

## European Network for Rural Development

### Seminar "Semi-subsistence farming in the EU: current situation and future prospects"

Sibiu, Romania, 21st – 23rd April 2010

#### Provisional Programme

##### Day 1: Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April

09.30 – 10.00 Opening remarks

10.00 – 10.45 Plenary session: Semi-subsistence farming, concepts and key issues. Typology, paths of development, emerging key issues.

10.45 – 11.15 Coffee

11.15 – 12.00 Plenary session: EU RD Policy and semi-subsistence farming. What current RD tools are relevant for semi-subsistence farming and how are they being used?

12.00 – 12.30 Discussion

12.30 – 12.45 Introduction to the parallel workshops

12.45 – 14.15 Lunch

##### 14.15 – 17.15 Parallel Workshops

14.15 – 15.45 Parallel workshops 1, 2, 3 & 4

15.45 – 16.15 Coffee

16.15 – 17.15 Continuation of parallel workshops 1, 2, 3 & 4

Evening: Dinner offered by DG AGRI

#### **Interpretation**

In the plenary sessions, simultaneous interpretation is foreseen from English, French, German, Bulgarian, Polish, Romanian and Italian into English, French, German, Bulgarian, Polish and Romanian.

Please note that due to the meeting room/interpretation constraints interpretation in certain workshops will be limited. The distribution of interpretation languages will be decided at a later stage.

## Parallel Workshops

### **Workshop 1: Semi-subsistence farming concepts and key issues**

- Concepts and definitions of semi-subsistence farming.
- Understanding the meaning of the term in different Member States, 'hobby' farms, small farms, part time farms.

Presentation 1 The example of smallholders in Ireland.

Presentation 2 Case study: semi-subsistence farming situation and policy - the example of Hungary.

### **Workshop 2: Wider implications of semi-subsistence farming for society and the environment**

- Social issues and semi-subsistence farming.
- Semi-subsistence farming as a social safety net.
- The role of semi-subsistence farming in land management and protection of the environment (public goods).

Presentation 1 Case study: semi-subsistence farming and the delivery of environmental benefits in Romania.

Presentation 2 Sustainability and social implications of semi-subsistence farming in Bulgaria, Poland and Romania. Drawn from the outcomes of the S-Farm project, "Sustainability of semi-subsistence farming in new Member States and acceding countries".

### **Workshop 3: Pathways for semi-subsistence farming: Integration into the food chain, diversification**

- Focus on the farmers' perspective.
- Restructuring patterns of semi-subsistence farming.
- Integration into the food chain, constraints and opportunities.
- Diversification into non-agricultural activities.

Presentation 1 Integration of semi-subsistence farming in the food supply chain – new opportunities or new barriers?

Presentation 2 Pathways for semi-subsistence farming from experience in EU15: strategies for diversification, pluriactivity, 'exit strategies'.

### **Workshop 4: Reaching and supporting semi-subsistence farms**

- Focus on policy RD delivery mechanisms: How are the current policy instruments used in Member States?
- How to reach semi-subsistence farming.
- Impact of rural development policies on semi-subsistence farming.
- Networking and semi-subsistence farms.

Presentation 1 Evolution of policies for semi-subsistence farming in Poland.

Presentation 2 Case study, Crofting in Scotland: policies to address semi-subsistence farms' needs.

## **Day 2: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**

### 09.30 – 12.30 Repeat of parallel Workshops

09.30 – 11.00 Parallel workshops 1, 2, 3 & 4.

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee

11.30 – 12.30 Continuation of parallel workshops 1, 2, 3 & 4.

12.30 – 14.15 Lunch

### 14.15-16.45 Plenary session: Reports of parallel workshops

14.15 – 14.45 Workshop 1: Semi-subsistence farming concepts and key issues. Presentation of outcomes and discussion.

14.45 – 15.15 Workshop 2: Wider implications of semi-subsistence farming for society and the environment. Presentation of outcomes and discussion.

15.15 – 15.45 Workshop 3: Pathways for semi-subsistence farming: Integration into the food chain, diversification. Presentation of outcomes and discussion.

15.45 – 16.15 Coffee

16.15 – 16.45 Workshop 4: Reaching and supporting semi-subsistence farms. Presentation of outcomes and discussion.

16.45 – 17.15 Open discussion led by Panel.

17.15 – 17.30 Key findings of the seminar & Closing remarks.

## **Day 3: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**

Field visits