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SKiM PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Strengthening Knowledge Management for Greater Development Effectiveness

IFAD Rural Solutions Portal

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2nd National Workshop on Knowledge Management in Morocco

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Options and ideas for smart agriculture in Republic of Moldova

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The SKiM Project continues its collaboration with the stakeholders from Moldova, Sudan and Morocco to ensure proper knowledge documentation, dissemination and availability.

In our previous Newsletter we mentioned about “Inclusive Rural Finance”, the solution from Moldova that was successfully published on the IFAD Rural Solutions Portal.

The solution describes the concept for business skills, knowledge and managerial abilities development for young managers.
Solution title:
**Drought vulnerability assessment and mapping**

**Involved country:** 🇲🇦 Morocco

**Solution Provider:** Agronomic and Veterinary Institute Hassan II

**Objective:** Drought is one of the major threats that affects people’s livelihoods, ecosystems and food security. It is vital to have a comprehensive method to understand the drivers of drought vulnerabilities that as a result will help the decision makers to develop a more effective and tailored drought management practices in rural communities.

**Solution:** The aim of the drought vulnerability assessment and mapping project was to use agricultural, social and economic data to calculate a community-level composite drought vulnerability index (DVI). The project took place in the Oum Er-Rbia basin, which is home to a wide variety of climates, landscapes, cropping systems and social habits. The project enabled the global capture of drought vulnerability in the basin and assessment of data needs. It can be replicated in other Moroccan basins or any other rural area, the only hampering issues being the selection of appropriate indicators and data availability.

► [Click here](#) to watch the story from Morocco related to drought mitigation risks

► [Click here](#) to check the e-learning course on Drought Forecasting and Warning

Solution title:
**Community Initiative Fund**

**Involved country:** 🇸🇩 Sudan

**Solution Provider:** IFAD

**Objective:** Butana communities in general and small-scale producers in particular suffer from many challenges that limit the improvement of livelihoods. Some of these challenges are rising costs of production inputs, inflation, lack of funding, weak financing institutions, poor product marketing and weak value-added processes. The specific objectives of the Butana Integrated Rural Development Project (BIRDP) were to improve the access and bargaining position of women and men in the marketing of livestock and to develop the capacity of community-based organizations to engage in environmentally sound, socially and gender equitable development initiatives.

**Solution:** The project promoted the target group’s access to finance by setting up 14 Community Initiative Funds (CIFs) that benefited more than 11,500 persons (96 per cent of the initial target). These CIFs operate under a matching-grant formula to provide financing to groups to set up small-scale productive enterprises. The CIF provides matching funds for initiatives taken by poor women groups — both female headed households and women from poor families.

The project improved smallholders’ livelihoods and incomes not only through increased agricultural productivity and enhanced access to markets and financial services, but also by promoting equality among beneficiaries. This was achieved by providing equal access to loans, regardless of gender, in accordance with the agreed terms of borrowing within the communities. The Community Initiative Funds (CIFs) have focused on gender transformation as a development driver and achieved impressive results despite the Butana Region’s difficult sociocultural context.

► [Click here](#) to read more about Butana Integrated Rural Development Project
November 16th, 2022 marked a historic day as the Agreement on the knowledge management and transfer was signed by the General Director of ONCA, the Director of ENA Meknes, the General Secretary representing the Director of INRA Morocco and the Deputy Director of cooperation and partnership representing the Director of the IAV Hassan II.

The agreement, being developed within the frames and objectives of the SKiM project, aims to organize the Good Agricultural Practices knowledge dissemination targeting different groups of farmers and local actors. The agreement is one of the components of the knowledge management system consolidation to establish new mechanisms supports in accordance with the new guidelines of the "Generation Green 2020–2030" strategy.

The signing ceremony was scheduled within the agenda of the 2nd National Workshop on knowledge management “Together towards a national strategy of knowledge management in the agricultural sector”, organized within the framework of SKiM project activities. The main participants were represented by the Stakeholders from different organizations and research institutions: IAV Hassan II, ENA Meknes, INRA Morocco, ONCA, DEFR, ADA and the private sector. The objective of the workshop was to provide the research, training and consulting structures with an effective strategy for the national knowledge management in the agricultural sector. The outcomes of the workshop was widely disseminated by the SKiM Project Partners.

This workshop is a continuation of the series of events started in 2021 with the overall aim to support the knowledge management strategy and best practice sharing. The event was attended by the representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture of Morocco, Maritime Fisheries, Rural Development and Water and Forests.
On November 18, 2022 a round table dialogue on “Options and ideas for smart agriculture” was organized by the Institute for Development and Social Initiatives (IDIS) "Viitorul" in Moldova.

The round table, organized within the framework of SKiM project, aimed to enhance awareness of the stakeholders and partners on sustainable (organic) farming as a possible solution for many problems in the agricultural sector. The participants noted that the implementation of this concept will require efficient management of agricultural crops, careful monitoring of soil resources, and of the dynamics of crop growth.

During the event the experts from IDIS “Viitorul” presented 2 case studies that were widely discussed and caused a genuine interest from the participants:

- Agro-industrial complex: benchmarks for investment and export growth
- The use of drones in the development of smart agriculture

The round table followed and drew linkages of the most important aspects, such as: mechanisms to reduce climate change impacts, organic farming program development in Moldova, promotion of high-value agriculture along with innovative approaches. The participants noted the importance of knowledge transfer and best practice sharing among farmers, academia and agribusiness.

The event and its outcomes was widely promoted and supported by local media channels.
Agricultura ecologică ar fi o soluție la numeroasele probleme existente în sectorul agricol.

Noștri Chiriga, conștient că vreun dezvoltare agricolă este nevoie de o management eficient al culturilor agricole, monitorizarea eterior a resurselor de sol și a diversității stării de vegetație a culturilor. Tutuți acestea ar fi posibile dacă ar aplica drepturi. Opiniile au fost examinate la o masă rotundă despre opțiunii și idei pentru o agricultură inteligentă în Republica Moldova. În cadrul seminariului, organizat de către Ministerul Agriculturii și Dezvoltării Locale, "Hortul" și "Inovare", au fost prezentate două studii: "Companii agroindustriale: reper pentru investiții și creșterea exporturilor" și "Utilizarea drepturilor în dezvoltarea agriculturii inteligente".

Noștri Chiriga, experții IAR, prezintă studiul despre complexul agroindustrial, care cunoaște sectorul vegetal este caracterizat prin producție mici și randomizate în fața soluției majoritatea culturilor agricole în majoritate cu bătălia europeană. Acestea sunt valorizate în fața bătăliei naturale. În anii 2010, cu un exemplu de un mecanism eficient de reducere a impactului negativ în agricultură. Totodată, președintele moldovenesc este caracterizat prin instabilitatea, fluctuațiile de prețuri, lipsa de echipă, întârzierea și cadrul de producție, lipsa terenului de muncă, dar și de amenințări frecvente a securității alimentare a țării.
Events

07–19 December
UN’s Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Event
IFAD at the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) COP15
Link →

12 December
CIHEAM Bari
Mediterranean Innovation Agrifood Week 2022
Link →

15 December
CIHEAM Bari
Innovation Day Organic Ecosystem
Link →

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