

National Institute for Agricultural Research

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Research Department Directory Social Sciences, Agriculture and Food, Rural Development and Environment Division

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FOOD AND NUTRITION
AGRICULTURE
ENVIRONMENT

INRA

Social Sciences, Agriculture and Food, Rural Development and Environment Division

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Alban Thomas - Alban.Thomas@toulouse.inra.fr

The objective of the Department of Social Sciences, Agriculture and Nutrition, Space and the Environment is to develop and improve the study and interpretation of agricultural economics and sociology. The department strives for a balanced coverage of the main issues within the broad subject matter of agricultural economics and sociology. These include production economics and farm management, agricultural policy with particular reference to France and the European Union, international trade, marketing of agricultural and food products, food consumption, natural resources, environmental economics and sociology, and rural and community development.

Units by Research Centre

Angers-Nantes

■ Research Unit for Economic Researches and Studies - UR1134

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Director

Emmanuelle Chevassus-Lozza -

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Presentation

LERECO (Laboratory for Economic Researches and Studies) is the economic research unit at Nantes Research Centre. The staff of 17 people includes 7 researchers.

The research in the laboratory covers two main topics:

- Public policies, agricultural and agrofood production, and trade
- Characterisation of scientific and technological activities

Keywords

agricultural income ; agrofood industry ; bibliometrics ; cattle farming ; common agricultural policy ; environmental economics ; farm holding ; farming system ; food safety ; industrial economics ; intellectual property ; international economics ; international trade ; scientometrics ; subsidy to farming

Research Teams or Activities

• Bibliometrics, Scientometrics, Methods and Applications -

Michel Zitt - zitt@nantes.inra.fr

• Public policies, agricultural and agrofood production, and

trade - Emmanuelle Chevassus-Lozza - chevassu@nantes.inra.fr

Last update : 2008/10/20

Units by Research Centre

Antilles-Guyane

■ Agropedoclimatic Unit of the Caribbean Region - UR135

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Director

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Keywords

agrarian system ; agronomy ; bioclimatology ; cropping systems ; drainage ; evapotranspiration ; intercropping ; irrigation ; mineral element ; modelling ; pedology ; plant community ; radiative transfer ; tropical area ; tropical climate ; water management ; water transfer

Research Teams or Activities

• Modelling Architecture, Development, Exchanges and Regulation by the Environment - François Bussière -

bussiere@antilles.inra.fr

• - Yves-Marie Cabidoche - cabidoche@antilles.inra.fr

Last update : 2006/10/02

Units by Research Centre

Avignon

■ Joint Research Laboratory for Applied Economics - Grenoble - UMR1215

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Director

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Presentation

The Grenoble Applied Economics Laboratory (GAEL) is a joint research unit between INRA and Pierre Mendès France University laboratory.

The research in GAEL covers three main topics:

- The economics and the management of innovation. The research focus on: (1) the intellectual property rights, (2) the evolution of industry structure, (3) the coordination of the research activities. The research projects generally concern the innovations in the life sciences area.

- Environmental economics. The research focus on the regulation of the externalities generated by the agricultural activities. Bio-economic models are often used to take into account the specificities of the biological process.

- The experimental economics method. This method is more particularly applied to the analysis of the consumer behaviour, and to some industrial economics issues related to the evolution of the supply chains.

The Unit participates to the joint PhD program "Industrial Organization and Production System" (OISP) between the Pierre Mendès France University and the Institut National Polytechnique of Grenoble, and to the PhD program in Economics of the Pierre Mendès France University.

