SIDE EVENT CONCEPT NOTE

Event title

Launch of the ITU-FAO "Meeting the EU's Digital Agriculture Requirements. A Compendium for Pre-accession Countries"

Background and Rationale

The European region, encompassing a diverse array of countries and territories, faces the challenge of aligning agricultural practices with evolving digital technologies and European Union (EU) standards. As the EU continues to advance its digital agriculture requirements, pre-accession countries and territories seek guidance on integrating these standards into their agricultural policies, information management systems, and public service provision. The "Meeting the EU's Digital Agriculture Requirements", spearheaded by the ITU Office for Europe and the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, aims to provide a resource for pre-accession countries to aid them with harmonization and modernization.

Digital agriculture holds profound implications for the region's sustainable development, directly impacting SDGs such as Zero Hunger (SDG 2) and Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure (SDG 9). By embracing digital technologies responsibly, countries can enhance food security, promote economic growth through innovation, and improve the efficiency and sustainability of agricultural practices. Against the backdrop of multiple crises, including environmental degradation and economic challenges, the theme of "Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Economic Commission for Europe region" underscores the urgency of adopting resilient and innovative solutions in various sectors, including agriculture.

Session objectives and expected outcomes

This event aims to launch the **"Meeting the EU's Digital Agriculture Requirements. A Compendium for Pre-accession Countries"** and disseminate its findings. By providing a framework for stakeholders, including policymakers, academia, agritech companies. the event seeks to foster the responsible and sustainable integration of digital technologies in agriculture. Key outcomes include increased awareness of EU standards, enhanced capacity for aligning agricultural policies, and strengthened collaboration among stakeholders. The results of this event serve as inputs for subsequent cooperation with countries' and discussions and initiatives focused on achieving SDGs related to zero hunger, economic growth, and innovation in the European region.

Organizers

Lead organizers: International Telecommunication Union

Contributors: Food and Agriculture Organization

Agenda and Structure

Introductory remarks (6 min):

- Mr. Jaroslaw Ponder, Head of the ITU Office for Europe, ITU
- Ms. Daniela DiGianantonio, Head of Digital Agriculture, Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, FAO

Special Address (5 min):

- Ms. Evangelia Mourmoura, Team Leader, Digitalization, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, EC

Overview and main takeaways from the Compendium (10 min):

- Mr. Ales Krisper, Digital Agriculture Expert, ITU

Q/A (5 min):

- Mr. Matteo Metta, Digital Agriculture Specialist, FAO

Closing remarks (2 min)

- Ms. Valentina Stadnic, Digital Services Expert, ITU Office for Europe, ITU

List of Panellists

Mr. Jaroslaw Ponder, Head of the ITU Office for Europe, ITU

Ms. Daniela DiGianantonio, Head of Digital Agriculture, Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, FAO

Mr. Ales Krisper, Digital Agriculture expert

Ms. Stadnic Valentina, Digital Services Expert, ITU Office for Europe, ITU

Mr. Matteo Metta, Digital Agriculture Specialist, FAO

Ms. Evangelia Mourmoura, Team Leader, Digitalization, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, EC

Sign-up / Registration Link

Registration link: https://www.itu.int/net/CRM/js/sr/C-00013828