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2ND REGIONAL WORKSHOP on integrated community development

Policy support for local rural development by Georgian Government

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Agrarian Issues Committee Staff, Parliament of Georgia

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2ND REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Rural development – main traditional sector of the Georgian economy

- ❖ **41% of the population of Georgia lives in rural areas; agriculture employs about 40% of the whole labor force**
- ❖ **Since 2013, agricultural and rural development has become a priority**
- ❖ **In 2021, export of domestic production reached historic maximum and exceeded 3 billion \$**



2ND REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Strategy of Agriculture and Rural Development of Georgia for 2021-2027

- The Strategy was developed based on the experience and results of existing strategies, implemented reforms and the EU experience.
- It's part of the state development policy of the country, all those sectoral development directions and specific set of measures.
- There are 3 strategic directions for the implementation of the strategic vision of agricultural development.
- strategic vision (1) - Competitive agricultural and non-agricultural sectors.



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Rural Development Agency

- **Promoting the well-being and prosperity of farmers and rural residents by providing them with necessary resources**
- **implements and manages variety of programs/projects initiated by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia**
- **Managing state-owned Agricultural companies**



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State support programs for rural development

- **“United Agro Project”** - aiming provision of agricultural links of primary production and storage implementations by cheap and accessible funds, promotion of agro insurance, co-financing of agricultural processing and storage enterprises
- In 2021, under the state program of **“agricultural equipment co-financing”** 2,327 beneficiaries received various types of agricultural machinery
- **“The technical assistance program”** has provided state co-financing for 132 companies, including 52 agricultural cooperatives
- **“The Farms/Farmers Registration Project”** aims at registering all the individuals engaged in agricultural activities throughout Georgia



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Current challenges / Planned Activities

- development of **modern agriculture**, whilst maintaining our traditions and heritage
- definition of the terms “**farmer**” and “**farm**” and the status of the existing supportive measures and incentives for agricultural development under the state law
- **direct payments** to farmers under support schemes
- **Strengthening Women's Involvement in Rural Development** - An appropriate support program is being developed at the initiative of the Committee to assist women farmers
- **Organic farming** as a priority - as a relevant priority reflected in state programs



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LIFAD

Investing in rural people



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Decade of
**FAMILY
FARMING**
2019-2028

Thank you

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