

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 21st 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 22nd 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 23rd April

Field visits