

**GOVERNING COUNCIL**  
**Forty-first session**  
**Rome, 13-14 February 2018**

***From fragility to long-term resilience: Investing in sustainable rural economies***

**INTERACTIVE SESSIONS**

***Session 1: From fragility to long-term resilience***

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**Description of session**

A number of internal and external factors can contribute to a country's fragility, jeopardizing its chances of eradicating poverty and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. This interactive session will take a closer look at how IFAD, together with its Member States, is intervening in two specific countries to support sustainable rural economies. The interactive session will begin with a review of some of the factors that cause fragility, followed by an exchange on some of the tools and innovative approaches that have successfully built resilience in fragile contexts.

**Key questions**

- What are the key drivers of fragility?
- What are the most effective innovative tools and approaches for dealing with the various dimensions of fragility?
- Are there specific examples of successful approaches to tackling fragility?

**Speakers**

- Mr Helder da Costa, General Secretary of the g7+ Secretariat
- The Honourable Professor Monty Patrick Jones, Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security of the Republic of Sierra Leone
- Ms Majida Mcheik, Chief, Programme Department, Ministry of Agriculture of the Lebanese Republic
- Ms Ndaya Beltchika, Country Programme Manager for Sierra Leone; West and Central Africa Division; IFAD
- Mr Tarek Kotb, Country Programme Manager for Lebanon; Near East, North Africa and Europe Division; IFAD

**Moderator**

- Mr P erin Saint-Ange, Associate Vice-President, Programme Management Department, IFAD

## ***Session 2: Multilateralism: Opportunities and challenges***

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### **Description of session**

Global issues such as climate change, conflict, emerging technologies and pressures on natural resources shape and challenge the rural landscape and the resilience of rural communities. Mitigating the associated risks and taking advantage of the opportunities will create an ever-greater need for international cooperation. What are the implications for multilateralism and official development assistance in a context of increased need for collaboration, heightened competition for scarce public resources and single-state approaches? There is strong global interest in finding solutions to current and emerging issues that can build resilience, stability and peace during the 2030 Agenda implementation period.

### **Key questions**

- Is multilateralism imperative for realizing the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda and, in particular, promoting sustainable rural communities?
- What multilateral approaches, frameworks and platforms are needed to complement bilateral approaches from the international financial institution (IFI) perspective?
- How can the United Nations system, in partnership with other multilateral actors, play a leadership role in advancing multilateral responses to prevailing and emerging global issues, and what is the specific role of IFAD as both an IFI and a United Nations agency within this?

### **Speakers**

- Dr Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, Chief Executive Officer, New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Agency
- IFAD Governor
- IFAD Governor
- Mr David Nabarro, Head, Skills Systems and Synergies for Sustainable Development (4SD); and former Special Adviser on Sustainable Development and Climate Change to the United Nations Secretary-General

### **Moderator**

- Mr Johannes F. Linn, Non-resident Senior Fellow in the Global Economy and Development Program, Brookings Institution; Distinguished Resident Scholar, Emerging Markets Forum; Senior Advisor, Results for Development Institute (R4D); and Chairperson of the Consultation on the Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh Replenishments of IFAD's Resources

## ***Session 3: Investing in Rural Youth***

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### **Description of session**

Across developing countries, young people are two to three times more likely to be unemployed. They are often excluded from decision-making and policy processes and lack access to resources, finance and employment. This affects growth, threatens political stability and causes uncontrolled migration. Yet a large rural youth population provides significant opportunities for rural development. Young farmers are already effective agents of change who are diversifying agricultural production, adopting new technologies and entering remunerative value chains. Facilitating access to land, improving access to financial services, matching skills development to the needs of the labour market, promoting entrepreneurial growth and developing social protection systems encourage the economic participation of rural youth.

### **Key questions**

- What types of investments are needed to make rural life an attractive and viable livelihood option for rural youth?
- How can migration become a choice rather than a necessity for rural youth?
- How can social distress be reduced among rural youth so as to enable them to be part of social and political processes?

### **Speakers**

- IFAD Governor,
- Mr Dominik Ziller, Director-General, International Development Policy, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) of the Federal Republic of Germany
- Ms Rita Kimani, Chief Executive Officer, FarmDrive, Republic of Kenya
- Mr Sebastián Pedraza, Member, National Rural Youth Network, Republic of Colombia
- Ms Mai Thin Yu Mon, Representative, Global Indigenous Youth Caucus

### **Moderator**

- Mr Paul Winters, Associate Vice-President, ad interim, Strategy and Knowledge Department, IFAD

*22 January 2018*