

DEVELOPMENTS AND ACTIVITIES IN 2010

WASS

Wageningen School of Social Sciences (WASS) is one of the six graduate schools at Wageningen University, a university dedicated to studying food and agriculture, environment and natural resources, and lifestyles, livelihoods and health. Within this university and its related research institutes, WASS brings together senior researchers and PhD candidates in the Social Sciences and interdisciplinary fields of research.

The research programme of WASS addresses some of the major concerns of the globalised world today, characterised by huge contrasts and inequalities. WASS' mission is to bring international, comparative, disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives and approaches to bear on core challenges and concerns related to food quality and food safety; environmental protection and sustainable resource use; healthy lifestyles and sustainable livelihoods; and equal access to development opportunities.

Foundation of WASS

In 2010 Mansholt Graduate School of Social Sciences (MG3S) and CERES Wageningen formed the new Wageningen School of Social Sciences. WASS was officially launched on September 9th with a well-visited opening meeting and a party. WASS members met in science, in games, in an ad-hoc WASS choir and on the dance-floor.



KNAW Accreditation

In 2010 MG3S requested reaccreditation by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), in the framework of the

planned merger of MG3S and CERES Wageningen. The request for reaccreditation was successful, which means that WASS functions as a KNAW accredited graduate school for the coming six years.

Quotes from the KNAW accreditation letter:

"The school appears to be successful in carrying out interdisciplinary research which is demonstrated by publications in journals that do not belong to the domain of the social sciences". It has a "... societally relevant and unique multi- and interdisciplinary character ..." in which "PhD candidates feel well supported ... and there is an active PhD Council that communicates directly with the Board".

Talents and Topics

The 2010 Talents and Topics Programme, financed by WASS and the Social Sciences Group, hosted ten young talented postdocs and junior lecturers from different WASS chair groups and Agricultural Economics Institute LEI. Each participant wrote an individual grant proposal or a research programme proposal and participated in personal development training. Main topics in the programme were networking, writing a grant proposal, leadership, power and politics in the academic world, and publication strategy. This multidisciplinary group will continue to meet and organise seminars and events for the WASS community in 2011.

Mansholt Lecture Joachim von Braun

"Changing Land Markets and "Land Grab" in Developing Countries - the causes and what to do", 17 February 2010

Joachim von Braun was IFPRI Director and currently is Director of the Center for Development Research (ZEF) and Professor for Economic and Technological Change at University of Bonn, Germany

The rapid increase of food prices in 2007-2008 triggered a crisis in the world food system with increased hunger. The political consequences are revealed in secondary effects, such as protests in response to sharply increased prices, public action for expansion of social programs, and re-activation of public investment in agriculture, but also growing transnational acquisition of land by financially strong countries to serve their national food security. The root causes of the crisis are the long term neglect of public agricultural investments, and increased scarcity of resources (especially land and water).

Full text: www.wass.wur.nl/research_publications/



Patrice Adegola
Economic analyses of maize storage innovations in southern Benin
25 May 2010



Nahid Amin
Developing an environmentally appropriate, socially acceptable and gender-sensitive technology for safe-water supply to households in arsenic affected areas in rural Bangladesh
19 November 2010



Jose Jaime Arana Coronado
Supply chain practices, performance and organizational configuration in the Mexican avocado industry
15 September 2010



Rikke Arnouts
Regional nature governance in the Netherlands: four decades of governance modes and shifts in the Utrechtse Heuvelrug and Midden-Brabant
15 October 2010



Hirhut Bekele Haile
Targeting married women in microfinance programmes: transforming or reinforcing gender inequalities?: evidence from Ethiopia
13 January 2010



Raoul Beunen
The governance of nature: how nature conservation ambitions have been dashed in planning practices
8 January 2010



