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CONCEPT NOTE AND PROGRAMME

2nd Regional Workshop on integrated community development

Budapest, Hungary
22-24 June 2022

Language: English and Russian
Venue: Radisson Blu Beke Hotel, Teréz krt. 43, 1067





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Concept note

Rural communities, including smallholders and family farmers, in Eastern Europe and Central Asia usually face many needs and constraints. In order to improve the complex and inter-related nature of the problems in rural areas, an integrated and cross-sectoral approach is often needed to accelerate the development and contribute to rural transformation and poverty reduction and not to leave anybody behind. The Agenda 2030 and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals also require a more integrated and cross-sectoral approach to development, addressing several problems at the same time in a coordinated and coherent way.

FAO has in Europe and Central Asia for more than a decade supported or currently working on different initiatives and projects related to local rural development / integrated community development including in Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, North Macedonia and Serbia.

Based on the country experiences, FAO aims at further developing the concept of integrated community development for Europe and Central Asia. As part of the FAO Regional Initiative on empowering smallholders, family farms and youth through inclusive rural transformation, digitalization and innovation and linked with the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming 2019 – 2028 (UNDF), FAO established an informal regional technical network on community development in 2019. The 2020 and 2021 workshops were unfortunately cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For the revitalization of the technical network and strengthening of partnerships with key regional and national stakeholders, it is important to organize the second workshop in 2022.

Participants are expected to be from Governments, civil society, academia and international organizations with an interest in and working with local rural development.

The objectives of the workshop are to:

- Revitalize the technical network on community development;
- Present and discuss different approaches, practical experiences and lessons learnt in local rural development;
- Invite for discussion 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.

One of the main preconditions to keep agriculture viable in rural areas is to support smallholders and family farmers. Therefore, the third day of the workshop will specifically focus on this aspect under the *Regional Dialogue on the United Nations Decade of Family Farming in Europe and Central Asia* in a hybrid format to allow wider participation and contribution of all relevant stakeholders.

The United Nations General Assembly declared 2019-2028 as the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (UNFFF)¹ to highlight the role of family farms, pastoralists and smallholders in achieving food security, improved nutrition and livelihoods, their ability to better manage natural resources and protect the environment, as well as to enhance inclusive and sustainable development. The UNFFF serves as a framework for countries to develop public policies and investments to support family farming and contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, through revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development and helping the mobilization of the means of implementation.

To support the implementation of the UNFFF, in 2019 through a global consultation process a Global Action Plan² was developed, which stresses the importance of creating an enabling policy environment to strengthen family farming and recommends implementation of country-driven, inclusive, participative and bottom-up activities to support family farmers. Moreover, by 2024 the Global Action Plan sets a goal of developing 100 National Action Plans (NAPs) on Family Farming. In this context, FAO support is being provided for the development of national action plans for family farming in Albania, Kyrgyzstan and the Republic of Moldova.

It is envisaged that NAPs will provide a roadmap for countries to progress with the implementation of the UNFFF, giving them a context-specific framework of action, promoting inter-institutional cooperation for integration of family farming related issues into national policies and strategies related to the wider food and agricultural, social and environmental, economic and rural development sectors.

In 19 - 22 September 2022, the Global Forum of the UNFFF will be organized by the FAO-IFAD Joint Secretariat in their responsibility of leading UN agencies. The Global Forum aims at taking stock of the first three years of implementation of the Decade, leveraging the views of different actors to better understand the successful experiences that can be the basis for knowledge sharing and dissemination of good practices; the main challenges faced in dealing with implementation in different contexts; and the priority policy areas and key topics that emerge as priorities to focus on for the next period of implementation. The Global Forum will be preceded by Regional Dialogues, giving all actors in five regions the opportunity to connect, reinforcing multi-actor collaboration addressing emerging topics and context-specific key challenges on a regional scale towards the implementation of the UNFFF.

As mentioned above, the Regional Dialogue on the UNFFF in Europe and Central Asia will take place under the frame of the current Workshop in a hybrid format. The aim of the Dialogue is to address emerging topics, identify the way forward and strengthen multi-actor collaboration including government, parliamentarians, family farmers and their organizations, researchers, NGOs and technical experts.

We are looking forward to welcome all partners in Budapest!

¹ United Nations General Assembly, 72nd session, 72/239. United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028), (A/RES/72/239).

