

WORLD CONGRESS

Iowa State - USA

SEMINARS

How green is GERMAN Agriculture?
Mountainous CROATIA

IAAS

2014

Annual Review

EXCHANGE WEEKS

BELGIUM

SWEDEN

CZECH REPUBLIC

DIRECTOR MEETINGS

EDM - POLAND

ADM - NIGER

EAST AFRICA CONFERENCE

IAAS presence at
FAO & EGEA



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The editors Lisanne Meulendijks and Vincent Verdugt have the pleasure to present you the IAAS Annual Review of 2014.

They wish to thank all authors who have contributed to this publication by sending in their articles.



President's Welcome



Dear readers around the world,

It's always a pleasure to look back to the traveled road just before the beginning of a new journey. I figure out IAAS Annual Review as the opportunity to remember the amazing goals we are able to achieve and fill ourselves with energy and hope for the already started 2015.

The world is facing many challenges regarding the agricultural/food sector. Getting informed is as easy as tipping some words in google, e.g. agriculture 2050, feed the world, malnutrition, water scarcity or food waste, just to give few examples.

I have noticed more than ever the huge potential our association has. The student network we make is our most powerful tool within the experiences and knowledge of each single member. We are present in more than 80 universities of 38 countries worldwide.

IAAS has certainly changed my life, it has given me the opportunity to step out my comfort zone. I invite you to step out yours and start making the changes you, your family, community, country and the world needs; we all can do this through IAAS and agriculture.

I encourage you to think out of the box; to innovate, reinvent and propose; to help the communities in your local area; to observe, learn and grow personally and professionally; and specially: to broaden your limits.

Dear reader, doesn't matter if you are an student willing to open a committee in your home country; already an IAAS member or Alumni; a representative of any company or NGO at national or international level; or any other player in the agricultural sector...

"Give yourself a chance to get involved in IAAS at international level, think out of the box and make an improvement in World's Agriculture through our worldwide network. It doesn't matter which role you play in the agricultural sector, you and IAAS needs from each other."

Sincerely

Samuel Navarrete, President of IAAS



What is IAAS?

The International Association of students in Agricultural and related Sciences (IAAS) is one of the leading students associations gathering students from all life sciences, such as agriculture, environmental sciences, forestry, food sciences, biotechnology and agribusiness. It is spread over all 6 continents and has committees in over 30 countries.

The aims of IAAS are to promote the exchange of knowledge, information and ideas among students, and to improve the mutual understanding between countries and cultures. Therefore IAAS wants to be a place where students in life sciences from all over the world meet each other, experience new mentalities and cultures, travel and see new places and learn about all aspects of agriculture together with their future colleagues.

Furthermore, IAAS is a non-profit making, completely student driven association, which is independent of any international body, government or religion.

What are our main activities?

World Congress: This is the yearly meeting of the governing body of IAAS, consisting of a General Assembly and a seminar. It attracts our members from all over the world. Usually it is organised in July-August and lasts for three weeks.

Director's Meetings and Regional Meetings: IAAS member countries are divided into different regions. Within these regions, meetings with different educational topics are held every year. Director's Meetings usually last about a week and deal with important issues. Regional Meetings are more informal gatherings.

Seminars and Conferences: These are held by our local committees around the world to facilitate learning on a certain educational topic. You can sometimes even earn credits by attending some of our high-quality seminars.

Exchange Program: It enables students to get practical experience by taking part in a traineeship or working on a farm, in an organisation or in a company in another country. It has for years been the backbone of IAAS. Broaden your horizons and complete your compulsory internship abroad or gain priceless experience by learning more about life sciences in another country!

Exchange Weeks: When two or more committees are interested in having an Exchange Week, they can simply do so. The participating committees will once be the hosts and the next time they will be the guests! This is an excellent way for an IAAS committee to learn more about another country. Often a theme is chosen and usually the participants only pay travel costs, only sometimes also a small participation fee.

Art Festival: A relatively new concept in IAAS, which combines agriculture and arts in a very interactive way.

How is IAAS structured?

The most important part are the members who are grouped in different local committees, organised by a Local Director (LD). Each country has one National Director (ND), who is responsible for the contact between the different local committees and the other IAAS countries. Different countries which are geographically related are part of a specific region, which is lead by the Regional Director (RD).

On an international level there are two leading committees. First, the Executive Committee (EC), with the President, the Vice Presidents and their Boards. There are 4 Vice Presidents with each of them having a 'Board' of helping members. These are the Vice President of Communication, Exchange, Finance and Partnership. Secondly, there is the Control Committee (CC), which exists of three persons. Their function is to advice and check the Executive Committee.

How to get in contact with IAAS?

You can find us on the internet via www.iaasworld.org, where you can find more information about IAAS and the contact information of some committees. You can also follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/IAASWorld. If you have specific questions, don't hesitate to contact our Vice President of Communication via vpcommunication@iaasworld.org.



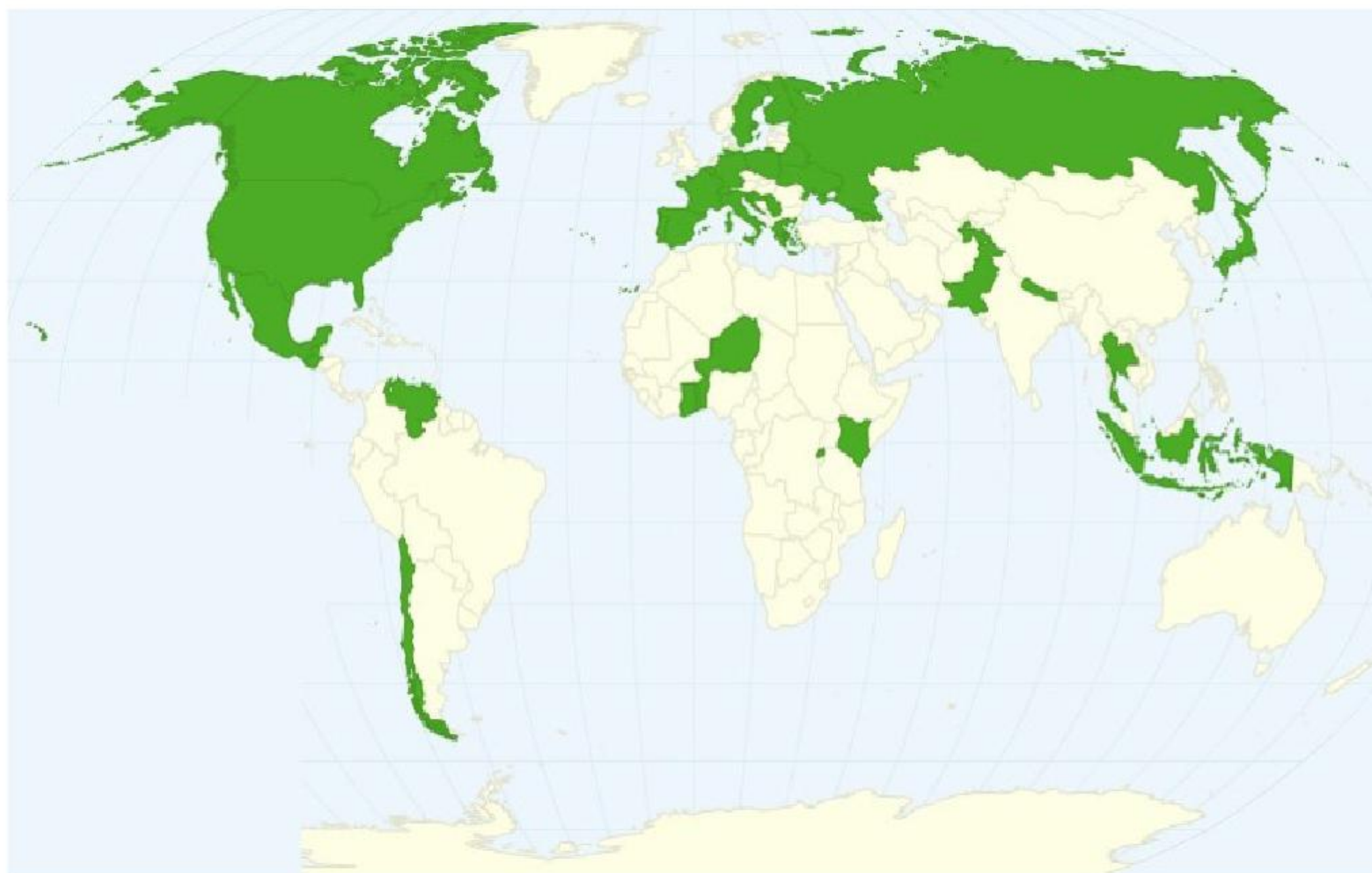
Where is IAAS represented?