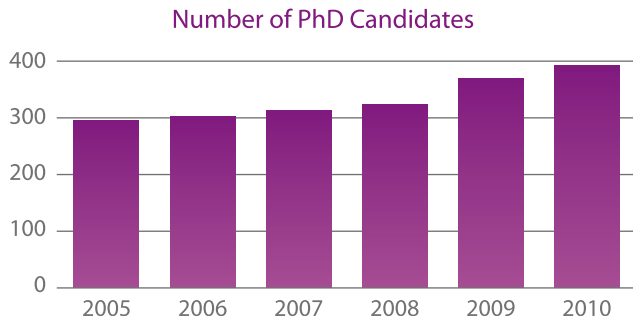
Christopher Bukenya
Meeting farmer demand?: an assessment of extension reform in Uganda
6 January 2010

DEVELOPMENTS IN RESEARCH INPUT AND OUTPUT

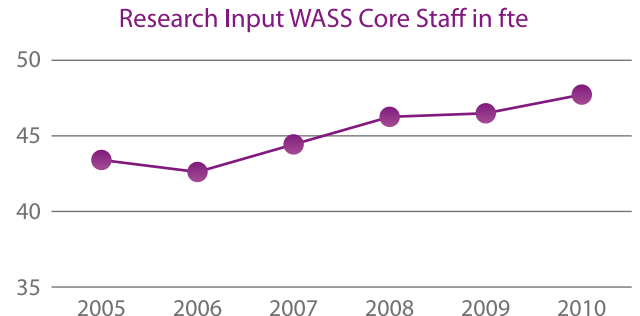
Facts and Figures

WASS has 215 staff members (fellows) and 370 PhD candidates in 24 university chair groups and 2 research institutes (LEI and Alterra).

Developments in Research Input

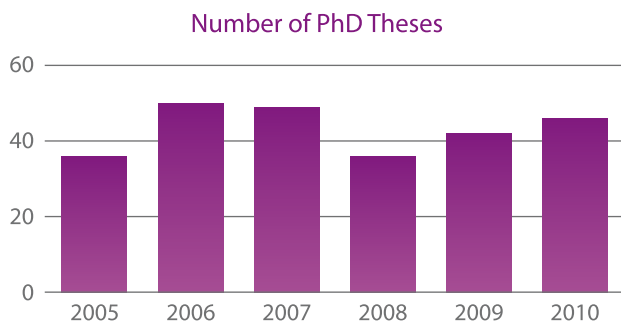


The number of WASS PhD candidates increased from 293 in 2005 to 389 in 2010.



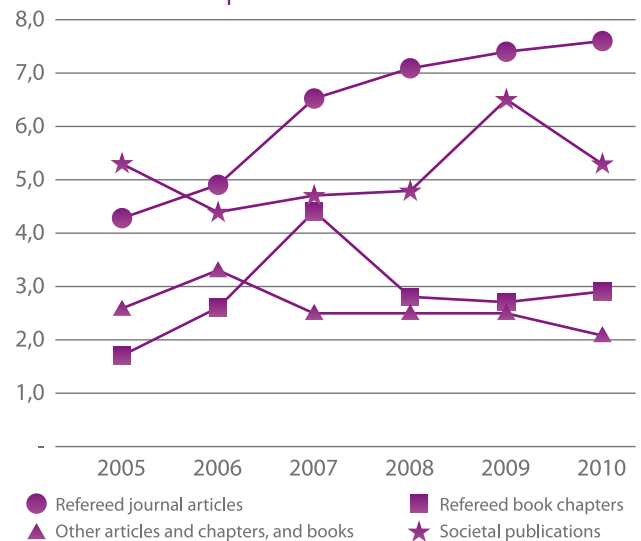
The research input from core staff members (fellows) increased as well, from 43.3 full time research years (fte) in 2005 to 47.7 in 2010.

