

Platform's Strategic Initiative: Agenda2030 – new momentum for rural transformation **2016 Work Plan**

Platform Strategic Plan 2016 – 2020 Vision: Prosperous and sustainable rural communities underpinning global food and nutrition security

Context: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development presents a paradigm shift in vision and approach to development. Country-led and country-owned, the new Agenda sees its 17 goals and 169 targets as integrated, indivisible and interlinked. Each government will set “its own national targets, guided by the global level of ambition, but taking into account national circumstances.” This shift poses important new challenges for policies and programs, to modalities of international cooperation, planning and investment, monitoring and review. Policies and programs will need to be shaped by multiple instruments and multiple objectives, based on a “nexus” of related issues. International cooperation will need to be organised, to varying extents depending on context and issue, through more complex multi-stakeholder partnerships. These are likely to become a progressively more important aspect of the means of implementation for the 2030 Agenda, as partnerships need to underpin investment, access to markets and technology, capacity development, and policy support. The Global Donor Platform for Rural Development is a key forum for more effective information-sharing on Agenda 2030 donor policies, programmes and finance to support rural transformation in close collaboration with developing countries, UN agencies, finance institutions, CSOs and the private sector.

Objectives of the Platform's Strategic Initiative: **Agenda2030 – new momentum for rural transformation:**

- (1) Knowledge sharing about progress in the implementation of Agenda2030 with regard to Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Development and building of common understanding on reporting by donor agencies
- (2) Analysis of the current dynamics of rural transformation and identification of development priorities for the rural space which could be supported by donor agencies in close cooperation with developing countries and international partners (governments, civil society and private sector).

Approaching the topic of rural transformation under the Strategic Initiative of the Platform and to deliberate on the topic is based on the following assumptions:

- rural transformation is not a concept, it is a process which is ongoing throughout the world based on a broad variety of site-specific reason. Insofar, the work stream does not “define” the term rural transformation, but addresses the most important dynamics and opportunities.
- The work stream does not address rural transformation in isolation of urbanisation and peri-urban development. Urbanisation is seen as an opportunity (markets, value chain development etc.) – increasing urban demand as a potential for major change in rural areas
- The work stream sees (in this context) the SDGs and their targets as a compendium of development issues which should lead to a prioritisation of actions to support positive dynamics of rural transformation and make opportunities available to the rural communities.
- The work stream is not limited to agricultural development and production, but also addresses off-farm income or issues like education, governance etc.

Outcome: Better informed, evidence-based donor development policy and programming to transform agriculture and rural livelihoods in line with the 2030 Agenda and awareness creation about the ongoing “**rural transformation**”, its opportunities and challenges and highlighting specific dynamics which might not be addressed under the current ARD donor support (business as usual); recommendations what needs to be done to address those dynamics better or in a more synergetic way, also looking at sectoral versus territorial approaches and ways to link the two.

Overall Output: Create and share knowledge in the implementation of relevant SDGs and their targets relevant for the transformation of the rural space in developing countries for food security and sustainable agricultural production, economic growth, social inclusion, environmental protection (climate etc.) and poverty alleviation.

Outputs	Activities	Leading members/instruments
<p>Objective (1): Knowledge sharing about progress in the implementation of Agenda2030 with regard to FS, SA & RD and building of common understanding on reporting by donor agencies</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LEAD: RBAs and IADC Italy (tbd)</p>		
<p>1.A. <i>Agenda 2030 implementation relevant to ARD</i></p> <p>1.B. <i>Effective outreach on results of the analysis to the international community</i></p> <p>1.C. <i>Flagship report</i></p> <p>1.D. <i>Trend analysis of Finance availability</i></p>	<p>1A.1. information sharing on SDG reporting process and results. Telcos and information notes as required, website information material etc.;</p> <p>1A.2. Debate and analysis of formats and contents of reporting of donor agencies against SDGs and their targets relevant to ARD – telcos and internal information material as required;</p> <p>1B.1. 4 information notes that synthesise the state-of-the-art on A1 and A2</p> <p>1B.2. 2 virtual briefings with UN official and donor representative</p> <p>1C.1. Agree on a topic and outline of the Platform’s flagship report 2017/2018;</p> <p>1D.1. Commission a study on trends of financing and the process of ‘ODA modernisation’;</p> <p>1D.2. outreach on results 1D.1 – information notes, webstories, virtual briefing etc.</p>	<p>1A.1: Rome-based agencies (FAO, WFP, IFAD) – continuous up to 31. December 2016;</p> <p>1A.2: tbd, informed by A1 -31 December 2016</p> <p>1B.1. Secretariat with IFAD and IADC – 30 November 2016</p> <p>1B.2. Secretariat – 30 November 2016</p> <p>1C.1 Members and Secretariat – 31 October 2016</p> <p>1D.1 facilitating consultant Marc Paquin – 31 July 2016</p> <p>1D2 facilitating consultant and secretariat 30 September 2016</p>

