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NEWSLETTER

"RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-NEW ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES" PROJECT OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED



USAID, the Center for Agribusiness & Rural Development (CARD), and partners marked the official launch of the new Rural Economic Development – New Economic Opportunities (RED-NEO) Program in Armenia.

U.S. Ambassador to Armenia Lynne M. Tracy, and representatives of the Armenian Government delivered opening remarks at the kick-off event. Ambassador Tracy stressed the importance of rural economic and agriculture sector development to ensure broad based economic growth and regional development in Armenia.



The project's chief of Party Susanna Khachatryan presented the goals and objectives of the project, which are designed to boost rural economic development in Armenia through RED-NEO Program. The RED-NEO program will build upon current and previous projects, initiatives and activities that the government of Armenia, the U.S. government and USAID, and other donor and non-governmental organizations are implementing to address the economic challenges in rural Armenia.



RED-NEO activities will promote inclusive, sustainable economic security and economic growth by supporting at least 100 businesses in at least 60 communities. The program will accelerate the growth of small- and medium-sized enterprises (including farms and cooperatives) in the regions; facilitate market linkages between producers and buyers; and establish networks to promote local economic development. It will foster the development of a competitive agriculture sector by improving the performance of rural businesses and cooperatives, and their ability to meet quality standards.





RED-NEO will be implemented by RCARD with AM Partners Consulting Company, Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment NGO, and Hicks Burnham and Williams LLC. The Project will be implemented in at least 60 Armenian communities. 50 candidate communities from all 10 regions have already been selected as a result of multistage discussions between RED-NEO team, USAID, international organizations and NGOs, as well as governors' offices representatives.



As of 31.05.2019, the mapping of community resources has been implemented in 13 communities of 3 provinces. 1) Armavir Province: Armavir, Hatsik, Norapat, Ervandashat, Eraskhahun communities 2) Aragatsotn Province: Karbi, Ohanavan, Artashavan, Aragatsavan communities 3) Tavush Province: Berd, Airum, Koghb, Berqaber, Aygehovit communities.