² <https://www.fao.org/3/ca4672en/ca4672en.pdf> (English); <https://www.fao.org/3/ca4672ru/CA4672RU.pdf> (Russian)



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| 22 June 2022 – Wednesday | |
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| <i>physical event</i> | |
| 08:30 – 09:00 | Registration - Coffee and tea |
| Session 1 - Introduction and overview | |
| <i>Moderator: Morten Hartvigsen, Regional Initiative Coordinator, FAO REU</i> | |
| 09:00 – 09:10 | Welcoming words and importance of community development in the region by Raimund Jehle, Regional Programme Leader, FAO REU |
| 09:10 – 09:20 | Welcoming words and importance of community development in the region Marijana Milevska, UNDP |
| 09:20 – 09:30 | Opening and overview of the Programme by Morten Hartvigsen, Regional Initiative Coordinator, FAO REU |
| 09:30 – 09:40 | Inclusive rural transformation for poverty reduction by David Conte (online), Senior Strategy and Planning Officer/REU focal point for economic inclusion FAO HQ |
| 09:40 – 10:00 | Territorial development from global perspective by Adriano Campolina (online), Senior Policy Officer, FAO HQ |
| 10:00 – 10:15 | Integrated community development – needs and solutions from the perspective of the civil society by Ramona Duminicioiu, Eco Ruralis, and Judith Hitchman, Urgenci |
| 10:15 – 10:25 | Questions and discussion |
| 10:25 – 10:30 | Group photo |
| 10:30 – 10:50 | Coffee and tea break |
| Session 2 – Country needs and support provided at policy level for local rural development | |
| <i>Moderator: Bradley Paterson, Land Tenure Specialist, FAO REU</i> | |
| 10:50 – 11:10 | Nexus of migration and local rural development for leaving no one behind, Nvard Loryan, Migration Specialist, FAO REU |
| 11:10 – 11:25 | Policy support for local rural development by Ashot Giloyan, Head of Department of Local Self-Government Policy, Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure, Armenia |
| 11:25 – 11:40 | Policy support for local rural development by Tinatini Odilavadze, Chief Specialist, Agrarian Issues Committee, Parliament of Georgia |
| 11:40 – 11:55 | Support to local rural development at policy level by Galina Petrachi, Head of Rural Development Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, Republic of Moldova |
| 11:55 – 12:10 | Agriculture and rural development policy of Azerbaijan and perspectives for rural youth by Namig Mammadov, Program Management Specialist, FAO Azerbaijan |
| 12:10 – 12:30 | Questions and discussion |
| 12:30 – 13:40 | Lunch |
| Session 3 – LEADER, as an approach for local rural development | |
| <i>Moderator: Anetta Szilagyi, Rural Development Specialist, FAO REU</i> | |
| 13:40 – 14:00 | The EU perspective to local development including LEADER and CLLD by Iwona Lisztwan (online), Policy Coordinator LEADER, European Commission, DG AGRI |



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| 14:00 – 14:15 | Experiences with LEADER in Latvia by Aris Adlers, Member of council in Latvian Rural Forum and Board member of the European Association for Information on Local Development |
| 14:15 – 14:35 | LEADER-like approach in Armenia – the Local Empowerment of Actors for Development (LEAD) project by Armen Tiraturyan, Project Manager, UNDP, and Hasmik Kocharyan, Project Manager, FAO |
| 14:35 – 14:55 | Questions and discussion |
| 14:55 – 15:15 | Coffee and tea break |
| Session 4 - Country experiences on territorial approaches to development | |
| <i>Moderator: Katalin Ludvig, Rural Development Specialist, FAO REU</i> | |
| 15:15 – 15:30 | FAO experience on community development in Georgia by Beka Dzadzamia, FAO National Project Coordinator |
| 15:30 – 15:45 | Experiences with support to local community development in North Macedonia by Slavica Mihajlovska, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy, Rural Development Department, North Macedonia |
| 15:45 – 16:05 | Area Based Development in the Western Balkan countries by Boban Ilic, Secretary General of the Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group |
| 16:05 – 16:25 | Community-driven development - the Third Village Investment Project in Kyrgyzstan by Bakyt Abdylbaev, ARIS / World Bank |
| 16:25 – 17:00 | Questions and discussion |
| 18:00 | Dinner |

23 June 2022 – Thursday

physical event

Session 5a - Study on good practices across the region for integrated community development and territorial development approaches

Moderator: Katalin Ludvig, Rural Development Specialist, FAO REU

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| 09:00 – 09:15 | FAO approach to integrated community development and objective of the FAO study by Viktorya Ayvazyan, Rural Development Specialist, FAO REU |
| 09:15 – 09:40 | Introduction to different practices on integrated community development by Natalija Bogdanov and Marta Marcziš, FAO International Consultants |
| 09:40 – 09:50 | Questions and discussion |
| 09:50 – 10:05 | Digital tools, as practical solutions for smallholders and vulnerable groups in rural areas by Daniela DiGianantonio, Digital Agriculture Team Leader, FAO REU |
| 10:05 – 10:20 | Community supported agriculture, as an accessory for community development by Carolina Starr, Agricultural Officer, FAO REU |
| 10:20 – 10:35 | Short value chain development including school food and nutrition, as an accessory for community development by Aniko Nemeth, Food Safety and Nutrition Specialist, FAO REU |
| 10:35 – 10:45 | Questions and discussion |
| 10:45 – 11:05 | Coffee and tea break |
| 11:05 – 12:15 | Group work related to the FAO study on community development |



