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**Support to Family Farming and Small Scale Agriculture as a Strategy to Achieve Rural Poverty Reduction:**

**Opportunities and Priorities to Strengthen FAO Regional Initiatives**

*FAO Headquarters - Rome, 9-10 June 2016*

Dear Colleagues,

FAO’s Strategic Programme 3 – Reducing Rural Poverty and the Partnerships, Advocacy and Capacity Development Division (OPC) would like to invite you to participate in the Workshop: “Support to Family Farming and Small Scale Agriculture as a Strategy to Achieve Rural Poverty Reduction: Opportunities and Priorities to Strengthen FAO Regional Initiatives” that will take place on the 9th and 10th of June 2016 at FAO headquarters (Rome, Italy).

Family farming is regaining momentum as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) recognize its central role in promoting sustainable economic and social development and eradicating hunger and poverty. In light of this, FAO needs to renew its focus on Family Farming, taking into account the SDG challenges, the legacy of the 2014 IYFF and the need to combine sustainable rural development with poverty reduction, in line with the FAO Renewed Strategic Framework.

The aim of this workshop is to present the achievements of the three FAO Regional Initiatives related with family farming and smallholders and discuss how to better integrate this issue in FAO’s work across the Strategic Programmes, Regional Initiatives and Field Programmes to scale up results in the biennium 2016/17.

Specific objectives are:

1. To take stock of main trends, key country/regional initiatives and policy processes in family farming as a means to achieve rural poverty reduction.
2. To identify major needs, opportunities and priorities to strengthen FAO’s support to family farming through the Regional Initiatives.
3. To improve delivery mechanisms, communication and coordination to enhance FAO’s implementation of the Regional Initiatives and their impact.

The workshop will bring together FAO Representatives and staff from all Regions, experts, development agencies and key global partners.

We would kindly ask you to provide confirmation of your attendance **by Friday, 13th May 2016** to Ms. Isabella Clemente (Isabella.Clemente@fao.org) and Ms. Rosa Capuzzolo ([Rosa.Capuzzolo@fao.org](mailto:Rosa.Capuzzolo@fao.org)).

For additional information and clarifications do not hesitate to contact Ms. Isabella Clemente (Isabella.Clemente@fao.org) and Ms. Rosa Capuzzolo ([Rosa.Capuzzolo@fao.org](mailto:Rosa.Capuzzolo@fao.org)) We look forward to your response.

Thank you in advance and best regards,

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| **Benjamin Davis**  **Strategic Programme 3 Leader a.i.** | **Marcela Villarreal**  **Partnerships, Advocacy and Capacity Development Division (OPC)** |