

## Early Career Fellowship Programme



The call for applications is now over and we are delighted to have received many exciting submissions for FAC's Early Career Fellowship Programme (ECFP) from up and coming agriculture researchers.

The review process is beginning and successful applicants will be notified soon. For updates and information about the ECFP please consult the Fellowship [web pages](#).

ECFP awards are available to early career professionals working in Africa and the UK. Both full-time and part-time appointments are available and all fellowships will include a senior FAC researcher affiliated with a FAC partner institution. The awards will support original field-based and policy-oriented research on African agricultural policy.

Read more about the ECFP [here](#).

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## Awakening Africa's Sleeping Giant

*FAC holds workshop to critically assess possibilities in the Guinea Savannah*

FAC and its partner [SOAS \(Faculty of Law and Social Sciences\)](#) recently convened an international workshop to critically assess the prospects for dramatically expanding internationally competitive agriculture in Sub-Saharan Africa, with a particular focus on the Guinea Savannah agro-ecological zone.

The workshop drew together a host of agriculture researchers including Hans Binswanger-Mkhize (pictured here), a co-author of the study report: [Awakening Africa's Sleeping Giant](#).



Follow these links to: [Workshop information and resources](#) and FAC's Ian Scoones' [workshop commentary](#).

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## New FAC website: [www.future-agricultures.org](http://www.future-agricultures.org)

*A 70% increase in website traffic in the first month*

FAC's new website is recording more than a 70% increase in daily visitor traffic since its launch last month. Featuring more [research](#), [publications](#), [events](#), [e-debates](#), [RSS Feeds](#) and new interactive elements like commenting and bookmarking, the new site is an excellent



resource for FAC's work dating back to 2005.

Stay up-to-date with FAC research, publications and events:

- Bookmark our website in your browser favourites: [www.future-agricultures.org](http://www.future-agricultures.org)
- Sign up for this quarterly [Newsletter](#)
- Sign up to our [RSS](#) feed

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## Seasonality, Rural Livelihoods and Development

*A new book to be published by Earthscan*



Following the Future Agricultures conference on '[Seasonality Revisited](#)', Earthscan is publishing a book of selected conference papers later this year. The book will be titled 'Seasonality, Rural Livelihoods and Development', and is edited by Stephen Devereux, Richard Longhurst and Rachel Sabates-Wheeler. Several Future Agricultures Consortium members have chapters in the book, including Ephraim

Chirwa, Andrew Dorward, Eva Ludi and Lydia Ndirangu.

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## Kenya policy engagement

*FAC continues a regular dialogue with policy makers*

FAC's Lydia Ndirangu has been involved in preparatory work for an in-depth case study of the school meals and nutrition component of the Ministry of Agriculture's [Njaa Marufuku Kenya](#) (NMK- Eliminate Hunger in Kenya) Project. This is in collaboration with the NMK project coordinator, Ministry of Education, Partnership for Child Development (PCD); Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) with guidance provided by the FAC's Social Protection theme coordinators.

John Omiti participated in several policy meetings with Kenya government officials and researchers. The meetings included cost benefit analysis of institutional and legal reforms undertaken to 'right-size' the number of parastatals in the Ministry of Agriculture and a public debate on food security in Kenya at the [Goethe Institute](#) in Nairobi. The meeting was facilitated by the FAO country office.

FAC also participated in other agriculture policy events including:

- a workshop on inclusive partnerships for Agricultural Research and Development, organized by the Global Forum for Agricultural Research (GFAR) in collaboration with Institutional Learning & Change. See [www.cgiar-ilac.org/workshop/wip](http://www.cgiar-ilac.org/workshop/wip)
- Ministry of Agriculture consultations on the Evaluation Frame for the Agricultural Sector (lead by Dr. Bjorn Lundgren, former Director General of ICRAF). A workshop was subsequently held to disseminate the findings. Reports are [here](#).
- European Report on Development (ERD, 2010) on Social Protection and Inequality in Brussels. A number of colleagues from FAC's Secretariat also participated. Minutes are [here](#).

