Research Network of Decent Work in Global Agricultural Production Systems


International Center for Development and Decent Work

International Center for Development and Decent Work
About Us

Research Network of Decent Work in Global Agricultural Production Systems
14.-15. September 2015

Organizer
Universität Kassel
International Center for Development and Decent Work

Kleine Rosenstraße 1 - 3
D-34117 Kassel
http://www.uni-kassel.de/einrichtungen/icdd/home.html

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Program Overview

Monday, September 14th

13.00-13.30: Introduction into topic by Christoph Scherrer + introduction of participants

13.30-14.45: Commodity chains: 4 projects (à 10 min. presentation, 8 min. discussion)

- Belik (Unicamp), Filhos (UFRN): THE GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS OF MELONS
- Ayyar, Sawant (TISS): MAPPING THE GLOBAL VALUE CHAIN OF CASHEW NUT PROCESSING UNITS & IDENTIFYING ITS DECENT WORK DEFICITS: A Study in the State of Maharashtra and Goa in India
- Mehdi et al. (UAF), Matofari (EGU): SUPPLY CHAIN GOVERNANCE: A Decent Work Approach to Optimize Mango Value Chain Systems in Pakistan and Kenya
- Jiminez (UADY): DIVERSIFIED LOCAL CHAINS

14.45-15.15: Coffee Break
15.15-16.30: Finance, knowledge, technology: 4 projects (à 10 min. presentation, 8 min. discussion)

- Munir (UAF), Hensel (WIZ): INCOME GENERATION USING SOLAR BASED FOOD PROCESSING TECHNOLOGIES FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES
- Scherrer (Kassel): IMPACT OF TRADE & INVESTMENT AGREEMENTS
- Tuider (Kassel): LOCAL KNOWLEDGE & POWER CONTEXT
- Scherrer (Kassel), Rajeev (CESP): FINANCIAL FLOWS ALONG THE VALUE CHAIN

16.30-17.00: Coffee Break

17.00-18.00: Governance and power: 3 projects (à 10 min. presentation, 8 min. discussion)

- Herzig (Kassel): POWER, RESPONSIBILITY & ACCOUNTABILITY. Management in the International Food Industry
- Mende (Kassel): PRIVATE AUTHORITY IN GLOBAL GOVERNANCE
- Seuring, Hahn (Kassel): THE GOVERNANCE OF VALUE CHAINS
18.00-19.00: Building of 4 working groups

   Working groups: Search for common topics, mutual references, reciprocal gaps → preparation of a joint focus session à 60 minutes for the next day

19.00:   End of first day

19.30:   Dinner in Karl’s - Weserstraße 2, 34125 Kassel

Tuesday, September 15th

9.00-9.15: Introductory remarks by Christoph Scherrer

9.15-10.00: Working groups: Preparation of the joint sessions

10.00-11.00: Joint focus session I, prepared by working group I

11.00-12.00: Joint focus session II, prepared by working group II

12.00-13.00: Lunch Break

13.00-14.00: Joint focus session III, prepared by working group III

14.00-15.00: Joint focus session IV, prepared by working group IV

15.00-15.30: Coffee Break

15.30-16.00: Outside view on the project and concluding remarks by Praveen Jha
16.00-16.45: Joint discussion and planning of the next steps

16.45: End of the workshop
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About the Workshop

The concept of production systems (commonly termed value chains) has gained tract in many fields. The social dimension, however, has received so far little attention. Most of the research has focused on the issue of economic upgrading. As important economic upgrading is, it does not guarantee better living and working conditions for many working in the production system. Better value capture might not be distributed to small holders, farm workers or workers in distribution and processing.

Therefore, economic upgrading has to be complemented by social upgrading. Social upgrading is about enhancing the protection and rights of workers with positive spillover effects for their dependents and communities. The ICDD network will contribute to the research on the possibilities for social upgrading by making use of its multidisciplinary character, bringing together various strands of the global agricultural production systems analysis. The network will mobilize expertise concerning the production process from the perspective of agricultural science as well as mechanical engineering for agriculture, the local context for innovations (sociology), the power dimensions at the nodal points of the production systems (political science), the management of supply chains (management science), and the international political and market conditions (international political economy).

The workshop aims at bringing together different research projects on global agricultural production systems in an interdisciplinary and international network. Whilst research within each project is carried out independently, the network facilitates exchange on common subjects, interdisciplinary communication and the possibility to discover and fill analytical and empirical gaps.

