

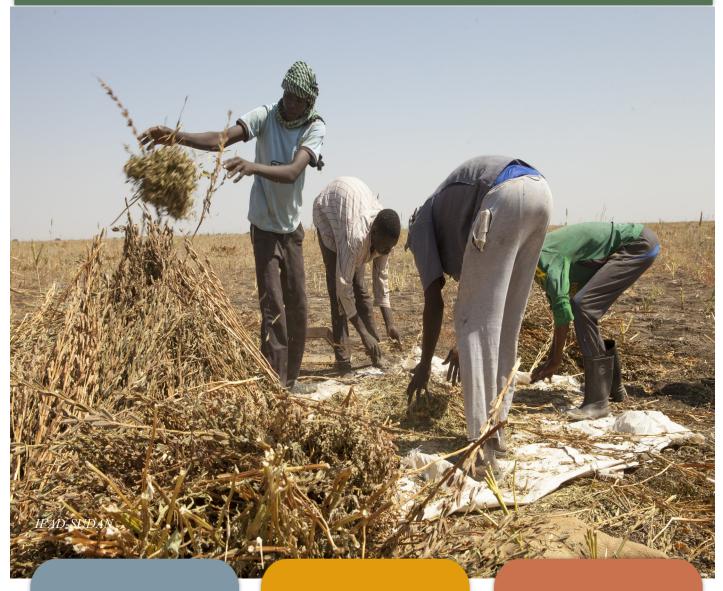


**ISSUE 11** 

FEBRUARY 2021

# SKIM PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Strengthening Knowledge Management for Greater Development Effectiveness



SKIM-IFAD APPROACH PAPER

Pg. 2

IRRI-SMART FOR PRECISE IRRIGATION SCHEDULING

ENA-MEKNES Pg. 3 NATIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

MOLDOVA Pg. 4



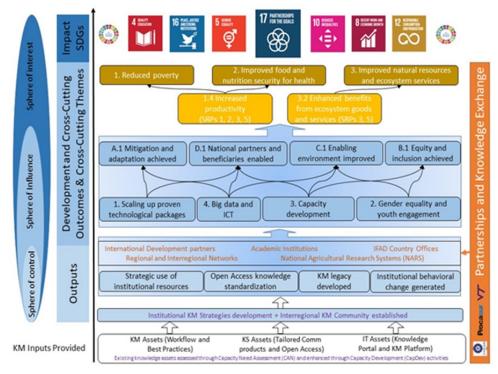




# APPROACH PAPER - STRENGTHENING KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT FOR GREATER DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS IN THE NEAR EAST, NORTH AFRICA, CENTRAL ASIA AND EUROPE

Approach papers are a specific IFAD instrument to oversee the evaluation process of IFAD investments. They typically include key evaluation questions, time frames, description of the core learnings, partnerships and skill sets necessary for achieving project objectives and disseminating project results to a broad stakeholder base. Depending on the focus and other requests from IFAD, the approach papers might include some other complementary content.

SkiM project team has produced an approach paper with the title "Strengthening Knowledge Management for Greater Development Effectiveness in the Near East, North Africa, Central Asia and Europe." In the SKiM approach paper, we have presented the multi-level and multi-country modus operandi of the SKiM project in Moldova, Morocco and Sudan and highlighted how it contributes to the IFAD learning on programming and implementing knowledge management interventions. We have introduced the collaboration process that led to SKiM, described the unique insights SKiM can offer for development effectiveness via IFAD instruments, presented the outcomes, outputs SKiM aims to achieve, listed the activities SKiM has planned to implement in Near East and North Africa (NENA) and Central and Eastern Europe and the Newly Independent States (CEN) subregions.