Africa: Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Niger, Rwanda, Togo

The Americas: Canada, Chile, Mexico, USA, Venezuela

Europe: Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine

Asia: Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Thailand





The Executive Committee 2014-2015

President: Samuel Navarrete

Country: México

e-mail: president@iaasworld.org

Skype: sam.nvrre

IAAS World is more than just a student association, is the opportunity of changing your life and broaden your vision of the world and agriculture. Give yourself the opportunity to attend at one of the IAAS events that are held all over the world, I can assure that you will fall in love of this amazing experience! IAAS world has changed my life, join us! During the way you will find amazing people inspired each day by worldwide agriculture!



Vice - President of Communication: Lisanne Meulendijks



Country: The Netherlands

E-mail: vpcommunication@iaasworld.org

Skype: lisanne.meulendijks

Hey and welcome to IAAS World. I'm happy to introduce myself as the Vice President of Communication 2014-2015. IAAS creates incredible opportunities for all agriculture related students. IAAS provides opportunities that nowadays are so vital to have next to our studies. In this rapidly globalizing world IAAS let you learn about our sector all over the world and next to that let you meet students who study in the same field so on international level experiences and ideas can be exchanged.

I'm really happy to be part of our association that makes this all possible! The past years I was able to attend many events and by this have had the opportunity to learn and experience a lot. Since IAAS gave me so much I'm really happy I can give something back to our association.

I'll always be happy to be helping out if you've any questions. Don't hesitate to contact me in any way.

Vice - President of External Relations: Charlotte Soland

Country: Switzerland

e-mail: vppartnership@iaasworld.org

Skype: charlotte_soland

Welcome to IAAS World. We are a huge family of great students in agricultural and related science. I'm happy to be part of this family and I feel proud to work for it.

I want to involve our partners and sponsors more into all the different programs and events we organize. My vision is to bring students from different fields together and closer to international discussion about tomorrow's food.

I take the daily challenge to develop my personal skills and improve IAAS, it warms up my heart to see our network growing and all the smiling faces at the events.

Join IAAS and be an enrichment of our family.



Vice - President of Exchange: Steven Adams

Country: Belgium

e-mail: vpexchange@iaasworld.org

Skype: adams.steven14

Hello everyone, welcome to the amazing world of IAAS. I got triggered about international relations and understandings between students, whether or not with the same interests, due to several international experiences. In an international society, as the world where we live in today, it is vital to build an international network and try to experience/feel/live/develop new cultures. I believe that the "Exchange Program" of IAAS is the practical realization of the mission statement of our organization: "To promote the Exchange of Experience, Knowledge and Ideas, to improve the mutual Understanding between Students in the field of Agricultural and Related Sciences all over the World". There is no better way to feel and experience a culture by living and working in a foreign country. If you can combine this, with your study of interest, new ideas and experiences will be learned. Don't be afraid to face a new challenge and get inspired by students all over the world. Get triggered by ExPro and live through one of the biggest experiences in your life and discover the practical realization of your studies! Don't hesitate to contact me for more information. Let's do it, let's do exchange, let's do ExPro!



Vice - President of Finance: Yahor Vetlou

Country: Belarus

Skype: evazwan

In last 3 years IAAS changed my life totally. IAAS for me is not only an organisation but also a way of life .It is a way for me to get to know more about agriculture and culture, experience and knowledge. IAAS has opened my eyes to diversity, change and new ideas.



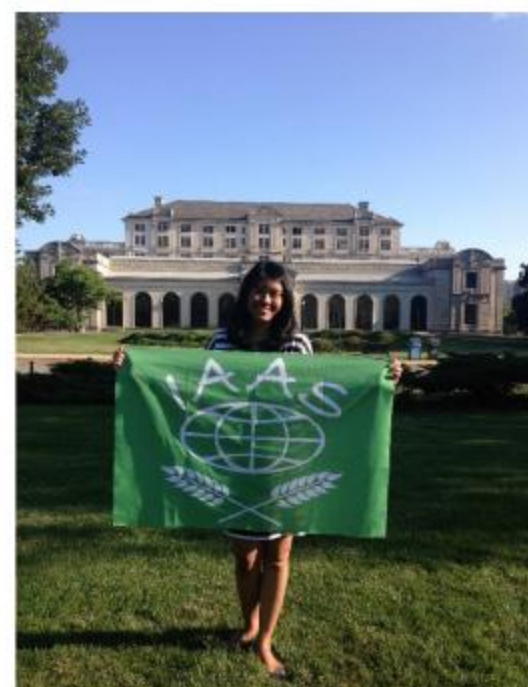
The Control Committee 2014-2015

Ratih Nawangwulan

Country: Indonesia

Skype: ratih.nawangwulan

Over the past four years being involved in IAAS, I have been provided with tons of fascinating opportunities, built life-long friendships, and a completely life-changing experience of getting engaged with international agriculture. I know that I will always look back at my IAAS experience as a turning point in my life. So please, take a look at our numerous thrilling opportunities and be a part of our worldwide agricultural youth movement!



Vincent Verdugt

Country: Belgium

Skype: vinckepincke

IAAS gives the opportunity to students all over the world to unite in both local and international events. It enables getting to know other students from their own university and from universities from all over the world who have the same interests. This connectivity is one of the aspects I like the best of IAAS. Meeting enthusiastic people who take initiative in our world of today is very motivating in our own lives and drives us to act ourselves as well. The students from now are the future leaders of companies, innovators of technologies and policy makers of countries. Broadening our scientific, cultural and social experience will give us a better basis upon which we can rely to construct our future lives and world. I am therefore happy I can help with the daily functioning of IAAS and try to keep our association growing.



Alexandra Rieder

Country: Switzerland

Skype : alexandra7373737

The last years I was really lucky to be part of IAAS, which led me to travel to Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Poland and Sweden. I passed an amazing year as Vice President of Exchange 2012-2013 and want to contribute with my IAAS experience and hope to be a help for this year's Executive committee. I truly believe that IAAS is a place to grow personally as you meet people from all over the world, all with different backgrounds but still all somehow related to agriculture and bio-sciences.



New IAAS Members

Three new candidate members became part of our network after the General Assembly in the USA, 2014. These are Japan, Georgia and Kenya.

Japan

National Director: Keisuke Honda

University: Niigata University

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/laasJapan>



The Good Practice (GP) Program

Hello friends. The 5th GP program was organized last August in Niigata, Japan. 16 participants joined this event, coming from Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Russia and the Philippines. It was so nice to meet all of them and that they enjoyed the trip of GP program.

We hope to meet again in your countries when we join your programs or go to university like exchange students.

Georgia

National Director: Mariam Devadze

University: Tbilisi State University

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/IAASGeorgia>

Later in this Annual Review you can read about IAAS Georgia's Wine Harvesting Activity.

Kenya

National Director: Kennedy Ouma

Universities: Egerton University, Maseno University, Rongo University, Kisii University, University of Eldoret, University of Nairobi, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agric. and Tech., Moi University, Kenyatta University, Masinde Muliro University

In this Annual Review you can find out about the East Africa Conference that was organized by IAAS Kenya.



World Congress

In July 2014, IAAS-ISU (Iowa State University, USA) organised the international World Congress 2014. The theme of this congress was "Farming for the future!"

Next to the official general assembly, a variety of farm and factory visits, cultural activities and trainings were offered.

The congress started with an introduction to the ISU campus and to Iowa as a farming state. Over 90% covered with agricultural fields, mostly corn and soybean; the perfect place for an agricultural conference.

After some fun games on the lawns of the ISU campus, it was time to move into the apartments. These were beautiful, spacious and very comfortable.

The next day we visited some local farms, which organically grew food for those in the community who needed some extra support. In the afternoon we went to the ISU research facilities for biomass production. The state of the art research at this facility really made a strong impression on us.

After the introductory days, it was time for the official part of the congress: The General Assembly. During the five days of Assembly we voted on the proposed amendments

for the constitution, the current EC / CC presented their final reports and the new EC / CC presented themselves and were elected. Next to this, all the countries that were present presented their activities of the past year.

Thanks to the organizing committee and to ISU we had the opportunity to hold the Assembly in a beautiful conference room in the majestic main building on campus.



After these intensive days of meeting some days with visits followed: we had the opportunity to shortly go to some local departments of Syngenta and Monsanto, visit the Des Moines Water Works, tour a supermarket distribution centre where (in some parts it was as cold as -30 °C), and go to a giant farm in Prairie City where we got some explanations about how to grow huge amounts of corn and soya.