Developments in Research Output



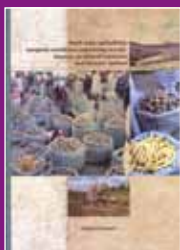
The number of completed PhD theses in 2010 was 42. This fits the steady trend of around 40 theses per year. The number of refereed journal articles in 2010 increased to 361 and the number of refereed books and book chapters to 139. This co-incident with a growing publication output per full time equivalent fellows. WASS policy is focused on increasing quality and enhancing visibility and impact of publications in international journals and with high quality international publishers.

Number of Publications per fte Research Input WASS Core Staff



Publications aimed at the general public, in regional languages and in regional journals, also remain important, as societal relevance is a key issue for the research of Wageningen University and WASS. In 2010, 254 publications were aimed at the general public.

Full publication lists can be found on the WASS website:
http://www.wass.wur.nl/UK/research_publications/publications/



Romina Cavatassi
 Small scale agriculture, marginal conditions and market access: impacts on natural resources and farmers' welfare
 6 October 2010



Fatima Dia Sow
 Intrahousehold resource allocation and well-being: the case of rural households in Senegal
 17 September 2010



Heleen van Dijk
 Consumer responses to risk-benefit information about food
 14 December 2010



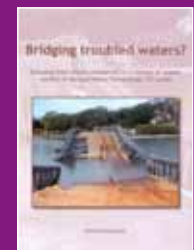
Roel During
 Cultural heritage discourses and Europeanisation: discursive embedding of cultural heritage in Europe of the regions
 12 October 2010



Rose Fagbemi
 Experts from necessity: agricultural knowledge of children orphaned by AIDS in the Couffo region, Benin
 30 September 2010



Namizata Binaté Fofana
 Efficacy of micro-financing women's activities in Côte d'Ivoire: evidence from rural areas and HIV/AIDS-affected women
 11 June 2010



Timmo Gaasbeek
 Bridging troubled waters?: everyday inter-ethnic interaction in a context of violent conflict in Korriyar Pattu, Trincomalee, Sri Lanka
 26 May 2010

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Vici Grant (NWO) Erwin Bulte

Erwin Bulte, professor of Development Economics Group, has been awarded a 1.5 million VICI grant. Highly competitive VICI grants are directed at senior researchers who have shown to have the ability to successfully develop their own innovative lines of research and to act as a coach for young researchers.



The coming five years Bulte and his team will investigate the conditions that further agricultural development in Africa in post-conflict situations. They will focus on institutions and policies that help African farmers to intensify and commercialise production. Experimental approaches will be used to evaluate different development theories: in some villages certain institutions will be created, in others not.

DaVinc3i

The Logistics, Decision and Information Sciences Group is project leader of the 2 million Euro project Dutch Agricultural Virtualized International Network with Co-ordination, Consolidation, Collaboration and Information availability (DaVinc3i), funded by the Dutch Institute for Advanced Logistics (Dinalog).

The horticultural sector in the Netherlands is of world-class quality, and serves as main trading hub for Europe. The sector as a whole has a huge impact on the Dutch economy. Despite the current leading position, the sector needs to look ahead and innovate to stay in the lead. Today, most horticultural products physically pass through the auction on their fixed routes from (inter)national growers to (inter)national customers to allow for physical inspection and quality control.

However, several market developments stimulate the chain to become an efficient (virtual) horticultural network, in which cut flowers, plants and other products are delivered to customers taking different (direct) routes.

The project objective is to strengthen the international leading competitive position of the Dutch horticultural sector in a global, virtualized trade network. The project develops new network coordination, concepts and building blocks for a voluntary information infrastructure and corresponding IT architecture, resulting in an improved use of the logistics infrastructure.

EU Projects FOODLINKS and PUREFOOD

The Rural Sociology Group has been granted two important EU projects in the field of Food networks.

The FOODLINKS project aims at understanding the policy issues related to sustainability problems in food production and consumption. Developing more sustainable food production and consumption patterns will have a significant impact on sustainable development in general, through improving water shortage, emission of greenhouse gasses, urban waste, pollution of soil and water, and decrease of biodiversity. The project aims to develop and experiment with new integrative modalities of linking research to policy-making in the field of sustainable food consumption and production.