The web site of GAEL is: www.grenoble.inra.fr

Keywords

appraisal ; biotechnology ; decision support ; experimental economy ; industrial economics ; innovation ; intellectual property ; land ; pollution ; public policy ; resource management ; rural area ; subsidy to farming ; sustainable agriculture ; technological change

Research Teams or Activities

- **Innovation in the Life Sciences Industry (Biotechnologies)**

- Stéphane Lemarié - lemarie@grenoble.inra.fr

- **Knowledge Transfer (Relationships between Public and Private Research)** - Vincent Mangematin - vincent@grenoble.inra.fr

- **Rationalisation of Genetic Resource and Biodiversity Conservation** - Michel Trommetter -

Michel.Trommetter@grenoble.inra.fr

- **Regulation, Environment and Agriculture** - Amédée Mollard

- mollard@grenoble.inra.fr

Last update : 2008/08/27

Units by Research Centre

Clermont-Ferrand - Theix - Lyon

■ Herbivore Research Unit - UR1213

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Director

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Presentation

The Herbivore Research Unit (HRU) has a permanent workforce of 172, of which 62 are researchers and engineers. It also hosts 80 to 100 temporary personnel each year (including fifteen or so PhD and post-doctoral students), which is equivalent to about 40 full-time positions.

The HRU is organised into 7 research teams, a logistics team and an experimental unit. It also has an experimental slaughterhouse. Its annual operating budget is approximately Euro 3.2 m, including one third in the form of contracts. Each year, the unit publishes approximately 320 articles and provides 320 hours of lectures, and also participates in 20 or so in-service training sessions. The HRU has produced or co-produced two computer-aided decision making software packages (INRAtion and Prévalim, approximately 2,000 users) and currently holds 5 patents.

The HRU's mission is to contribute to the development of sustainable herbivore farming systems in accordance with public expectations, i.e. reconciling socio-economic viability and rural development, respect for the environment, product quality and animal welfare. In this respect, the HRU assesses the predominant and alternative production systems and proposes innovative techniques to optimise those systems, in particular under extensive conditions. To achieve this objective, the HRU analyses (with modern biology tools) and integrates the underlying biological mechanisms, together with the response laws for the animal with a view to proposing decision making tools to the main parties involved (producers, consumers, the public, the regional authorities, etc.) In parallel with this production and

integration of knowledge, the HRU's mission is to play a part in training (higher education and in-service training) in animal nutrition and breeding and in the Institute's experience as regards herbivore husbandry.

As part of that mission, the HRU's main objectives are as follows:

- Product quality. The research objective is to improve the sensorial, nutritional and health quality of meat and dairy products through husbandry practices, in particular feeding.
- Environment. The objective is to study the interactions between the herbivores, the husbandry system and the environment, essentially through the effects of the vegetation cover.
- Animal welfare. The objective is to assess animal welfare in order to propose and guarantee husbandry practices which respect that welfare.
- Production system effectiveness. The objective is to ensure the economic viability of the milk and meat production paths in an ever more competitive environment.
- Farming systems. The objective is to design sustainable and adaptable breeding systems in view of the demands of the market and society.

The Unit is developing four major types of partnership operation (Research, R&D, training and consultancy).

As regards research, most of the HRU partnership research activities is built as part of European programmes. Other research partnerships are part of bilateral relationships with French or foreign universities or research centres (MLURI, ASG, etc.) and also with companies (seed industry, animal foodstuffs, etc...).

As regards R&D, the HRU is involved in several regional R&D programmes (Northern Alps GIS, Massif Central Cheese Pole, Meat Pole, Sensitive Rural Areas, Agro bio GIS and InnoViandes Competitiveness Pole) and is developing special partnerships with technological institutes (Arvalis, Arilait, Institut de l'Elevage, ITPLC and ADIV).

As regards training, the HRU is an integral part in particular of the Doctorate School for Life and Health Sciences of the University of Auvergne where it is involved in the Nutrition and Food sciences Masters and in the "Regional products food companies: from production to consumption" professional Masters. It is developing special relationships with the ENITA in Clermont-Ferrand, one unit of which is currently under contract with the HRU.

Units by Research Centre

Lastly, HRU researchers provide a consultancy service in animal welfare at European level, in food safety with the AFSSA, in dairy and meat product quality with various professional or regulatory authorities (INAO, DGAL, etc...), and in the value of feed for ruminants.

