

Foresight activity:

Workshop, 7th July 2012

Rural Development and Food Security: moving forward to a more coherent EU Trade and Agriculture Policy for social inclusion and poverty reduction (MDG1)

Short background:

Poverty in the rural area an social exclusion

About the 14% of the population living in the european rural area faces lower employment level than the 50% of the European average, and in some of these territories there is a low per capita GDP. In this context, the EU rural development policy gives important instruments to assist member states in foster rural employment, fight against poverty and social exclusion in these territories and improve rural quality standard of living. These aims reflect perfectly the european development strategy Europe 2020.

The Europe 2020 strategy is about delivering growth that is: smart, through more effective investments in education, research and innovation; sustainable, thanks to a decisive move towards a low-carbon economy; and inclusive, with a strong emphasis on job creation and poverty reduction. The strategy is focused on five ambitious goals in the areas of employment, innovation, education, poverty reduction and climate/energy.

The Europe 2020 strategy underlines the importance of supporting programmes which help to reduce the labour market barriers and promote (encourage) social inclusion, especially for the most vulnerable categories, as women, youth, workers, old, ethnic minority and people with disability. These supporting programmes foreseen, inter alia, a support to education, lifelong learning and training opportunities, modern infrastructure, TIC, and a better access to the essential (fundamental) public services. Rural development (and the specific measures developed by EU to foster it) is a key aspect to move forward a more inclusive society and to reduce poverty (MDG1).

Moreover there will be an update on the current 2012 activities and the foreseen future activities about the project “EU Trade & Agriculture Policy and its implication on poverty reduction (MDG1)- Promotion of coherence by Civil Society”. This project is promoted by Misereor and FOCSIV, with contribution from the European Commission.

Objective:

To strengthen the information exchange between the Secretary and some of the NGOs operating in developing countries, and deepen the debate and reflection about issues related to rural development, food security, poverty reduction and the EU Rural Development Policy.

Content of the activity:

- Information exchange and update.

- Strengthening and development debate and reflection about these issues, stimulating reflections and comments.

Method:

Development, implementation and sharing of information on these themes.

Target Group:

Representatives and members of FOCSIV NGOs.

Organisation:

- a) *When:* 7th July 2012, from 10:00 to 17:00, c/o ARSO, Via Aurelia 773 Roma
- b) *How many people:* expected 65 participants
- c) *Room:* Meeting Room
- d) *Finances:* 1.200 €