

CALL FOR PAPERS

15th International Cooperatives Forum 2004 in Muenster

Competitive Advantage of Cooperatives' Networks

From September 7th until September 9th, 2004, the 15th International Cooperatives Forum (ICF 2004) will be held at the Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Germany.

The conference aims to answer the question, how should the cooperative network and its governance structures be designed to be competitive in today's economic framework? On the one hand the conference intends to be a platform for modern research on co-operation and cooperatives, on the other hand it is supposed to relate research on cooperatives to the results of modern organization theory and management science. The conference topic will be subdivided in eight modules. Lectures will be given by Oliver E. Williamson (UC Berkeley) and Arnold Picot (LMU Munich) on networks and cooperatives as well as by Marco Becht (Université Libre Bruxelles) and Helmut Dietl (University of Zurich) on corporate and cooperative governance. Other speakers are Thomas W. Malone (MIT), Tage Skoett-Larsen (Copenhagen Business School) and Holger Kern (Monitor Group).

In the open session of module four papers dealing with a multitude of topics can be presented, e.g. organization and management of co-operating enterprises, perspectives for the cooperatives, challenges of special sectors of cooperatives, reflections on the European cooperatives statute and international aspects of cooperatives, problems of small and medium sized enterprises, strategies to increase the competitiveness of alliances.

Scientists and practitioners interested in presenting a paper are encouraged to submit a brief outline of their paper (max. 2 pages) until January 31st, 2004 to:

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The complete version of the accepted papers shall be submitted until June 30th, 2004. It is intended to publish a German and an English conference volume. For more information on the conference see <http://www.igt2004.de>. Further questions might be addressed to Barbara Schmolmueller (barbara.schmolmueller@ifg-muenster.de).