This side-event will look at the interactions between social protection, rural transformation and inclusiveness. Social protection policies and programmes can be seen as providing useful tools to help prepare rural populations to take advantage of rural transformation (entry into the non-farm economy, training in specific skills, empowerment of rural populations, protection of the most vulnerable), and to protect groups that could be left behind during such transformation.

Leaving no one behind – the ambition that cuts across the 2030 Agenda – is central to IFAD’s mandate. IFAD’s comparative advantage lies in its strong targeting of extremely poor and food-insecure people in rural areas, and in its focus on empowering them to build their resilience, promote their livelihoods and increase their productive capacity and market linkages, including in difficult contexts experiencing famine, drought, fragility and migration. Targeting of IFAD’s interventions is one of IFAD’s principles of engagement and is central to its mandate of rural poverty reduction.

The experience of a selected number of IFAD-supported projects will be discussed:

- Bangladesh - Coastal Climate Resilient Infrastructure Project (CCRIP) (tbc)
- Kenya - Program for Rural Outreach of Financial Innovations and Technologies (PROFIT) (tbc)
- Pakistan - Southern Punjab Poverty Alleviation Project or Pakistan National Graduation Programme (tbc)
- Uganda - Project for the Restoration of Livelihoods in the Northern Region (PRELNOR) (tbc)

The event would be organised as follows:

- Opening remarks
- Brief introduction on IFAD and it mandate to target the poorest
- Video on IFAD-supported project
- Panel discussion with representatives from IFAD-supported projects
- Q&A with the audience
- Summary of key messages to take away
- Closing remarks