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## Growth and Social Protection

*New case studies launched on 'graduation' from social protection schemes*

FAC's Growth and Social Protection theme launched a series of four research studies, linked by the theme of graduation from agriculture-related social protection programmes, in Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi and Burkina Faso. Graduation describes a process whereby recipients of cash,



food or input transfers move from a position of depending on external assistance to a condition where they no longer need these transfers, and can exit the programme. Sustainable graduation implies (a) the capacity to generate adequate streams of future food and income; and (b) resilience against future shocks.

In addition, FAC's Amdissa Teshome is participating in recent parliamentary briefings on social protection and recently undertook a social protection mapping and gap analysis as a pre-requisite for a planned policy revision.

Read more on FAC's theme page for [Social Protection](#).

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## Malawi signs CAADP Compact



Malawi's CAADP Roundtable and Compact Signing was held in Lilongwe on 19 April 2010. FAC's Ephraim Chirwa and Mirriam Matita participated in the CAADP Roundtable and Compact Signing.

The CAADP Compact Signing was preceded by the official launch of the Agriculture Sector-Wide Approach (ASWAp) which detailed Malawi's prioritised and harmonized agricultural development agenda of realizing at least 6 percent annual growth of the agricultural sector (picture below). The ASWAp focuses on three key areas: food security and risk management; commercial agriculture, agro-

processing and market development; and sustainable agricultural land and water management. The ASWAp document was informed by FAC research and FCA was also involved in the development of the Agriculture Development Programme (ADP).

See: [Malawi signs CAADP Compact and commits to increased investments in Agriculture](#) (NEPAD.org)

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## FAC continues work on Malawi's fertiliser programme

The FAC Malawi team of Ephraim Chirwa, Blessings Chinsinga, and Mirriam Matita continued to meet with Malawian agriculture CSOs in developing a joint Policy Brief on lessons generated from research on the Malawi Agriculture Input Subsidy Programme. FAC also participated in a workshop on the Evaluation of the 2009 Agricultural Input Programme held in Lilongwe where CSOs and the Independent Evaluation Team presented findings from two separate evaluations. The workshop was attended by senior officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, other key government ministries, representatives of CSOs, the development partners and researchers.

The Country Coordinator had preliminary discussions with the Director of Planning in the [Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security](#) on the activities of FAC and the outputs that we have produced in the previous phases which could be of use to policy makers. The Country Coordinator also met with the Director of Social Protection in the [Ministry of Development Cooperation and Planning](#). The issues discussed included progress on the Social Protection Policy and FACM research activities and outputs.

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## Pastoralism

### *Pastoralist innovation case studies launched*

FAC is beginning case studies of pastoralist innovations with researchers in Kenya and Ethiopia that relate to: camel livestock marketing in North Eastern Province of Kenya; access to fodder in the Tana River Valley; camel dairying in the peri-

urban region of Jijiga; and new tenure arrangements for livestock emerging in response to the growth of markets and responses to increasing enclosures.

The FAC Pastoralism Theme Coordinator is Jeremy Lind who met with the [Pastoralist Communications Initiative](#) to agree the terms of their contribution to FAC's pastoralism research. PCI will also be working with members of the [Pastoralist Shade Initiative](#) to prepare a case study on a grassroots peace-process on the Kenya/Ethiopia borders. And PCI will help organise a 'University in the Bush', an innovative convening activity that will involve discussing the pastoralist innovation case studies with pastoralist representatives, thinkers, and aid and government agency officials at a tented camp in northern Kenya in late 2010.

In 2011, FAC is planning an international conference on 'the Future of Pastoralism in Africa', to be held in Addis Ababa. The conference will be co-organised FAC and [Tufts University](#), which has a programme and office in Addis Ababa. More details about this conference are coming soon to FAC's website.

In Ethiopia, FAC is co-organising a panel discussion entitled [Options for the Pastoral/Agro-pastoral Extension System in Ethiopia](#) with the [Pastoral Community Development Project](#) (PCDP) of the Ministry of Federal Affairs. The discussion takes place on July 12 in Addis Ababa and plans to input into a government draft document on the participatory pastoral extension system. For more information, visit this [link](#).

