



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



# **CONCEPT NOTE AND PROGRAMME**

## **Regional Workshop on integrated community development**

Budapest, Hungary  
23-24 October 2019

Venue: Mercure Budapest Castle Hill, Krisztina krt. 41-43, 1013  
Budapest

## Introduction

Rural communities in Eastern Europe and Central Asia usually suffer at the same time from many needs and constraints. Especially smallholders and family farms have many constraints including farm structures characterized by land fragmentation and small farm sizes, lack of investment support, lack of efficient farm advisory services, limited support for adopting to the effects of climate change, lack of cooperation between farmers, lack of access to markets, insufficient coverage of social protection, lack of alternative decent employment options, etc. This was confirmed by recent country studies on needs and constraints of smallholders and family farms conducted by FAO in eight countries in the region.

Addressing the problems one at the time will often not substantially improve the complex and inter-related nature of the problems. An integrated and cross-sectoral approach is often needed to accelerate the development and contribute to poverty reduction for the most vulnerable part of the rural population through a rights based approach. Also the Agenda 2030 and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals require a more integrated and cross-sectoral approach to development, addressing several problems at the same time in a coordinated and coherent approach.

Several governments in the region, international organizations and donors including the EU, UNDP, the World Bank, GIZ and others have supported different forms of local rural development where the focus is on addressing the local needs and constraints and building on local opportunities in a community driven, participatory and inclusive process.

FAO has in Europe and Central Asia for more than a decade supported different initiatives and projects related to local rural development / integrated community development including in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Albania, Serbia, Moldova and Azerbaijan and also the cross-border Area Based Development in the Western Balkan countries. Based on the country experiences, FAO is in the process of further developing the concept for integrated community development for Europe and Central Asia. This process is planned to continue in the next years. As part of the FAO Regional Initiative on Empowering Smallholders and Family Farms for Improved Rural Livelihood and Poverty Reduction and linked with the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming 2019 – 2028, FAO is establishing an informal regional technical network on community development. Participants are expected to be from Governments, civil society, academia and international organizations with an interest in and working with local rural development. The regional workshop in Budapest 23-24 October is the first workshop under the umbrella of the regional technical network.

The objectives of the workshop are to:

- Present and discuss different approaches to local rural development relevant for Europe and Central Asia;
- Disseminate practical experiences and lessons learned among the participating countries;
- Invite for a first reflection on the successes and areas for improvement of the experiences showcased;
- Contribute to the establishment of new partnerships between governments, international organizations, donors, civil society, academia and the private sector with interest in local rural development;
- Discuss policy options for supporting the development of rural communities in the region.

We are looking forward to welcome all partners in Budapest!



Wednesday 23 October 2019	
08.30 – 09.00	Registration of participants & Coffee
<b>Session 1 – Introduction and overview</b> Chair: David Conte, FAO HQ	
09.00 – 09.10	Welcome by <i>Vladimir Rakhmanin</i> , FAO Assistant Director General and Regional Representative
09.10 – 09.15	Opening and overview of the Programme by <i>Morten Hartvigsen</i> , FAO REU
09.15 – 09.25	The need for local development by <i>Valeriu Zubcu</i> , Mayor of Meleseni Municipality, Republic of Moldova
09.25 – 09.45	Strengthening capacities for designing, implementing and evaluating multi-sectoral policies for poverty reduction and sustainable agriculture through territorial and landscape approaches by <i>David Conte</i> , FAO Poverty Reduction Team
09.45 – 10.10	FAO experiences with territorial development – A global perspective by <i>Adriano Campolina</i> , FAO ESP
10.10 – 10.35	Needs and constraints of small farms in Europe and Central Asia by <i>Morten Hartvigsen</i> , FAO Regional Initiative Delivery Manager
10.35 – 10.50	Civil society perspective to integrated community development by <i>Judith Hitchman</i> , Regional CSO Facilitation Committee / Urgenci
<b><u>10.50 – 11.20</u></b>	<b><u>Coffee &amp; Tea Break</u></b>
<b>Session 2 – Country needs and experiences related to integrated community development</b> Chair: Katalin Ludvig, FAO REU	
11.20 – 11.40	Policy in support of local rural development in Georgia by <i>Lasha Zivzivadze</i> , Head of Policy Coordination Unit, Policy and Analysis Department, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture
11.40 – 12.00	The need for local rural development in Moldova by <i>Galina Petrachi</i> , Head of Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment
12.00 – 12.20	The need for and experiences with integrated community development in Serbia by <i>Natalija Bogdanov</i> , Belgrade University
12.20 – 12.50	Questions and discussion
<b><u>12.50 – 14.00</u></b>	<b><u>Group photo and Lunch</u></b>
<b>Session 3 – The EU Perspective to local rural development and leaving no one behind</b> Chair: Raimund Jehle, FAO Regional Programme Leader	
14.00 – 14.30	The EU perspective to local rural development by <i>Inge Zaiser</i> , European Commission, DG AGRI
14.30 – 14.50	Experiences with LEADER- Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) in Hungary by <i>Judit Rácz</i> , Felső-Homokhátság Vidékfejlesztési Egyesület, Hungary
14.50 – 15.10	Experiences with the LEADER-like approach in Moldova and Georgia by <i>Kadri Tillemann</i> , International Consultant, Estonia
15.10 – 15.30	Leaving no one behind – gender and socially inclusive community development by <i>Dono Abdurazakova</i> , FAO REU
<b><u>15.30 – 16.00</u></b>	<b><u>Coffee &amp; Tea Break</u></b>
<b>Session 4a – Group work on good practices related to integrated community development / local rural development</b> Chair: Morten Hartvigsen, FAO REU	
16.00 – 17.00	Group work around the tables



