

Press Release

KfW prize awarded for applied development research

- Prizes for five outstanding research studies
- Prizes for excellence go to Göttingen and Zurich
- Prizes for young researchers from Freiburg, Bonn and Göttingen

Frankfurt, 24 June 2011
No 050 E

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This evening, KfW Entwicklungsbank will award for the second time the KfW prize for excellence in applied development research. The award ceremony will take place as part of the annual meeting of development economists from the Verein für Socialpolitik (Association for social policy) in Berlin.

“Applied development research provides us with valuable knowledge for our development aid work. As a development bank, our job is to meet the diverse challenges of our time and bear responsibility for sustainable development to benefit industry and developing countries,” said Chief Executive Officer of KfW Bankengruppe, Dr Ulrich Schröder.

The chairman of the award committee, Professor Stephan Klasen, explained: “With this prize we want to encourage young scientists above all to take up the challenge of applying their excellent scientific skills to find answers to questions that can help overcome global poverty.”

The prize is awarded in two categories: The prize for excellence is in recognition of an outstanding publication in an internationally respected professional journal, while the young researcher prize singles out outstanding doctoral theses.

The **prize for excellence** (total endowment EUR 5,000) went to the agroeconomist Matin Qaim (University of Göttingen) and Benedikt Korf (ETH Zurich). In his study, **Qaim** shows how genetically modified seed can help significantly raise incomes for poor smallholders in India and improve child nutrition.

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Korf examines the role of local hierarchies in the distribution of relief goods in response to the tsunami in Sri Lanka. The findings show that knowing about and accounting for these is very important for relief organisations to guarantee the effectiveness of their aid.

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The **prizes for young researchers** (total endowment EUR 9,500) went to Krisztina Kis Katos (University of Freiburg), Patrick Sakdapolrak (University of Bonn) and James Rao (University of Göttingen, ILRI). In her work, **Kis-Katos** examines the impacts of trade liberalisation on child labour.

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Sakdapolrak deals with the (lack of) acceptance of free health services among slumdweller in India and **Rao** analyses how smallholders in Kenya can benefit from the local expansion of supermarket chains.

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