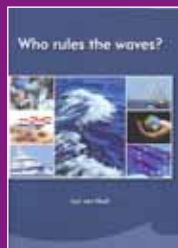
The Marie Curie Initial Training Network PUREFOOD is centred around food as an integrated and territorial mode of governance. PUREFOOD studies the emergence of the (peri-)urban foodscape as an alternative (as opposed to a globalised) geography of food, including how and the extent to which sustainability aspects are incorporated by more conventional food companies. The objective of PUREFOOD is to train a pool of 12 early-stage researchers (ESRs) in the socio-economic and socio-spatial dynamics of the (peri-) urban and regional foodscape.



Michael Gengenbach
Incentives in the water chain: wastewater treatment and reuse in developing countries
27 October 2010



Janneke Hagens
The performance of landscape concepts in spatial planning: branding, bonding and bringing about
30 November 2010



Luc van Hoof
Who rules the waves?: governance and new institutional arrangements in Dutch fisheries management in the context of European common fisheries policy
15 September 2010



Margarita Hurtado Paz y Paz †
Petén: ¿la última frontera?: la construcción social de una región
10 June 2010



Jolanda Jansen
Mastitis and farmer mindset: towards effective communication strategies to improve udder health management on Dutch dairy farms
7 September 2010



Argyris Kanellopoulos
Bio-economic farm modelling for integrated assessment of agricultural and environmental policies: towards re-usability and improved empirical validity
27 September 2010



Josiah Zephania Katani
The role of multiple institutions in the management of micro spring forests in Ukerewe, Tanzania
12 October 2010

Cum laude PhD Timmo Gaasbeek

Timmo Gaasbeek investigated everyday inter-ethnic interaction in the context of violent ethnicised conflict in Sri Lanka. He ethnographically assessed how people who are separated by ethno-nationalist discourse and violent boundary maintenance continued to live together and maintain a form of normalcy. Normalcy is a central concept. In the study of conflict and disaster the focus often is on suffering and survival, or on political or social causes. However, practices of everyday life are crucial in helping people to disengage from contexts of violence and disaster and build up normalcy, peace and sanity. Gaasbeek concluded that everyday life interacts with conflicts, and that crossing ethnic boundaries is related to people's definitions of sameness and otherness. Social life is more than ethnicity, and people's capacity to negotiate in specific settings is crucial for understanding inter-ethnic interaction between individuals. As peace-building interventions typically focus on explicit ethnic boundary-crossing, such activities would be more successful if focused on addressing practical problems, so that people feel safe to build peaceful relations 'below the radar'.

(T. Gaasbeek, Bridging troubled waters? Everyday inter-ethnic interaction in a context of violent conflict in Korriyar Pattu, Trincomalee, Sri Lanka, Disaster Studies and Irrigation and Water Engineering, 26 May 2010)

Health and Society Group

Dr Maria Koelen started her work as new Professor of Health and Society on 1 November 2010. Many of the health problems today are related to life styles, the social and physical environment, and divergent access to information and opportunities for making healthy choices. The new chair group Health and Society uses a broad combination of academic disciplines to study health and wellbeing from the individual to the global level.

WASS A+ publications

In 2010, WASS fellows have published a total of 70 peer reviewed papers in 33 journals ranked in the top 10% of ISI. Some examples:

Han, J.; Trienekens, J.H.; Omta, S.W.F. (2010), Relationship and quality management in the Chinese pork supply chain (Online first), *International Journal of Production Economics*.

Skevas, T.; Fevereiro, P.; Wesseler, J.H.H. (2010), Coexistence regulations and agriculture production: A case study of five Bt maize producers in Portugal, *Ecological Economics* 69 (12). - p. 2402 - 2408.