On another day we travelled down to Pella, the city where the Vermeer Company was headquartered. Vermeer is a giant producer of agricultural machinery. The whole group was warmly welcomed by this company. They guided us through their production line and museum and in the end had an "Ice Cream

Social" where even the grandson of the founder and current president of part of the company were present. In the same city we also visited the Dutch company Lely who specialized in dairy robotics.

After these intensive days the participants were happy to go on an outdoor recreation trip for the weekend. During the day activities like rock-climbing, canoeing, kayaking and hiking were on the schedule and at night campfires were built and typical American "s'mores" (marshmallow roasted over a fire put between 2 graham crackers with chocolate) were eaten. These were great days to really experience the American outdoor life.



To end the conference, we all drove down to the state of Kansas. Here we also had some interesting visits to a wheat grass producer and other farms with a great night in a beautiful barn with typical acts from the people from Kansas and our own members.

As you can see it has been a really interesting and unforgettable congress and we really would like to thank all of the OC members of IAAS-ISU for doing such a great job in organizing this. It was amazing!



Personal experiences WOCO 2014:



Siti Nisrina Hasna (Ines)

Padjadjaran University, Indonesia

Everybody might have their most memorable moment of their life. It could be a first kiss, being married to someone, taking vacation to the beautiful places, or the other things that you can't forget even for a second. For me, WoCo is one of the most memorable moments of my life.

WoCo isn't only about being involved in the most prestigious annual event of IAAS World. But it gives you so much on your social skills – the ability to interact with people from around the world and learning about other people culture at once. The best thing I had during the WoCo is when people celebrating me and Lucas' birthday after the General Assembly on July 16. They sang happy birthday song and there were cakes! The fact that I was also chosen as one of the secretary on the General Assembly gives me a lot of experience. Even more, I had the chance to follow the GA in the most active way and give a great help for the development for our beloved organization.

In the end, all I can say is that WoCo is the moment of your life that you can never forget. It does not only give you the chance to get new knowledge and experience, but also to find your new lovely family.



Barbara Umek

University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

Attending 57th IAAS World Congress- farming for the Future was quite challenging for me on behalf of expensiveness of plane ticket from Slovenia, plus the 24hr travel with the time difference were not indulgent with me at all.

The challenging trip rewarded me infinitely. Not only I learned the solutions of global issues on local area of Iowa and Kansas, I also gained writing and management skills, new international friendships (especially from Germany, Indonesia and USA), ideas that I can realize wherever I go and so much more that I just know that is now implemented in my soul and was not there when I got to the congress. Now, two weeks after the congress ended, I still use energy and cheerfulness from the supply that I like to call "the WoCo battery". At the same time I was afraid the time when that Woco battery runs out and yet I have the solution: joining next IAAS event with my favorite, with my beloved, the IAAS family.



African Directors Meeting

This year, the prestigious African Congress ("African Directors Meeting" ADM-2014) organized from December 14th to 20th in Niger at Abdou Moumouni University of Niamey. Participation from several delegations from different African countries (Benin, Ivory coast, Togo, Mali and Nigeria) came to this event with the theme "Food Security and Sustainable Agricultural Development in Africa: Current Challenges, Opportunities and Prospects".



This theme was chosen to allow delegates to reflect and discuss the problems of agricultural development in Africa; agriculture which for more than 54 years of independence of our states, still at the stage of take-off.

Thus, this conference aims in general to give prospects for food security in Africa; and will allow delegates to devote their energy and intelligence to identify relevant recommendations on issues of sustainable agricultural development of our states for policy makers, both technical and financial.



Monday 15 December 2014, at the Academy of Martial Arts Niamey the official opening of the African Directors Meeting (ADM Niger 2014) was held under the patronage of Mahaman Elhadji Ousmane Minister of Livestock, representing the Prime Minister, Head of Government.

After the reception and guests installation, it was time for the welcome speech of the President of IAAS-Niger Mr. Sayadi Maâzou A. Raouf.

Later the Vice-Rector of Abdou Moumouni University of Niamey, Professor Amadou Boureima spoke especially to wish a warm welcome to the various delegations coming several African countries, on behalf of all the staff of the University of Niamey. Finally the Minister of Livestock spoke to congratulate the organizers of the conference and formally opened the activities of the African Congress of Students in Agronomy and Related Sciences, Niger ADM 2014.

The end of the ceremony was sanctioned with a parade from the participating delegations.

Culture

- Welcome Party

As part of the activities of IAAS ADM 2014, Niger, a cultural evening was organized with the aim to extend a warm welcome to our guests. The entry into the evening's game was marked by Nigerian traditional dances. Then a dance contest pitted the different countries participating in the conference. The show was amazing and it amazed the audience.

- International Night

At Wednesday night, the 17th of December the international night of ADM 2014 was celebrated in the youth and culture. This night was opened with hearing all national anthems of the different participating countries.

Subsequently, the National Director of IAAS Niger, the secretary responsible for academic and social affairs of Nigerian students at the University of Niamey and African Director took the floor to explain the importance of ADM in general and especially night before wishing a great evening for guests. Two main activities have characterized this night whose cultural performances and culinary presentation of all countries.



Lectures

The scientific part began Tuesday, December 16th with the conference of Prof. Bernard Hubert, French researcher on the theme “Why speak today of family farms? What political pertinence, technical, social and economic? “.

The second conference was held Wednesday, December 17 and was presented by PhD Boubacar Sumana, research professor at the Faculty of Agronomy of the Abdou Moumouni University of Niamey, on “Food Security in the Sahel.”

These conferences have in common to infuse African agriculture has the possibility of real development. Also, two parallel sessions animated by the students were held during the conference. The first paper was presented Tuesday, December 16 from 16 hours at the Academy of Martial Arts by the Delegation of Côte d'Ivoire, which focused on the theme “Role of the Student in Food Security”.

After defining the basic concepts (role, food safety), the delegation made a timeline on the food issue, ranging from the history of agricultural policies and vision in Africa for food security through self-sufficiency and sovereignty.

The purpose of this part was to show the importance of the student in Agronomy in the outcome of food security in Africa with its agricultural science skills.

It is clear that the student must take in particular the creation of agricultural-pastoral farms of small and medium Enterprises Agricultural and many other innovative projects initiatives. It must also give an example by taking care of our environment for sustainable development. The Delegation of Togo presented the second lecture on Thursday with the theme “agricultural youth entrepreneurship.”

After clarifying concepts of entrepreneurship (action to create wealth through a participatory and dynamic demand), business (economic unit engaged in more or less modern activities), agribusiness (all industrial activities that produce the raw materials, transform and distribute), the communicator quoted one hand some constraints to agricultural entrepreneurship of young people whose relatives non-adherence, lack of time and resources, lack of motivation and competence, lack of openness; and another that related to the business environment are: taxation and competition. Finally, a number of solutions have been proposed including market research and business strategies.



Visit attractions

Students from the five different African countries accompanied by the visited the National Museum of Niamey Boubou Hama. The visit enabled the participants to discover the environmental and cultural resources of the Niger. Thus, several collections have been explicitly presented their namely: the flags of the traditional costumes of ethnic groups in Niger, traditional musical instruments, paleontology and archeology of uranium and the oil and three skeletons, two dinosaurs and a crocodile, and the mausoleum of the tree of Ténéré. There was also a trip to the zoo that had hippos, lions, chimpanzees, snake, gazelles, ostriches, crocodiles, hyenas, birds ...

In the same vein two visits were also carried out at the craft village Wadata and attraction Kouré.

Closing Ceremony

ADM's activities ended with a gala dinner and handing certificates of participation.



European Directors Meeting 2013-14



From the 27th of December to the 3rd of January, IAAS Poland put on the European Directors' Meeting in Warsaw. At this event were 45 students from 17 countries. All students got to see the most important tourist attractions in Warsaw, such as the Royal Łazienki Museum, the Warsaw Rising Museum, the Copernicus Science Centre and also some places where the culture is alive at night!

One day we went to the Grójec region which some people call "Europe's biggest orchard". In this region, we saw how apples are stored and prepared for being sold to shops.



Emma, SWEDEN

The theme of one of the workshops was project management. The workshop started with sharing our experiences in running projects, and identifying what is meant by "projects". During the workshop we learned to make project goals based on the S.M.A.R.T method. The letters stands for Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Time-bound. We also got to try three different planning tools for our fictional project: WBS (Work Breakdown Structure), Calendar and Gantt-schedule.