Outputs	Activities	Leading members/instruments
<p>Objective (2) Analysis of the current dynamics of rural transformation and identification of development priorities for the rural space which could be supported by donor agencies in close cooperation with developing countries and international partners (governments, civil society and private sector).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LEAD: BMZ with IFAD and IADC</p>		
<p>2.A. <i>Compilation of analysis of current transformation dynamics and responses of development partners</i></p> <p>2.B. <i>Identification of relevant linkages between Rural Transformation and Agenda2030</i></p> <p>2.C. <i>Engage in and feed into strategic policy processes on rural transformation</i></p>	<p>2A.1. Gathering information on views on rural transformation;</p> <p>2A.2. Identification of dynamics, drivers and opportunities – what and how;</p> <p>2A.3. Donor and partners debate on findings</p> <p>2A.4. 2 InfoNotes and 1 policy paper for wider distribution</p> <p>2B.1. screen SDGs and their targets against policy priorities identified under 2A;</p> <p>2B.2. donor debate on consequences of donor collaboration in view of synergies between different SDGs for a more comprehensive approach to rural development;</p> <p>2B.3. InfoNote on findings</p> <p>2C.1. engage in the context of DPTT with NEPAD/AUC/ CAADP/Rural Futures on common understanding on more comprehensive and targeted support to governments, civil society and private sector;</p> <p>2C.2. engage in CFS/work stream Urbanization, Rural Transformation and Implications for Food Security; for better understanding of rural-urban linkages</p> <p>2C.3. Other relevant processes (EU, RBA, WorldBank links to ARD)</p> <p>2C.4. Status report on inclusion of positions</p>	<p>2A.1. consultant to create a summary paper (Part1), by end of July 2016</p> <p>2A.2. Consultant to deliver Paper and analysis (Part2) by August 2016</p> <p>2A.3 working Group and partners to exchange on Expert day 15-16 September</p> <p>2A.4. Working group to deliver by November 2016</p> <p>2B.1. Secretariat to deliver summary paper by July 2016</p> <p>2B.2. Members/working group at Expert Day s.2A.3 by end of October 2016</p> <p>2B.3. Members/working group to deliver InfoNote by end of November 2016</p> <p>2C.1. Members/working group to contribute until end of 2016</p> <p>2C.2. Secretariat to involve in policy processes/ deliver input in conferences till end of 2016</p> <p>2C.3. Members/secretariat to create a list of processes identified until June 2016 and participate in relevant processes</p> <p>2C.4. Working group and secretariat end of 2016</p>

Outputs	Activities	Leading members/instruments
Additional engagement LEAD: IADC Italy		
A. <i>Establish more coherent strategy for engagement with governance initiatives like G7, G20, WEF etc.</i>	3A.1. The Platform engages as appropriate in the G7 and G20 processes and reports regularly on progress and outcomes. WEF collaboration through Grow Asia and Grow Africa 3A.2. Identify other collaboration areas	

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Objective 2 – Output 2 A - C

More detailed activities to set up the ToR for the facilitation consultants (for discussion):

A1: Views on rural transformation:

- Compilation and assessment of current policy papers/strategies on rural transformation by donor agencies, development partners (e.g. NEPAD, developing countries), regional organizations and finance institutions, selected private sector initiatives/ foundations, civil society, and analysis of trends, drivers and approaches. (How do partners use the term rural transformation as opposed to the regular approaches in ARD – what changes?)
- How do donors address the complexity of the (transformational) change processes in their programme interventions – do development partners see it the same way?
- Comparison of different “definitions”/approaches by those donor agencies and international organisations and development partners, who use the term or the concept – common ground and differences

A2: Dynamics, drivers and opportunities – what and how?

- Based on the analysis **A1**, identification of major drivers and dynamics of rural transformation as stated by development partners, using these drivers and dynamics for further analysis
- Identification of major opportunities for rural communities and problems in RURAL AREAS caused by rapid urbanisation
- Using the grid to identify who is focusing on what policy priorities to support the rural space more holistically and where there is need for more/enhanced/broader interventions by donors, international institutions and development partners generally. (Some will address the dynamics in their programs, but not referring to rural transformation).
- Comparison of standard rural development interventions with rural transformation interventions – what is different and what are the priorities in the new programmes of development partners and donor agencies?
- Engagement in a broader approach to rural transformation by the instrument of territorial approaches?