Thursday 24 October 2019	
08.30 – 09.00	<u>Coffee &amp; Tea</u>
<b>Session 4b – Group work on good practices related to integrated community development / local rural development</b> Chair: Katalin Ludvig, FAO REU	
09:00 – 10.00	Reporting back from group work
<b><u>10.00 – 10.30</u></b>	<b><u>Coffee &amp; Tea Break</u></b>
<b>Session 5 – FAO experiences with integrated community development / local rural development</b> Chair: Maxim Gorgan, FAO REU	
10.30 – 11.00	FAO approach to integrated community development / local rural development by <i>Katalin Ludvig</i> , FAO Rural Development Specialist
11.00 – 11.15	Integrated local rural development in Georgia by <i>Beka Dzadzamia</i> , FAO National Project Coordinator
11.15– 11.30	FAO experiences with integrated community development in Moldova by <i>Bianka Laskovics</i> , FAO Rural Development Junior Technical Officer
11.30 – 11.45	Experiences with local rural development in Canton 10, Bosnia and Herzegovina by <i>Sabahudin Bajramovic</i> , FAO National Consultant
11.45 – 12.00	Community development in Ak-Talaa district, Kyrgyzstan by <i>Abdymalik Sulaimanov</i> , Deputy Head of Ak-Talaa District Administration
12.00 – 12.30	Questions and answers
<b><u>12.30 – 13.30</u></b>	<b><u>Lunch</u></b>
<b>Session 6 – Different approaches to local rural development in Europe and Central Asia</b> Chair: Bakhodur Eshonov, FAO	
13.30 – 13.50	Area Based Development in the Western Balkan countries by <i>Boban Ilic</i> , Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group (SWG)
13.50 – 14.10	Organization of local food systems - Best practices and lessons to learn from Hungary by <i>Katalin Kujáni</i> , Kislépték National Association of Interest Representations for Small-scale Producers and Service Providers, Hungary
14.10 – 14.25	Planned FAO support to smallholders in Albania by <i>Orjan Xhoxhi</i> , FAO National Consultant
14.25 – 14.40	Rural community development - Case study on the example of rural councils in Belarus by <i>Olga Pashkevich</i> , FAO National Consultant
14.40 – 14.55	UNDP experiences with community development in Armenia by <i>Anna Gyurjyan</i> , UNDP Armenia
14.55 – 15.10	Questions and answers
<b><u>15.10 – 15.30</u></b>	<b><u>Coffee &amp; Tea Break</u></b>
<b>Session 7 – Development of a regional technical network on community development / local rural development</b> Chair: Morten Hartvigsen, FAO REU	
15.30 – 15.50	The need to continue building a regional technical network in partnership between all interested organizations and stakeholders by <i>Morten Hartvigsen</i> , FAO REU
15.50 – 16:40	Facilitated discussion on further development of a regional technical network
16.40 – 17:00	Wrap up of the workshop by <i>Katalin Ludvig</i> and <i>Morten Hartvigsen</i> , FAO REU