Sylwia, POLAND

When I found out that my committee would be organizing EDM 2013/2014, within ONE month and that I was going to coordinate the event I was shocked. I need to add that it was quite challenging but at the same time it was one of the best weeks.

Łukasz, POLAND

I was one of people who organized this event. For me, it was first time I got to organize something for people from other countries. It was so good! I will never forget it!

Brian, USA

The love and commitment IAAS - Poland has for this organization is shown through the passion that these students have to ensure a successful European Directors' Meeting. IAAS Poland displayed a wonderful conference for the European committees and improved our knowledge in apple production.



Lucija, CROATIA

Poland really pulled off this year's EDM. To create an event in such a short time and host over 50 people for 1 week is just amazing. The organization was great; the accommodations and the food were even better. We had the chance to try different Polish traditional dishes, beverages, the famous Vodka and the other great stuff that one gets familiar with during a stay in Poland. We really got to see how entering the EU boosted Polish agriculture. We got to see the very beautiful city of Warsaw, and learn about the historical importance of the struggle that Polish people went through. Once again, we would like to say that IAAS Croatia is amazed by the job that IAAS Poland has done, and we wish to thank them for being such great hosts.

Exchange Coordinators Meeting



During the last week of April IAAS Sassari (Italy) organised the international Exchange Coördinator's Meeting. The theme of the week was: "Seeding our values, growing the future!"

A variety of farm and factory visits, cultural activities and trainings was offered.

The meeting started with a brief explanation about Ex-Pro (the Exchange Program) and presentations by every country about their current ExPro status and other IAAS activities in their country.

In the evening we had time to get to know each other better while enjoying a glass of delicious (sponsored) Sardinian mirto, wine and music. Many nights like this would follow.

The next day we drove to the town of Macomer where the local people proudly taught us about their traditions and beautiful landscape wherein Nuraghe's and tombs (1500-1200 B.C) were scattered around. It was not only a one way exchanging of culture. Also the international participants presented their culinary tradition to the locals. After this, the locals offered us a traditional lunch.

The day after we visited the dairy factory Arborea in the middle of Sardinia. This factory collects and processes 90% of the cow-milk production of the whole island. The participants could have a look at how Arborea produces yoghurts, cheese, ricotta and UHT milk and afterwards taste the results.

To end the day we visited the second largest ostrich farm in Europe. The ostriches are kept for their meat, eggs, leather and feathers.



The next morning a professional conference was organized at the university. Speakers from different organisations (including the government) came to discuss the topic: "Feeding the planet, the agricultural student's role". In the afternoon, problems and solutions for Ex-Pro were discussed. The day was finished with an amazing Trade Fair.

The next day was relaxing. We spent the morning on the beach and in the afternoon had a walk in the amazing scenery of the Porto Conte National Park.



The last day we visited a family owned winery called Giuseppe Sedilesu. After an interesting tour in the wine cellars and explanation about the production we continued our way to a local cheese maker, Erkiles, on the top of a hill. Because the bus was unable to reach this place, the locals drove us there in their antique Fiat Panda's through the tiny steep streets of the picturesque village of Olzai. The day was concluded with a demonstration of traditional activities in this village like bread making and basked waving.



As you can read it has been an really interesting and unforgettable week and we really would like to thank all of the OC members of IAAS Sassari for doing such a great job in organizing this.

It was amazing !

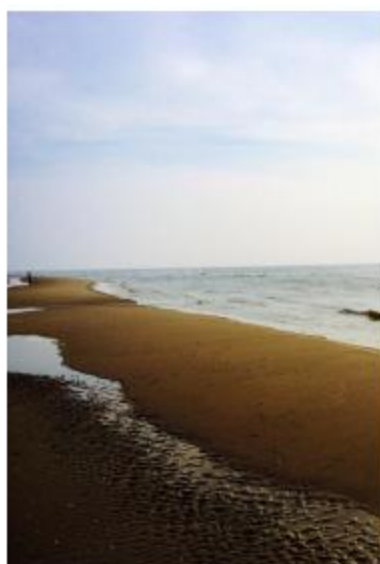
Alumni Meeting



Some of us were IAAS members recently, for others IAAS is more a far memory, but we all had one thing in common: we thought it was worth it to travel all the way to Texel, the Netherlands to spend time with IAAS alumni.

What did we do during the weekend ?

Well, we had a walk on the wonderful island, did a cycling tour, visited a nature park and a brewery, joined a fishing boat and played adventure games on the beach. But just like on IAAS student activities, just spending time together was the most important part. We had great food and drinks, we talked, discussed and laughed from morning till evening, and all went home with a smile on our face.



Isn't it strange to mix generations of people ?

Even though most of us did not know each other on beforehand (because we all represented different IAAS generations), the IAAS spirit made us all be friends from the first moment. We all had different ages and professional backgrounds, but the mindset and the openness really united us.

How international was the alumni weekend ?

24 alumni from seven countries were present. The American guys that travelled all the way to the Netherlands, and Genna, the IAAS president at the time, made it a multi-continent meeting. Belgians and Dutch people were the majority.



Has IAAS changed over the years ?

Oh yes, we discussed how things were different in the old days. But all generations have comparable stories about serious discussions, funny anecdotes and the IAAS organization that keeps on evolving. The pictures we shared, covering 20 years of IAAS history, were hilarious to look at, but were in essence all the same thing, just in a different time with different fashion styles.

For the younger people, it was eye-opening that history does repeat itself, and that many of the ongoing discussions already took place several times in the past. But that is both the advantage and the disadvantage of a student organization: being able to re-invent itself every couple of years, permanently redefining its reason of existence, in an ever changing world.

Tastes like more ?

For sure! I used to think it was crazy to travel 2000 kilometers to just enjoy a weekend. But it was so much fun, I will certainly consider to do so next year. Stepping out of our grown-up life to enjoy student activities again, to get to know great people with a truly international spirit, is an exceptional opportunity that I consider a privilege to all IAAS alumni.



Exchange Week in Czech Republic

At the end of April and the beginning of May several IAAS members from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Poland attended our exchange week in the Czech Republic. The first days we stayed in the capital - Prague. We took the participants to the campus of the University of Life Sciences Prague which included excursion of stables, greenhouses and our university brewery. We also visited the farm estate Láň - the farm where you will not find just ordinary animals but also lamas and antelopes. Next day we went to the botanical garden and its tropical greenhouse with large butterflies. Later that day we traveled to the city of Melník and learned about wine production in viticultural centre. Besides the agricultural program we also explored Prague city center, we played bowling and attended the famous student festival Majáles where countries presented their culture.

The last few days we spent in the city of Abertamy in the Ore mountains. The first evening there was a trade fair where countries presented their national dishes. After that there was the treasure hunt – the evening game in nature with tasks and question about the Czech Republic, companies and organizations we visited during the stay in Prague - which all participants seemed to enjoy very much. The last day we went to the local shepherd's hut – a family sheep farm where we tried a typical mountain lunch made from their cheese. Later there was a goodbye party and next morning it was time to go home after a nice week in the Czech Republic.



Exchange Week in Belgium



Last week a successful exchange week was held in Belgium with guests from Switzerland, Spain and Croatia. During this week a mix of cultural-, agricultural- and fun-activities was organized. We visited Ghent, Bruges, Brussels and Leuven, we went to the most famous beer brewery of Belgium: Delirium Tremens. Then a bike tour was organized visiting many different typical Belgian farms and a bio-gas installation with luckily very good weather. We were guided through the labs and greenhouses of the KU Leuven University and last but not least had a great trade fair !



Exchange Week in Sweden

An Exchange Week was organized by IAAS Sweden, situated at the faculty of agriculture in Uppsala (SLIU). Three countries participated during this week: Switzerland, Mexico and Belgium.

At this faculty we had fika, which is basically a coffee break with pastries and which tastes insanely good. Our compliments for the chefs. After that we played kubb and we got to know each other a little bit better. During the evening there was dinner and afterwards a night tour at the faculty with candles giving this illusion of a haunted place.

The next day we visited Uppsala all together. We visited the botanical gardens, the church, the library, the unions that are like the local student organization and of course we had some fika again. In the evening there was the trade fair, so party guaranteed! It became kind of a late, but it was no excuse to get up early next morning for a visit at the Holmen paper fabric. We had a lecture there followed by a tour in and around the buildings. It was extremely impressive. Afterwards lunch was offered by the company before heading towards the sea. We had a stroll there along the rocky coast before heading back to the SLU where dinner awaited. During the evening there was a pub crawl, which basically meant that you drink a beer in each pub and complete the tasks that were given to you. It was really cool, we had a great time especially the duo Annelies and Andy gave their best to perform even more tasks than were given to us.



