



Global Donor Platform
for Rural Development

MINUTES THEMATIC WORKING GROUP ON RURAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

DATE: 19 MAY 2022

PARTICIPANTS

- Frank Bertelmann, GIZ
 - Sven Braulik, GIZ
 - Anna Befus, FAO
 - Peter Wobst, FAO
 - Elisenda Estruch Puertas, ILO
 - Elvis Beytullayev, ILO
 - Mollie Brennan, IFAD
 - Rahul Antao, IFAD
 - Gituku Ngene, Mercy Corps
- GDPRD Secretariat:**
- Maurizio Navarra
 - Michelle Tang
 - Lise Saga
 - Monique Amar
 - Sierra Berardelli

AGENDA

Issue	Item	Details
1.	Welcome and Introduction	Frank/GIZ
2.	Update from the Secretariat	Maurizio/GDPRD
3.	AGA - TWG Activities	Sven/GIZ
4.	Decent Work and Living Income Coalition	Mollie/IFAD Elvis/ILO
5.	Miscellaneous	All

KEY HIGHLIGHTS/ISSUES

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

- Gituku Ngene, Senior Advisor for youth employment and innovation at Mercy Corps in South Africa, joined the call for the first time. The Mercy Corps focuses on key pillars of systemic change in market systems, the economy, and digitalisation of jobs. They work across 17 countries in Africa, and are currently the custodians of the Job Tech Alliance, which brings together stakeholders across Africa to understand and contribute to the Jobtech ecosystem.

2. UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

- The Secretariat is organizing the 2022 Annual General Assembly (AGA), which will take place on 14 – 15 June as a hybrid event. The official invitation has been sent out, inviting members to participate virtually on zoom, or in-person at the IFAD HQ in Rome.
- The Secretariat has a new intern, Sierra Berardelli. Monique Amar will be ending her internship at the end of May and joined the TWG RYE call for the last time.
- The work on the new website continues, with the aim to launch in mid-June. The knowledge hub pages for the Thematic Working Groups will be finished in July. The categories for the different knowledge hub products will be shared with the group to request updated material for the website.

3. AGA - TWG ACTIVITIES

- The Group's core team, consisting of FAO, ILO, IFAD and GIZ, are working to organize the Rural Youth Employment session at the AGA on 15 June. Keynote speaker and panellists have been secured and the group will identify two youth representatives for the panel. The updated concept note will be shared with the working group shortly.
- The group discussed the possibility of organizing a meeting and networking session in Rome on Monday 13 June, before the AGA. More information will be shared soon.

4. DECENT WORK AND LIVING INCOME AND WAGES COALITION (DWLIW)

- Mollie Brennan and Elvis Beytullayev presented the establishment and development of the DWLIW Coalition.
- The coalition is led by IFAD, ILO and Care. The Coalition was launched at the UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) last year, resultant of efforts undertaken in Action Track 4 of the UNFSS on Equitable Livelihoods.
- The objectives for the Coalition are economic and social justice and the right to nutritious food, through decent work and decent incomes and wages. The focus of the Coalition are the groups of workers who are particularly exposed to socio-economic vulnerability, namely youth, smallholders, agri-food wage workers, indigenous peoples, migrant and informal economy workers.
 - Originally, the aim was to have a parallel process to establish a Coalition on

Youth Engagement and Employment. This has been integrated into the focus of a more general coalition.

- The general framework for the Coalition is the ILO's Decent Work Agenda, with its four pillars: job creation, rights at work, social protection and social dialogue, with gender equality as a crosscutting objective.
 - Game-changing solutions were gathered during the Summit process, and merged into clusters, which corresponded to these four pillars
 - The rights at work were highlighted as a particularly important area of work that required a strong focus.
 - The topics of this coalition (e.g., child labour, quality employment, forced labour, etc.) are often not discussed in the context of food systems. The intersection of decent work and food systems could be the comparative advantage and overall goal of the coalition, to integrate these issues in policies.
- The coalition has five priority areas, which are overlapping and could be further streamlined.
 - Labour rights and improving labour governance
 - Support research tools for policies, strategies, plans and measures to promote decent work.
 - Employment creation and better jobs for the most vulnerable.
 - Workplace organisation and social dialogue
 - Regional, national and global platforms to be established or strengthened.
 - Social protection and income security
 - Living incomes and wages.
- The function of the coalition is to help Member States achieve their national pathways. The Coalition is in conversation with the Netherlands, Dominican Republic and Bermuda, who could act as Coalition Champions.
 - The Coalition is analysing statements and pathways coming out of the Summit to recognise the priorities of Member States.
 - The Coordination Hub will play an important role in connecting coalitions and Member States. Linking the different coalitions together will also be central.
 - The Coalition engages people at a global scale, with 50 stakeholders in regular contact.
- The Work Plan of the Coalition is set until 2023, when the Global Stocktake from the Food Systems Summit will be held. This year, the Coalition has been working on its operationalization. A progress report will be done at the end of the year.
- The coalitions are up to the discretion of the organizers, in terms costs, agendas, etc. With the establishment of the Hub, there will be coordination between organizers, so lessons learned can be shared.
- Private sector engagement must be strengthened