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| 12:15 – 13:15 | Lunch |
| Session 5b - Study on good practices across the region for integrated community development and territorial development approaches <i>Moderator: Marta Marczis, FAO International Consultant</i> | |
| 13:15 – 14:15 | Reporting back from the group work |
| 14:15 – 14:35 | Coffee and tea break |
| Session 6 – Participation, as a core element in integrated community development processes <i>Moderator: Dono Abdurazakova, Senior Gender and Social Protection Advisor, FAO REU</i> | |
| 14:35 – 14:50 | Leaving no one behind through gender and socially inclusive community development by Anna Jenderedjian, Gender Mainstreaming and Social Protection Specialist, FAO REU |
| 14:50 – 15:05 | Participatory Rural Appraisal – a method to engage local people by Fransisco Sarmiento (online), Territorial Food Systems Specialist, FAO HQ |
| 15:05 – 15:20 | Engagement of rural people and youth in local development processes by Paola Laini (online), Youth Representative of European Coordination Via Campesina |
| 15:20 – 15:40 | Questions and discussion |
| Session 7 – Future of the regional technical network on community development <i>Moderator: Viktorya Ayvazyan, Rural Development Specialist, FAO REU</i> | |
| 15:40 – 15:45 | Wrap-up of the two days by Viktorya Ayvazyan, FAO REU |
| 15:45 – 15:55 | Development of the technical network by Morten Hartvigsen, FAO REU |
| 15:55 – 16:55 | Facilitated discussion on the scope and the further development of the network |
| 16:55 – 17:00 | Closing of the day |

Regional Dialogue on the United Nations Decade of Family Farming in Europe and Central Asia

| 24 June 2022 - Friday <i>hybrid event</i> | |
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| Session 1 - Implementation of UNDFF in Europe and Central Asia <i>Moderated by Bianka Laskovics, Rural Development Specialist, FAO REU</i> | |
| 09:00 – 09:05 | Welcome by Marcela Villarreal (online), Director of Partnerships Division, FAO |
| 09:05 - 09:15 | Introduction and current state of the decade by Ron Hartman (online), Director of Global Engagement, Partnerships and Resource Mobilization, IFAD |
| 09:15 – 09:30 | Family farming in the region: characteristics, challenges and potential in the context of the UNDFF by Morten Hartvigsen, Regional Initiative Coordinator, FAO REU |



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| 09:30 – 09:40 | Integrating family farmers in the process of developing National Action Plans by Alfredo Campos, Member of the International Steering Committee of the UNDF - Europe and Central Asia |
| 09:40 – 09:55 | Question and answer |
| 09:55 – 10:15 | Coffee and tea break |
| Session 2 - Country experiences so far during the implementation of UNDF <i>Moderator: Bernard Hien, Sub-regional Director for Europe and Central Asia, IFAD</i> | |
| 10:15 - 10:30 | Development of the National Action Plan for the Republic of Moldova by Liliana Martin, Head of Policy Analysis, Monitoring and Evaluation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, Republic of Moldova |
| 10:30 – 10:45 | Preparation of the National Action Plan for Family Farming in Kyrgyzstan by Aleksandr Temirbekov, Secretary of National Family Farming Committee and National Union of Water Users' Association |
| 10:45 – 11:00 | Development of the National Action Plan for Family Farming in Albania by Valbona Ylli, FAO National Consultant on Gender and Rural Development |
| 11:00 – 11:15 | Experiences in development of National Action Plan for Family Farming in Spain by Gonzalo Corrales (online), Representative of Union of Small Farmers of Spain |
| 11:15 – 11:30 | Question and answer |
| Session 3 - Technical discussions: priorities for the region and the way forward <i>Moderator: Raimund Jehle, Regional Programme Leader, FAO REU</i> | |
| 11:30 – 12:20 | <p>Panel discussion on priorities in support of family farming, related policies and key recommendations for scaling up the implementation of the UNDF</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nino Tsilosani (online), Chairperson of Committee on Agrarian Issues at Parliament of Georgia • Paola Hernández (online), Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development, University of Evora, Portugal • Kakha Nadiradze (online), Representative of World Farmers' Organization, President of Association for Farmers Rights Defense, Georgia • Javier Sanchez (online), Representative of the small-scale food producers on behalf of La Via Campesina as Vice-Chair of the International Steering Committee of the UNDF • Tudor Robu, Assistant FAO Representative in the Republic of Moldova |
| 12:20 – 12:40 | Questions and discussion |
| 12:40 – 12:50 | Reflections on the panel discussion in light of experiences outside Europe and Central Asia and next steps by Guilherme Brady (online), Chief, Family farming Engagement and Parliamentary Networks Unit, FAO HQ |
| 12:50 – 12:55 | Closing remarks by Dina Saleh (online), Regional Director for Near East, North Africa and Europe Division, IFAD |
| 12:55 – 13:00 | Closing of the event by Raimund Jehle, Regional Programme Leader, FAO REU |
| Lunch | |