The next day we had lectures in the morning about agriculture during the ages in Sweden, about precision fertilisation and sewing and about using new vehicles and drones on and above agricultural land. In the afternoon we had some free time to explore the faculty but most of us just laid in the sun. In the evening there was

dinner and afterwards SAUNA a typical Swedish thing to do. We can assure you it's really hot inside! Taking a cold shower every fifteen minutes is absolutely necessary.



On Friday (is it Friday already?) we visited a pig farm, which was operated by the SLU. We saw the whole process from little pigs to the ones that went to the slaughterhouse. It was really impressive to see. In the afternoon we went for a stroll along the river which was really beautiful and in the evening we had dinner.

The last day of our stay in Sweden some people, who hadn't seen Stockholm before, went there. They went walking in the old city centre and they experienced the taste of the famous princess cake. Others went to another town south of Uppsala called Sigtuna where you could stroll along the edge of the lake and visit the old city centre with its many typical houses. In the evening there was a goodbye party and next day we all left tired but satisfied homewards after a great week Uppsala.



FAO 24th Committee on Agriculture

First impression of Rome: Majestic, with its old heritage, base of new generations and future. It was a good emplacement for what was going to come, such as the parliamentary sessions like those that happened in Ancient Rome... and some good pasta to set the stage!

Second impression: There we were at the white palace (as Italians refer to this building) with the United Nations flag flying. We waited near the red carpet, expecting people and waiting when a black car arrived. Danilo Medina, president of Dominican Republic, got out of the car and walked beside José Graziano Da Silva, Director General of FAO. Suddenly, the president turned and waved to the three IAAS students, starring at the whole picture. Good starting.



Third impression: Red Room of FAO Headquarters where the 24th Committee on Agriculture (COAG) seminar was going to take place. The tables with the names of different member countries announced an interesting debate with confronting points of view. Developed and developing countries would fight for their interests in a framework of making of this a better world. Both, expectations and doubts boiled in our brains, while avid eyes looked at everything around us.

During the following days we lived varied experiences: from understanding the whole governance and working systems of COAG, FAO and even UN as a whole, to finding out which hot topics in agriculture were to come. It was a really fulfilling experience for all the knowledge we acquired in all senses. An extra effort was required to read between the lines in the speeches of the delegates of different countries, in order to fully understand what was beyond the beautiful words as "sustainability", "security", "biodiversity"... Do they include opening the markets under any mean to develop?

Do those intentions include measurements to mitigate climate change? Do they include genetically modified practices? Will there be a mutual cooperation between countries globally or in some cases will it be regionally? Certainly, this whole week of learning and thinking was very good for us, both personally and for our future careers.

We also had the opportunity to speak with personalities, Ministers of Agriculture, Delegates and Permanent Representatives of countries as diverse as Argentina, Sierra Leone, Venezuela, Switzerland, China, Chile, European Union, and Vietnam, among others. Also, in the side events organised between sessions we could listen to professionals explaining what is Climate-Smart Agriculture, Agroecology, the plan for Post-2015 Agenda, the UN participation in Expo Milano 2015, and different case studies developed by the work of FAO and other partner organisations and NGOs. Moreover, we had the opportunity to hear the ambassadors of Liberia and Guinea speaking about the Ebola situation and the necessity of urgent help in those countries.

To sum up, we would like to thank IAAS for the opportunity. By being motivated members, it was a great



Attending the Annual Conference of EGEA



One of the partners of IAAS is the European Geography Association for Students and young Geographers (EGEA). Last year the first partnership agreement between the two of us was signed and this year I can happily announce you that this agreement was extended by two years!

Charlotte, our VP of External Relations and I myself (VP of Communication) were invited to join the Annual Conference of EGEA, their "WOCO" you could say. The both of travelled down all the way to Predeal. A beautiful mountain village north of Bucharest, Romania. A complete hotel was rented for the 215 participants that came from all over Europe.

During their AC, as EGEA'ns call it, the members got the opportunity to participate in many different activities. There were soft skill trainings covering different subjects, sessions to start up or join existing teams for specific EGEA-projects like "EGEA-Green": "How to make EGEA more environmental friendly?" Also there was a whole day recreation trip where we had the opportunity to check out the beautiful culture of Romania and finally, last but not least there was off course an intensive but really well organized General Assembly.

Charlotte and I (Lisanne) were not only there for the fun! Some business needed to be done as well :).

During their opening ceremony we got the opportunity to introduce IAAS and afterwards have our own stand (with flyers, business cards and the flag) where we gave many interested EGEAns info about IAAS.

We also had a meeting with the past and new EGEA presidents, respectively Colette Caruna and Norga Varga. During this meeting we learned a lot. We found out we have many similarities in our associations in which we can support each other. On the other hand we can learn from the things that are done differently in our associations.

At the end of our meeting both parties felt the same way in keep supporting each other's association and making this formal by signing the contract that extends the partnership for 2 more years.

The partnership consists roughly of this: From both sides we will open and promote our events to the members of the other association and also we try to get both our associations more widely known by giving each other visibility on our website and in our Annual Review.

I really hope that it will be at least two more years of great cooperation!



How Green is German Agriculture?

For the first time in history of IAAS Germany the two existing committees of Bonn and Hohenheim organized a joint event. Our journey took us from Stuttgart in the southern part of Germany to Bonn in the western part and we were glad to host 30 students from Spain, Switzerland, Germany, Greece, UK, Russia, Georgia, Bangladesh and the US. The objective of this seminar was to show a possible implementation of the new agriculture policy at the example of Germany's multifunctional agriculture sector.

Sunday, May 4th "Arrival": University of Hohenheim-Day



At the very beginning we launched a scavenger hunt in the main yard of the Hohenheim castle to answer questions about the region of Baden-Württemberg as well as Germany. To make the international participants familiar with German food culture we ended the day with a barbecue with typical German food.



Monday, May 5th "The Filder region": PROPLANTA-Day



The next morning we visited a family farm owned by the family Bayha where we got some information about the crops they grow. In the afternoon we got an experience with cereals by visiting the "Deutsches Landwirtschaftsmuseum" in Hohenheim. We received a brief introduction into the history of tillage and the different construction types of ploughs. We also went to the "Volksfest" which was a pleasant surprise for the participants.

Tuesday, May 6th "Modern Agribusiness": KWS-Day



Our third day we started with a guided tour through the Maulbronn monastery, where



the famous German „Maultasche“ has been invented. In the early afternoon we travelled to Gondelsheim to visit the maize breeding department of the Kleinwanzlebener Saatzucht AG. Dr. Kreps prepared a very interesting lecture about hybrid maize breeding inbred line development with a special focus on the on the double haploid technique, testcross seed production and hybrid performance test. After Dr. Kreps lecture we had the opportunity to get a tour around the breeding station.



Wednesday, May 7th "Modern Agribusiness"

During the next morning during a visit to the John Deere factory in Mannheim – Germany's biggest manufacturer of agro technology- we were able to get a deeper insight into the manufacturing of gearwheels, the engine manufacture centre, the assembly of transmissions and the final assembly.

We also had a lecture about "Sustainable Agricultural Energy - Supply and Consumption Concepts" where we got an idea of future engines running on alternative fuels. We were warmly welcomed in the agricultural centre "Limburgerhof" of BASF. There a presentation was given about the structure of the company, production of pesticides and had a unique view into the greenhouses and other facilities.



Thursday, May 8th : "Food through Recycling"

Our next destination was Cologne to visit the German Aerospace Centre (DLR) for a presentation by Dr. Jens Hauslage, a scientist leading the research project called combined regenerative organic food production (C.R.O.P.). An interesting lecture in which Dr. Hauslage illustrated his vision of closed nutrient cycles and new composting systems based on water was followed by a fascinating insight into his laboratories. There we were shown how his ideas with water as the 'new soil' for hydroponic plant breeding systems in combination with a special bio filter system work.



Friday, May 9th :

"Alternative Farming" University of Bonn-Day

The next morning we visited the hop plantation 'Hof Dick' in Rhineland-Palatinate surrounded by a beautiful landscape. We were introduced to the history of the famous German hop production and were shown around the farm. At the end we were invited to taste "the best beer in the world" according to the producer, called "Bitburger". For the second part of our program we travelled to Hennef where we visited the ecological research farm 'Wiesengut' of the University Bonn where we gained numerous aspects of organic farming.



