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SKiM PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Strengthening Knowledge Management for Greater
Development Effectiveness



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ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE , HUMAN OR HYBRID? LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BEST APPROACH FOR SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS AND MAPS

Have you ever wondered if artificial and human intelligence can work together? What are the advantages of the hybrid approach in the evidence sector in international development, social impact, and broader forest use? Check the latest article "[A Human Machine Hybrid Approach for Systematic Reviews and Maps in International Development and Social Impact Sectors](#)" published by [Forests](#) Journal developed within SKiM Project.

The brief abstract below provides some background for the research and summarizes key points of the publication.

The international development and social impact evidence community is divided about the use of machine-centered approaches in carrying out systematic reviews and maps. While some researchers argue that machine-centered approaches such as machine learning, artificial intelligence, text mining, automated semantic analysis, and translation bots are superior to human-centered ones, others claim the opposite. We argue that a hybrid approach combining machine and human-centered elements can have higher effectiveness, efficiency, and societal relevance than either approach can achieve alone. We present how combining lexical databases with dictionaries from crowdsourced literature, using full texts instead of titles, abstracts, and keywords. Using metadata sets can significantly improve the current practices of systematic reviews and maps. Since the use of machine-centered approaches in forestry and forestry-related reviews and maps are rare, the gains in effectiveness, efficiency, and relevance can be very high for the evidence base in forestry. We also argue that the benefits from our hybrid approach will increase in time as digital literacy and better ontologies improve globally.

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COUNTRY SOURCE BOOK

MOLDOVA LEARNING ROUTE

The [Moldova Country Source Book](#) is a product a fruitful collaboration between different stakeholders within the frames of Learning Routes (LR), which are based on peer-to-peer knowledge transfer between practitioners. The notable information is identified and provided in a systematized form in the Country Source Book specific to the context observed. The route bridges “users” and “providers”, in a mutually beneficial knowledge exchange for learning, growth and innovation.

Focus is paid to assimilation of customary successful practices, waved into the fabric of local contexts and internalized by the practitioner, scalable to be up to the challenges of modern development necessities. The primary targets of this resource are Development and Policy actors in the recipient country, supported in adopting and scaling the knowledge management and

technology transfer practices necessary to interface and synergize with national and international development institutes, advanced research centers, universities, extensionists, NARS, NGOs and capacity development unites.

The Source Book will include the best practices from the Republic of Moldova based on five case studies related to:

- ⇒ **Agriculture**
- ⇒ **Women empowerment,**
- ⇒ **Youth and knowledge management**

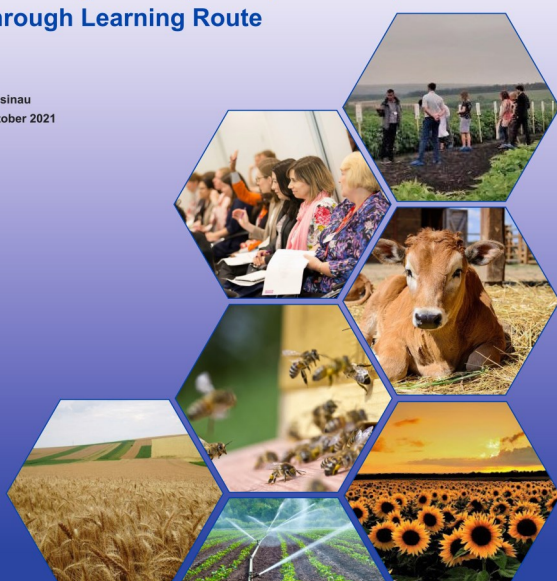
This publication will contribute towards raising awareness in the Republic of Moldova on the importance of knowledge management as an asset for rural development, through peer-learning, knowledge sharing, and cooperation.



Country Source Book

The Republic of Moldova promoting agriculture, women empowerment, youth, knowledge management, and best practices through Learning Route

Chisinau
October 2021



SKiM MID-TERM EVALUATION

The mid-term evaluation (MTE) of SKiM project was commissioned by SKiM and envisioned the following objectives:

- ⇒ Activities and outputs evaluation achieved by SKiM and partners,
- ⇒ Project outcomes identification and assessment;
- ⇒ Identification of the enablers and/or constraints to the attainment of project results and lessons learned;
- ⇒ Practical recommendations for corrective action required to achieve the envisioned project results within the remaining period of the project.

The evaluation was based on a review of project-related documents, remote interviews, and discussions with various key stakeholders, including beneficiaries and the SKiM project implementation team.

The comprehensive analysis also included the KM capacity assessments: approach paper for evidence synthesis, outcomes of the series of workshops that allowed to establish three community of practices.

Community of practices are actively involved in knowledge and experience exchange, as well as learning activities that will allow to strengthen the role of the KM.

The MTE provided valuable recommendations for the remaining period of SKiM implementation and any follow-on projects. The focus is paid to on the synthesis of lessons learned , KM case studies, active involvement and tracking youth professionals of the partner institutions.

Overall, it was noted that the SKiM project appears on track to deliver the planned outputs demonstrating its effectiveness at mid-term. The project timeframe was suggested to be extended until December 2022.



UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



Climate Finance for Sustainable
Agriculture
29/09/2021
[Event details](#)



Holding climate action accountable to
the rural poor: knowledge and evidence
generation to foster inclusive climate
actions and transformational change
29/09/2021
[Event details](#)



What do we need for transformational
adaptation in agriculture?
30/09/2021
[Event details](#)



IFAD gender awards 2021
15/10/2021
[Event details](#)

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SKiM PROJECT IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS



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Photo Credit: (Cover) <https://unsplash.com/>; (2) Forests Journal Cover, August'21;
(3) Moldova Learning Route Sourcebook; (4) SKiM MTE Final Report