Smits, M.; Bush, S.R. (2010), A light left in the dark: The practice and politics of pico-hydropower in the Lao PDR, *Energy Policy* 38 (1). - p. 116 - 127.

Ploeg, J.D. van der (2010), The Food Crisis, Industrialized Farming and the Imperial Regime, *Journal of Agrarian Change* 10 (1). - p. 98 - 106.

Zeinstra, G.G.; Renes, R.J.; Koelen, M.A.; Kok, F.J.; Graaf, C. de (2010), Offering choice and its effect on Dutch children's liking and consumption of vegetables: a randomized controlled trial, *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* 91 (2). - p. 349 - 356.

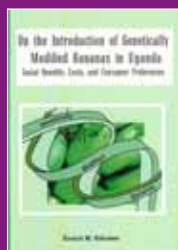
Gossum, P. Van; Arts, B.J.M.; Laar, J.N. van; Verheyen, K. (2010), Implementation of the forest expansion policy in the Netherlands in the period 1986-2007: Decline in success?, *Land Use Policy* 27 (4). - p. 1171 - 1180.

Reidsma, P.; Ewert, F.; Oude Lansink, A.G.J.M.; Leemans, R. (2010), Adaptation to climate change and climate variability in European agriculture: The importance of farm level responses, *European Journal of Agronomy* 32 (1). - p. 91 - 102.

Start Centre of Governance

The Wageningen Centre of Governance (WCG) brings together a diverse array of scholars across Wageningen University with a shared interest in analysing, evaluating and contributing to the reform of multi-level and multi-actor governance arrangements. Governance is an ever more popular concept, one that captures diverse attempts at steering the development of public institutions, and the actions of companies, citizens, consumers and expert organizations in furthering societal aims, whether relating to climate change, a transition to sustainability, rural and urban development, spatial planning or sustainable resource use.

<http://www.governance.wur.nl/UK/>



Enoch Mutebi Kikulwe
On the introduction of genetically modified bananas in Uganda: social benefits, costs, and consumer preferences
19 March 2010



Michiel de Krom
Food risks and consumer trust: European governance of Avian influenza
8 September 2010



Judith van Leeuwen
Who greens the waves? changing authority in the environmental governance of shipping and offshore oil and gas production
7 May 2010



Li Yuan
Application of data mining methods to establish systems for early warning and proactive control in food supply chain networks
21 May 2010



Mariame Maiga
Gender, AIDS and food security: culture and vulnerability in rural Côte d'Ivoire
14 October 2010



Gaynor Makura-Paradza
Single women, land and livelihood vulnerability in a communal area in Zimbabwe
14 June 2010



Tendayi Mutimukuru-Maravanyika
Can we learn our way to sustainable management?: adaptive collaborative management in Mafungautsi State Forest, Zimbabwe
23 April 2010

EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

WASS Courses 2010

Disciplinary courses	5
Methodology courses	3
Interdisciplinary courses	3
Research Master	11
Skills courses	16

Part of the **WASS** course offer is in cooperation with other graduate schools, in Wageningen and beyond.

New WASS Course in 2010

Innovation for Sustainability: Bringing Theory into Practice

Climate change, loss of biodiversity, changes in food demand, population growth and urbanisation are issues that challenge the sustainability of our living systems. Change is needed to confront them. But change does not necessarily lead to sustainable development. How can innovation lead to sustainable development? Current innovation systems often only aim at a small spectrum of relevant drivers, and yield unexpected negative side effects. Innovation for sustainable development needs to be aimed at structural change, at a transition toward sustainability.

Transition science is rich in theory, but rather poor in practical experience. In this postgraduate course, participants learn about and practice with the building blocks required for an innovation system for sustainability, and with procedures to operationalise them for successful transitions.



The course concentrated on the connections between the metropolis, the citizens, their food, and the land.