**SKiM Impact Pathway** 

You can access the Approach Paper <u>here</u>. For more questions and your comments, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Dr. Murat Sartas
Knowledge Management Scientist (murat.sartas@cgmel.org)

# IRRI-SMART — AN APP FOR PRECISE IRRIGATION SCHEDULING



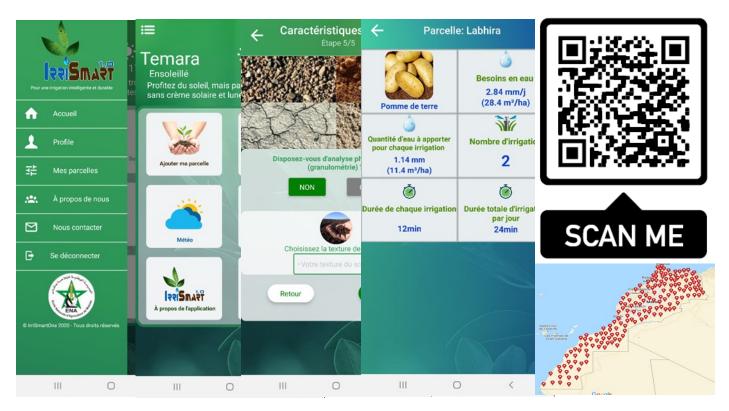
SKiM Moroccan partner <u>ENA Meknes</u> has reported its work on developing a smartphone application "Irri-Smart" that integrates all components of the soil-water-crop-atmosphere continuum to provide farmers, managers and other potential users with precision irrigation parameters, such as daily irrigation calendar, to manage irrigation, save water, and improve profitability. In arid regions of Morocco, water is a major constraint for crop production.

The SPEC-trum research team at ENA Meknes has since developed an combing specific algorithms with relevant information technology in accordance with "Agriculture 4.0", the Moroccan Generation-Green Strategy, "the development of digital solutions in agriculture" and "Precision Agriculture". Inputs are organised by field identification, climatic simulation, crop choice, sowing date, irrigation system characteristics , and soil characteristics.

The irrigation program is generated on daily basis and data is saved on a cloud server, and then sent directly to the user. Output data are summarized as

- i) daily crop water requirement
- ii) water quantity to be applied for each irrigation
- iii) irrigations frequency
- iv) duration of one irrigation and
- v) total duration of irrigation per day.





The app was released online via Play store in the last week of January 2021 and has since gained about 1000 users. The developers <u>Dr. Aziz Abouabdillah</u>, Dr. Rachid Bouabid have joined efforts with the SKiM team to produce and publish <u>an open access research poster</u> outlining the ideas and working of this IRRI-SMART application. The smartphone app can be downloaded through the above QR code.

## SKIM NATIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE—MOLDOVA

In 2020 the SKiM Project Management Unit (PMU) has redacted the SKiM Governance Document, in line with IFAD guidelines and best practices, detailing the composition of the SKiM set of professional figures supporting several aspects of the project. The Moldovan National Technical Committee (NTC) was summoned to evaluate SKiM project activities and contributions in Moldova and to coordinate Moldovan SKiM interventions.

The Moldovan National Technical Committee came together for the first meeting on 16 February 2021 under the leadership of the National Focal Point Mrs. Mihaela Cojocaru. Representatives from Research Institute of Field Crops "Selectia", State Agrarian University of Moldova (SAUM), Institute for Development and Social Initiatives (IDIS) "Viitorul", IFAD Consolidated Programme Implementation Unit (CPIU IFAD) were among the meeting attendees with the SKiM Project Management Unit.

#### The first meeting witnessed

- Discussion and summary of 2021 SKiM KM Activities that match national partners expectations and needs.
- Promotion of national partners' KM related activities.
- Organisation of the Moldovan Learning Route agenda.

Steps are being planned to realise the action points of the Moldovan National Technical Committee meeting and to result in achieving the set KM targets for 2021.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

Online Course: The Art of Knowledge Exchange

Hosted by the World Bank Open Learning Campus, available now - course details here.

IFAD Knowledge Management CoP

Want to become a member or ask a question? Please visit the xdesk page or write to IFADknowledge@ifad.org.

**IFAD Rural Solutions Available in Your Country** 

Rural Solutions providers reacheable through the IFAD online portal and officers - solutions details here.

Don't miss any news from the SKIM project! Find past newsletters here: <u>Issue 1</u> <u>Issue 2</u> <u>Issue 3</u> <u>Issue 4</u> <u>Issue 5</u> <u>Issue 7</u> <u>Issue 8</u> <u>Issue 9</u> <u>Issue 10</u>

### SKIM PROJECT IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS







Author: Ramya Kulkarni, Knowledge Management Research Fellow (ICARDA)

Email: ramya.kulkarni@cgmel.org

Photo Credit: (Cover) IFAD; (2) SKiM; (3) ENA Meknes;