Q&A:

Why are there five priority areas for the coalition, when the coalition is based on four pillars?

Answer: The Coalition priorities are indeed organised around the four pillars of the Decent Work Agenda. The fifth area, which focuses on living incomes and wages, was led by the UN Private Sector Mechanism and the World Business Council for

Sustainable Development as a separate coalition, but the two were merged at the last stage to create a broad-based coalition. This is why there is one additional priority (five priority areas), compared to the four pillars.

Who else is engaging in the coalition? How does the exchange among the different members take place?

Answer: Some organizations and individuals have come forward to take a leading role in the coalition and have formed an advisory board for the coalition, including the UN Private Sector Mechanism and the Self-employed Women's Association (SEWA).

- Stakeholder engagement will be promoted by letting actors take a lead role in an Advisory Board for the Coalition, along with monthly stakeholder meetings to present progress and receive feedback. Working groups will be established to advance specific work streams. All stakeholders are encouraged to take part in the Coalition.
 - 50 stakeholders have joined stakeholder calls with the coalition including academics, private companies, NGOs, UN and other multilateral stakeholders.
 - One measure of progress would be to see agricultural stakeholders and ministers of agriculture talking about decent work.
- There was agreement that continued contact and exchange between the working group and the coalition will be useful.

5. MISCELLANEOUS

- The green jobs webinar team held a call to debrief on the event.
 - It was agreed to continue with the series, but no next topic was identified as there were many ideas. One would be a participatory webinar with breakout groups.
 - The next is proposed for July, and either Jane/USAID or Elisenda/ILO were proposed to lead the organization of the next webinar.
 - A call will be scheduled to plan the next webinar, and all colleagues are welcome.
- **FAO:** The 5th Global Conference on the Elimination of Child Labour was held, and there was a session on addressing child labour in fisheries and aquaculture.
 - There are opportunities to remove the hazards in child labour to make productive youth employment for working age (15/16/17) youth. There is thus substantial overlap between the work on child labour and on youth employment, and these ties could be developed further.
- **YARA:** Proposal to organize a webinar around the effects and implications of the Ukraine war, with Steve Wiggins proposed as a main speaker. He recently wrote a paper on the impacts of the war on agri-food systems.
- **GDPRD:** The GDPRD held a closed donor roundtable on the implications of the crisis on prices for food, fuel and fertilizer, and how donors can coordinate on this issue. The secretariat will provide a summary of the event.
- **ILO:** A brief on [the labour situation related to the Ukraine war](#) was shared
- **IFAD:**
 - IFAD is planning to be present at COP27 with a major focus on youth. There has also been extensive work on green scaling and value chains for green

jobs, so IFAD is interested in participating in the organization of the next green jobs webinar. It was suggested to use the COP27 as a direction for the webinar series.

- On the Agri-Business Hubs Programme, a resource mobilisation campaign is being organized. If there is donor interest in looking at youth and agribusiness development, particularly related to green jobs, any collaboration is welcome.
- Measurements for decent employment is challenging, and a project with the World Bank is developed to better track, monitor, and evaluate employment outcomes. Several members of the TWG is interested in this topic.
- IFAD will be participating at the [ILC Youth Land Forum](#)
- The next TWG RYE meeting will be an in-person meeting, held on Monday 13 June before the AGA.

SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS

Agenda item	Action	Timeline	Responsible Person(s)
2	Send resources to the GDPRD to add to the new knowledge hub website section	ASAP	All
3	Share the concept note for the TWG RYE – AGA session	ASAP	Sven
5	Share any work on green jobs in the agri-food system for use at next webinar	ASAP	All
5	Organize call for planning the next green jobs webinar	June/July	Anna/FAO
5	Share Steve Wiggins paper with the group	ASAP	Cyriaque