Keywords

animal behaviour ; animal growth ; animal health ; animal nutrition ; animal welfare ; cattle ; digestion ; environment ; lactation ; livestock management ; livestock management system ; meat ; metabolism ; milk ; quality ; sheep

Research Teams or Activities

- **Effects of Herbivore Production Systems on Milk and Meat Quality - Performance Modelling** - Jacques Agabriel -

jacques.agabriel@clermont.inra.fr

- **Herbivore-plant interactions and forages** - Bertrand Dumont

- bertrand.dumont@clermont.inra.fr

- **Adaptative Behaviour and Welfare of Ruminants** - Alain

Boissy - alain.boissy@clermont.inra.fr

- **Microbial Digestion and Absorption** - Diego Morgavi -

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- **Nutrients and Metabolisms in Ruminants** - Isabelle Ortigues

- isabelle.ortigues@clermont.inra.fr

- **Muscular Growth and Properties Affecting Meat Quality in Ruminants** - Brigitte Picard - brigitte.picard@clermont.inra.fr

- **Adipose Tissue and Mammary Metabolism - Quality of Milk Fat** - Christine Leroux - christine.leroux@clermont.inra.fr

- **Experimental Facilities** - Jean-Claude Bonnefoy -

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- - Roland Jailler - roland.jailler@clermont.inra.fr

Last update : 2009/01/08

Units by Research Centre

Dijon

■ Joint Research Unit for Agricultural Economics and Sociology - Dijon - UMR1041

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Director

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Presentation

The INRA-ENESAD Joint Research Unit for Agricultural Economics and Sociology at Dijon is made up primarily of economists but also includes sociologists and geographers. It investigates economic and social dynamics in the agricultural and agri-food sectors and in rural areas, with special emphasis on the role of public policies. Activities are organised around two topics of research:

- Rural areas and regional dynamics

(moderator: F. Aubert):

Structuring of the countryside and delimitation of rural areas;
urban-rural migration patterns; rural employment dynamics;
employment and the rural workforce; agriculture and rural areas.

- Analysis and evaluation of public policies

(moderator: J.C. Kroll):

Forms of public policy implementation and management; the impact of

agricultural, environmental and rural development policies.

Keywords

agricultural policy ; agrofood industry ; economic sector ;
employment ; firm management ; industrial economics ;
innovation ; land-use planning and development ; periurban area

; public economics ; regional development ; regional economics
; rural area ; urban area

Research Teams or Activities

• **Agriculture and Public Policies** - Jean-Christophe Kroll -
jc.kroll@enesad.fr

• **Rural Areas, Country Planning and Rural Policies** - Francis
Aubert - francis.aubert@enesad.inra.fr

Last update : 2007/10/04

Units by Research Centre

Montpellier

■ Joint Research Unit for Markets, Organizations, Institutions and Actor Strategies - UMR1110

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Director

Etienne Montaigne - montaigne@iamm.fr

Keywords

agrofood industry ; consumer behaviour ; enterprise ; industrial economics ; innovation ; market ; public policy ; quality label ; technological change

Research Teams or Activities

• **New Configurations of Markets and Firms in the Agri-Food Sector** - Selma Tozanli - tozanli@iamm.fr

• **Private Collective Structures in Coordination among Actors** - Pierre-Marie Bosc - bosc@cirad.fr

• **Public Policy Renewal and Institution Pluralism** - Céline Bignebat - bignebat@supagro.inra.fr

• **Sociology and Political Economics of Sustainable Development** - Benoît Daviron - benoit.daviron@cirad.fr

• **Sustainable food consumption** - Muriel Figuié - muriel.figuie@cirad.fr

Last update : 2008/09/15

■ Joint Research Unit for Theoretical and Applied Economics - Montpellier - UMR1135

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Director

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Presentation

The Theoretical and Applied Economics Laboratory in Montpellier (LAMETA) is a joint research unit on economics funded by the University of Montpellier I, the National College for Advanced Studies in Agriculture in Montpellier (ENSAM), the International Mediterranean Agricultural Institute in Montpellier (IAMM), and by the CNRS, the CEMAGREF and the INRA.

