



36th Annual Conference of the
Austrian Society of Agricultural Economics

CALL FOR PAPERS

Shaping transformation: Innovations in Agriculture and Rural Areas

17.-18. September 2026
an der BOKU University

Shaping transformation: Innovations in Agriculture and Rural Areas

Innovations can help to overcome ecological and economic challenges, and improve quality of life and well-being in rural areas. Enabling innovation is therefore an important factor for the resilience of rural regions. However, it is also evident that innovations create new dependencies, inequalities, uncertainties and conflicts, but also opportunities.

At the political level, designing suitable conditions is key to creating environments conducive to innovation while simultaneously addressing undesirable social, ecological or economic consequences. In order to develop the necessary competencies and structures, education and qualification programmes, as well as knowledge transfer between research, professional practice and society, are key elements in the long-term establishment of innovations.

During the conference, representatives from science, professional practice and the education sector will discuss the following questions, among others: *How do actors in agriculture and rural development drive innovation in the face of current global and regional challenges? Which factors favour or hinder rural and agricultural innovations? To what extent do innovations contribute to an improved operational situation in agriculture and the well-being of different target groups in rural areas?*

The 36th ÖGA Annual Conference provides a platform for discussing these questions and aims at contributing innovative solutions. The keynote speakers of the conference will highlight the general theme. The research and poster forums, as well as the conference workshops, will also cover topics independent of the general theme.

This call addresses scholars from the fields of agricultural economics, marketing, policy, rural sociology, transformation research, and other relevant academic fields to submit their research results. The conference provides—especially for early career researchers—the opportunity to present current research to an international audience. Representatives of administration, policy, education, and consulting are invited to organize workshops in order to discuss questions of practical or scientific relevance with an expert audience.

Submissions of short papers (max. two pages) or workshop outlines (max. one page) are welcome in German or English by **13 April 2026** (for templates see: <https://oega.boku.ac.at>). The submissions should be uploaded by following this [submission link](https://oega.boku.ac.at) or via <https://oega.boku.ac.at>.

1. Conference schedule

Thursday, 17 September 2026	
Morning	Plenary session on the conference topic
Noon	Lunch
Afternoon	Parallel paper, poster and workshop sessions
Friday, 18 September 2026	
Morning	Parallel paper, poster and workshop sessions
Afternoon	Field trip

On Wednesday, 16 September 2026, a pre-conference focusing on "Women in Rural Areas and Agriculture" will be organised as a joint event of BOKU CAS, BAB, and ÖGA. Further details will follow soon.

2. Research sessions and workshops

The topics of the submitted short papers and the workshops can be dedicated to the conference topic or any other topic related to agricultural economics, rural areas as well as rural society (e.g., organic farming, renewable energy, technologies, institutions, gender issues).

Workshop organizers have the opportunity to organize a 90-minute session. All formats are welcome that bring the workshop topic closer to the participants and stimulate a constructive discussion.

3. Review process, conference proceedings and journal

The programme committee will review the short papers and workshop outlines submitted for the ÖGA conference (templates: <https://oega.boku.ac.at>; submission: [Submission link](#) or <https://oega.boku.ac.at>). The authors of the accepted submissions will be invited to give a paper presentation, a poster presentation or to organise a workshop at the ÖGA conference. Accepted short papers and workshop outlines will be published in the conference proceedings. In addition, full manuscripts (max. 4,000 words) may be submitted to the peer-reviewed AJARS – Austrian Journal of Agricultural Economics and Rural Studies by 23 November 2026 (templates: <https://oega.boku.ac.at>; submission: oega_journal@boku.ac.at).

4. Conference languages and Best Presentation Award

Presentations during the plenary sessions are given in English. At least one of the contributed paper sessions (per time slot) shall be held in English throughout the conference. Speakers are asked to present in the language of the submitted short paper or workshop outline. The audience will vote on the best presentations, which will be awarded the *Best Presentation Award*.

5. Conference fee and registration

Conference participants are asked to register by **1 Sept 2026** (registration form: <https://oega.boku.ac.at>). The **conference fee of € 130** has to be paid by bank transfer to the ÖGA's bank account (IBAN: AT81 1200 0251 1113 6100; BIC: BKAUATWW) by **1 Sept 2026**. The fee includes participation, lunch and refreshments. However, it does *not* include costs for accommodation and the field trip.

6. Important dates 2026

Date	Description
13 April	Deadline for submitting short papers and workshop outlines
22 Juni	Notification of acceptance of submissions
1 Sept	Deadline for conference registration Deadline for transferring the conference fee of € 130
17-18 Sept	ÖGA Annual Conference at BOKU Vienna
23 Nov	Deadline for submitting manuscripts to the AJARS – Austrian Journal of Agricultural Economics and Rural Studies

7. Organising committee

Martina Schorn¹, Katrin Hofer¹, Xiomara Quinones-Ruiz², Heidi Leonhardt², Michael Eder², Johanna Huber², Jochen Kantelhardt², Hermine Mitter³, Martin Schönhart¹, Dieter Kömle¹, Sarah Lappöhn¹, Heidi Grüneis¹, Astrid Reitter¹, Julian Zeilinger¹, Stefan Kirchweger⁴, Franz Sinabell⁵

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8. Contact and venue

Universität für Bodenkultur Wien, Feistmantelstraße 4, 1180 Wien, Austria

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