

Workshop:

Technical Issues in Index Insurance

INDEX-BASED financial risk-transfer mechanisms are being tested in the context of development and climate-change adaptation. These instruments show the capacity to dramatically reduce conditions of chronic underdevelopment by both enabling investment and reducing shocks in agricultural livelihoods. *However, important issues have been raised, including the potential for scaling up and the role of climate-informed science to help overcome some of the challenges to scale up.* The IRI is convening experts from fields as diverse as reinsurance, climate science, economics and food security to participate in an upcoming workshop, in an effort to gain insight on how innovative tools and research can best serve development, today.

This workshop also represents an important step in the production of a special issue of *Climate and Society*, focusing on index insurance.

The workshop will focus specifically on identifying and distilling key technical issues, rather than covering broader issues such as climate risk management strategies or how to implement index insurance as a tool to reduce poverty.

TOPICS will focus on the current state-of-the-art technologies and its potential use to support the scaling up of index insurance identifying priority actions and research areas.

1. Contract Design
2. Agricultural Systems Modeling
3. Water Resources Applications
4. Rainfall Simulation
5. Seasonal Forecasts
6. Spreading Risks Geographically
7. Climate Change/ decadal scale
8. Remote sensing – Vegetation
9. Remote sensing – Rainfall
10. Communicating Complex Information – ‘Games’

WHEN:

Tuesday **October 7, 2008**

WHERE:

Columbia University, **Lamont Campus** Palisades, NY 10964

MORE INFO:

http://iri.columbia.edu/events/indexinsurance_workshop

*Space is limited



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