



Internal Information for ZEF Staff and Guests

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NEWS about STAFF AND GUESTS

Manfred Denich and Margaret Jend (ZEFc) visited Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) from February 2 to 9 2008. Margaret Jend gave a training course on digital photography and image processing for the purpose of documenting biodiversity in coffee forests in the context of the CoCE project. Besides, Manfred Denich, met (1) local partners in the coffee project and (2) representatives of ILRI/IWMI to discuss the progress of the PhD students in the joint research project on "Improving Water Productivity of Crop-Livestock Systems of sub-Saharan Africa". (M. Denich, #1864).

Hans-Dieter Evers (ZEFa) visited Vietnam from January 15 to February 02 2008 to meet with BIGS-DR students and to survey possible field research sites for PhD students of the WISDOM (Water-related Information System for the sustainable Development of the Mekong Delta) project.

Jens Liebe (ZEFc) recently joined ZEF, assuming the position of GLOWA Volta coordinator. He is a Hydrologist by training and has conducted his MSc research in the framework of the GLOWA Volta Project (1999 to 2003). He received the Hans-Hartwig Ruthenberg Award for his Master thesis on "Estimation of Water Storage Capacity and Evaporation Losses of Small Reservoirs in the Upper East Region of Ghana". In 2004 he joined the Department of Biological and Environmental Engineering at Cornell University, USA, and conducted his graduate research within the "Small Reservoirs Project" in northern Ghana. His scientific focus is on the hydrology of semi-arid areas, small reservoirs, and on the use of remote sensing in data scarce areas.

Conrad Schetter (ZEFa) presented a paper on "Lokale Politikgestaltung und externe Intervention in Nordafghanistan" at a Colloquium of the Department of Geography, Freie Universität Berlin on January 22 2008.

Conrad Schetter (ZEFa) participated in the Panel Discussion on "Afghanistans schwieriger Weg zum Frieden" organized by the US-Consulate, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen and the Department for Political Science, University of Cologne on January 29 2008.

On February 11 2008, Conrad Schetter (ZEFa) presented a paper on "Challenging Good Local Governance" at the conference "Destabilized Afghanistan: How to Get on the Right Track?" at the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik in Berlin.



Conrad Schetter (ZEFa) was a member of a panel discussion on "Externe Akteure und Security Governance" at the Workshop of the SFB 700 "Security Governance in Räumen begrenzter Staatlichkeit" of the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik in Berlin on February 12 2008.

Usman Shah (ZEFa) will be staying in Bonn until February 19 2008 to present and discuss his research findings. Mr. Shah, a Master student in 'Research in International Development' at Monash University, Melbourne, Australia, has been involved as a researcher in ZEF's Social Management of Water in Afghanistan (SWMA) Project since 2006. He spent much of 2007 in Afghanistan conducting field research as well as working with ZEF.

Paul Vlek and Bao Le (ZEFc) were invited to participate in an FAO workshop on "Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands (LADA)" in Rome, Italy, from January 28 to 29 2008.

Paul Vlek (ZEFc) has taken up the second part of his sabbatical leave at the Office of International Research, Education and Development (OURED), Virginia Polytechnical Institute and State University (Virginia Tech), USA, as of January 10 2008.

Tobias Wünscher (ZEFb) participated in a workshop "International Payments for Ecosystem Services: Alternative Mechanisms for Financing Environmental Management", held in Geneva 28-29 January 2008, which was co-organized by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and World Conservation Union (IUCN) in close collaboration with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). He gave a presentation on "Targeting Payments for Ecosystem Services", which was co-authored by former ZEF-researcher Stefanie Engel. The objective of the workshop was to review contributions to a book addressed to policy makers with the aim of facilitating the implementation of an international scheme for payments for ecosystem services.

Ruben Greif (ZEFConsult) started at ZEFConsult in January to work with Stefan Haffner on the current ZEFConsult NRW-Ghana-Gateway pilot study on behalf of the government of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW). The two of them also work on a project of 'Capacity Building International' (InWEnt) aiming to improve the cooperation between small and medium-sized Enterprises and People with an African Background in North Rhine-Westphalia.

Stefan Haffner (ZEFConsult) organized and facilitated an expert talk with 27 participants in the context of the ZEFConsult study on behalf of Capacity Building International, Germany (InWEnt) to improve the cooperation between small and medium-sized Enterprises and People with African Background in North Rhine-Westphalia.

PUBLICATIONS and PRESENTATIONS

Edilegnaw, W. (2008): Challenges in Genetic Resources Policy Making: Some lessons from participatory policy research with a special reference to Ethiopia. *Biodiversity and Conservation*, vol. 17(1): 21-33.



Khamsina, A., Lamers, J.P.A and Vlek, P.L.G. (2008): Tree Establishment under Deficit Irrigation on Degraded Agricultural Land in the Lower Amu Darya River Region, Aral Sea Basin. *Forest Ecology and Management* 255: 168-178.

PRESS

Conrad Schetter gave the following interviews:

- "Bomb explosion in Kandahar". ARD. Tagesthemen. February 17 2008
 - "NATO Conference in Vilnius and Afghanistan". Al-Jazeera. February 7 2008
 - Interview on "NATO-Conference and Situation in Afghanistan". Schweizer Radio DRS. February 7 2008
 - Interview on "NATO Conference in Vilnius and Afghanistan". BBC. February 7 2008
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The next newsletter will be published in March 2008. Please keep in mind the *deadline for contributions*: March 15 2008.

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