More information about FAC's Pastoralism theme can be found [here](#).

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## Climate Change

### *FAC's Lars Otto Naess launches country case studies*

FAC's recently launched theme climate change and agriculture policy processes begins with a series of case studies in Kenya and Ethiopia and a FAC Working Paper on climate change and agricultural policy processes in Africa. Based on this Working Paper, three other Working Papers will be commissioned on climate change and agriculture. The work will build on case studies undertaken under the DFID/IDRC CCAA project 'Research to Policy for Adaptation' (RPA) in Kenya, Tanzania and Malawi, to be completed autumn 2010.

Lars Otto also published [Changing Climates, Changing Lives. Adaptation Strategies of Pastoral and Agro-Pastoral Communities in Ethiopia and Mali](#). IDS, ACF-International, Tearfund, IER, A-Z Consult, ODES. The report is a synthesis of country reports from Ethiopia and Mali. Amdissa Teshome was the lead author of the Ethiopia country report. See webstory at <http://www.ids.ac.uk/go/news/changing-climates-changing-lives-local-voices-and-adaptation-to-climate-change>

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## FAC in West Africa

**West Africa Transect Study:** Following an initial visit to Ghana and Burkina Faso in January, FAC succeeded in contracting research partners in Ghana at the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, the University of Ghana and the University of Development Studies. Burkina Faso partners were identified at [CEDRES](#) in Ouagadougou to undertake this research.

**Agricultural development and school feeding:** FAC's Jim Sumberg continued to work with Rachel Sabates-Wheeler on a project through the Partnership for Child Development at Imperial College on the theory of change around "home-grown school feeding" linking social protection and agriculture. In June, they presented a working paper at the *2010 Global Child Nutrition Forum*, Accra (1-5 June 2010), and this will soon appear as a FAC Working Paper called *Linking Agricultural Development to School Feeding*.



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## Ethiopia coordination

### *FAC's Amdissa Teshome engages with CAADP*



Amdissa Teshome attended the 6th CAADP PP meeting at the end of April in Johannesburg - this meeting was missing a number of European participants due to the flight interruptions from Iceland's volcanic ash. Dr. Teshome present preliminary findings of a mapping and gap analysis and chaired a parallel session on climate change The PP communiqué can be found [here](#).

FAC is keen to continue engaging with CAADP in terms of our research and our participation in future CAADP events; two events are of specific interest: 1) [CAADP Africa Forum](#) in Burkina Faso where climate change and smallholder adaptation strategies are the central themes. FAC's Climate Change theme coordinator is considering how we might input into this event. 2) [CAADP PP meeting in West Africa](#) where FAC aims to make presentations on (i) Youth and Agriculture and (ii) Graduation from safety nets.

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## Future Farmers

### *FAC research beginning on Africa's future farmers*

FAC's new theme on youth and Africa's future farmers started with a scoping workshop to revise and finalise a rural youth aspirations background paper. This paper is now becoming a new FAC Policy Brief on the subject. As well, researchers are collating and auditing existing datasets on rural youth in sub-Saharan Africa, particularly in relation to aspirations, and continue to build networks to firmly establish Future Farmers as a new FAC theme.

FAC's Sally Smith's work on Youth and Agriculture was recently presented at the following events/meetings:

- [International Social and Environmental Standards Alliance](#) (ISEAL) conference in London;
- Donor Meeting on Strategic Funding for Fairtrade (hosted by DFID);
- [Comic Relief](#) Trade Programme Advisory Group meeting;
- [Oxfam's International](#) Steering Group meeting for programme on Women's Collective Action in Agricultural Marketing.

Read more about FAC's theme on [Youth and Agriculture](#).