ACTIVITIES BY THE PhD COUNCIL

The PhD Council of **WASS** represents the interests of the **WASS** PhD candidates at institutions within **WASS**, informs PhD candidates on urgent matters via newsletters, e-mail and website, and organises formal and informal activities for PhD candidates.

In March, for the first time the PhD Council organised a **Career Event**, entitled: *Is there life after a PhD?* Five former **WASS** graduates shared their experiences of life after graduation with current PhD candidates. These graduates represented different areas, such as government (Ministry), science, business and consultancy. Many PhD candidates enjoyed the day and used the opportunity to broaden their network.

In May, the **WASS** PhD Council organised the annual **PhD Day**. With up to ninety attendants, this day was a major success. Twenty-two

papers were presented by PhD candidates in three parallel sessions. The reviewers commented on their work, offering them new and insightful ideas for their PhD research.

WASS Scientific Director Prof. Arthur Mol opened the PhD Day. Herman Lelieveldt, well-known for his book entitled: *"Promoveren, een wegwijzer voor de beginnende wetenschapper"* [A Guide to PhD research], acted as keynote speaker. He gave an interesting insight in the world of being a PhD. The day ended with drinks, providing the PhD candidates the opportunity to get in touch with the reviewers of their paper in an informal setting.

From September, the Council was actively involved in creating an **information package** for new PhD candidates, enabling them to start their research well prepared and informed.



Aifa Fatima Ndoye Niane
Economics of gender, risk and labour in horticultural households in Senegal
16 June 2010



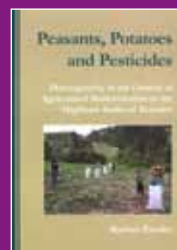
Eleonora Nillesen
Shock, civil war and economic development in Sub-Saharan Africa
15 June 2010



Michele Nori
Milking drylands: gender networks, pastoral markets and food security in stateless Somalia
12 February 2010



Regina Nchang Ntumngia
Dangerous assumptions: the agroecology and ethnobiology of traditional polyculture cassava systems in rural Cameroon and implications of green revolution technologies for sustainability, food security, and rural welfare
6 December 2010



Myriam Paredes
Peasants, potatoes and pesticides: heterogeneity in the context of agricultural modernization in the Highland Andes of Ecuador
6 December 2010



Pham Van Hoi
Governing pesticide use in vegetable production in Vietnam
3 February 2010



Cor Verdouw
Business process modelling in demand-driven agri-food supply chains: a reference framework
28 September 2010

ALUMNI

Sebastian Meijer Wins Deutscher Planspiel Preis 2010



On February 3, 2010, Sebastian Meijer (PhD graduate INF, currently Assistant Professor Gaming at TU Delft) received the Sonderpreis of the Deutscher Planspielpreis.

This award is a European competition for theses in the domain of gaming and simulation,

issued by SAGSAGA (The German gaming and simulation association) and DHBW Stuttgart, an institute for management studies.

Sebastian Meijer won the special award for best dissertation of 2009 for his work titled "The organisation of transactions: studying supply networks using gaming simulation."

Vishnal Narain Selected for S.R. Sen Prize

Vishnal Narain (PhD graduate IWE) reworked his PhD thesis 'Institu-

tions, technology and water control: water users' associations and irrigation management reform in two large-scale systems in India' into a book and this 2003 book was recently selected for the S.R. Sen Prize for the best book on Agricultural Economics and Rural Development conferred by the Indian Society for Agricultural Economics. Vishal Narain is currently an Associate Professor at the School of Public Policy and Governance, Management Development Institute, Gurgaon, India.

WASS LinkedIn Group

To enhance the bonds between current and former WASS members, a LinkedIn group named 'Wageningen School of Social Sciences (WASS), Wageningen University' was set up. This group welcomes all PhD candidates, PhD graduates and (former) fellows of MG3S/CERES/WASS. You can become a member of this LinkedIn group by signing up via <http://www.linkedin.com/> and send a request to join the group.