Each network partner will introduce their research project within 15 minutes, focusing on the research question, methods, target group (academics, policy makers, administration etc.), time frame, and further funding applications. We will discuss research gaps, common topics, and possibilities for cooperation in working groups and in joint sessions (flipcharts, projectors are available). We will conclude the workshop with a discussion of the next steps for studying decent work in global agricultural production networks.
Specialized Projects
Supply Chain Governance: A Decent Work Approach to Optimize the Mango Value Chain System

The main research question for this project is, how and what interventions can overcome the social and political obstacles to improve the mango value chains system in Pakistan? It has been proposed with aim of identifying the main social and political issues surrounding the mango supply chain and to devise a framework to establish decent work along the value chain.

This project has come from Pakistan and the project coordinator is Dr. Mubashir Mehd from the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad. Along with him, the Co. principal investigators for the project will be Dr. Burhan Ahmad, also from the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad and Principal Investigator Prof Dr. Christoph Scherrer from the University of Kassel.
The main research question of the project is Income generation for rural community by developing and commercialization of need based solar food processing technologies for value addition of food products in developing countries. This project will be aimed at the research on innovative solar based technologies for food processing and value addition of agricultural produce to improve the living standards of small entrepreneurs and rural community by improving their income generation.

The project is a joint proposal from the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad and the University of Kassel. The principal investigators are Dr. Anjum Munir of the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad and Prof. Dr. Oliver Hensel from the University of Kassel. Along with this, the other partners in the project come from Egerton University, Kenya and the Solare Bruecke, Aslingen, Germany.
Mapping the Global Value Chain of Cashew Nut Processing Units & Identifying Decent Work Deficit: A Study in the State of Maharashtra and Goa in India

The main research question for the project is to map the global value chain in cashew processing units and identify its decent work deficit in India (Goa and Maharashtra). The aims of the project include mapping the cashew nut value chain from its raw form to its processing and onwards; to map the international supply chain for cashew nuts; to identify the relationships between all the members of the chain; identifying decent work deficits and devising strategies to counter those deficits.

The project has been proposed by Dr. Varsha Ayyar from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Prof Dr. Sasmita Palo and Prof Dr. Sharad Sawant in India. Along with TISS, the main research partners are the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Pakistan and Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán, Mexico.
Agrodiversity, agricultural value chains and decent work in rural areas of Yucatan

In 2014 the Universidad Autonoma de Yucatan and the Ministry of Social Development of the State Government established the Program of Local Agencies for Human Development which involves participation of: locals, NGOs, the academia and the other governmental agencies. Its goal is to contribute to decrease rural poverty in the 20 poorest municipalities through coordinated actions of organizations working in the area and the active participation of the communities in order to warranty human rights in these localities.

This is a research project that has come from Mexico and has been proposed by Prof. Dr. Juan Jose Jimenez Osornio of Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán
Structural Aspects of the Melon Production Chain Produced in Brazilian Northeastern Semiarid Region

The Açú-Mossoro in Northeast Brazil annually produces 250,000 tons of melon, with approximately 80% of this total is exported to European traders. Production is carried out for about just over 20 producers, who are organized as follows: a cooperative of small producers (COODAP); a cooperative of medium producers (COPYFRUTAS); plus a large company. The private company is considered the largest melons producer in the world, with 20,000 hectares of fruits, employing 6000 workers and contributing for 70% of the region’s exports. The proposed research should be developed around three objectives:

a) investigates labor relations in melon production of the Açú-Mossoró highlighting the quality of jobs created directly by the company and the family farmers;

b) address the value added at each link in the production chain of melon produced in Region, including working information on the cost of labor in the final price of the exported product and the contribution of work in different production models;

c) evaluates the impact of changes in the international conjuncture and the Brazilian exchange rate in terms of employment, workers' remuneration and its contribution to cost of production;

The project is a joint proposal from Dr. Walter Belik from Universidade Estadual de Campinas and Prof. Joao Matos Filhos from Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte
Practical Information Guide
About Kassel

Kassel is located perfectly in the center of Germany in the northern area of the state of Hesse. It is on the river Fulda with its establishment dating as far back as 913AD. Kassel has a rich history and has been a traditionally strategic point for many Kingdoms and Landgraves. It was the capital city of the Landgrave of Hesse-Kassel and was then made the capital of the Kingdom of Westphalia by Napoleon in 1806.

