



Managing Price Variability

By David King, Secretary General

Farmers have been shaken by the volatility of prices for their products and their inputs over the last two years. Governments have been shaken by the inability of the international trading system to assure their food security.

At its annual Commodities Conference, held in Dublin at the end of July 2009, IFAP was fortunate to have some top international economists propose concrete solutions for managing price volatility. What are these and will they work for farmers?

Dr. Maximo Torero, Director of IFPRI's Markets, Trade and Institutions Division, proposed a system of "Virtual Reserves" to minimize speculation in food commodities. According to IFPRI, speculation was responsible for most of the abnormal 'price spike that occurred in grains markets during the first five months of 2008. The Virtual Reserve would be a coordinated commitment by the G-14 countries and major grains exporters to contribute to a fund of \$12-20 billion to intervene in grains futures markets. The money is not expected to be actual budget expenditures. It is a virtual fund that would be used for trading on futures markets, short selling every time the prices of food grains rises significantly above what is justified by the supply and demand fundamentals. Short sells by the fund would lower spot prices and minimize speculative attacks. Only on the unlikely event that there was a need to realise the future sells would the fund spend any money. IFPRI is proposing to supplement the Virtual Reserve with a physical stock of basic grains of 300,000-500,000 tonnes for use in emergencies.

IFAP believes that speculation in food products should be stopped. Traditional responses to speculation such as holding world food reserves or regulating behaviour on commodity exchanges have had problems in the past, so this proposal needs close examination.

FAO for its part has developed other proposals to deal with price volatility and the problems this causes for developing countries. In Dublin, Professor Alexander Sarris, Director of the Trade and Markets Division of the FAO, made four proposals for new international financial mechanisms to help developing countries. The first concerns OECD countries farm policies. Based on the idea of carbon markets where companies

or countries can buy offsets to compensate for the carbon they produce, FAO is proposing that OECD countries offer compensatory financing to developing country producers to offset distortionary farm support they pay to OECD producers. A global development fund would be created to be distributed to eligible farmers in developing countries to help them raise production capacity, e.g. through research, human capital, or market/institutional support.

The second FAO proposal is for a new Food Import Financing Facility (FIFF). Backed by export banks, the FIFF would increase credit ceilings for developing countries to finance commercial food imports in periods of high food prices. However it would only cover financial needs in excess of normal commercial food imports.

At times of high prices, large commercial companies sometimes do not honour contracts sell their supplies at very much higher prices on spot markets. This happened in 2008. The third FAO proposal is therefore to set up an International Grain Clearing Arrangement (IGCA) that would guarantee that physical supplies are available to execute grains contracts. This is similar to what already happens on commodity exchanges. The IGCA would use its financial reserves to ensure that there would be liquidity to honour individual contracts in case of non-performance by a participant.

The last proposal from FAO is to meet the needs of commodity-dependent exporting developing countries. It wants to see a market-based automatic compensation scheme for falls in agricultural export earnings. This is similar to the EU FLEX scheme or IMF CFF facility. However, it has the advantage that payments are made automatically and objectively. The idea is to link commodity-related compensatory payments to index-based financial products.

IFAP will be launching a discussion on all these proposals to see if these are the responses that farmers should promote to deal with price volatility – in addition to it is current work on risk management tools. Markets need to function freely and fairly; the proposals that came forward at IFAP's Commodities Conference in Dublin Castle could be what it takes to help restore farmers' confidence in agricultural markets.

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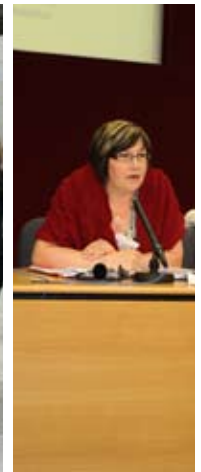
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Chairs of the Commodity Committees and IFAP President, Ajay Vashee.



IFAP Committee of Women Farmers



President of the Young Farmers Committee, Kati Partanen

IFAP ACTIVITIES

IFAP Commodities Conference with Women Farmers and Young Farmers Committee meetings

IFAP's 2009 Commodities Conference was hosted by the Irish Farmers' Association (IFA) in Dublin Castle, Dublin, Ireland. Over 100 farmer leaders from 40 countries participated. The Conference was preceded by sessions of the IFAP Committee on Women in Agriculture and the IFAP Committee on Young Farmers. This allowed more women and young farmer delegates to participate in the commodity discussions.

