

121st EAAE SEMINAR/IAAE SYMPOSIUM

24th -26th February 2011/ Antalya, Turkey

1. Title

“Assessing the Medium- to Long-term Impacts of Global Financial Crises on Agro-Food Sector and Rural Economies”

2. Date and Location

24th -26th February 2011/ Antalya, Turkey

3. Theme

The current global financial crisis has affected the production industry and financial sectors in both urban and rural economies of Northern and Southern countries with unexpected severity and speed. Overlapping with the recent worldwide food crises, the damage of financial crises on the poor people of the rural areas and the risk of food insecurity for a large number of people is expected to be deeper and long-lasting.

This seminar aims at:

- a. Highlighting the areas in the rural economies most adversely affected by the global financial crisis,
- b. Measuring and discussing the medium- to long-term damage on agro-food sector and rural areas,
- c. Analyzing and assessing the alternative remedies for the recovery after the crises.

4. Background

Various aspects of the current financial crisis make it different from previous ones. First of all the crisis has affected both the production industry and financial sectors and the effects are deeper and seem to last longer than expected. Secondly, the crisis became a much more integrated global one rather than a developing world crisis as before. Thirdly, it overlapped with a food crisis which pushed the prices of basic staples to unexpectedly high levels. Lastly, developing countries are far more exposed to shocks in international markets today as they are more financially and commercially integrated into the world economy.

Given these characteristics, the current financial crisis creates several problems particularly in rural economies in the medium- to long-term. One of the issues to deal with is the financial constraint on policy and non-policy induced measures to cope with the outcomes of crisis. In a global crisis, the scope of various instruments such as currency devaluation, borrowing or increased use of official assistance to face the effects of the crisis become more limited as both developed and developing economies are experiencing the impacts simultaneously which in turn puts more pressure on developing and underdeveloped countries. Another issue is the joint impact of the ongoing food crisis and the current financial crisis which might increase food prices to a level beyond the reach of millions of poor people. While the agriculture sector is showing more resilience to the global economic crisis compared to other industries, the risks could increase if the economic downturn continues. The impact of financial crisis on oil

and energy costs and its impact on agricultural commodity prices should not be underestimated. Moreover, the effect of more erratic weather conditions, as warned by environmental experts, on commodity prices should not be ignored as well. Another problem is the possible removal of targeted policies such as public investment in agriculture and rural infrastructure, establishment of effective research and development systems which historically has been proven to be the main engine for driving rural growth and thereby reducing poverty and hunger. Internationally, a rising cost of capital can be the other source of targeted policy removal. The impact of stagnation on off-farm production and employment opportunities is another problem that should be considered, as well.

Therefore, it will not be an exaggeration to expect structural changes in the rural areas as well as increases in poverty and decreases in food availability as a result of the financial crisis. Most probably the severity of these effects in the medium- to long-term will vary depending on the current status of the regions. Finding solutions for the people of adversely affected areas and counter measure options to cope with future crises is another challenge.

5. Objectives

The seminar is an attempt to address the significance of the global financial crisis for agro-food industry and rural economies.

The seminar aims at bringing together economists, agricultural economists, modelers, and policy analysts in order to explore the adverse effects experienced by the agro-food sector and rural economies during and after the recent financial crisis, to measure and evaluate the depth of the damage in the affected areas, to develop and discuss solutions and to derive recommendations for the future to more easily cope with another severe crisis.

The seminar does not focus on a particular scientific domain. Multiple theoretical and/or methodological contributions and particularly quantitative analyses are all welcome.

6. Topics

The seminar will be organized around five main topics; partial and economy-wide country and/or global level econometric and simulation based analyses on any of the following topics are all welcome:

a. Convergence of the food and financial crises

drivers of the food crisis; mutual triggering effects of crises; interactions between food and financial markets during the crises; double threat to the poor

b. Governance of international institutions

predicting the crises; anticipating the impacts; coordinating the solution process; foreseeing the next crisis; strengthening the governance of main actors and the statistical capacity

c. Impact analyses

structural impacts; food security; rural-urban income gap; market volatility

d. Policy processes

anti-crises measures; promoting pro-poor growth; deregulation versus protection; policy targeting; fiscal responses; creating safety nets

e. What is next?

lessons learned from past crises; identifying the risks; the recovery period; can the rural economies handle another crisis?; policy priority and advice

7. Call for papers

The seminar aims at constituting an opportunity to highlight the adverse effects for the agro-food sector and rural economy due to the recent financial crisis, to measure and evaluate the depth of the damage in the affected areas, to develop and discuss solutions and to derive recommendations for the future to more easily cope with another severe crisis.

Invited papers

The Program Committee will invite 4-5 prominent scholars and policy makers to present key-note papers covering seminar topics

Contributed papers and posters

The Program Committee invites contributed papers and posters regarding the topics mentioned above.