The city of Kassel has a number of museums along with monuments and locations that are of great cultural importance in Germany. The city has been home to a number of famous people from the Grimm Brothers to Robert Bunsen. Kassel is also famous for its modern and contemporary dOCUMENTA art exhibition held every 5 years; a rich sight of celebration of German culture and history in the city. More information on the dOCUMENTA can be found on the webpage of the next event [http://www.documenta.de/](http://www.documenta.de/)

A famous sight in the city is the Herkules monument, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage sight, an important aspect of German folklore. It sits atop a hill and is pretty much visible from most parts of the city and also offers a breathtaking view of the city and its lush green surroundings.
Getting to Kassel

As all the foreign guests to the conference will be arriving at the Frankfurt International Airport, there are regular daily train services from Frankfurt to Kassel. You can take the direct ICE from the airport train station (located on terminal 1) or you can take a train to the Frankfurt Am Main Hauptbahnhof station from where you can find a connection to Kassel. For more information, you can approach the DB travel centers and information desks. You can use the web-portal of the German Railway service (DB). You can switch the language to English.

http://reiseauskunft.bahn.de/
Information about the University of Kassel

Founded in 1971, the University of Kassel is the newest university in the state of Hessen. Current enrolment is approximately 23,700 students. The university also employs more than 3265 staff, including 303 professors as well as approximately 700 additional academic staff and 1246 technical and administrative staff. We offer a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate study programs in the fields of:

- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Economics, Business and Law
- Natural Sciences and Mathematics
- Engineering and Computer Sciences
- Architecture, Urban Planning and Landscape Planning
- Organic Agriculture Sciences and Environmental Protection
- Fine Arts

All study programs are open to German and international students and the university offers a range of degrees, including the traditional German Diploma as well as Bachelor, Master and PhD degrees. International summer and winter universities, intensive German language courses and orientation programs for international students make Kassel an attractive place to live and study. At present, students from over 115 countries are enrolled at the University of Kassel. Interdisciplinary research is a priority for the University of Kassel. This includes research cooperation and dialogue with research institutions from all over the world.

Each academic year, more than 100 visiting scholars engage in research projects in cooperation with colleagues from the University of Kassel, making a valuable contribution to our academic, social and cultural life. The International House is located on the main campus. It offers accommodation for international guests and is available for meetings, conferences and cultural events.
Conference Venue: ICDD - Seminar Room

The conference on Global Agricultural Production Systems (GAPS) will take place at the University of Kassel – ICDD

Universität Kassel
International Center for Development and Decent Work
Kleine Rosenstraße 3
34109 Kassel

Pre-Conference Activities

1. All conference participants are cordially invited to join (parts of) the pre-conference program. The participants will be taken to the UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE Wilhelmshöhe Park: Sunday, September 13th, 10.00

2. Steering Committee Lunch: Sunday, September 13th, 13.00

3. Steering Committee Meeting: Sunday, September 13th, 14.00-17.00

4. Dinner: Sunday, September 13th, 19.00

5. Advisory Board Meeting: Monday, September 14th, 9.00-12.00
Time Zone and Climate

**Time Zone:**

Germany is in the Central European Time Zone +01:00 UTC (GMT+1).
Like most states in Europe, **Summer Time** (Daylight-Savings) is observed in Germany, where the time is shifted forward by 1 hour (2 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time GMT+2) beginning on Mar 25th and ending on Oct 28th 2015.

**Climate:**

The weather in Germany is not very stable or predictable. Low and high pressure systems change much quicker, due to the fact that Germany is influenced by dry continental air masses from Eastern Europe and by maritime air masses from the Atlantic. This generally leads to a moderate climate with rain throughout the year. Extreme temperature lows and highs are rare.
In September, the weather would be comparatively cooler, with much shorter days so it would be suggested to pack warm clothes. The predicted weather reports for the conference days are highs of up to 18 degrees Celsius and lows of 8 degrees Celsius.
Money and Currency

The currency in Germany is the Euro, as in other European Union countries.

There are eight different coins:
1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 cent, and 1 and 2 Euro.

There are seven different bank notes, for the following amounts:
5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200 and 500 Euro.

Currency can be exchanged at banks and exchange offices which are available in all towns, but it may be easier to use the ATMs. Banks are closed on Saturdays and Sundays, but exchange offices at airports and major city rail terminals are open seven days a week. Major credit and debit cards are widely accepted though some small restaurants may only accept cash.

Tips are welcome when you are satisfied and happy with the service, but are not obligatory; a general guideline for the tip amount would be 10% of the bill.
Eating and Restaurants

If you want to go out for meals besides the designated places, you can visit the following restaurants:

- **Mensa in Kassel**
  The “Mensa” provides various menus at low cost (self-service). If you are a student, you should state this at the cashier desk for the student price. Non-students pay the guest price.

