Family farming and inclusive food systems for sustainable rural development

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Main topics of presentation

• Regional context: challenges and opportunities
• Regional Initiative: theory of change and main areas of work
• Main achievements biennium 2016-2017
• Regional Initiative 2018-2019
Regional context: challenges and opportunities

- Latin America and the Caribbean have made significant progress in reducing poverty
- Reduced rhythm on poverty reduction
- Inequality and exclusion in rural areas
- Pockets of rural poverty
- Rural Poverty and the 2030 Agenda
Regional context: challenges and opportunities

- The incidence of poverty and extreme poverty is much higher in rural areas than in urban areas.

![Graph showing poverty and extreme poverty rates in Latin America](image)

### Table: Poverty and Extreme Poverty Rates (2014-2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Poverty (%)</th>
<th>Extreme Poverty (%)</th>
<th>Rural Poverty (%)</th>
<th>Rural Extreme Poverty (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>28.5%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>46.7%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>30.7%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>48.6%</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Regional context: challenges and opportunities

• Indigencia rural vs pobreza rural en América Latina 2005-2015

Regional context: challenges and opportunities

• Poverty distribution
Regional Initiative: theory of change and main areas or work

2 main ideas

• To eradicate rural poverty and reduce inequalities, we must continue to innovate in public policies.
  • It is not enough with what is being done
  • We need a new push

• Revitalize rural territories - economic dynamism and social cohesion: two fundamental elements to revitalize rural territories, eradicate poverty and expand prosperity in rural areas
Key messages

- Renew rural development strategies
- Unleash the productive potential of millions of people to boost economies and expand prosperity
- Promote urban-rural linkages
- Adopt a territorial approach to rural development
- Special focus on migration

4 main areas of work

- Strengthening Family Farming
- Articulate Social Protection and Productive Inclusion
- Address root causes of Migration
- Reduce Territorial Asymmetries
WHAT IS THE REGIONAL INITIATIVE APPROACH?

Politics / Programs / Institutions / Laws / Rules / Mechanisms / Tools / Instruments

Regionals / Sub regionals / Nationals / Subnational / Locals

Access to Assets
- Land, water, energy, infrastructure

Access to rural services
- Financial - Credit, insurance, savings
- Not Financial - advisory services, innovation (technological, institutional, etc.), information (climate, prices, markets)

Strengthening of Rural Organizations

Specific Politics
- Gender, indigenous, youth

Social Construction of Markets
- Public Purchases, School Feeding Programs, Regulations
- Public Systems of Food Supply
- Proximity Markets
- Direct sales, fairs, etc.
- Agroindustry’s
- Locals, nationals, global
- Supermarkets
- Traders
- Intraregional Integration

RURAL TERRITORIES

What are we looking for?

A. Unlocking the economic potential of rural territories
   - Strategic investments in the territories
   - Policy instruments
   - Multi-sector development strategies
   - Reconciling the agendas of environmental, economic and social development
   - Territorial actors as agents of change
What are we looking for?

B. Leaving no one behind: the social dimension of sustainable rural development

- Comprehensive social protection for the rural environment
- Adequate rural employment policies
- Social protection and economic inclusion
- Inclusive policies for rural women
- Indigenous peoples and rural development
- Social and economic insertion of young people in rural territories

What are we looking for?

C. Renewed and strengthened institutions of rural development

- The quality of institutions is a key determinant of rural development
- **Innovative coalitions and alliances**
  - Promoting sustainable rural development is not a task that an isolated actor can achieve
2016-2017 – Main Achievements

• Support to REAF Mercosur (Specialized Meeting on Family Farming)
• Support to Central America Commission on Family Farming of Central America Integration System (SICA)
• Andean Dialogue Group on Rural Development
• CELAC Working Group on Family Farming and Rural Development
• Latin America Model Law on Family Farming in the PARLATINO
• Gender Strategy for CELAC Plan on Food Security
• VGGT - agenda of work with strong participation of civil society organizations
• Agroecology regional agenda and generation of evidence from the field

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2017-2018 – Main Achievements at country level

- **Guatemala**: implementation of PAFFEC Family Farming Program to strengthen rural economies
- Family Farming Plan in **Panamá**
- Implementation of Family Farming registries in **Costa Rica and Guatemala**
- 300 family farming organizations were strengthened by **field school program in Haiti**
- Implementation of national program of urban and periurban agriculture in **Bolivia**
- Local public systems were strengthened in **Bolivia**
- New Policy on Public Purchases from family farming in **Chile**
- National platform in **Paraguay** to facilitate access to markets for family farming organizations
- National Institute of Agrarian Tecnology of **Nicaragua** with a strong strategy on communication for development
2016-2017 – Main Achievements

• Regional Intersectoral Agenda on Social Protection and Productive Inclusion at Central America
• Articulated strategies on social protection and productive inclusion in Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Perú, Paraguay, Colombia and Dominican Republic
• A joint study FAO/ JICA was developed to compare the state of rural development in 7 different countries of the Mesoamerican Sub-Region, which highlighted successful experiences and offered a proposal for technical cooperation.
• FF Registry in Mesoamerica - Training and exchanges of experiences between REAF and SICA were held in order to develop FF registries in Mesoamerican Countries. Dominican Republic, Panama and Honduras have already the tools and capabilities to install family farming’s registry systems.

2018-2019 – Work Program
Challenges for SP3 and IR2 biennium 2018/2019

• Strengthen FAO’s participation in the public debate of rural development issues: rural poverty strategies, territorial development, rural economies, etc.
• Strengthen work under the Agenda 2030 framework – Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development
• Increase relations with other actors/ partners (IFAD, WB, Bilateral cooperation) to position FAO as a relevant actor to promote rural development and poverty reduction strategies.
• Intersectoral approach - Shifting from a production unit analysis (sectorial) to a rural poor household analysis (multisectorial).
• Internal capacity building (SP3 thinking and alignment)- FAO’s added-value and approach in poverty reduction.

Challenges for SP3 and IR2 biennium 2018/2019

• The need to translate FAO global products and processes into concrete tools that can be applicable to the national level.
• Strengthen poverty reduction approach on GEF and GCF projects (go beyond the ecological dimension of CC).
• Improve the Policy Work with governments and civil society to continue to advocate for structural solutions for the rural poverty problem.
• Continuous need for a multidisciplinary expertise in public policy, social protection, labor, poverty, migration, evaluation and also cross cutting topics such as gender, indigenous peoples and rural youth.
• Improve communication capacity.
• Redefine a resources mobilization strategy.
Thanks

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