornidge@uni-bonn.de, phone: #1718

The Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) initiated the Futures Charta (Zukunftscharta) focusing on “One world – our responsibility”. The first of five “Themenforen” concerning the Futures Charta took place at the Institut für Weltwirtschaft (IfW) in Kiel, Germany, on June 17 and 18. About hundred people discussed the Economic Dimension of Sustainability (Themenfourm3). Joachim von Braun (ZEFb director) in his capacity as Advisor for the Economic Dimension of Sustainable Development to the consultation process by the BMZ gave an introduction to the Economic Dimension of Sustainability on June 18.

Nicolas Gerber (ZEFb senior researcher) gave a talk on “What researchers know about the impacts of innovation on food security” at the EuroScience Open Forum 2014 (ESOF 2014) in Copenhagen, Denmark, on June 25. The talk was part of a ZEF-organized panel session, chaired by Prof. von Braun, on “Food and nutrition security: how research informs policy”. Also part of the panel were three FoodSecure partners: ZEF visiting researcher Sudha Narayanan (Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research), Willis Kosura (FoodSecure Review Board, University of Nairobi) and Hans van Meijl (Foodsecure coordinator, LEI-Wageningen UR).

Contact: nicolas.gerber@uni-bonn.de, phone: #1883
Alisher Mirzabaev (ZEFb senior researcher) participated in the Annual Conference of the Research Group on Development Economics, **German Economic Association**, in Passau, Germany, on June 27-28. He gave a presentation on “Impacts of Weather Variability and Climate Change on Rural Incomes in Central Asia”. Contact: almir@uni-bonn.de, phone: 4966

Joachim von Braun (ZEFb director) gave a presentation at German Economic association Developing countries group in Passau on June 28 on the economics dimension of the emerging BMZ Futures Charta

Joachim von Braun (ZEFb director) gave a plenary presentation at the summer academy of the German Environment Foundation on June 30 at St. Mariental in Saxony on “Food Security and sustainable Resource use”.

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**NEWS FROM THE DOCTORAL PROGRAM**

The candidates of ZEF batch 2013 presented their doctoral proposals at ZEF on June 2.

Ruchika Singh (ZEFa junior researcher from India) successfully defended her doctoral thesis on June 26. The topic of her doctoral research was “Actors’, Ideas and Ideational Realm in Irrigation Management: The Case of Decentralization in Madhya Pradesh, India”. Her supervisors were: Prof. Dr. Conrad Schetter (first supervisor) Prof. Dr. Aram Ziai (second supervisor).

Quy Hanh Nguyen (ZEFa junior researcher from Vietnam) received his doctoral degree after defending his thesis successfully on June 26. The topic of his thesis was “Another epistemic culture: Reconstructing knowledge diffusion for rural development in Vietnam’s Mekong Delta”. His supervisors were: Prof. Dr. Hans-Dieter Evers (first supervisor) and Prof. Dr. Solvay Gerke (second supervisor).

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**ALL-ZEF SENIOR RESEARCH SEMINAR**

Antonio Rogmann (ZEFc senior researcher) gave a talk on “Data sharing with the ZEF Data Portal” on June 5.
Contact: arogmann@uni-bonn.de, phone: #4904

Irna Hoffman (PhD researcher at Leiden University, Institute for Area Studies, and affiliated to the ISS in The Hague) gave a talk on “Geographies of Transition: The political and ecological factors of agrarian change in Tajikistan” on June 12.

Mohammad Abdul Malek (ZEFb senior researcher) presented joint work with the study team of BRAC Research and Evaluation on “Impact assessment of credit program for the tenant farmers in Bangladesh: Baseline findings from a randomized field experiment” on June 26.
Contact: malekr25@uni-bonn.de, phone: #1913.
MISCELLANEOUS

Sardar Hussain, who joined the ZEFa 2012-13 batch of ZEF’s doctoral program, has gained admission to the University of Arkansas, USA, to do his PhD in Socio-Cultural Anthropology. He is one of just 35 PhD students selected by Fulbright in Pakistan this year. We're very pleased with this, not least because one of the objectives of the Government College (GC) University-ZEF collaboration project, which took place in Lahore in 2012 and 2013, funded by DAAD, was to support MPhil students to enable them to get into PhD program abroad. We wish Sardar the best in his studies!

Contact: Joe Hill, jhill@uni-bonn.de, phone: # 1731.

PUBLICATIONS


Recently published Working Papers:

Please contact the PR office if you have any feedback or questions.
Alma van der Veen: presse.zef@uni-bonn.de, phone: # 1846

The next newsletter will be published in August 2014. Please keep in mind that the deadline for contributions is Thursday, July 31. Please send your contributions to zefimzentrum@uni-bonn.de (Monika Kesting, ZEFb secretariat).