- **Restaurant Moritz in Kassel**
  The à la carte restaurant “Moritz” offers various menus for a good price.

- **Cafeteria in Kassel**
  For a brown-bag lunch or small dishes you can visit the Cafeteria (Georg-Forster-Strasse)

- **Recommended Restaurants around the Campus**
  Outside the campus, you will find many restaurants in the city centre, especially in the area around the “Königsplatz” and “Friedrichsplatz”. But there are also nice little restaurants close to the campus
Getting Around

**Public Transport System**

The city is connected to the national rail network at two stations, Kassel Central and Kassel-Wilhelmshöhe. The traditional **central station** (Hauptbahnhof) has been reduced to a regional station; the high speed trains InterCityExpress (ICE) and InterCity stop at **Kassel-Wilhelmshöhe**.

Kassel has a well-developed public transport network. There are seven **tram lines** (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8), all of which go through the city center and then fan out in different directions. They arrive usually every 15 minutes on weekdays and 30 minutes on weekends. The city also operates a light-rail Stadtbahn network called **RegioTram** which runs on both tram and main line railway tracks with four lines (RT3, RT4, RT5, RT9). Moreover, a number of **buses** complete the Kassel public transportation system. The **Kassel-city ticket** allows travel in only **one zone** (within the city of Kassel). The **KasselPlus ticket** also includes the districts Ahnatal, Baunatal, Calden, Espenau, Fuldabrück, Fuldatal, Habichtswald, Kaufungen, Lohfelden, Nieste, Niestetal, Schauenburg, Staufenberg and Vellmar.

There are three types of **single tickets** available.

1. A **Short Distance Ticket** (Das Kurzstrecken-Ticket) is valid in the KasselPlus Region for rides by bus or tram for up to 4 stations. For train service the ticket is valid for journeys of up to 3 kilometers. One way, one line only, no interchange. (1.60€)

2. A **Normal Single Ticket** (Die Einzelfahrkarte) is valid for one way, one ride only, without interchange, without stopover. (2.80€ for Kassel-city & 3.60€ for KasselPlus)

3. A **5-Tickets-Block** (Das 5erTicket) means you get five rides and pay for only four. The ticket is valid for one way, one ride with interchanges. (2.60€ for Kassel-city & 3.30€ for KasselPlus) Public transport route maps are available free of charge at the customer center.
**Taxi**

In Kassel Taxis can be ordered by phone +49 561 88111.

It should be mentioned that taxis are expensive in Germany and are usually metered at 1 to 2 € per kilometer, at night sometimes even more. The ICDD can only reimburse cost for the use of a taxi when there is a special reason given (e.g. heavy luggage has to be carried).

There is a difference between the ordinary taxis (the yellow ones) and the private taxis (called "MiniCar"). The MiniCars are often cheaper than the usual taxis.

**Commercial and business hours**

The main shopping area (Königsstrasse) and shopping centers are open weekdays from 9am - 8pm, on Saturdays from 9am - 8pm and closed on Sundays. Special cafés and bread shops may open on Sundays.

Banks are open Monday to Friday from 9am - 5pm (office hours may vary), and are closed on Saturday and Sunday. However it is possible to withdraw money from cash machines.
Medical Issues

Please mention any previous medical condition / problems / disabilities that you think we must know about. Medicines are available at local drug stores, but if you are supposed to be on some specific medication, please carry an adequate supply of those for the entire period of your stay. You do not need compulsory vaccination in order to travel to Germany.
Communications, Electricity & IT Access

**Communications:**
The international access code for Germany is + 49. The outgoing code is 00 followed by the relevant country code (e.g. 0032 for Belgium). The area code for Kassel is (0)561.

The main mobile networks operating in Germany are Vodafone, O2, Telekom, and Base, each of which has its own corresponding mobile codes.

You can buy prepaid cards for your mobile phone at various locations.

**Electricity**
The voltage in Germany is 220 V, 50 Hz. Electrical plugs in Germany need two round prongs. They can be the ungrounded Europlug Type C or the grounded Schukoplug Type F.

**IT Access**
During the conference we will provide you with conference WLAN. You can find the description and password in your conference folder.
Important Phone numbers:

ICDD Staff in Kassel during the conference
Mrs Rima Schmauch: +49-561-8047398
ICDD Mobile: +49-157-84913557

Emergency Numbers:

110 Police
112 Medical Emergency
Thank you for your participation in the GAPS Network Kick-off workshop.

In the case of any questions regarding the conference, the ICDD staff will be pleased to assist you.