How (National) Urban Policies can Strengthen Urban-Rural Linkages for poverty reduction
Organized by UN-Habitat, External Relations Division and RPMU

Background
The purpose of this side event is to highlight how Urban Policies (at national and regional level) can strengthen Urban-Rural Linkages, aiming to reducing inequality and poverty and enhancing food security. National Urban Policies help countries to harmonize their urban legislation frameworks in order to better manage challenges resulting from uncoordinated urban growth and enhance integrated territorial development.

National Urban Policies can also be one powerful tool to help governments to address development challenges by promoting integrated territorial development, strengthening urban-rural linkages and integrating aspects concerning food security such as land use, transport, storage and market facilities and urban agriculture.

Relevance to the GC26 theme
“Opportunities for the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda” : The New Urban Agenda mentions Urban-Rural Linkages in several paragraphs and also puts national urban policies in the center of action as a crucial tool and a driver of change.
Objectives
During the session, there will be discussion what policies, investments and institutional arrangements are needed in order to promote strong and inclusive urban-rural linkages; different strategies, policies and tools for supporting countries in their efforts on Integrated Territorial Development will be shared and discussed (such as National Urban Policies). The main expected outcome from this event is to generate knowledge, how (national urban) policies and legal frameworks can be designed and implemented to foster Urban-Rural Linkages so that they can support an integrated territorial development – aiming to leave no one behind.

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