

Forum International Green Week 2009

Technical Forum

Climate change and adaptation to it are a major challenge that agriculture, forestry, fisheries and rural areas in the European region will face in the coming years. The projected climate changes will affect crop yields, livestock management and location of production, with persistent water shortages, resultant important risks for farm income, and some land abandonment. In the European region, policies in support of agriculture, forestry and rural development manage not only food production but also the maintenance of rural landscapes and the provision of environmental services.

Climate change and its impacts are highly location specific, which makes it difficult to generalize. The residual impacts of climate change on a region or sector depends on both projected climate change and its potential impacts and on the ability to cope with these changes (IPCC 2007b). It is therefore important to develop an adequate understanding of a region as a coupled human-environment system where humans (e.g. the agricultural sector or the population) are seen in relation to the environment that provides the boundary conditions for agricultural production. One of the regions, which is strongly affected is Central Asia, therefore the discussion panel, of renowned experts will focus on specific questions regarding this region.

Climate Change and its implication in Central Asia Its impact on agriculture and the rural sector

Organiser: FAO

Date: Friday, 16.01.2009 from 13.00 till 15.00 h

Venue: Hall 8 International Congress Centre (ICC) Berlin

The key-questions we want to address with this Panel are:

- How do farmers adapt their farming system or production patterns to the changing climatic situation
- What are the economic and social implications for rural societies (e.g. changing gender roles in farm management, labour use, income security, health, rural migration, industrialization of agriculture, etc.)
- What are the policy/program options to adapt/support more climate change resilient farming systems and to mitigate the socio-economic consequences, while also introducing agricultural practices that decrease green-house gas emissions and/or increase carbon-sequestration

The Panel will be composed of experts from following institutions/field:

- International and UN organizations: FAO, IPCC, etc.
- Universities/research centres
- NGOs (environmental and social oriented)
- Private sector – agribusiness
- Policy makers
- Farmers' organization

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