In his opening address, President of IFA, Mr. Walshe highlighted three issues in particular, namely: food independence, carbon leakage, and sustainable agriculture. In addition, he said that farmers in developing countries should be enabled to increase domestic production to help achieve national food security.

The President of IFAP, Ajay Vashee, said that "there is clearly a crisis of confidence in agriculture as farmers are shocked by the reality of volatile prices and costs that have left them to grapple with an unstable market". Markets must work for farmers, and clearly this is not happening, he said. "Unless the viability of agriculture is maintained, the future for young people venturing into agriculture will not be bright and the food security of the majority of women will be threatened". President Vashee highlighted the issues of climate change, price volatility, supermarket power, and investment in agriculture as common interests of all the commodity groups in IFAP.

In the Committee of Women Farmers, Committee Chair Karen Serres (France) announced the theme for World Rural Women's Day 2009 "Rural Women at the heart of innovation" to be celebrated on October 15 by farmers' and international organizations throughout the world. The committee issued ten key messages with the aim of empowering women in agriculture and promoting their contributions to rural livelihoods.

The Young Farmers' Committee Chair Kati Partanen (Finland) presented the "IFAP Young Farmers' Declaration" to the plenary, which stresses the importance for young farmers of having access to tools to deal with the problem of price volatility and other risks and also includes a seven-pillar action plan.

IFAP Dairy Group Chair Wesley Judd (Australia) presented seven recommendations made by the Group, which supports the "Global Sustainability Dairy Initiative" led by International Dairy Federation to showcase best practices of dairy farmers to deal with climate change.

IFAP Grains and Oilseeds Group Chair Xavier Beulin (France) said that the Group was concerned about the strong market price volatility in grains and oilseed markets, which is particularly difficult for farmers in developing countries who do not have access to social safety nets.

IFAP Meats and Feeds Group Chair Lourie Bosman (South Africa) reported that the Group has given a lot of attention to animal welfare issues, mainly through the OIE but also through FAO. The Group has also been working on Animal Identification and Traceability, which is important for maintaining consumer confidence in livestock products.

IFAP Group on Tropical Products, led by Vice-Chair Gerald SSendaula (Uganda), identified three issues of common interest to all producers of tropical products, which will form the core of the Group's work program, namely: certification, product information, and marketing information.

The complete set of documents from the conferences can be found on the IFAP website at:

<http://www.ifap.org/en/newsroom/IFAPCommoditiesConferenceDublin.htm>

Photos may be found on Flickr at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/ifap/>

Videos of all plenary session speakers may be found at:

<http://www.vimeo.com/groups/21008/videos>

CIHEAM's 1st International Seminar on the Indication of Terroirs, Paris, July 2-3, 2009

The MAI Montpellier, within the framework of the Mediterranean Terroir Institute (Haute Ecole des Terroirs Méditerranéens), organised a seminar entitled: "The Indication of Terroirs. Why? How? Concepts, methods, practices and experiences" that brought together a number of scientists, professionals, researchers and representatives

of regional authorities, among others. The IFAP, as partner of the CIHEAM, accepted the MAI Montpellier's invitation to attend. Indeed, the promotion of quality products and the development of Mediterranean terroirs is one of the IFAP's priorities, especially for its Mediterranean Committee.

The seminar offered an opportunity to hold an open, multilateral exchange of views on the indication of terroirs (the linking of a product to a specific place) and how the concept ties in with the intention to create a "Mediterranean Terroirs" label. "The promotion of quality and of our Geographical Indications is one of the four top priorities on the Agriculture Ministers' agenda in the Mediterranean region," confirmed B. Hervieu, Secretary General of the CIHEAM.

The promotion of quality through the use of geographical indications, collective marks or other labels is seen as a form of protecting and differentiating products on an increasingly globalised market. In the constant struggle for gaining a competitive edge, these tools can help products gain market access, while at the same time promoting local origins, specialties and savoir-faire. The experience of cattle farmers in Thibar (Tunisia), as described by K. Daoud (UTAP – Tunisian Union of Agriculture and Fisheries), is an excellent example of this. Their filing for a certification mark for their meat led to the creation of an interprofessional group in charge of quality control and coordination for the sector. This method of involving operators in quality controls, in keeping with the values of partnership and participation, translates into guaranteed income for producers and better coordination between all stakeholders.

