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منظمة
الأغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURE

FORTY-THIRD SESSION

Budapest, Hungary, 27–28 September 2023

Side event on support to local rural development in Europe and Central Asia

Concept Note

Where: Danubius Hotel Helia (1133, Budapest, Hungary, Kárpát utca 62–64.) – Conference room

When: 27 September 2023, 13.00-14.00

Language: English/Russian

Background

Rural communities, smallholders and family farmers in Eastern Europe and Central Asia usually face many complex and interrelated development constraints and problems. In order to accelerate the development of rural areas, contribute to rural transformation and poverty reduction and leave no one behind, an integrated and intersectoral approach is often needed. In Europe and Central Asia, for more than 15 years, FAO has supported and is currently working on various initiatives and projects related to local rural development/integrated community development in Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, North Macedonia and Serbia.

Objective

The side event is built on the outcomes of the Third Regional Workshop on Integrated Community Development, held in June 2023, and the recommendations of an FAO study on integrated community development and other territorial approaches in Europe and Central Asia. The objective of the side event is to demonstrate the work of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia on local rural development at country and regional levels and to discuss with participants country needs and support provided at the policy level for local rural development.

Target audience

All participants of the European Commission on Agriculture are welcome to join the side event, including representatives from governments and from civil society, non-governmental and international organizations.

Agenda

Time	Item	Responsible
13.00–13.05	Welcome and tour de table	Mr Raimund Jehle, Regional Programme Leader (FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia)
13.05–13.40	Presentations and video to introduce FAO support for local rural development in Europe and Central Asia	Ms Katalin Ludvig, Rural Development Specialist (FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia) Ms Bianka Laskovics, Rural Development Specialist (FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia) Ms Viktorya Ayvazyan, International Rural Development Specialist (FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia)
13.40–14.00	Discussion with guiding questions, moderated by Mr Morten Hartvigsen, Land Tenure Officer (FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What are the main bottlenecks, if any, in your country related to support for local rural development?</i> • <i>Could you provide suggestions to government representatives and civil society and international organizations on how to foster local rural development in your country?</i> • <i>What is your view on applying intersectoral approaches and to fostering cooperation among institutions and dialogue among various actors (governments and civil society, private sector and international organizations) at different scales (national, regional and local)?</i> 	