



## Trip Report: PROJECT

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**Russia: October 22-26, 2003**

**By Bruce Gardner et al**

### **Purpose**

Bruce Gardner, Greg Brock, Zvi Lerman, Bill Liefert, Leonard Rolfes, and Glenn Pederson traveled to Golitsino, Russia for a two-day conference on the BASIS project on agricultural factor markets in Russia, held October 24-25, 2003. The purposes were (a) to review first drafts of six papers by Russian authors and six by non-Russian counterparts, and (b) to inform and obtain comments on these papers from an audience of Russian experts and representatives of government ministries, farm and agribusiness groups, and academic institutions, and U.S. officials and others interested in the project. Golitsino, a (sort of) resort outside Moscow, was a convenient venue for this conference, which as a follow-up to three previous conferences we call Golitsino-IV.

The proceedings volume, distributed in both Russian and English, consists of drafts of papers, and an agenda listing authors and formal discussants, almost all Russians, two or three in each of the six sessions. The English version of the proceedings has been sent to Michael Carter at the BASIS Administrative office in Madison Wisconsin and to Lena Heron, USAID – Washington, D.C., our liaison with the agency.

### **Activities and Accomplishments**

Each of the U.S. (and one Israeli) traveler made a topical presentation, served as discussant of other papers, and participated in two overall technical planning sessions held at the end of each day. The second planning session spelled out details of what each Russian and U.S. author will do during the third year of the project, in anticipation of a final conference, probably in mid-September 2004. The products expected at that time are: (1) final versions of further – developed papers from Golitsino-IV, with

additional analysis and policy implications; (2) an overall Executive Summary containing the main conclusions of all the papers, and (3) several BASIS Briefs, one on the project's, overall findings and their relation to agricultural policy, and the others covering the analytical issues for specific factor–market topics, particularly credit/capital markets, land markets, labor markets, purchased input markets, and the economic organizations of agricultural enterprises.

From the U.S. Embassy, Allan Mustard attended both days and on Friday brought four others, two Americans and two Russians, who I believe are all USDA-FAS staff. Our contacts other than USDA in Russia therefore remain very weak. (I emailed two persons in Moscow at the suggestion of Lena Heron, offering to meet before Golitsino in Moscow, but neither of them responded to the email.) Allan Mustard however expressed a great deal of interest and I hope we can build on that with what I believe can be a significant amount of joint work between U.S. and Russian non-government counterparts on needed reform in agricultural policy that could eventually have real policy consequences.

A list of Russians who attended is attached at the end of this report.

The next steps will be matters of carrying on with the six sub-projects in light of comments received at this meeting. Zvi Lerman will go to Moscow for as many days as necessary in March 2004 to work with all Russian teams on progress and coordination of efforts, and in June 2004 we may have a group of investigators meet to review final papers.

Finally, the smooth execution of the conference owes much to the staff of the Institute for Economies in Transition, Moscow, their extraordinary efforts to get all accommodation arrangements needed, papers translated from Russian to English, and English to Russian, preparation of the whole proceedings in two languages in about 10 days' time, and facilitation of the conference itself, and for most efficient travel arrangements on short notice to Dona Morgan of the IRIS Center, University of Maryland. The conference went off essentially without a hitch and it is the efforts of the IET staff under the inspiring leadership of Eugenia Serova that caused this to

happen. The whole team's performance given us confidence that Golitsino-V (possibly with a concluding Moscow seminar) will be similarly successful.

Golitsino-IV List of Registrants, October 24, 2003

| Last Name     | Affiliation   |
|---------------|---|
| Galinger      | Head of Strategic Development Dept. IKAR                  |
| Korbut        | Russian Grain Union                                       |
| Bovin         | Director of Agrico  |
| Soldatov      | Vice Director of Agrico                                   |
| Bashmachnikov | AKKOR President   |
| Bondarenko    | Ministry of Property                                      |
| Galatin       | Head of Agricultural Dept. of Luhskij rajon, Ivanovo obl. |
| Guk           | Agrofund Rostov   |
| Guriev        | Head of Rostov Agrogund                                   |
| Gusarova      | Rosselhobzbank  |
| Dankvert      | Vice Minister of Agriculture                              |
| Dobrosotskij  | Soviet of Federation                                      |
| Dolaberidze   | General director of Russian Agroliga                      |
| Epikhina      | Goskomstat  |
| Kalinin       | Agros   |
| Kolpashnikov  | Ministry of Agriculture                                   |
| Lupekhin      | JSC Malino  |
| Maslenkova    | Ministry of Agriculture                                   |
| Mindrin       | VNIITUSH director   |
| Mitin         | Head of Agricultural Dept. of Ivanovo obl.                |
| Mnatsakanian  | General Director of Samara's investment company           |
| Morozov       | Vice director of Russian Farmer fund                      |
| Krestnikova   | VIAPI   |
| Parhomenko    | General director of Ahtarskaja sudoverf                   |
| Petrov        | Ministry of Agriculture                                   |
| Pozdisheva    | Dean of IIPKA, Ivanovo                                    |
| Rasskazov     | Ministry of Agriculture                                   |
| Rodionova     | Rosagrofund   |
| Savostianova  | Vice director of Rostselmash                              |
| Semenov       | Gos Duma deputy   |
| Toropov       | Ministry of Agriculture                                   |
| Fomin         | Gos Duma deputy   |
| Yanbykh       | VIAPI   |

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31.10.03 # 14-6/739

TO: Institute for Economy in Transition  
President of Analytical Centre on  
Agri-Food Economics  
E.V.Serova

**Dear Eugenia Viktorovna!**

**Thank you for the opportunity which you have given to the officers of the Department of Ag.Policy to attend the workshop Golitzino-IV devoted to the results of the American-Russian research on factor markets in Russian agriculture implemented in the framework of the BASIS project since 2000.**

**On the workshop very important issues were discussed such as: accessibility of the major factors of agricultural production for farms, market of purchased inputs, accessibility of credit for farm enterprises, land market, wages in rural areas.**

**Unluckily we had no opportunity to learn about this American-Russian study. I would like to express my deep interest to co-operate further in this issue.**

**This cooperation can be resulted in political recommendations for elaboration of the organizational, financial and economic, legal base of agri-food sector.**

**The head of the Departament**

**M.M.Kolpashnikov**

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*Posted 03 November 2003*

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