The discussion showed that when regional experiences with the indication of terroirs are extended to the scale of the Mediterranean Basin, they take on new dimensions that add to the complexity surrounding such an indication. The image of the terroir, its economic exploitation, the visibility and legitimacy of the signs ... are all factors that must be taken into consideration when developing a collective strategy such as the one surrounding the umbrella mark for the Mediterranean.

For more information: http://www.iamm.fr/ress_doc/multimedia/conferences/#3

10th Regional Seminar of the ACP-EU Economic and Social Interest Groups

28 -30 June 2009, Gaborone, Botswana

Under the auspices of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) organized its 10th regional seminar in Gaborone, Botswana, 28 to 30 June 2009.

Participants were representatives of countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), members of the EESC, ACP members of the ACP-EU Follow-up Committee, representatives of international and regional socio-professional organisations. IFAP was represented by Mr. Serge Benstrong (Seychelles), Mr. Stephen Ruvuga

(Tanzania), Mr. Mamy Rajohanesa (Madagascar) and Bader M. Dioula (regional coordinator for Africa). The President of the EAFF (Mr. Philip Kiriro) and farmers' representatives from Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland also attended.

The seminar aimed to monitor the negotiations on the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) and challenges specific to SADC countries. The participants discussed the issue of food security, the impact of the economic and financial crisis on Africa, and the involvement of non-state actors from the SADC region in the implementation of the Cotonou Agreement.

Conclusions

On the EPAs- The delegates stressed that the negotiations towards comprehensive EPAs with the fifteen SADC countries should continue at appropriate pace and under certain conditions. The negotiations should be accompanied by measures to restructure SADC industries, encourage product diversification, the development of infrastructure and the modernisation of agricultural sectors. Delegates also called for social and environmental chapters to be included in the future comprehensive EPAs.

On the impact of the financial and economic crisis on Africa - Participants called for existing aid commitments to Africa to be fulfilled and for possibilities of additional funding to be explored. The ACP-EU economic and social interest groups stressed the need to implement the ILO Global Jobs pact.

On the involvement of non-state actors from the SADC region in the implementation of the Cotonou Agreement - Participants called on their national authorities and the EC to step up efforts to disseminate information on the Cotonou Agreement, organise effective non-state actor consultations and launch non-state actor capacity-building programmes.

On Food Security - Participants welcomed the renewed international interest in food security in Africa and highlighted the pivotal role of agriculture and of integrated rural development in the sustainable development of their countries. Delegates called for:

- Food security to be considered a human right and for a reflection to be launched on the treatment of the agricultural sector in international trade negotiations.
- Agricultural policy and integrated rural development to be placed at the centre of national and international development strategies, focussing on support to local and regional markets and on the well-being of the rural population.
- Infrastructure, technology transfer and ensuring the availability of factors of production to be prioritised.
- The capacities of farmers' organisations, women's and consumers' associations to be reinforced, and for these organisations to be regularly consulted and effectively involved in agricultural policy and decision-making processes.

For more information, please look at http://www.eesc.europa.eu/sections/rex/acp/index_en.asp?id=2073005rexen

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and FAO Global Conference on Foot and Mouth Disease - “The way towards global control”

OIE/FAO Global Conference on Foot and Mouth Disease was held in Asuncion (Paraguay) on 24-26 June 2009. Approximately 550 people from more than 110 countries attended the event, including OIE delegates, stakeholders, FAO representatives and other, international organizations and non-governmental organizations.

The OIE emphasized its initiative to create a movement towards the elimination of one of the most important and devastating animal diseases. Foot and Mouth Disease is a severe, highly contagious disease affecting different species of ruminants and swine. Foot and Mouth Disease not only hampers international trade of live animals and animal products, but it also has a high negative impact on global food security and poverty alleviation. That is why the policies and activities directed at controlling FMD at all levels should be considered as a public good. Since we live in a globalized world, one country that is not capable of handling the disease threatens the entire planet.

This issue was at the forefront of discussions, centered on the theme of the meeting: “the way towards global control”.

In the world there are more than 70 countries free of the disease recognized by OIE. On the other hand, there are 100 countries who present cases of chronic or periodical illness. FMD is an issue when live animals and animal by-products are moved from the affected areas to disease free areas. This is a real risk especially in countries lacking strong institutional and political organization capable of regulating and putting in place safety measures and standards.

IFAP was represented at the conference by Mr Roque Almeida from CAF (Uruguay).