The seminar seeks contributions bringing together economists, agricultural economists, modelers, and policy analysts. Both theoretical and applied papers are welcome.

The International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE) has provided some financial support which students with accepted papers can apply for from the conference organizers. Those receiving support will be granted free membership of IAAE for the current three-year membership period.

Important dates

Abstract submission:

August 31, 2010

The abstract for contributed papers and posters should be at most 500 words and should include the research question(s) addressed, the concepts and theories referred to, the materials and methods used and the results obtained. Up to five keywords should be provided and full contact address and affiliation of the corresponding and other authors should be included. Abstracts should be sent to medit@akdeniz.edu.tr, otherwise, can be uploaded by using the following:

Author notification:

October 15, 2010

Deadline for sending full selected and poster papers:

January 24, 2011

Proceedings

Papers will be uploaded on AgEcon Search. The conference CD will be prepared that includes the full speech of the keynote speaker, invited speakers, full selected papers and list of participants. The abstract book will be provided.

A selection of the contributed and invited papers will be proposed for publication in a special issue of an academic journal. (To be confirmed)

Confirmed

It is anticipated that a selected number of conference papers will be published as a special issue of the

**-Journal of International Food and Agribusiness Marketing and
-NEW MEDIT**

For further information about the journals, please visit www.informaworld.com/WIFA and http://www.ciheam.org/publications/new-medit._5_40029_.php.

The call for papers together with all information concerning the seminar is downloadable at www.meditresearch.com.

8. Language

The official language of the seminar will be English.

9. Organization

Local Organization Committee

Prof. A. Ali Koç

Chair, Department of Economics, Akdeniz University

Assoc. Prof. Selim Çağatay

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Program Committee

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Ahmet Bayaner	Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Ankara, Turkey
Alison Burrell	Joint Research Centre - Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (or JRC-IPTS), European Commission, Seville, Spain
David Colman	Emeritus Professor, Department of Environmental & Resource Economics, Manchester University, UK
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Jose Maria Gil	CREDA, Parc Mediterrani de la Tecnologia, Barcelona, Spain
Alper Güzel	Department of Economics, 19 Mayıs University, Turkey
Selim Adem Hatırlı	Süleyman Demirel University, Department of Economics, Turkey
Haluk Kasnakoğlu	Emeritus Professor, Department of Economics, Middle East Technical University, Turkey
Erdener Kaynak	School of Business Administration, The Pennsylvania State University at Harrisburg, USA
Taylan Kıymaz	State Planning Office, Turkey
Myrna van Leeuwen	International Policy LEI-Wageningen, Netherlands
Giulio Malorgio	University of Bologna, Managing Editor of New Medit
Marian Garcia Martinez	University of Kent
William H Meyers	Co-Director, FAPRI, University of Missouri, USA
Gökhan Özertan	Department of Economics, Boğaziçi University, İstanbul, Turkey
Yavuz Tekelioğlu	Emeritus Professor, Department of Economics, Akdeniz University, Turkey
Frank van Tongeren	Head of division for Policies in Trade and Agriculture, OECD Directorate for Trade and Agriculture

10. Registration

Participants of an EAAE-Seminar have to be member of the EAAE. The participation fees for the non-EAAE-members include the EAAE membership fee. Participants are kindly asked to pre-register by December 31, 2010. Although registration will be possible until January 24, 2011, reduced rate subscription is offered until December 31, 2010.

	EAAE-Members	Students
before December 31, 2010	280 Euro	180 Euro
after December 31, 2010	330 Euro	230 Euro

The fees include an information package, a name tag, coffee breaks, 2 lunches, one welcome reception, one conference Dinner, abstract book, conference CD and bus transfer from designated hotels-Conference Center-designated hotels. Accommodation is not included.

Non EAAE members will have to pay their (45 €) EAAEmembership at arrival.

Refund policy:

Cancellation after 14 th January 2011 -	no refund
Cancellation between 07 th -14 th January 2011 -	10% refund
Cancellation between 31 st December 2010-07 th January 2011 -	50% refund
Cancellation up to 31 st December 2010 -	full refund

Guidelines for registration are available on the website of the seminar,
www.meditresearch.com.

11. Important dates

Abstract submission:	August 31, 2010
Author notification:	October 15, 2010
Full paper and poster submission:	January 24, 2011
Deadline for early registration discount:	December 31, 2010
Deadline for registration:	January 24, 2011

12. Contact person

Conference Secretariat: Gülden Bölük, Serhat Aşçı, Mehmet Zambak, Reyhan Özeş
Secretariat e-mail: medit@akdeniz.edu.tr

13. Objectives of the EAAE

Besides the aforementioned scientific objectives, EAAE will extend its scientific activities towards Turkey with the 121st Seminar and offer an opportunity for agricultural economists, economists and modelers, particularly young researchers, from Turkey and also her neighbor countries to participate to the seminar and to interact with the EU and international colleagues.