Saturday, May 10th : "Research for the Future"

Saturday - the official last day of our seminar - started with a visit to the research station 'AgroHort' of the University Bonn close to Meckenheim. We were given an informative presentation about the 'renewable energies', so we saw several energy plants for Miscanthus, popular trees or Paulownia wood grown in Meckenheim.



We were introduced to the entire process - from cultivation, harvesting and drying to the final use of the product developments at this station and recent research projects, at which we later took a closer look.



We sure got a great impression of German agriculture during this week but not only were the participants given an idea on how green German agriculture is, thoughts were exchanged, new friendships were made and different cultures exchanged. To sum up we would like to quote one of the participants: „It was probably the most intensive and informative week of my life“.



IAAS Germany would like to thank all the participants for their great interest and motivation during this seminar.

It is beyond all doubt that this seminar could not have been arranged without the generous help of the sponsors and the University of Bonn and Hohenheim, whom



Mountainous Croatia - Potential for Sustainable Agriculture and Development



The first week of October IAAS Croatia organized one of the most valuable and most demanding projects so far, a seminar on the topic "Mountainous Croatia - potential for sustainable agriculture and development". The seminar included IAAS members from 10 different countries: Greece, Italy, Spain, Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, Poland, Czech Republic, Bangladesh and Croatia as the host.



The seminar started with a lecture at the Faculty of Agriculture on the topic "Advantages and disadvantages of organic farming in Mountainous Croatia" held by Prof.Dr.Sc. Ivica Kisić. After the lecture there was an organised discussion about organic farming in Europe. We had lunch on the faculty after which we headed to Lika. Along the way we visited Modruš Eko- Family Farm Rendulić in Josipdol that specializes in organic production of vegetables and flour.

The next day, after breakfast, there was a presentation "About Croatia" which briefly presented our homeland, our climate and regions, major cities and attractions as well as traditions and local products. After the presentation, we visited the Museum of Lika where the curator guided us through the history of Lika. Then we visited the local fair called "Autumn in Lika" where we had a chance to see, taste and feel all of the local organic products as well as typical Croatian souvenirs. In the evening there was a Trade Fair which included delicacies from all over the world. On the tables you could find Belgian chocolate, Greek halva, Greek salad, Span-

ish tortilla, Swiss fondue, Polish pralines with "bird's milk" and spicy risotto from Bangladesh. On Croatian table we proudly presented our traditional products such as Slavonian Kulen, Dalmatian smoked ham and bacon, Lika's famous cheese škripavac, bajadere and other products. Special attention was devoted to a great quantity of Croatian wines. On this occasion we would like to thank all our sponsors who provided the wines and by doing so, made the presentation possible. We would like to thank wineries Vuglec Breg, winery Vrbaneč, winery Zrinščak, winery TRS, winery Filipec, winery Režek, winery Župančić, winery Sirovica, winery Mladina, winery Pavlin and Franjko family farm.



The following day we visited Agricultural Co-operative Bahra engaged in the cultivation of medicinal herbs. After a guided walk through the vast fields of medicinal herbs, we visited Barač Caves where the participants of the seminar had

the opportunity to see the peculiar and specific underground karst relief. Furthermore we visited family farm Lavender where the owner held a brief presentation and a lecture, after which he took us for a walk through the fields of lavender and explained the production of lavender essential oil and its benefits. We also visited Turkalj family farm where we had a chance to see the barn with cows and calves as well as the milking process, we had a short lecture where we learned more about the process of cheese making and the advantages and disadvantages of such production. The final visit of the day was Eko-Klanac farm where we had a short lecture on the basic principles of organic farming. Walking around the farm we had a chance to see the way they are growing traditional crops like potatoes and cabbage.

The fourth day of the seminar began with the visit to the cheese factory Runolist. The owner gave an interesting lecture about the long-standing tradition of the factory. He also gave us a tour of all the stages of cheese production, from raw material to packaging. We went to Majerovo vrilo, one of the river Gacka's springs, where we saw the archaic mill-houses, that are still used for grinding flour in the traditional way.



After lunch, our colleagues gave interesting and instructional presentations about sustainable agriculture in certain countries and they also shared their own reflections and visions on how to improve it. A debate about the pros and cons of this kind of agriculture followed. On the fifth day of the seminar we visited Udbina county. After sightseeing of the Church of Croatian martyrs, we visited various farms in the county. The first one was the cattle farm Angus, which uses the cow-calf system of production. The breeds used in this production are the french breeds Angus, Aubac and Simental. The second farm was the family farm Gučanin whose main products are sheep milk and meat. The third farm was the farm owned by the Imex bank which also uses the cow-calf system. The fourth in line was the Ljubojević family farm which is specialized in the production of milk. There we also had a presentation of cow-milking, which we all had the opportunity to try ourselves.

On our way to Zagreb, we made a stop in Perušić to visit the family farm Vlainić. The Vlainić family produces several types of rakija (schnaps) in the traditional way. The whole process of the production was described to us in an interesting lecture which includes the cultivation and gathering of fruit, the distillation and the presentation of the final product in the market. We also visited the Krnić farm which is specialized in ecological bee-keeping. We ended the seminar with the sight-seeing of Zagreb.

Comments from the participants:



- Ilias Chaklias – Greece:

"...One more thing that should be mentioned are the presentations given by the participants about the organic production in their countries. This help them to promote their public speaking skills and gave them deeper knowledge about the situation of organic production in other countries and the chance to compare to theirs."

"...The OC was a good team work between them and were able to solve any problem they faced immediately. The most important thing is that they did not let anyone to leave disappointed from this seminar. It was one the most organized and full of activities IAAS event Greek participants have attended."

- Eva Hulsmans – Belgium:

"...It was really interesting for us to see and experience organic farming from up close in such a beautiful environment. All the visits, but also talking to students from all around Europe about agricultural issues, brought us a lot of new perspectives. You could say the seminar broadened our horizons in a very fun and easy-going way."

- Alberto Muñoz – Spain:

"... In rural areas, tradition and industrial scale production seemed to perfectly reconcile. An example is the region of Lika, where care for the environment was a priority. We also visited the Croatian coast in karlobag where the water is colder and cleaner than in western Italy by an ocean current that comes from the south and that is generally an advantage for the Croatian fishing. Overall, Croatia is a country of contrasts and many agribusiness opportunities."

- Ivonne Kampermann – Germany:

"...The Croatian team started a good discussion about the demand of organic products in the different countries and in different age groups; what are advantage and disadvantages about organic. In general it was a good mix between agricultural knowledge, culture, nature and fun. We had a great week with a diverse group of interesting people of many different countries. And everybody made one's contribution that this week was such a success."



East Africa Conference

From 27-29 November 2014 the first IAAS East Africa Conference took place at the Egerton University, Nakuru, Kenya. This conference with the topic "Unite African Students and Together Feed 9 billion People by 2050" had a double goal. Firstly provide agricultural students with high quality lectures from speakers from different institutions and companies. By these lectures IAAS tries to provide her students a link with the professional world. This link is important because it provides the students insight in their future job market and can create curiosity and motivation for their studies.



The second goal of the conference was the union of agricultural students. Unfortunately at the moment in East Africa agriculture is not a very popular field to study in, though it is very important. With the explosive population growth in the region, also a similar increase in food production should be realized. For this many agricultural students are necessary. IAAS tries, partly with this conference, to unite current students and attract new students and show them that agriculture is a very interesting field of study.

Before the start of the actual conference Kennedy Ouma (National Director IAAS Kenya) together with myself (Lisanne, VP of Communication) made an IAAS pro-

motion tour through Kenya. Thanks a lot to the dean of the Faculty of Agriculture of Egerton University who provided a vehicle (with IAAS logo!) for this purpose. We visited different universities spread over the country (Moi University, the University of Eldoret, Maseno University and finally the hosting university of the conference: Egerton University). During our visits we had the honour to be invited by several deans who were the patrons of the local IAAS committees on their university. Next to that we gave presentations about the different possibilities IAAS offers and motivated students to come to the East Africa Conference.

Thursday the 27th of November was the big day: the start of the conference. Unfortunately the promotion of the conference outside Kenya appeared not to be as successful as we hoped. We were happy with our one foreign guest from Uganda, who was very interested to set up a new IAAS committee in his home university. Though the presence from non-Kenyan students was low, students from many different Kenyan universities were present, such as from the University of Nairobi, Kisii University, Rongo University and all of the above mentioned universities visited earlier that week.

After the words of welcome and an extensive explanation about our association we had the honour to give the stage to our guest speakers. Firstly the Regional Director of East Africa from Self Help Africa gave a presentation about the work their association does. Self Help Africa is an NGO that already for 30 years empowers rural Africa by several projects. These projects are focused on the sustainable improvement of agriculture and by this providing food security for the local people. Self Help Africa has several projects in Kenya and also has been the major sponsor of the conference.