These institutions have chosen to concentrate their resources on specific research areas where they will have comparative advantages.

33 researchers, 7 technicians and 50 Phd students are currently working within the LAMETA. The current director of the LAMETA is Claude Diebolt, Robert Lifran being co-director.

The LAMETA website can be found on: www.lameta.univ-montp1.fr

The LAMETA is organized into three departments:

Theme 1. Micoeconomics, Public Economics and Experimental Economics

Theme 2. Macroeconomics, Econometrics and Cliometrics

Theme 3. Environmental and resources economics, and Public Policies

This third department deals with problems concerning the design, implementation and assessment of public policies, with special emphasis on the coordination of agricultural and environmental policies.

Programme 3.1. Agriculture, the environment and public policies

Units by Research Centre

Programme 3.2. Public policies to protect the landscape and biodiversity

Programme 3.3. Decentralization of water management

Programme 3.4 International negotiations on common global policies: global changes and biodiversity.

Keywords

agricultural policy ; biodiversity ; environmental impact ; modelling ; pollution ; public economics ; public goods ; public policy ; resource preservation ; risk management ; sustainable development ; sustainable management ; water management

Research Teams or Activities

- **Agriculture, Environment and Public Policies**
- **Economics and Decentralized Management of Water** - Patrick Rio - rio@ensam.inra.fr
- **Public Policies and Landscape and Biodiversity Dynamics** - Robert Lifran - lifran@ensam.inra.fr
- **Sustainable Development** - Mabel Tidball - tidball@supagro.inra.fr

Last update : 2008/09/15

Units by Research Centre

Nancy

■ Joint Research Unit for Forest Economics Laboratory - UMR356

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Director

Anne Stenger-Letheux - stenger@nancy-engref.inra.fr

Presentation

The research unit developed around five main themes:

- * Risk management and forest adaptation to climate change
- * From multifunctionality concept to its implementation: markets, contracts and public policies from local to global
- * Economic Modeling in the wood sector, the economical impact of climate policies on the sector : an empirical analysis
- * Industrial Economics applied to the wood sector
- * Analysis of the determinants of consumption of wood and wood material: price, quality and perceived role of ecolabels
- * Observatory of the wood sector

Keywords

agri-environmental contract ; agricultural policy ; climatic change ; competitiveness ; consumer ; forest ; forest economics ; forestry production ; industrial economics ; international economics ; international trade ; production economics ; valorization ; wood production sector

Research Teams or Activities

• **Economics of Forest Industries and Wood Markets** - Lisette Ibanez - ibanez@nancy-engref.inra.fr

• **Economics of Forest Multifunctionality** - Anne Stenger-Letheux - stenger@nancy-engref.inra.fr

Last update : 2005/08/30

Units by Research Centre

Paris

■ Applied Economics Laboratory - Paris - UR1043

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Director

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Presentation

LEA's program 2006-2009 is on « Inequality, Mobility and Territories ». Inequality, poverty and mobility are studied in terms of income, wealth and access to primary needs such as nutrition, education and health. The spatial dimension is key, in order to put forward the divergent evolution between rural and urban zones or segregating lock-in phenomena where localisation reinforces the unequal access to basic needs or to employment. LEA's research are based on micro-econometrics, labor economics, development economics, international economics and economic history. Empirical applications are provided on contemporaneous France, France in the 19th and 20th centuries, and developing countries.

