CFS HIGH-LEVEL FORUM ON CONNECTING SMALLHOLDERS TO MARKETS Thursday 25 June 2015

9.30-17.00, Red Room, FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy	
Bio	Role: High Level Panellist
Dessislava Dimitrova	STATE IN
President of the Association of Slow Food Convivia	
Bulgaria	
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Born in Sofia in 1967, Dessislava Dimitrova has graduated as MSc in biology from Sofia University in 1991 and entered the Bulgarian Academy of Science where she achieved her PhD degree. Currently she works as associate professor at the Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research.

Following her participation in Terra Madre in 2004, she established the first convivium in Bulgaria, and has ever since coordinated the development of the network of convivia, Terra Madre food communities and Slow Food Presidia. Since 2009 she is the President of the Association of Slow Food Convivia in Bulgaria, the legal entity representing Slow Food association in the country. In 2007 she was elected as the Slow Food international councilor for the Balkans. As such she initiated the regional forum Terra Madre Balkans that brings together academics, local rural communities, small-scale farmers and food producers, teachers, chefs, consumers, journalist in the Balkan countries. Since 2012 she has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Slow Food Foundation for Biodiversity.