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The role of women in agriculture and rural development in the WB

Second Interim Meeting

Outline for the synthesis report

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PART A

- AIM



The Regional Synthesis Report will be compiled from the findings of the national studies

- aiming to consolidate and analyze all of the data and information gathered from each Western Balkan country/territory into a unified report.
 - delineates the common needs, constraints, challenges and level of empowerment of rural women
 - generate policy recommendations.
 - These recommendations are derived from both the individual country studies and the overarching assessments provided in the reports.
- ✓ Consequently, the primary significance of the Regional Synthesis Report lies in its **establishment of a regional perspective derived from the insights of the seven national studies, serving as a foundational resource for regional initiatives**



Parts of the regional report



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- The report is divided in three parts:

1. Executive Summary

- insights on the project, aim, relevance and importance of this research work with a detailed description of the research methodological approaches

2. Cross-Country Synthesis,

- The Situation and Needs of Rural Women in the Western Balkans countries

3. The National Reports

- prepared by national experts for each of the included countries



PART A

Executive Summary



1. Albania

BiH

2. Federation

3. Republic Srpska

4. Kosovo*

5. Montenegro

6. North Macedonia

7. Serbia

1. INTRODUCTION

a. Background and aim

- Description of the Balkan region context.

i) Socio-economic situation.

ii) Demographic trends:

The outmigration - demographic challenges, populations

The aim and need for performing the study



Detailed description of the methodology



- Access to quality data is crucial for analysing the rural youth situation to making informed, evidence-based decisions about them.
 - However, a significant challenge lies in the availability and quality of such data in the Western Balkans.
- Disaggregated statistics in accordance to gender, and especially for rural areas are often underrepresented,
- To overcome data deficiencies, the national studies applied an unified, mixed-methods approach
 - desk research, qualitative data collection through expert interviews, focus group discussions and case study
 - quantitative data collection through survey.
- Figure with an overview of the cross-country mixed-method approach applied in this study, including the number of participants in each methodology segment
- **The different methodological aspects which are applied in the National reports will be elaborated in details in the methodology part of the synthesis report**



Questions to be answered



- What is women's daily life and **situation** on farms in the Western Balkans regarding **economic and social aspects**, including **time management and life-cycle aspects**?
- What are **women's aspirations**, and how is their general wellbeing?
- In which **fields do women perceive a disadvantage compared to male farm managers** (e.g. access to inputs, credits, informal networks, marketing, contract conditions)?
- How is **farm succession** done, and how are women included or excluded in inheritance? Are there other potentially exclusionary practices, such as when only one named manager or tenant is a male family member?
- How are **women involved in business decisions**, and under which conditions do they become **innovators on the farm**? Are there **specific training needs**? What are the **opportunities for women for farm diversification and off-farm work**, as well as development of circular economy, green, social and environmental entrepreneurship?
- **How are women represented in (leadership in) farmers' associations?**



Empowerment index

Empowerment index based on Alkire index - five sub-indices:



1) Production/work

input in productive decisions (sole or joint decision-making)

This sub-section will be also divided into two categories (as in the National reports):

i) **Agricultural production**, and ii) **Rural entrepreneurship**

Note: *Special attention should be dedicated to green, environmental, and social entrepreneurship, but also to the role of rural women in the innovation processes.*

(Don't forget to address these aspects in the National reports)!

+ the most relevant points of the case study and the profile of the successful rural women/entrepreneur in the WB context.

2) Resources/assets

- **ownership of assets and access to productive resources and decisions on credit, education and adult learning, health, and child and elderly care.**
- Common resources for both agriculture and entrepreneurship summary - ***emphasized specificities of agricultural production and rural entrepreneurship in the countries (similarities/differences).***



Empowerment index

Empowerment index based on Alkire index - five sub-indices:



3) Leadership

- rural women's issues such as **group membership** (membership in formal or informal economic or social groups), **women being in leading positions** (including managerial positions), women leaders – role models in rural areas, and women's role in social capital.
- ✓ Again summary of the most important issues, but also interesting findings and outstanding cases which can be used in the construction of a model of a successful women in the rural areas in the WB.

4) Time

- The patterns in the workload of rural women i.e. the allocation of time to productive and domestic tasks (paid vs. unpaid work) in WB.

5) Control income/expenditure

rural women's issues such as control over the use of income in the household.

- Summary of the relevant statistics from the desk research, and the results from the focus group discussions, interviews (the case study), and the survey.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
- FOREWORD (TBD)

- 1. INTRODUCTION
 - 1.1. Method, data, sample description
 - 1.1.1. Desk research approach
 - 1.1.2. Interviews
 - 1.1.3. Focus group discussions
 - 1.1.4. Case study
 - 1.1.5. Survey



2. CONTEXT ANALYSIS OF RURAL WOMEN IN WB

- 2.1. Macro-level trends and gender indicators
- 2.2. Gender equality legislation and policy settings

3. SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS OF RURAL WOMEN – CHALLENGES, NEEDS, AND OPPORTUNITIES

- 3.1. Socio-demographic characteristics
- 3.2. Resources
- 3.3. Production
 - 3.3.1. Agricultural production
 - 3.3.2. Rural entrepreneurship
- 3.4. Income
- 3.5. Leadership
- 3.6. Time allocation





4. CONCLUSIONS AND POLICY RECOMMENDATION

5. REFERENCES

6. APPENDICES

- Appendix 6.1. Key macro-economic and gender statistics
- APPENDIX 6.2. Existent/key gender equality legislation and policies
- APPENDIX 6.3. Interviews summary
- APPENDIX 6.4. Focus groups
- APPENDIX 6.5. Survey tables

