

# **SYLLABUS**

**Autumn 2009**

## **International Agricultural Cooperation (I)**

**Professor:** Dr. Pai-Po Lee

**Classes:**

**Credits:** 3

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### **Objectives:**

Agriculture is a vital development tool for achieving the Millennium Development Goal that calls for halving by 2015 the share of people suffering from extreme poverty and hunger. Three out of every four poor people in developing countries live in rural areas, and most of them depend directly or indirectly on agriculture for their livelihoods.

In much of Sub-Saharan Africa, agriculture is a strong option for spurring growth, overcoming poverty, and enhancing food security. Agricultural productivity growth is vital for stimulating growth in other parts of the economy. But accelerated growth requires a sharp productivity increase in smallholder farming combined with more effective support to the millions coping as subsistence farmers, many of them in remote areas. Recent improved performance holds promise, and this Report identifies many emerging successes that can be scaled up.

In Asia, overcoming widespread poverty requires confronting widening rural-urban income disparities. Asia's fast-growing economies remain home to over 600 million rural people living in extreme poverty, and despite massive rural-urban migration, rural poverty will remain dominant for several more decades. For this reason, the *WDR* focuses on ways to generate rural

jobs by diversifying into labor-intensive, high-value agriculture linked to a dynamic rural, nonfarm sector.

In all regions, with rising land and water scarcity and the added pressures of a globalizing world, the future of agriculture is intrinsically tied to better stewardship of natural resources. With the right incentives and investments, agriculture's environmental footprint can be lightened, and environmental services harnessed to protect watersheds and biodiversity.

Today, rapidly expanding domestic and global markets; institutional innovations in markets, finance, and collective action; and revolutions in biotechnology and information technology all offer exciting opportunities to use agriculture to promote development. But seizing these opportunities will require the political will to move forward with reforms that improve the governance of agriculture.

Ultimately, success will also depend on concerted action by the international development community to confront the challenges ahead. We must level the playing field in international trade; provide global public goods, such as technologies for tropical food staples; help developing countries address climate change; and overcome looming health pandemics for plants, animals, and humans. At stake are the livelihoods of 900 million rural poor, who also deserve to share the benefits of a sustainable and inclusive globalization.

This course is aiming to understand the insight of trend and policy in global agricultural policy and economic development. The students are expected to learn agriculture for development, the importance of formation of regional strategies including Asia and Pacific, Latin America and Caribbean and African region. The discussion subjects of curriculum are follows:

## **Topics:**

### **Part I. International Agricultural Development Policy and International Trade**

1. Agriculture for development (Overview)
2. (1)Growth and poverty reduction in agriculture's three worlds  
(2)Agriculture's performance, diversity, and uncertainties
3. (1)Rural households and their pathways out of poverty

- (2)Reforming trade, price, and subsidy policies
- 4. (1)Bringing agriculture to the market
  - (2)Supporting smallholder competitiveness through institutional innovations
  - (3)Innovating through science and technology
- 5. (1)Making agricultural systems more environmentally sustainable
  - (2)Moving beyond the farm
- 6. (1)Emerging national agendas for agriculture's three worlds
  - (2)Strengthening governance, from local to global
- 7. Agricultural policies in OECD Countries and Non-OECD Countries
- 8. Agricultural outlook 2008-2017
- 9. Agricultural Supply and Demand: Worldwide Facts Contributing to the Recent Increase in Food Commodity Prices.

## **Part II. Global and Regional Strategies for Agricultural Development**

- 10.Global Strategies for Agricultural Development
- 11.Strategy for Agricultural Development in Africa
- 12.Strategy for Agricultural Development in Latin America
- 13.Trends, Challenges and Opportunities for Agriculture in the Caribbean
- 14.Strategy for Agricultural Development in Pacific Island Countries

### **Approaches of Class:**

Speech, Study Group, Presentation of Student, Organization Visit and Field Trip

### **Reference Books and Informations:**

- 1. The World Bank (2008), World development report— Agriculture for Development.

2. OECD (2008), Agricultural Policies in OECD Countries—  
Monitoring and Evaluation.
3. OECD (2008), Agricultural Policies in Non-OECD Countries—  
Monitoring and Evaluation.

**Grading:**

Class performance    30%

Midterm examine    30%

Final examine    40%