INAUGURAL AND FAREWELL ADDRESSES

Prof. Dr Adri van den Brink

Transformatie en innovatie: over landschap, ontwerp en onderzoek [Transformation and Innovation: on Landscape, Design and Research] Inaugural lecture upon taking up the post of Professor of Landscape Architecture at Wageningen University on May 20, 2010

Prof. Dr Arjen E.J. Wals

Message in a Bottle: Learning our Way out of Unsustainability Inaugural lecture upon taking up the post of Extraordinary Professor of Social Learning and Sustainable Development (UNESCO Chair) at Wageningen University on May 27, 2010

Prof. Dr Paul Richards

A Green Revolution from below? Science and Technology for Global Food Security and Poverty Alleviation Farewell speech as Professor of Technology and Agrarian Development, November 18, 2010



Prof. Dr V. René van der Duim

Safari; A Journey through Tourism, Conservation and Development Inaugural lecture upon taking up the post of Extraordinary Professor of Tourism and Sustainable Development on December 9, 2010

The full texts of inaugural and farewell addresses are available on the WASS website.



Laura Viteri
Fresh fruit and vegetables: a world of multiple interactions: the case of the Buenos Aires Central Wholesale Market (BACWM)
8 December 2010



Jantine Voordouw
The impact of food allergy on household level
17 September 2010



Annemarie Wagemakers
Community health promotion: facilitating and evaluating coordinated action to create supportive environments
23 April 2010



Coen van Wagenberg
Incentive mechanisms for food safety control in pork supply chains: a study on the relationship between finishing pig producers and slaughterhouses in the Netherlands
3 November 2010



Renate Wesselink
Comprehensive competence-based vocational education: the development and use of a curriculum analysis and improvement model
20 October 2010



Yuan Juanwen
The household responsibility system and social change in rural Guizhou, China: applying a cohort approach
15 June 2010



Gertrude Zeinstra
Encouraging vegetable intake in children: the role of parental strategies, cognitive development and properties of food
22 January 2010

CONTACT



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Management Assistant



WASS PhD Council



Susan Boonman-Berson

Forest and Nature Conservation Policy Group



Daphne Verreth

Business Economics Group



Geralda Hop

Business Economics Group



Muriel Verain

Economics of Consumers and Households Group



Carolina Maciel

Environmental Policy Group

WASS International Advisory Board

Monika Hartmann (chair), Professor for Agricultural and Food Market Research, University of Bonn, Germany

Terry Marsden, Professor in Environmental Policy and Planning; University of Wales, UK

Robert P. King, Professor, Department of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota, USA

Steve Yearley, Professor of the Sociology of Scientific Knowledge, Director of the ESRC Genomics Policy & Research Forum, University of Edinburgh, UK

Arun Agrawal, Professor and Associate Dean for Research, School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan, USA.

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Chair Groups

Agricultural Economics and Rural Policy (AEP)

Applied Philosophy (APP)

Business Economics (BEC)

Communication Science (COM)

Cultural Geography (formerly: Socio-spatial Analysis (SAL))

Development Economics (DEC)

Economics of Consumers and Households (ECH)

Education and Competence Studies (ECS)

Environmental Economics and Natural Resources (ENR)

Environmental Policy (ENP)

Forest and Nature Conservation Policy (FNP)

Health and Society (HSO)

Irrigation and Water Engineering (IWE)

Land Use Planning (LUP)

Law and Governance (LAW)

Logistics, Decision and Information Sciences (LDI)

Management Studies (MST)

Marketing and Consumer Behaviour (MCB)

Public Administration Policy (PAP)

Rural Development Sociology (RDS)

Rural Sociology (RSO)

Sociology of Households and Consumers (SCH)

Technology and Agrarian Development (TAD)

Research Institutes

LEI, Agricultural Economics Research Institute

Alterra, Research Institute for the Green World