

# From Micro-credit to Shareholder Value: Access to finance in the agricultural sector in Eastern Europe and Central Asia

## Expert Panel Discussion at the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA)

Within the framework of the International Green Week (IGW)

18th January 2013, 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm, ICC Berlin, Hall 7



The agricultural sector in Eastern Europe and Central Asia is characterized by a strong heterogeneity of its farming structures, ranging from subsistence-oriented household plots via small market-oriented agricultural businesses to large-scale and often vertically integrated agricultural holdings. All forms of farming businesses play a key role in the region's economic and social development. They also contribute to food security, both domestically and via the world market internationally. Providing favorable bank loans for farming operations is a central element of agricultural support in the region. However, small family businesses have so far not participated much in formal credit markets, while large agrohholdings may obtain funding from international financial markets. The participants in the regional panel will be discussing the connections between farm structures and financing sources, as well as the opportunities and risks for public support for agricultural investment in Eastern European and Central Asia.

- Opening**      **Dr. Thomas Kirchberg**, Chairman of the Agribusiness Working Group, Committee on Eastern European Economic Relations (OA)
- Welcome Address**      **Dr. Robert Kloos**, State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection
- Panelists**      **Aleksandr Petrikov**, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of the Russian Federation  
**Oleksandr Sen**, Deputy Minister of Agricultural Policy of the Ukraine  
**Gulmira Issayeva**, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan  
**Dr. Heinz Strubenhoff**, Agribusiness Program Manager, International Finance Corporation (IFC)  
**Dirk Stratmann**, Ukraine Spokesman of the Agribusiness Working Group, Committee on Eastern European Economic Relations (OA)  
**Vladimir Plotnikov**, President of the Association of Peasant Farmers and Agricultural Cooperatives of Russia AKKOR (tbc)
- Moderator**      **Dr. Martin Petrick**, Deputy Head of Department Agricultural Policy, Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Central and Eastern Europe (IAMO)

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### Organizers



#### Committee on Eastern European Economic Relations (OA)

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