



CALL FOR PAPERS AND GRANT APPLICATIONS

INNOVATIVE POLICIES AND INSTITUTIONS TO SUPPORT AGRO-INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT

A Joint FAO – IAAE PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

27th CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMISTS

Beijing, China, 16 August 2009

Background

In collaboration with the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) will hold a workshop on “Innovative Policies and Institutions to Support Agro-Industries Development”, as part of the technical program of IAAE’s Triennial Conference of 2009.

Agro-industries are an important source of employment and income generation worldwide, occupying a dominant position in manufacturing and representing an important demand driver for agricultural products. As part of its mandate to provide food security for the world’s growing population, FAO promotes the development of agro-industries through its technical programs, including activities in the areas of policy advice, capacity building, advocacy, awareness raising, investment promotion and resource mobilization.

Objectives

The workshop aims to gather researchers, government officials, private sector representatives and development practitioners to discuss proven, innovative approaches to promote the development of competitive, equitable and inclusive agro-industries. The goal is to offer a platform whereby novel international experiences in agro-industries development policies and support institutions can be discussed, lessons can be learned and recommendations can be made to improve the effectiveness of agro-industries promotion initiatives by governments and development organizations. Areas of special interest for discussion include:

- enabling environments assessment and reforms
- agro-industrial investment promotion
- public-private partnerships for agro-industries infrastructure
- product and process innovation in the agro-industrial sector
- financing and risk management for agro-industries

- agro-industries logistics and supply chain development
- agro-industries clusters and food parks

Potential contributors to the workshop should send a proposal consisting of an extend abstract (250 – 400 words) and a brief resume to Carlos.DaSilva@fao.org.

Grants

Professionals from developing countries who have their contributions accepted for presentation at the workshop are eligible to a grant of a maximum of US\$2,500 (two thousand and five hundred dollars), to help defray their costs of participation in the IAAE event. The grants will be provided to a number of selected participants, upon submission of a technical paper to be prepared in accordance with FAO guidelines, to be later communicated to authors. The workshop proceedings containing the selected papers and a synthesis of the workshops discussions and deliberations will be published as an FAO document.

Participants from non-eligible countries with own funding for participation are also welcome to submit their contributions.

Important Dates

- Submission of an extended abstract (max 400 words): March 31st 2009
- Communication of acceptance and grant eligibility: April 18th, 2009
- Submission of the full paper (max 10000 words): June 30th 2009
- Workshop date: August 16, 2009