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## *Concept note and Programme*

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

**24 June 2022**

**Budapest, Hungary (hybrid event)**

**in the frame of the  
2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Workshop on integrated community  
development**

Languages: English, Russian and Spanish





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## Concept Note

One of the main preconditions to keep agriculture viable in rural areas is to support smallholders and family farmers. Therefore, the *Regional Dialogue on the United Nations Decade of Family Farming in Europe and Central Asia* will specifically focus on this aspect 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)<sup>1</sup> 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 a Global Action Plan was developed through an extensive global consultation process, which stresses the importance of creating an enabling policy environment to strengthen family farming and recommends the implementation of country-driven, inclusive, participative and bottom-up activities to support family farmers. Moreover, by 2024 the Global Action Plan sets the goal of developing 100 National Action Plans (NAPs) on Family Farming. In this context, FAO support is currently 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 roadmaps 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 as 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.

The aim of the current Regional Dialogue on the UNFFF in Europe and Central Asia 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 and online!

**Please register here for online participation:**

[https://fao.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_OPi0H6xcQZ23CaiaBXe\\_jA](https://fao.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_OPi0H6xcQZ23CaiaBXe_jA)

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



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

24 June 2022 - Friday	
hybrid event	
Session 1 - Implementation of UNDIFF in Europe and Central Asia	
Moderated by <i>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 UNDIFF by Morten Hartvigsen, Regional Initiative Coordinator, FAO REU
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 UNDIFF - Europe and Central Asia
09:40 – 09:55	Question and answer
<b>09:55 – 10:15</b>	<b>Coffee and tea break</b>
Session 2 - Country experiences so far during the implementation of UNDIFF	
Moderator: <i>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	
Moderator: <i>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 UNDIFF</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nino Tsilosani (online), Chairperson of Committee on Agrarian Issues at Parliament of Georgia</li> <li>• Paola Hernández (online), Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development, University of Evora, Portugal</li> <li>• Kakha Nadiradze (online), Representative of World Farmers' Organization, President of Association for Farmers Rights Defense, Georgia</li> <li>• 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 UNDIFF</li> <li>• Tudor Robu, Assistant FAO Representative in the Republic of Moldova</li> </ul>





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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
<b>Lunch</b>	