
Ministry of Agriculture (MDA) - Jordan

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)/Sustainable Development Policies Division (SDPD)

Capacity Building Workshop- Mainstreaming Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into Agriculture Strategy and Food Security Priorities in Jordan

Amman, Jordan, 10-11 December 2018

Information Note

I. Background

Mainstreaming SDGs into national policies requires designing institutional based and process oriented frameworks that help stakeholders to define gaps and prioritize actions to achieve positive change right across the 2030 Agenda. Agriculture and food sectors are main contributors to several SDGs with numerous targets. Sustainable agriculture and nutritious food drive economic growth and healthy life mainly in rural areas, protect natural assets, and offer inclusive livelihoods for vulnerable communities. Population increase, limited natural resources, and low resiliency of current agriculture systems in developing countries urge policy makers to adapt food systems and design context based resilient agriculture strategies that help reducing poverty and hunger.

Jordan, with extremely limited and scarce natural resources, faces enormous challenges in achieving a progress in SDGs related to sustainable agriculture and food security. MDA is working to develop a frame that shows how its 2016-2025 strategy is contributing to the achievement of SDGs and improvement of food security situation. Jordan presented its first Voluntary National Review (VNR) for SDGs in the High Level Political Forum in 2017. Its second VNR will be presented in 2020 and will include updates on targets and indicators that the country is contributing to with a specific focus on themes mostly relevant to the Jordanian context, in particular economic development, food security, quality education, natural resources management (soil, water, energy), gender equality, etc. There is a

need to develop the capacity of concerned stakeholders in planning, mainstreaming, and localizing SDGs related to agriculture and food security. Bringing stakeholders together help developing targeted programs and policies with shared inclusive responsibilities, connecting various SDGs goals and targets under specific themes for specific objectives, measuring and monitoring progress in targets through a unified approach, and mitigating policy and implementation constraints to enable positive change.

II. Objectives of the Workshop

Within the above background, ESCWA and The Jordanian Ministry of Agriculture in close collaboration with the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MOPIC) is organizing a capacity building workshop during 10-11 December in Amman, Jordan. The aim of this workshop is to discuss action plans and provide guidance on mainstreaming SDGs into Jordan's national agriculture and food security policies based on a theoretical and an empirical overview that helps the MOA to structure and articulate positive change that could be achieved under specific SDGs' goals and targets.

The discussions will produce key messages with clear orientations on how the agriculture strategy and food security priorities are contributing on the short and medium terms to the achievement of priority and specific SDGs' goals and targets in Jordan. They will unify and centralize the process and methods of progress measurements and give recommendations for stakeholders on joint programming and implementation.

The specific objectives of the workshop are:

- Prepare MOA and concerned stakeholders to report their contribution to SDGs in the second VNR, including the selection of goals most relevant to the Jordanian context;
- Raise awareness on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development and its goals, targets, and indicators related to agriculture and food security;
- Develop the capacity of government officials in planning, mainstreaming, and localizing SDGs related to agriculture and food security;
- Prepare an annex to the agriculture strategy on the contribution to SDGs over short and medium terms

III. Participants

Participants in the workshop include agriculture professionals/experts from the MOA and other line ministries involved in or may influence the way agriculture and food might contribute to SDGs in Jordan such as the MOPIC, Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Higher Council for Science and Technology, etc. UN organizations and local organizations mandated to implement and monitor SDGs related to agriculture and food will be invited to participate and contribute in this workshop.

IV. Organization of the workshop

A. Date and Venue

The workshop will be held during 10-11 December 2018 at Kempinski Hotel in Amman, Jordan. Participants are kindly requested to arrive at 9:00 am on Monday, 10 December 2018 to register for the workshop which will promptly start at 9:30 am with the opening session. The meeting will conclude on Tuesday, 11 October 2018 at 16:30 pm

B. Language of the sessions

The workshop will be conducted in Arabic and English languages

C. Registration

Invited participants are kindly requested to submit their completed workshop registration form (attached) before 1 December 2018

D. Correspondence

Inquiries and completed registration forms should be submitted to the following officials:

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