

Presentation: Welcome to Germany

Dear students,

Welcome to our program!

Dean of Faculty, honourable consuls, estimated sponsors, dear lecturers and colleagues, dear guests, thank you for joining us for the opening ceremony of the third circle of our master's program *Land Management and Land Tenure*.

The master's program *Land Management and Land Tenure* addresses students who own a qualified bachelor and are already professionals in their field. We aim to give them a higher and internationally oriented qualification, including – in addition to the technical knowledge - research and management skills to enable them to enter decision-making positions and to become multipliers for sustainable land management and development in their home countries.

It's a pleasure for us to see the growing number of students and to look at more and more faces from more diverse countries every year. Two years ago we started with a small family of students. They just graduated and are back to their home countries, most of them working with a national ministry. The second bunch, already a little bit bigger in number, is presently conducting the research for their thesis – coming back in November. Now, the stage is yours and you will be in the spot light for the next year. We are looking forward to see your play.

We want to use this opportunity and thank all those who have been supporting the master's program in the past – and will hopefully do so in the future.

First and foremost we want to thank all the lecturers who give classes, prepare field trips, correct papers and exams and are available for individual talks and advice. They all do this in

addition to their regular work, investing a lot of time and many of them accepting the burden of long travels – mainly motivated by nothing else than idealism.

As important as our lectures are our sponsors. We want to thank Mr. Hess to set up a foundation supporting our chair and the master's program. – You are all invited to become a member of this foundation! – Our gratitude also goes to DAAD, Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung (I welcome Mr. Wilcke), GTZ (Welcome Gräfin von Ortenburg) and Worldbank who all support our students with scholarships. We are as well thankful towards our patrons President Dr. Naser (Bayerischer Sparkassen- und Giroverband), Mr. Bromme/Mr. Sieben (Kreissparkasse Miesbach-Tegernsee), Mrs. Koetter/Mr. Auweck (Lars Consult München), Mr. Hess (Bayerischer Bauindustrieverband) and Mr. Spithöver (ÖbVI) who took over the tuition fees off many of our students. Thank you for being here today.

I personally want to thank Dr. Klaus as well as all other colleagues at our chair who always give a hand when it is needed. My final thanks goes to the students – Florian, Jan, Saskia and Angelika - spending a lot of time in my office and giving me a perfect support.

Only because of the common effort of you all, we are able to run this master's program at our institute. Thank you once again.

I now want to briefly introduce to you today's program:

The first welcome speech will be given by our Dean of Faculty Professor Rummel, followed by words of greetings from Mr. Wilke, representing Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung. Prof. Magel, Director of the master's program, will then give his welcome speech, introducing our new students. After a little surprise – as last year prepared by our senior students - Dr. Zülsdorf, one of our lecturers and international consultant with experience from all over the world, will give some insights from his perspective. Dr. Stumpf from the Bavarian Administration for Rural Development will share some reflections about mutual benefits for international students and German professionals with us. Mr. Hess as president of the foundation *Bodenordnung und Landentwicklung München* will close the official part of the ceremony. You are then invited to a small reception.

I now want to give the floor to Professor Rummel, Dean of Faculty, and a supporter of our master's program from the very first day. When I arrived at TUM three years ago, he was one

those people giving me some basic knowledge about how this faculty and university is thinking and functioning and he gave me some very good recommendations on how to set up the master's program. Prof. Rummel, please take the floor.

Introduction of Jürgen Wilcke

Mr. Wilcke, Head of Regional Division China and Mongolia at Hanns-Seidl-Stiftung, has very close and long lasting links to our chair. His commitment in China to set up a new national institute for land consolidation and land development shows how much he is familiar with land management and land tenure. Hanns-Seidl-Stiftung also selected and supports our two Chinese students. Please, Mr. Wilcke, the floor is yours.

Introduction of Prof. Magel

Program Director Prof. Magel is the father and policy maker behind the program - leading us successfully through all challenges. Prof. Magel, let me hand over to you.

Introduction to the presentation prepared by the senior students

Our 12 senior students are at the moment doing their research for their master's thesis. Most of them do this in their home countries to apply their newly acquired knowledge there. Many of them combine this research with an internship with organisations such as United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) or GTZ – the German Agency for Technical Development Cooperation. Before they left, they prepared a welcome presentation for you.

Introduction of Dr. Zülsdorf

Some time ago, Dr. Zülsdorf did his PhD in surveying in what is today my office. He has then set up his own consulting office and has been working in Eastern Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America. He is therefore somehow an early product of an international land manager from this faculty. Thank you for sharing some insights with us.

Introduction of Dr. Stumpf

Dr. Stumpf is a good example of the internationally oriented experts of the Bavarian administration dealing with land administration and land management. Every year he takes our students to the field showing and explaining them how land administration and land management is done in Bavaria. We are curious about your reflections.

Introduction of Mr. Hess

Mr. Hess initiated the creation of the foundation *Bodenordnung und Landentwicklung München*. As managing director of the association of the Bavarian construction industry, he knows about the need of land managers and land administrators in foreign countries and their importance also for the German economy. Mr. Hess, the floor is yours.

Reception

Gentlemen, I thank you for your speeches and warm words welcoming, encouraging and motivating our new students.

I am looking forward to see you in class on Monday and to our joint week-end in the Alps next week where we will have time to get to know each other, learn about our cultural differences, different values and forms of behaviour and will find common rules for the next 18 months.

Ladies and Gentlemen, let me now invite you to join us for the reception.