1. Spatial inequalities

 Analysis of rural/urban inequality and poverty

 Spatial organisation of peri-urban zones

 Localization and employment

2. Household savings, retirement behaviours of agricultural households

 Assesment of farmers' pension reforms

 Modelling saving choices and retirement decisions

 Labor flexibility

3. Economic history of wealth and inequality

 Inequality and inter-generational wealth transmission, France (based of Tra-patrimoine dataset) and Paris

 Credit markets

4. Development and trade

 Micro-economics of rural households

 Internal migrations in developing countries ; international migrations

 North-south international trade

 Agricultural prices fluctuations and risk for developing countries

5. Public policies assessment, some with controlled experiments

Keywords

agricultural price ; developing countries ; econometrics ; economic behaviour ; economic development ; employment ; family ; history ; household ; income ; inequality ; inheritance ; international trade ; labour ; macroeconomics ; migration ; model ; poverty ; public economics ; retirement ; rural development

Research Teams or Activities

• **Economic Behaviour of Households: Spatial Inequality** - Harris Selod

• **Economic History** - Gilles Postel-Vinay - gpv@ens.fr

• **Household Economic Behaviour** - Muriel Roger - Muriel.Roger@ens.fr

• **Institution and Trade Organisation**

Last update : 2007/07/19

■ Nutrition and Social Sciences Research Unit - UR1303

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Director

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Units by Research Centre

Research Teams or Activities

- - Séverine Gojard - gojard@ivry.inra.fr

Last update : 2008/06/06

■ Social and Political Changes related to Life Forms - UR1216

INRA

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Director

Pierre-Benoît Joly - joly@ivry.inra.fr

Keywords

agricultural production ; appraisal ; ethics ; innovation ; quality ; risk ; sociology

Research Teams or Activities

• **Collective Risks (Environmental and Health Risks) - Crisis Situation - Expertise and Public Debate**

• **Ethics, Sciences and Techniques**

• **Social Structure of Markets and Quality** - Marie-France Garcia
- MARIE-FRANCE.GARCIA-PARPET@ivry.inra.fr

Last update : 2006/07/17

■ Unit for Peasantry - Territories - Environment - Public Markets and Policies - UR1217

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Director

Agnès Fortier

Keywords

agri-environmental measure ; agricultural policy ; auction ; economy ; environmental policy ; farmers' organization ; food policy ; institution ; multifunctionality ; peasantry ; public policy ; rural area ; rural development ; rural economics ; sociology ; sustainable development

Research Teams or Activities

• **Agriculture and professional identities** - Lucie Dupre

• **Conservation of biodiversity, climate change: government actions, cognitive and social challenges** - Agnès Fortier -
fortier@ivry.inra.fr

• **Farming communities and agricultural policies** - Bernard Wolfer - wolfer@ivry.inra.fr

• **Lifestyles, cohabitation, mobility and rural areas** - Pierre Bitoun

• **Standards, references and sustainable development** - Pierre Alphandéry - alphande@ivry.inra.fr

Last update : 2008/09/25

Units by Research Centre

Rennes

■ Joint Research Unit for Agricultural Structures and Markets, Resources and Territories - UMR1302

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Director

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Research Teams or Activities

• **Agricultural structures and the environment** - Pierre Dupraz

- pierre.dupraz@rennes.inra.fr

• **Regulation of agricultural markets** - Alexandre Gohin -

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• **Scientific and technical support** - Laurent Piet -

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Last update : 2008/09/23

Units by Research Centre

Toulouse

■ Joint Research Unit for Environmental and Natural Resource Economics - UMR1081

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Director

Christian Gollier

Presentation

The Laboratoire d'Economie des Ressources NATurelles (LERNA) combines staff from INRA, the CNRS and the University of Toulouse I (Sciences Sociales). It focusses on natural resources economics, water economics, energy economics, growth and environment theory, environmental policy evaluation and environmental risks. The team develops databases, theoretical economic models and econometric models on these topics. These models are applied to public regulation issues in environmental, energy and agricultural policies.

Composed of researchers specialized in microeconomics, macroeconomics and dynamics, statistics and econometrics, the objectives of the team are to develop theoretical and empirical analyses of environmental issues, to provide policy makers with analytical and empirical tools for decision and strategy design and to provide the best scientific environment and skills for young researchers and students in its area, through its strong connections with the University of Toulouse.

The LERNA is a founding member of Toulouse School of Economics.

