

## First meeting of the Coordination Council for SDGs related to agriculture food systems and environment

30 July 2019, Chisinau, Moldova

### CONCEPT NOTE

#### Background

On September 2015, the Republic of Moldova, along with other 192 members of the UN, committed to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, by adopting the Declaration of the Summit on Sustainable Development, held in NYC. The Sustainable Development Agenda is very complex, comprising 17 Goals and 169 specific targets, covering all key dimensions of development: (i) economic, (ii) social, and (iii) environment. In this way, the Agenda was designed to cover the priorities and peculiarities of every country.

In order to ensure the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Government of Moldova elaborated the National Development Strategy “Moldova 2030” and started the process of adjusting the sector-specific policy planning documents. The key purpose is to ensure the irreversible, predictable and feasible implementation of SDGs by integrating them into the policy and budgetary planning document that would make this process coherent from the policy planning perspective.

At the level of agriculture food systems and environment, there was some important progress towards the nationalization of SDGs. According to the Action Plan for the implementation of the National Strategy for Agricultural and Rural Development 2014–2020, the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment (MoARDE) committed to achieve the related sustainable development goals. As part of that Strategy, the Ministry has to nationalize the SDGs targets and integrate them into relevant strategies and budgetary planning documents in order to ensure their implementation.

In this regard, the nationalization exercise of SDGs related to agriculture food systems and environment was continued in 2018-2019 with the support of FAO expertise. As a result it was conducted a mapping and a series of workshops in order to adapt the SDGs to the updated country context in a transparent and participatory manner. Hence, in February 2019 there was organized an open and broad consultative process for adaptation of SDGs targets and indicators related to agriculture food systems and environment to domestic peculiarities.

As a result of the mapping and workshops, out of a total of 53 SDG targets related to agriculture food systems and environment, 38 targets were identified as relevant and adjusted to the country context (15 targets were considered outside the relevance of geographical area and of the national policy peculiarities). For proper policy planning process, these targets will have to be integrated into relevant policy planning documents.

The mapping of SDGs and analysis of the policy documents highlighted the fact that the SDG targets and indicators related to agriculture food systems and environment will have to be integrated into 7 policy planning documents:

1. National Program on Nutrition for 2014-2020
2. The National Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy for 2014-2020
3. The Environmental Strategy for 2014-2023
4. The Biological Diversity Strategy of the Republic of Moldova 2015-2020
5. Water Supply and Sanitation Strategy (2014-2028)
6. Strategy for Ensuring Equality between Women and Men in the Republic of Moldova for 2017-2021
7. Climate Change Adaptation Strategy of the Republic of Moldova until 2020.

In addition, the mapping pointed on the need to extend the planning horizons covered by the above-mentioned strategies until 2030 (with the inclusion of intermediary targets until 2025), integration of impact indicators into the strategies and optimization of the number of policy planning documents in line with the provisions of the National Development Strategy “Moldova 2030”.

Also, a thematic report was developed, with FAO’s support, on the implementation of SDGs related to agriculture food systems and environment. The purpose of the report was to analyze the progress made so far related to the nationalization of these SDGs, to analyze how these sectors evolved since the adaptation of 2030 Agenda, to identify the key challenges in implementation and to formulate relevant recommendations.

In addition, MoARDE, based on FAO’s advice, started the set-up of a coordination council for implementation of SDGs related to agriculture food systems and environment. Its main purpose will be the coordination of the efforts of policy makers, donor community and NGOs in the area of SDGs and ensuring the monitoring and evaluation of SDGs’ implementation. The first meeting of this council will consist of the workshop organized in partnership with FAO. During this event, there will be presented the results of the thematic report on the nationalization of SDGs related to agriculture food systems and environment, along with the mapping and concept of implementation.

## **Objective**

The general objective of the event is to support the MoARDE with the organization of the first meeting of its coordination council on SDGs related to agriculture food systems and environment and initiate high-level discussion among policy makers, statistical authority, donor community and private sector about the coordination of efforts for implementation of the respective SDGs.

Also, the event aims to achieve the following specific objectives:

- To present and discuss with relevant stakeholders specific recommendations for integration of SDGs into the policy and budgetary planning framework.
- To agree with the policy makers, statistical authority, donor community and private sector about the next steps related to the implementation of SDGs related to agriculture food systems and environment.
- To identify areas where FAO could continue providing support for the implementation of SDGs related to agriculture food systems and environment.

## **Participants**

The event will be attended by MoARDE representatives, as well as other relevant institutions (State Chancellery, Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure, Ministry of Finance, National Bureau of Statistics etc.), representatives of local public authorities, the private environment and civil society. Also there will be invited representatives of the development partners including UN agencies).

## **Expected results**

- A statement on joint commitment and efforts for the implementation of SDGs related to agriculture food systems and environment.
- Endorsed study on SDGs nationalization related to agriculture food systems and environment.
- Identified potential areas for FAO further support for the implementation of SDGs related to agriculture food systems and environment.

## **Location and dates**

Chisinau, Moldova, 30 July, 2019

## **Logistics**

The meeting language will be Romanian. Simultaneous translation into English will be provided.

## **Annex**

Workshops' agenda.