



Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development  
in Transition Economies

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## **P R E S S   R E L E A S E   08/2021**

### **IAMO Forum 2021 looks at agrifood systems in the transition to a bioeconomy**

**IAMO Forum 2021 “Agrifood systems in the bioeconomy” will take place from 7–9 June 2021. The focus of this year’s IAMO Forum is the transformation of agrifood systems in the transition to a bioeconomy. It will be held together with the International Bioeconomy Conference (9–10 June 2021) to form the Bioeconomy Week Halle (Saale).**

Transitioning to a bioeconomy could have major implications for food and nutrition security and the future of agrifood systems. Major developments in biotechnologies coupled with a shift from fossil fuels to renewable resources means the bioeconomy has the potential to play a key role in the sustainable development of agriculture and rural areas. These innovative technologies and disruptive trends, however, raise many questions: What new markets and value chains will be created? What environmental effects will these developments have? How will they affect social inclusion and exclusion?

IAMO Forum 2021 invites participants to take a critical look at these questions. The conference will take place over three days and will showcase the latest academic insights as well as an exciting exchange between research and industry. A number of distinguished speakers from research, industry and international institutes will take part in the virtual conference. The program is available online at: [www.iamo.de/forum/2021/program](http://www.iamo.de/forum/2021/program).

Each year, Germany selects a scientific topic that it wishes to bring special attention to. This year, that topic is the bioeconomy and as part of the Bioeconomy Week Halle (Saale) two international conferences on the bioeconomy will take place: IAMO Forum 2021 (7–9 June) and the 9th International Bioeconomy Conference (9–10 June, [www.bioeconomy-conference.de](http://www.bioeconomy-conference.de)). These will feature a cross-over event on Wednesday 9 June at 9:30 a.m. entitled “From extracting to creating value in the bioeconomy”. The panel discussion will be moderated by Christiane Grefe with guest panellists Regina Birner (University of Hohenheim), Peter Gerhardt (denkhausbremen e.V.), Martin Langer (BRAIN Biotech AG) and Justus Wesseler (Wageningen University) who will discuss new ways to create value in the bioeconomy.

Registration for IAMO Forum 2021 is open until 3 June 2021. Participation is free and the conference will be held in English. Simultaneous interpretation in German and English will be provided for the panel discussion. Information on registration, the conference program, interviews with selected keynote speakers and information on the conference platform can be found at: [www.iamo.de/forum/2021/](http://www.iamo.de/forum/2021/).

Members of the press are warmly invited to attend the IAMO Forum and interviews can be arranged with experts at the conference. If you are interested, please send an e-mail to: [presse@iamo.de](mailto:presse@iamo.de).

IAMO Forum 2021 is organised by the Structural Development of Farms and Rural Areas department at IAMO and sponsored by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and Rentenbank. The Leibniz ScienceCampus Halle Plant-based Bioeconomy (WCH), BioEconomy Cluster, the International Competence Center on Large Scale Agriculture (LaScalA), BioMonitor project, and the International Consortium on Applied Bioeconomy Research (ICABR) are partners of the event.

### **IAMO Forum 2021**

#### **Agrifood systems in the bioeconomy**

07 – 09 June 2021 | online

[www.iamo.de/forum/2021](http://www.iamo.de/forum/2021)

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#iamoForum21

### **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 analyse 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.