Keywords

agricultural activity ; economic growth ; environmental economics ; evaluation ; natural resources ; public policy ; resource management ; risk ; water

Research Teams or Activities

- **Growth - Environment - Energy** - Jean-Pierre Amigues - amigues@toulouse.inra.fr
- **Public Regulation - Agriculture and Environment** - François Salanie - salanie@toulouse.inra.fr
- **Risk and Environment** - Nicolas Treich - ntreich@toulouse.inra.fr
- **Use of Water and Environmental Resources** - Alban Thomas - thomas@toulouse.inra.fr

Last update : 2005/07/22

■ Mathematical and Quantitative Economics Research Group (Joint Research Unit) - UMR1291

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Director

Fabrice Collard

Research Teams or Activities

- - Pierre Dubois - Pierre.Dubois@toulouse.inra.fr

Last update : 2008/04/17

■ Observatory of Community Programmes for Rural Development - US685

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Units by Research Centre

Presentation

Keywords

agricultural policy ; agrofood industry ; dairy product ;
econometrics ; employment ; milk ; professional qualification ;
public economics ; rural area ; rural development ;
socioprofessional category

Research Teams or Activities

• **Employment - Territory - Innovation - Skills** - Danielle Galliano

- galliano@toulouse.inra.fr

• **Agricultural Markets and Agri-Food Industries** -

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Last update : 2009/01/08

Units by Research Centre

Versailles-Grignon

■ Joint Research Unit for Public Economics - UMR210 INRA - AgroParisTech

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Director

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Presentation

The Joint Research Unit for Public Economics INRA-AgroParisTech (UMR Economie Publique INRA-AgroParisTech) carries out economic research in the fields of: changing agriculture, public and environmental policies in the agricultural and agrofood sectors, Common Agricultural Policy, biofuels, climate change, international trade, etc. The aim is to provide a better scientific understanding as well as knowledge and data to decision-makers (French Ministers, European Commission), practitioners and civil society. The researchers combine academic economic research, applied economic analysis, modeling, quantitative methods, database development and interdisciplinary approaches.

Research in the Unit is organised around three areas:

* Agricultural Policy and Changes in Agriculture. This research area focuses on the changes in the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union and their impacts on the agricultural sector. Other research works study changing trends in agriculture linked to the economic, political, regulatory, social and technical evolution including biotechnology and GMO.

* Environment, Energy and Public Policies. This research area focuses on emissions of greenhouse gases from agriculture, sustainable agriculture, environmental issues, biofuels, land use, biodiversity, and contractual and regulatory tools in these fields.

* International Trade. This research team focuses on the trade negotiations, the tariffs reduction and the non tariff barriers.

Researchers from the agricultural economics department of INRA (National Institute for Agricultural Research) as well as professors in economics from AgroParisTech work together in the Joint Research Unit for Public Economics INRA-AgroParisTech. The research unit is located in Paris and Grignon (at the West of Versailles in the Yvelines department). The research work is linked to the teaching activity in AgroParisTech.

The Joint Research Unit is involved in the Master entitled "Économie du Développement Durable, de l'Environnement et de l'Énergie" (EDDEE). EDDEE Master is a collaborative master involving other Paris Universities such as ParisTech (École Polytechnique, École Nationale du Génie Rural, des Eaux et des Forêts, École Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées, École Nationale Supérieure des Mines de Paris), l'École Nationale Supérieure du Pétrole et des Moteurs, l'Institut National des Sciences et Techniques Nucléaires, l'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales and the Universities Paris X and Paris I.

COLLABORATIONS:

The Joint Research Unit has many scientific collaborations with universities in Europe via the FP6 and FP7 European research programs as well as in the US with Iowa State University. Some studies are carried out in connection with the European Commission. Some other works are based on interdisciplinary approaches with agronomic and biological disciplines.

See also: Unit web site URL:
<http://www.grignon.inra.fr/economie-publique/english/engindex.htm>

Keywords

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