Participants acknowledged the need for global accessibility to appropriate quality vaccines against FMD, especially for developing countries. They also recommended efforts on communication and public awareness campaigns be increased for a full involvement and commitment by high level policy makers and farmers, and advocated for the continuous strengthening of national Veterinary Services in compliance with OIE standards on quality.

IFAP participation in the Bonn Climate Change Talks

The Bonn meeting, which is now known as “Bonn II” held between June 1 and 12, marked a turning point in the negotiation process as it was the first time since the beginning of the Bali process that delegates started to elaborate specific proposals in some areas and clarify areas of convergence and divergence.

The general tendency shows that agriculture is more and more present in the negotiations. It is clear now that the negotiators cannot talk about mitigation without taking into account agricultural lands and practices.

The sixth session of the meeting was dedicated to the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long Term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA). Topics covered included mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology and a shared vision on long term cooperative action. The IFAP lobby focused on these discussions and its participation in the AWG-LCA.

The revised version of the LCA text has just come out. The 200 page document contains several references to agriculture and in particular, there is an entire section on agriculture under the mitigation section and sectoral approaches. The IFAP Secretariat has been working on an analysis of the text. This has been circulated to the IFAP expert group on climate change for comments. The consolidated comments have been sent to targeted negotiators prior to the Bonn meeting which takes place in August. The same exercise will be repeated for the subsequent Climate meetings (Bangkok, Barcelona).

IFAP may join forces with other partner organisations from the international community such as the World Bank and FAO who have approached us to collaborate on common points for the LCA negotiating text. We will also work together lobby strategy to approach the different targeted negotiating countries.

For the first time in the history of the multilateral climate negotiations, the importance of land in relation to the issue of climate change has been stressed. The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and Drought organised a one day side event entitled the ‘Land Day’ on June 6. IFAP made a presentation at this event.

The reasons why ‘land’ and agriculture have not been included in the negotiations thus far are as follows:

- Too many scientific uncertainties about soil carbon (potential, permanence)
- Priority was given to behavioural change necessary to reduce GHG emissions
- There was potential threat of ‘cheap’ forest carbon credit flooding the carbon market and putting the price of Carbon down.

However, in the meantime, science has caught up and there is now increased awareness on the fact that demand for food will grow together with the world population, potentially and probably leading to deforestation, biodiversity loss and increasing GHG emissions.

Some interesting outcomes concerning possible approaches, obstacles and political motivation for the inclusion of land issues in the climate agreements are as follows:

Political motivation:

Drylands, with their rural populations mainly dependant on (subsistence) farming, represent a ticking time bomb.

The root causes are the demographic pressure (population growth by four times since 1950), the fact that arid zones are heavily affected by climate change and that they are already the regions with the most political conflicts and social unrest. Climate change could extend those arid zones, causing a structural lack of means to respond to the most basic needs. Therefore, arid zones, sustainable agricultural practices and SLM are in the front line of politics.

Approaches:

For drylands in particular, there is a need for science to map the impacts of climate change on those zones. A second aspect is to map and extend the knowledge of human systems in arid zones. This means that we have to know the failures or successes of human recovery after the droughts in the Sahel in the 1970s. Finally, the degree of preparedness for disaster is crucial. This includes risk management, insurance, water storage and so on.

ASEAN FAO Regional Conference on Food Security

An ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) and FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN) Regional Conference on Food Security was held May 27-28 2009 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Conference served as a follow-up from the ASEAN Summit held in March 2009 with a focus on the adoption and implementation of the ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework and the Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security in the ASEAN Region (SPA-FS). IFAP was represented at the meeting by Salvacion Bulatao from the Federation of Free Farmers, Philippines.

In Bulatao's address, she confirmed the abovementioned documents as a significant initiative towards a regional approach to food security. She emphasized that strengthening and involving farmer organizations is a critical component for the food security plan, as well as enabling farmers to speak for themselves. She brought attention to the farmers' solutions declaration on the world food crisis that was adopted at the IFAP World Farmers' Congress in 2008. She highlighted the following components as criteria for a successful food security plan:

- Investment in agriculture
 - Roads, bridges and ports
 - Market infrastructure
 - Communication
 - Farmer-centered technology development and dissemination
- Building commodity supply chains
- Managing risks
- Climate change responses
- Eco-system services
- Trade that allows farmers to participate and benefit
- Strengthening farmer organizations and involving them in decision making
- Involving women and young farmers
- Securing access to land, water and other natural resources

At the Conference, ASEAN leaders pledged to embrace food security as a permanent high priority policy issue and review ASEAN's commitment to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The Conference also recognized the importance of engaging civil society organizations (CSO) and the call from CSOs to ASEAN and Member States to target investments by allocating production, processing, marketing, financial, technical and human resources to sustainable smallholder agriculture.