After this presentation the stage was given to the representative of the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture. The aim of this foundation is to help small farmers become more professional growers. During the presentation the topic of the conference was addressed and next to that students were given many tips and tricks on how to be prepared for the professional world after their graduation. The SFSA also has been a sponsor of the conference.

To conclude the first day, it was time for the students to come up the stage. Here some of them explained about their cultural background and the different traditions the tribes where they come from have. A nice variation on the traditional IAAS Trade Fair.

The next day the morning started in an interactive way: There was a discussion among the students on how IAAS could play a role in achieving the goal of feeding 9 billion people by 2050, the topic of the conference. Many different and innovative ideas were raised to implement in the activities IAAS Kenya organizes. The afternoon was filled with soft skill training sessions. Firstly one on Leadership, emphasizing on the lead of a local IAAS committee. The second training was on how to be a good event organizer, addressing different events that could be organized, a timeline and a job division for this.

The last day of the conference consisted of a summary of all the different things the students had learned in the previous two days. After this there was the official closing ceremony by the dean of faculty of Agriculture, Prof. J. O. Ogendo and myself during which we handed over official certificates of attendance and gave our final thank words to all the organizers of the event.



IAAS México: Agro tour - Veracruz



After having a participation of 10 Mexicans the last WoCo in Chile, IAAS Mexico has become a very active and involved committee. We are happy that each semester more and more students of Biotechnology, Food Sciences and Agronomy of the University turn their look to us and decided to become member of IAAS Mexico. IAAS Mexico has a unique chapter which is located in the heart of our country, in Tecnológico de Monterrey, Campus Querétaro. Proudly we can say that Querétaro is the state with best quality of life in Mexico and has become a benchmark worldwide of Mexican development.

IAAS Mexico's "AgroTour" is an event that we really hope will become a tradition, so in the next future any committee of IAAS World can come and experience the Mexican culture, hospitality, beauty, people and Agriculture.

In 2014, we focused in the organization of the "AgroTour, Veracruz 2014". It lasted 4 days, from April 10th to 13th, we attend a series of conferences and two farms of coffee and pineapple, although we also took a look into a dairy farm, and a productive field of avocado. This time we had the participation of 42 students of our university. The next year it would be a great pleasure to invite students from IAAS World to the AgroTour 2015! Get ready for it!



You can be sure that IAAS México will always have something amazing for you!

Sincerely, IAAS México team
www.iaasmexico.mx



IAAS Indonesia Activities

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IAAS Debates is an event which held by IAAS to help society with real action. The purpose of Debates is to help society build the local environment, from small things and also to young children mind why we have to protect environment and how we protect it from early age. Anyone can take part of this real action and make small change to help build a better society.

Donate Book
Rebuilding village's library. Let's Donate your book to us even it's just one book, it can change everything made in difference by donating.

House Planting
Using society house yard by planting vegetable.

School Garden
Make a school garden with kids from JAC and local residents of Cikarawang village.

Location?
Cikarawang Village

Timeline
August - 2nd Library Renovation
7th - Peak Event

For More Information
087879047152 (Fitri)
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IAAS Georgia participated in RTVELI

Rtveli (vintage) is the traditional process of picking grapes and making wine, which is accompanied by celebrations that mark the end of the agricultural cycle for the year. We generally harvest in September and October. Rtveli involves almost everyone in Georgia.

Most wine is produced using ancient, natural technologies. Grapes are pressed by foot and the juice is poured into massive clay vessels, called Kvevri. The vessels are placed in a special room called a marani (wine cellar.) The neck of the Kvevri is surrounded by a recessed basin.



In Georgia, where wine has an iconic significance, the tradition of Rtveli dates back to ancient times, having its roots in the festivity of mid-Autumn abundance and variety. Rtveli usually lasts for several days, with people starting work in early morning hours and ending the day with a feast in the accompaniment of vintage-themed folk songs. Volunteers are always welcome. You have to get up early and it's hot work, but you get to collect grapes, get your feet wet pressing the wine, and see a marani. Then, at the end of the day, you will be part of the famed Georgian feast, the supra, led by a Tamada (toast master). There will be singing, dancing, mountains of delicious food and wine!

Currently Georgia is probably the oldest wine region in the world. The fertile valleys of the South Caucasus, which Georgia straddles, are believed by many archaeologists to be the source of the world's first cultivated grapevines and neolithic wine production over 8,000 years ago. Due to the many millennia of wine in Georgian history, its key economical role and the traditions of its viticulture are entwined and inseparable with the country's national identity. UNESCO added the ancient traditional Georgian winemaking method using the Kvevri clay jars to the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage.



During Soviet times wines produced in Georgia were very popular. In comparison with other wines from Moldavia and Crimea that were available on the Soviet market, Georgian wines had been more preferable for Soviets. In 1950, vineyards in Georgia occupied 143,000 acres, but in 1985 they increased to 316,000 acres due to increasing demand. In 1985, wine production was 881,000 tons.

According to Minister of Agriculture of Georgia, grape harvest in 2009 was 130,000 tons and wine production increased from 13.8 million wine bottles in 2009 to 15.8 million wine bottles in 2010 with bottle size 0.75 L (11.85 thousand tons in 2010). In 2009, Georgia exported 10,968 million bottles of wine to 45 countries. In 2010, Georgia exported wines to: Ukraine - about 7.5 million bottles, Kazakhstan - about 2.0 million bottles, Belarus - about 1.2 million bottles, Poland - about 870 thousand bottles and Latvia - 590 thousand bottles.

IAAS Georgia also took part in organizing the Georgian Wine Day holiday. Their main goal was to explain the structure of Georgian wine and the wine-making tradition to native and foreign guests. Afterwards, they visited winemaking companies Tbilvino, Teliani Valley and KTW where they had a seminar on the topic of the winemaking tradition and modern technology.

IAAS-Georgia would like to thank the National Agency of Wine and Tbilisi State University for their support for student activities.



Upcoming Events

Exchange Coordinators Meeting

When: March, 15th to 22nd

Where: Madrid, Spain

What: During IAAS ExCo Meeting, assemblies and debates are held with the help of the members and ExCo's from every national committee, who work along to improve the IAAS Exchange Program. The assistants will visit multiple institutions related to agriculture and related sciences, museums, farms and universities, also discovering the city and the culture of the hosting country, and learning more about their agricultural systems.



EXCO MEETING 2015

THE POWER OF OUR FUTURE

15 al 22 MARZO 2015

Further information: Go to the website and apply now! <http://www.iaasworld.org/event/exco-meeting/>

USA National Summit

When: April, 16th to 20

Where: Oregon, USA

What: This year's Summit will be held at the Memorial Union, located in the heart of the Oregon State University campus. Oregon State University was recently featured on a TripAdvisor's website FlipKey. The FlipKey blog mentioned OSU in an article titled, "50 States Series: Top Campuses Worth Traveling For." They compiled a list of one college or university per state that is a must-see. The 400-acre main campus in Corvallis includes a Historic District, making Oregon State one of only a handful of U.S. University campuses listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The district includes such icons as Weatherford Hall, the Memorial Union and Benton Hall, the oldest building on campus.

Further information: This will be a great event! Visit the event website and apply! <http://www.iaasworld.org/event/iaas-usa-national-summit/>

European Directors Meeting

When: May, 2nd to 10th

Where: Hohenheim, Germany

What: This year we will try to give you a wide impression of German agriculture. Whether it is rather traditional farming or modern organic plant cultivation, new sustainable technologies in agricultural engineering or just the most simple thing on earth you would think: holding pigs. We will try to show you a bit of everything. Besides that we will talk about the IAAS constitution, new directors have to be elected and old ones to be confirmed.

Further information: <http://www.iaasworld.org/event/edm-in-germany/>

World Congress



When: July, 6th to 27th

Where: The Netherlands/Belgium/Switzerland/Italy

What: WOCO15 is our largest and most important event of the year. In addition to the regular knowledge transfer, networking opportunities, lots of fun and new friends, our General Assembly (GA) will take place. During this journey, you will have the unique opportunity to experience Europe from a scientific, entrepreneurial, cultural, political and historical perspective. An introduction to the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), a visit to the parliament in Brussels, tours through the visiting cities, and lead discussions about current topics will all be key components during these three weeks.

