



Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development  
in Transition Economies

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## **PRESS RELEASE 01/2022**

### **New approaches for sustainable and optimized land use**

Virtual panel discussion on 27 January 2022 at the GFFA

**Halle (Saale), 25 January 2022 – Within the framework of the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA), IAMO and the German Agribusiness Alliance (GAA) organize an expert panel entitled “Securing #soilidity. Challenges and solutions for sustainable land use” on 27 January 2022. Representatives from business, politics, and science will discuss solutions and technologies for sustainable and efficient use of soil resources. This online event will take place in cooperation with the German Eastern Business Association and the Deutsch-Russischer Agrarpolitischer Dialog.**

Agricultural land is an increasingly scarce resource: Climate change, land degradation, and water shortages threaten soil fertility and with it the foundation of agriculture. The challenge: satisfying the growing demand for agricultural commodities while maintaining environmental integrity.

Solutions and technologies for sustainable and efficient use of soil resources abound - but implementing these at scale is a tremendous task. And while preserving existing acres is worth every effort, reclaiming fallow land provides opportunities and challenges as well. On the way to optimized soil management, incentives are needed for the use of adapted technologies – in order to achieve an increase in agricultural production on conserved soil with reduced emissions and minimized environmental impact.

High-level representatives from business, politics, and science will discuss the most important challenges for the sustainable use of soil resources, focusing on Russia and China as two global players in agriculture: What are pressing future tasks for the agricultural sector with regard to sustainable land use? How can state policies contribute to sustainable land use? Which role can technological progress play and how can it be incentivized?

#### **Programme**

#### **Greeting**

Dr. Ophelia Nick, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture

## **Panel Guests**

Sergey Levin, Vice Minister of Agriculture of the Russian Federation

Prof. Dr. Bin Zhang, Chief Scientist, Soil Health Care Group, IARRP, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS)

Prof. Dr. Julia Pongratz, Director Department for Geography, Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich

Cornelia Horsch, Managing Director, HORSCH Maschinen GmbH

Torsten Spill, Chief Representative, German Seed Alliance GmbH

## **Moderator**

Julia Harnal, Chairperson German Agribusiness Alliance & Vice President Public Affairs Agricultural Solutions, BASF SE

Simultaneous interpretation in German and English language will be provided. The livestream takes place via the website: [www.gffa-berlin.de/en](http://www.gffa-berlin.de/en). Registration is not required. If you want to join in the discussion and vote, please register here: <https://2022.gffa-berlin.de/#signup.html?>. The expert panel will be followed by a “deep dive” from 9:00 to 9:30 am (CET).

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

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## **About GFFA**

The 14th Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) entitled “Sustainable land use: Food security starts with the soil” will be held virtual from 24 to 28 January 2022. The GFFA is an international conference on agri-food policy issues. It is organised by the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) in cooperation with the Senate of Berlin, Messe Berlin GmbH and GFFA Berlin e.V. General information on the GFFA 2022 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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