The 77th General Session of the OIE International Committee

The 77th General Session of the OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health) International Committee took place from 24 to 29 May 2009 in Paris. Mr. Olsen (Denmark) and Mr. Osinga (Netherlands) represented IFAP at this annual session.

The OIE International Committee is the body that establishes the policies of the OIE and supervises their application. Several relevant issues for farmers were discussed such as the fight against animal diseases and zoonoses, the major recent disease outbreaks and the disease risk status of countries as well as animal welfare issues. The adoption of international standards regarding safety in world trade in animals and animal products was also part of the session.

In 2008 and 2009 so far, the main disease events were:

- H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in many countries, but most notably in Indonesia, Egypt, China, Vietnam, Bangladesh and India.
- Outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) in the Middle East, Africa, southern Asia and Venezuela/Colombia.
- Pest des petits ruminants (PPR) is spreading in Asia and Africa, with Morocco hit for the first time in 2007. Large scale vaccination campaigns are under way.
- Outbreaks of Rift Valley Fever (RVF) in Kenya and Somalia caused many casualties.
- bluetongue virus (BTV) continued to cause problems in Europe, with outbreaks of serotype found in Scandinavia, and outbreaks in central Europe. Several outbreaks are caused by the use of live modified vaccines. OIE called for severe punishment for those who use unauthorised vaccines.
- Rinderpest is now close to eradication, the last infected country in the world is Somalia and part of Kenya. OIE and FAO hope to announce its eradication in 2010 or 2011 and call upon all members for their full co-operation.
- PRRS and it increased mortality is causing problems in China, Vietnam and the Philippines.
- African swine fever is circulating in domestic and wild animals in south-eastern Europe. Russia is warning that disease is spreading both east and west due to infected wild boar.

The technical item of interest chosen this year to be presented and discussed was the impact of climate change and environmental changes on emerging and re emerging animal disease and animal production.

Likely emerging diseases are the West Nile Virus, African Horse Sickness, Rift Valley fever, bluetongue, lumpy skin disease, Leishmaniasis, epizootic haemorrhagic disease and tick borne diseases. The results of a questionnaire among 172 OIE member countries show that 58% of the respondents identified at least one emerging (or re-emerging) disease associated with climate change. Longer term, strategic thinking is needed in all countries in order to improve surveillance, emergency preparedness and response capacities.

On behalf of IFAP, Mr. Osinga made a speech recognizing that farmers are getting increasingly involved in the OIE's activities through the OIE/IFAP cooperation, but increased collaboration is however encouraged to assure better farmers' representation.



Members' Activities

Forum on Challenges and Prospects for Peasant Farming in the Field of Food Security

We demand that our right to food security be respected – this was one of the main messages expressed at the conclusion of the Forum on “Challenges and Prospects for Peasant Farming in the Field of Food Security” – a forum organised by the District Agrarian Federation of Chuschi (FADICH) and the National Agrarian Federation (CNA), which took place on July 15 in Pampa Cangallo, Los Morochucos district, Ayacucho, Peru.

Almost one hundred representatives of peasant groups and women's organisations – most from the Peruvian provinces of Cangallo, Fajardo and Vilcashuamán and representing both public and private institutions – met on July 15 in the auditorium of the municipality of Los Morochucos, Peru, for the Forum on Challenges and Prospects for Peasant Farming. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the current food crisis, as well as the urgent need to develop sustainable alternatives – with the coordinated involvement of all political, economic and social stakeholders – for dealing with the crisis.

The invited speakers once again stressed the importance of ensuring access to land and other natural resources in order to guarantee people's food security, and also spoke of governments' obligations in this respect – they must not

only facilitate access to these resources, but also ensure their sustainable use. There was also an excellent assessment given of the global agricultural panorama, including possible ways out of the crisis; stress was also laid on the need to promote small-scale, diversified production as a form of ensuring that people do not lose the ability to provide for and feed themselves. Finally, a number of success stories were shared in the use of organic fertilisers, living fences, and other traditional farming techniques employed in the control of pests common to the region, such as the Andean potato weevil – a common pest affecting maize and potato crops. These and other presentations fed into the participants' discussions, which concluded at the end of the day's session with the drafting of a list of eight key measures to be taken by the Peruvian government over the short and medium term to contain and reverse the immediate effects of the crisis.