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## Upcoming Events

- **8 July - 29 July 2010: [FAC's Africa Seminar Series](#):** In partnership with the Overseas Development Institute (ODI), FAC is launching a new series of discussions about timely agriculture topics with key presentations by experts. [Read More](#)
- **12 July 2010: [Options for Pastoral/Agro-pastoral Extension in Ethiopia](#):** One day panel discussion co-organised with Pastoral Community Development Project (PCDP) of the Ministry of Federal Affairs. [Read More](#)

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## Working / Research Paper series

*More than 30 research papers available online now*

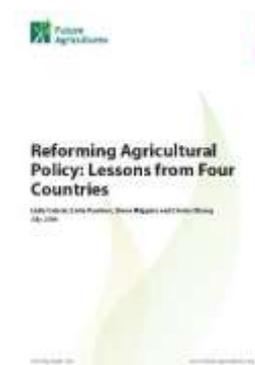
FAC is completing the design and re-launch of two research series: Working Papers and Research papers.

[Working Paper Series](#): This series reports research activities or interim findings and aims to share ideas and elicit feedback. FAC publishes approximately six to ten Working Papers annually. There are currently 13 Working Papers available to [download](#).

**Research Paper Series:** The Research Paper series reports findings to the research community. It is intended to contribute new analysis to agricultural issues in Africa; FAC publishes five to ten Research papers annually. There are currently 17 Research Papers available to [download](#).

FAC's **Policy Brief** series is online and expanding. See our collection [here](#) or below for individual titles:

1. [Land, Land Policy and Smallholder Agriculture in Ethiopia](#)
2. [Pathways for Ethiopian Agriculture: Options and Scenarios](#)
3. [Food Aid and Smallholder Agriculture in Ethiopia](#)
4. [Intensification of Smallholder Agriculture in Ethiopia](#)
5. [Agriculture, Growth and Poverty Reduction in Ethiopia](#)
6. [Agricultural Policy in Kenya](#)
7. [Agriculture Policy Processes in Kenya](#)
8. [Future Scenarios for Agriculture in Malawi: Challenges and Dilemmas](#)
9. [Future Scenarios for Agriculture in Malawi: Challenges and Dilemmas \(ii\) policy](#)
10. [What Role for Ministries of Agriculture in the 21st Century?](#)
11. [Promoting Agriculture for Social Protection or Social Protection for Agriculture? \(i\) Concepts/Frame](#)
12. [Promoting Agriculture for Social Protection or Social Protection for Agriculture? \(ii\) Policy](#)
13. [Reclaiming Policy Space: Lessons from Malawi's Fertiliser Subsidy Programme](#)
14. [The Limits of Success: The Case of the Dairy Sector in Kenya](#)
15. [Politics and the Future of Ministries of Agriculture: Rethinking Roles and Transforming Agendas](#)
16. [Donor Policy Narratives: What Role for Agriculture?](#)
17. [Agricultural Commercialisations - A Level Playing Field for Smallholders?](#)
18. [Rethinking Agricultural Input Subsidies in Poor Rural Economies](#)
19. [The Politics of Policy Reforms in Kenya's Dairy Sector](#)
20. [Using Social Protection to Reduce Vulnerability and Promote Economic Growth in Kenya](#)
21. [Smallholder Coffee Commercialisation in Malawi](#)
22. [The Malawi Fertiliser Subsidy Programme: politics and pragmatism](#)
23. [Malawi's Agriculture Ministry: Fit for Purpose?](#)
24. [The Social Protection Policy in Malawi: Processes, Politics and Challenges](#)
25. [The Global Fertiliser Crisis and Africa](#)
26. [Fertiliser Subsidies: Lessons from Malawi for Kenya](#)
27. [Agriculture and Social Protection in Africa](#)
28. [Agriculture and Social Protection in Malawi: Fertiliser Policies and Politics](#)
29. [Agriculture and Social Protection in Ethiopia: The Politics of Land and 'Graduation'](#)
30. [Agriculture and Social Protection in Ghana: A 'LEAP' in the Dark?](#)
31. [Challenges and Opportunities for Strengthening Farmers Organisations in Africa: Lessons](#)
32. [The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Farmers' Organisations](#)
33. [The limits of decentralised governance: the case of agriculture in Malawi](#)



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