



Global Donor Platform  
for Rural Development

# 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Session 4

DAY 2  
15 June 2022  
11:00-12:30

SESSION BY THE THEMATIC WORKING GROUP  
ON RURAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

## Rural Youth Employment and Food Systems Transformation – Solutions in times of (multiple) crisis!

### BACKGROUND

Rural youth need more and better jobs in sustainable agri-food systems and green economies. Creating decent employment and income opportunities is essential to reduce poverty, improve food security and provide a future for young people in rural areas.

The Global Donor Platform for Rural Development (GDPRD) Thematic Working Group (TWG) on Rural Youth Employment (RYE) was initially formed following the 2018 AGA that focused on rural youth. It is a donor catalysed TWG to advise donors, governments and civil society organisations on the most effective ways to create employment opportunities and to support the empowerment of youth to productively contribute to and benefit from sustainable rural livelihoods.

### OBJECTIVE

The session will follow the AGA theme by looking at the implications of crisis and conflict on a sustainable and more just transformation of food systems, including approaches for creating employment opportunities for rural youth in agri-food systems within the broader food systems approach. It will be enriched by a panel discussion including practical experiences from government, development partners and youth perspectives providing insight into their specific challenges as well as good practice examples. The discussion will focus on how to achieve a youth-inclusive food systems transformation. It will also provide insight into the role of different stakeholders and successful project implementation.

**FOR MORE INFO:** [www.donorplatform.org/event-detail-general/id-2022-platform-annual-general-assembly.html](http://www.donorplatform.org/event-detail-general/id-2022-platform-annual-general-assembly.html)

Photo: ©IFAD/Irshad Khan



### **Part I:**

Introduction: RYE & food systems transformation in times of crisis and conflict

### **Part II:**

Panel discussion: Rural youth employment promotion in practice

## **Agenda – 90 minute session**

---

### **Keynote: RYE within a (systemic) food systems transformation in times of crisis and conflict**

- **Lauren Phillips**, Deputy Director, Inclusive Rural Transformation and Gender Equality, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- 

### **Panel discussion: Rural youth employment promotion – policy perspective and suggestions for donors**

#### **Youth perspectives**

- **Tumwebaze Khamutima**, CEO, Young Farmers Champions Network (YOFCHAN), Uganda
- **Olawale Rotimi Opeyemi**, Founder and CEO, JR Farms Limited, Rwanda

#### **Country policy perspective**

- **Lova Manjaka Rakotoson**, Head of the Rural Training and Agricultural Extension Department, Directorate for Support to Producers' Organisation and Agribusiness, Madagascar

#### **Continental perspective**

- **Kennedy Mukulia Ayason**, Policy Officer, Rural Development Division, African Union's Commission Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Development (AUC-DARBE)

#### **Multilateral Organization**

- **Mollie Brennan**, Lead Consultant, Coalition of Action on Decent Work and Living Incomes and Wages for All Food Systems Workers (DWLIW), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
  - **Elvis Beytullayev**, Rural Economy Specialist, International Labour Organization (ILO)
- 

### **Reactions & take-aways of the discussion**