The next Forum on Challenges and Prospects for Peasant Farming will be held this September in the province of Vilcashuamán, Peru.

Climate risk management and agricultural insurance discussed in Uruguay

Climate risk management and agricultural insurance discussed in Uruguay from June 4-5 at a national and regional workshop/seminar convened in Montevideo under the title “Climate risk management and agricultural insurance”. The meeting was organized jointly by Uruguay's Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries and the IICA office in Uruguay. The purpose of the event was to exchange and analyze information and discuss the best way to tackle the agriculture's increasing vulnerability to climate change.

At the meeting the agronomist Gastón Rico (CAF-Uruguay) opened the seminar on behalf of IFAP alongside national and regional authorities. In his opening speech he said that IFAP was anxiously monitoring current issues affecting agriculture and farmers. He reported on the discussions held at the meeting on climate change that had taken place a few weeks earlier in Copenhagen and referred in particular to the statement given to the Danish Minister of the Environment and Energy calling for agriculture to be part of any post-Kyoto agreement. The statement said that farmers could best address the consequences of climate change by moving from crisis management to risk management.

At the seminar, after discussing the role of risk management policies and the importance of insurance in bringing growth to the agricultural sector, representatives of different international organizations spoke about international cooperation and their experience in framing policies for managing risk and promoting agricultural insurance.

Participants spoke about their experience with reinsurance and looked at how it could provide cover to farms and provide a way of dealing with systemic problems and natural disasters in a changing environment.



International Activities

Launch of the new Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators (ASTI) website

The Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators (ASTI) initiative has launched a new website, www.asti.cgiar.org. ASTI, which is managed by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), is one of the few available sources of agricultural research and development (R&D) statistics in low- and middle-income countries. The initiative compiles, analyzes, and publicizes data on institutional developments, investments, and capacity in agricultural R&D at the national, regional, and global levels.

The tools and functionality of ASTI's enhanced website make key information more user-friendly and readily accessible to stakeholders. In the future the website will be further expanded to include links to other data collections related to S&T in agriculture and food.

Features of the new ASTI website:

- Map, view, and compare agricultural S&T data from over 60 low and middle income countries
- Download and export national, regional, and global investment and capacity time series datasets
- Access the ASTI Website Directory, which provides links to a large and growing number of agricultural R&D agencies worldwide
- Download a vast array of national, regional, and global ASTI publications

This article was prepared by IFPRI.

Participants subsequently discussed policies and methods for risk management and agricultural insurance. Specific reference was made to strengthening institutions and the need for inter-institutional and inter-company cooperation in risk management and agricultural insurance.

The second panel considered the standards required to provide the coverage needed to balance the needs of the public sector, farming and the insurance industry.

The meeting then considered the information systems required to support risk management and agricultural insurance; finally a round table session looked at initiatives and policies for developing the market for agricultural insurance.

IICA-ALASA Agreement

A technical cooperation agreement was signed at the seminar by the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the Association of Agricultural Insurers (ALASA) that brings together insurers from Europe and America - and this will support the exchange of information, training and project development for resources destined to develop agricultural insurance.

Keep us informed ...

The IFAP Communications Department is continuously working to improve information exchange and dialogue among IFAP membership.

If you have a particular issue, event, or document you would like to see in the *WORLD FARMER*, please share it with us. We would welcome and appreciate your contribution.

Details for submissions

- The article should be 300 - 500 words
- If you have accompanying photos available, please send them as well (high resolution: approximately 300 DPI)
- Articles should be in English, French or Spanish
- Please submit articles to: jessica.goodfellow@ifap.org

Call for photos...

If you have photos from an event, from the field, or from your member organizations that you would like to include in the *World Farmer*, please share them with us.

Instructions:

- Photos should be high resolution (approximately 300 DPI).
- Include a caption (names and a description of the photo).
- Send your photos to: jessica.goodfellow@ifap.org

The *WORLD FARMER* is edited by the Secretariat of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers and is available in English, French and Spanish.

The newsletter can also be viewed at IFAP's website: www.ifap.org

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