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Towards Prosperous Villages

SARD Event on Results and Perspectives of the European Community Led Rural Development Approach for Rural Development in the Republic of Moldova

Date 22 June 2018

Time 9.00 – 17.30

Venue Eugen Ionesco Theater, Chisinau, Bulevardul Grigore Vieru 11, Chişinău

The event is organized by the EU-funded “Support for agriculture and rural development in ATU Gagauzia and Taraclia” (SARD) Programme, implemented by the UNDP

This national event aims to introduce the pilot implementation results of the mainstream European rural development methods, LEADER and CLLD approach in Moldova.

The event combines a conference with networking opportunities, and with an open-air fair of the local products of the eight SARD LEADER Local Action Groups (LAGs) and other similar rural development initiatives established in Moldova.

Financed by the European Union (EUR 6.5 million) and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Support to Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD) Programme intends to intensify during 2016–2018 the cooperation between central and local authorities, as well as among regional organizations from Gagauzia ATU and Taraclia district, to upgrade the capacities of Local Public Administrations and foster social-economic development of the region and of the Republic of Moldova. Implementation of the LEADER (a French acronym meaning Links Between Actions for the Development of the Rural Economy) and the Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) approach is an innovative, cross-cutting measure of the Programme.

SARD supports the creation, functioning and management of the local stakeholder-created LAGs in the targeted regions and neighbouring districts. The programme helps with all necessary human resource development, technical assistance, legal aspects, co-financing and governance. On a national level, SARD contributes to the process whereby the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment (MARDE) is setting up the national LEADER Programme for Rural Development in Moldova. SARD LEADER is also a model for national non-governmental organizations (NGOs) piloting LEADER/CLLD all around the country.

This multi-cultural event of the Gagauzian/South-Moldovan and other villages from Moldova in an urban theatre, and the opened local fair on the surrounding street in the capital aims to contribute to elimination of urban-rural, ethnic and political boundaries.



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AGENDA

9:00 – 9:30 Arrival and registration of participants, coffee break

9:30 – 10:00 **Opening of the Local Product Fair** by the visit of the high-level participants of the conference

Opening remarks

10:00 – 10:40 **Mr. Peter Michalko**, Head of the EU Delegation to Moldova
Ms. Dafina Gercheva, UN Resident Coordinator/ UNDP Resident Representative in Moldova
Mr. Iurie Usurelu, State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment
Ms. Irina Vlah, Bashkan, ATU Gagauzia
Mr. Chiril Tatarli, President of Taraclia Raion
Ms. Kirsten Birke Lund, Council Member, ELARD (European LEADER Association for Rural Development)
Moderator: Mr. Anatolie Terzi, Programme Manager, SARD

10:40 – 11:00 **Masterclasses on the podium – Moderator: Tomasz Horbowski**, SARD LEADER Project Manager at the SARD Sub-Contractor, Solidarity Fund PI in Moldova

Press Conference in the Event Hall – Moderator: Natalia Costas, SARD Communication Expert

11:00 – 11:20 **Go to 'local' for inclusive and sustainable rural development in Moldova.** Results of the community driven rural development initiatives implemented in frame of the SARD Programme in Gagauzia, Taraclia and neighboring rural communities
Ms. Marta Marczis, European Expert for Rural Development SARD Programme

11:20 – 12:00 *Brunch break*

Scaling up of the SARD LEADER/CLLD model in Moldova

12:00 – 13:00 **Preparatory of the National LEADER Programme in Moldova and the contribution of the SARD LEADER pilot to this process**
Ms. Galina Petrachi, Head of Policy and Programmes of Rural Development Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment

Panel discussion on LEADER networking opportunities in Moldova. The event provides opportunity for pilot local action groups, which have used the European LEADER and CLLD method in rural development in Moldova to share experiences and discuss networking opportunities – **Moderator: Tomasz Horbowski**



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LEADER networking and its benefits in the European Union; networking opportunities for Moldovan LAG-s

13:00 – 13:20

Ms. Kirsten Birke Lund, Council Member, ELARD

Introduction of the SARD LEADER strategies, management and locally implemented projects

13.20 – 14.00

Panel discussion with participation of "Eco Bugeac", "Gagauz Korafłari", "Cişmeaua Sudului", "ECO-Düz Yalpuşel", "Perla Sudului", "Bugeac Kilim", "Steaua Bugeac" and "Dolina Rodnicov" LAG managers and project owners

Moderator: Ms. Alla Levitskaia, SARD LEADER Expert

14:00 – 14:30

Masterclasses on the podium

14.30 – 14.50

Coffee break

14.50 – 15.40

"Colors of South-Moldova Rural Areas" - Cultural performance
Moderator: Ms. Ana Cerneva, SARD LEADER Coach

Closing of the event

15.40 – 16.00

Conclusions of the SARD LEADER implementation and of the event, from the perspective of the European Union Delegation to the Republic of Moldova

Ms. Iva Stamenova, Project Manager, EU Delegation to the Republic of Moldova

Event evaluation by participants – **Moderator: Ms. Marta Marcziş**

16.00 – 17.30

Supper