



Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development  
in Transition Economies

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## **PRESS RELEASE 1/2019**

### **Digital solutions upon to reduce climate risks**

Expert panel at the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) in Berlin

**Halle (Saale), 16 January 2019 – This past summer has shown that long periods of drought have now also arrived in the more moderate climate of Central Europe. Such climatic changes cause massive damage to agriculture and endanger the basic existence of the rural population. Discussions will take place in the expert panel "Going digital against the drought - New technologies and challenges in their implementation" on what measures governments, industry and science can take to reduce climate risks and extreme climatic shocks. Within the framework of the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA), the event will take place at the CityCube Berlin, Germany, on 18 January 2019 from 10:30 am to 11:45 am.**

International experts will present digital solutions on how to deal with harvest losses caused by the effects of climatic change at this expert panel. Both, market-based climate management and state intervention (e.g. disaster relief) require exact information on yields. The digital revolution provides possible solutions to these problems, notably through different forms of data collection, processing and communication with end-users. While the range of available technology is large in both, emerging and developed markets, numerous obstacles to its implementation, particularly in terms of cost-effectiveness, data security and networking are remaining. Main focus in the panel discussion will be on experiences in the Ukraine, Southeastern Europe, Central Asia and China.

The expert panel is organised by IAMO together with the German Agribusiness Alliance at the German Eastern Business Association and the German-Sino Agricultural Center. Simultaneous interpretation in German, English and Chinese language will be provided. Admission will be free of charge. **Interested media representatives are invited to register at [presse@iamo.de](mailto:presse@iamo.de) until 17 January 2019.**

## **PROGRAMME**

### **Opening remarks**

Michael Stübgen, Vice-Minister, Federal Ministry for Food and Agriculture, Germany

### **Keynote**

**“Digital technologies for risk management – Technical opportunities and implementation challenges”**

Dr. Lena Kuhn, Research Associate, Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO), Germany

### **Panel discussion**

Dr. Olga Trofimtseva, Vice-Minister, Ministry for Agricultural Policy and Food, Ukraine

Alexa Mayer-Bosse, Head Of Business Development and Origination, Agro and Weather Risks, Munich Re, Germany

Lionel Born, Chief Strategy Officer, Spacenus GmbH, Germany

Dr. Qu Dongyu, Vice-Minister, Ministry for Agriculture and Rural Affairs, People’s Republic of China, China (tbc)

Dr. Lena Kuhn, Research Associate, Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO), Germany

### **Moderation**

Torsten Spill, Co-Chair of the German Agribusiness Alliance at German Eastern Business Association, Germany

**Further information on the programme can be found here: [www.iamo.de/en/events](http://www.iamo.de/en/events).**

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### **About GFFA**

The 11<sup>th</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) entitled “Agriculture Goes Digital – Smart Solutions for Future Farming” will be held in Berlin, Germany, from 17 to 19 January 2019. It is organised by the Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection (BMEL) in cooperation with GFFA Berlin e.V., the Senate of Berlin and Messe Berlin GmbH. General information on the GFFA 2019 can be found on the conference website: [www.gffa-berlin.de/en](http://www.gffa-berlin.de/en).

### **About IAMO**

The Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO) analyses economic, social and political processes of change in the agricultural and food sector, and in rural areas. The geographic

focus covers the enlarging EU, transition regions of Central, Eastern and South Eastern Europe, as well as Central and Eastern Asia. IAMO works to enhance the understanding of institutional, structural and technological changes. Moreover, IAMO studies the resulting impacts on the agricultural and food sector as well as the living conditions of rural populations. The outcomes of our work are used to derive and analyze strategies and options for enterprises, agricultural markets and politics. Since its founding in 1994, IAMO has been part of the Leibniz Association, a German community of independent research institutes.

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