Further information: <http://www.iaasworld.org/event/woco15/>





European Geography Association for Students and Young Geographers

-www.egea.eu-

Founded in 1987, EGEA has the goal of exchanging geographical knowledge and the building of an international network for students and young geographers. Our organisation currently has around 5.000 members in 32 countries and more than 80 university based entities.

With our knowledge and experience as European geographers we aim towards an inclusive and equal society in which all people are given the opportunity to develop to their full potential, in which deep mutual understanding is a reality and in which global solidarity is a common value.

We believe that geography is the best possibility to discover the world we live in, to get deep understanding of spatial processes and to find solutions to occurring conflicts. As geography is the study of the connection between human impact and nature it is as well the bridge between science and humanities. This incorporates the unique possibility to get an overview on the one hand and to facilitate between the different branches of studies on the other hand.

By providing a platform for young geographers across Europe, EGEA offers personal development opportunities beyond formal education and enables our members to fulfil their potential as scientists and youth leaders.

We organise annually five congresses, over eighty cultural exchanges, scientific seminars, online lectures, summer schools, trainings, symposiums, geographical study trips and many other related activities in the field of geography. Besides that, by producing a wide range of geographical information media such as a magazine, reports, newsletters we actively contribute towards the promotion of geography through our network and strategic partnerships.



EGEA and IAAS

EGEA and IAAS have a partnership agreement which has been renewed at the Annual Congress of EGEA in September 2014. Our agreement entails mutual promotion and help with soft skills, human resources and knowledge management. Besides that EGEA and IAAS mutually invite each other to their events and are currently organising a Train New Trainers event together which is going to take place in February 2015. Since we believe that agriculture and geography have a lot in common, we are glad to have IAAS as our partner and we are looking forward to strengthening our cooperation in the future!



KU LEUVEN**Proud host of the
International IAAS Headquarters**

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- ✓ Master of Science in Water Resources Engineering



International Forestry Students' Association



Highlights 2014



SUSTAINING FORESTS, SUSTAINING PEOPLE
THE ROLE OF RESEARCH

World Congress

5-11 October, 2014

Salt Lake City, UT, USA

The IUFRO World Congress is one of the largest global forest events attended by more than 2 000 participants. It brings together scientists and stakeholders to discuss scientific and technical issues related to forest research, policy and management. This year the meeting was hosted by US Forest Service and the Society of American Foresters (SAF).



"It was simply amazing to see 3000 participants presenting their research and sharing their enthusiasm about their field. I learned a lot and met many new faces from all over the world!" - Melanie, GER

"IFSA helped organize and moderate a technical session for recent graduates and students. IFSA had a strong and positive presence at the congress: 45 IFSA students volunteers attended the congress and were able to connect and share experiences with other students from around the world." - Lilli, FI

IFSS

British Columbia 2014

6-21 August, 2014

British Columbia, CA

More than 100 forestry students from all over the world come together to hold the General Assembly and travel through the forestry regions of the selected host country.



International Forestry Students' Symposium

"IFSS to me was a great chance to meet people from all around the world. I strongly believe that diverse and meaningful connections can lead to impactful moments of learning, and IFSS 2014 was definitely full of those moments for me!" - May Anne, CA

"This years' IFSS made a very big impression on me, especially the extremely diverse landscapes and equally diverse First Nations communities. Big steps were made in the further development of IFSA during the General Assembly." - Katha, AUT



Convention on Biological Diversity

Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea

6-17 October, 2014

Conference of the Parties (COP) on the Convention on Biological Diversity is a biannual conference that brings different parties (NGOs, IGOs, Youth Organizations, indigenous and local communities) together to negotiate and make international environmental policies related to the objectives of CBD.



"I personally learned lots of things in regard to negotiations and policy processes. The convention also showed me on how urgent it is to have a proper management process and how valuable the action on balancing the goals are." - Citra, INA

"This is the first experience for me to come to such an international and global event! It was very exciting to learn more about international processes while learning more about the environmental issues." - Juan, INA

upcoming events:

Global Landscapes Forum in Lima, Peru - 6/7th December 2014

Interlaken +10 in Switzerland - 2-6th February 2015

43rd IFSS in 2015 hosted by the Philippines

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The Young Professionals for Agricultural Development (YPARD) is your international network of young professionals for young professionals in agriculture, for a sustainable future. Connect with others, stay informed, get a voice in strategic debates, grab opportunities, promote agriculture and strengthen your capacities. Sign up now!

StudyPortals



Student satisfaction made by IAAS

Student associations play a key role in international student satisfaction, a study by IAAS partner StudyPortals has found.

International students are overall very satisfied with their study abroad experience. This conclusion comes from the latest StudyPortals study that incorporates 16,427 comments made by 6,923 students on the student experience exchange platform www.STeXX.eu.

The report concludes that almost seven out of ten international students surveyed would rate their experience with a 9 or 10 out of 10 when asked if they would recommend it to their friends. Only 8% gave a score below 6. This highly positive response shows that studying abroad is overall considered to be a very positive experience, though there are still areas for improvement.

The four factors with most influence on the student satisfaction are:

1. City atmosphere, looks and size;
2. Subject;
3. Teachers;
4. International Atmosphere.

Respondents specifically expressed their appreciation for local student organisations. They attached high importance to a variety of activities, which includes social gatherings, trips and cultural events organised by student organisations – especially internationally focused ones.

IAAS can help other students make the right study choice!

You too can encourage your members to share their experiences and advice (prospective) international students on www.STeXX.eu! The student experience exchange platform is a great tool, not only because it encourages studying abroad, in general, but also because it helps form realistic expectations, preparing students for a mobility period. Experience sharing ensures international students get useful information about different study locations from their peers and can, ultimately, make the most of their study experience.

For more information go to: www.studyportals.eu/studentsatisfaction





Candidate Member Application Form



International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences

Please use capital letters for filling.

I. Information about the association

Name of association:

The association is: ☐ Part of a student union, which...:

☐ Independent

☐ Other, what.....:

Address of the association.:

Telephone no.....:

Fax no.....:

E-mail of committee.....:

Contact person.....:

E-mail of contact person...:

II. Information about the university

Nature of Institution

☐ Public

☐ Private

Name of university.....:

Address of university.....:

Telephone no.....:

Fax no.....:

E-mail.....:

Homepage.....:

Contact person.....:

Dates of Academic year.:

Examination period.....:

Vacation period.....:



Candidate Member Application Form



International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences

III. Members of the Committee and their year of study

IV. Activities during the time of being candidate member of your organisation (both organised and participated in):





Candidate Member Application Form



International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences

V. Declaration

We, the following members and signatories of

.....,
(Association name)

hereby accept the Constitution & By-Laws of the International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences and declare that we will accept, follow and respect them.

We also declare that, if this application is approved, we will work to become Full Member of the International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences within two years from the General Assembly were this application will be considered.

I/we understand that only associations of students or first year graduates can be Candidate Members of the International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences.

Date:

Date:

Name:

National Exchange Co-ordinator

Name:

National Director

Signature.....:

Signature.....:

Address.....:

Address.....:

E-mail address..:

E-mail address..:

For **Candidate Member Applications**, please attach to this application form the following information:

- Brief description of Association structure (who are the members, how do you appoint responsible etc?)
- Brief history of Association (founded were and when etc.)
- Brief description of activities





EXPRO

Member countries:

Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Canada, Chile, Cote, Croatia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kenya, México, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Rwanda, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Ukraine, Usa, Venezuela



The internship in Togo was in a pineapple-process company.

The first 4 weeks I worked in a pineapple processing company. They made pineapple juice and dried pineapple. I was a worker so I had to work quite hard together with a lot of women: peeling and cutting pineapples, making the juice, bottling, unloading the truck, doing the maintenance,.... I learned especially a lot about African culture, daily life, people and myself.



IAAS organises the IAAS Exchange Program, also called EXPRO, to provide opportunities to students to find an internship in another country. Thanks to Expro, you can learn and experience things that cannot be learned in books.

Expro exists for over 45 years and currently, more than 20.000 students have been participating. Every exchange is unique and full of cultural submersion and learning. Doing an IAAS internship is not a tourist event! You will not be an outsider. On the contrary! You will have to integrate yourself in the foreign country! Because of this, you will see and experience much more!

The IAAS exchange program is divided in two categories:

- **Ceres:** internship in farms and agricultural companies
- **Archimedes:** internships related to education, research, engineering or management.

The minimum duration of an IAAS internship is 4 weeks.

The IAAS Exchange Program is an unique opportunity for you to explore the world of agriculture; it will develop your skills and expand your worldwide network!



IAAS Headquarters

www.iaasworld.org



IAASWorld



IAAS_World

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