MINUTES
THEMATIC WORKING GROUP
ON RURAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

DATE: 3 MARCH 2022

PARTICIPANTS

- Sven Braulik, GIZ
- Frank Bertelmann, GIZ
- Peter Wobst, FAO
- Ji-Yeun Rim, OECD
- Cyriaque Hakazimana, YARA
- Elisenda Estruch Puertas, ILO
- Pietro Del Sette, AICS
- Rahul Antao, IFAD

- Marwan Benali, FAO
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GDPRD Secretariat:

- Michelle Tang
- Lise Saga
- Monique Amar

AGENDA

Issue	Item	Details
1.	Welcome and Introduction	Sven/GIZ
2.	Update from the Secretariat	Michelle/GDPRD
3.	Webinar on "Green Jobs"	Frank/GIZ
4.	AGA Session	Frank/GIZ
5.	Work Plan for 2022	Sven/GIZ
6.	Follow-up on political processes	Peter/FAO
7.	Tour de Table and Miscellaneous	All

KEY HIGHLIGHTS/ISSUES

2. UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

- The GDPRD Board meeting was held on 22 February.
  - The White Paper is now in production: It will be finalised after the last comments from the Board are received and launched at an event on 29 March. It will be presented and discussed in the group after it is launched.
  - The Work Plan for 2022 and Annual Report for 2021 were discussed.
  - The Platform's new communications strategy was presented. The visual identity will be modernised and a new website will be implemented. The knowledge hub pages of the TWGs can be implemented with this update.
  - All three Thematic Working Groups presented their achievements and ongoing work streams.
- The postponed Annual General Assembly (AGA) is set for 21-22 June 2022, and will take place as a hybrid event. TWG RYE will organize an in-person/hybrid TWG meeting in correspondence with the AGA.
- The Secretariat will be organising a Donor Roundtable on Finance in April.
- The Secretariat is grateful for the updates from the group for the TWG RYE website. Continued updates are encouraged.

3. WEBINAR ON «GREEN JOBS»

- A planning call for the "Green Jobs" webinar was held last week to discuss the proposed topic and focus. The definition of Green Jobs in the agri-food sector is important to consider; to this end, existing policies, guidelines and projects towards greening of the agri-food sector can be examined.
  - Options for making this one-time webinar into a webinar series were discussed. A webinar series could attract more attention and participation.
- The next steps are to establish the aim of the webinar, collect concrete inputs, speakers and good practice examples. Several suggestions were made:
  - FAO projects on green jobs for rural youth employment
  - Presentation from ILO's Green Jobs Division
  - ILO Guidelines on a Just transition in agri-food systems
  - USAID's White Paper on green jobs in agriculture and water systems, which is in development
  - For a webinar series, a first webinar could focus on concrete examples, a second on policy and a last on statistical definitions
  - OECD could present normative research on Green Jobs in Southeast Asia in a couple of months
  - A report on youth global employment trends will be released by ILO in the summer, with specific analysis on unjust transitions in green economy
  - The link between green jobs for rural youth and land can encourage cooperation with the Global Donor Working Group on Land (GDWGL), as the green economy has implications for land use
  - Differentiation between employment and self-employment must be made
- For a potential webinar series, the following additional points were discussed:
  - Potential framings could include how to create jobs in agri-food systems transformation, or how rural youth fit into agri-food systems.
  - A webinar series could be organized as;

- A first webinar on the concept of green jobs, followed by thematic webinars on topics such as technology, innovation and youth agency;
- A series framed by the CFS policy recommendations and its pillars.
- Participants in the planning group are encouraged to search for inputs for the webinar and share them with the group by email. A date for the next planning call will be set after corresponding with Anna/FAO.

4. AGA SESSION

- A concept note for the AGA session, which will be held 21/22 June, was shared. The group agreed on the concept note and format of the event.
- The idea for the event is to look at the broader discussion of rural youth employment and food systems transformation. The country case of Kenya could be used to discuss concrete experiences, framing the discussion at the policy level.
  - It was proposed to have an ILO panelist focusing on the framework of labour aspects as a follow-up to the Food Systems Summit.
  - A short input from ILO and IFAD on the Decent Work and Living Income Coalition was suggested.
- A strong encouragement was made to the Secretariat to schedule the TWG sessions as stand-alone sessions, and not have them run in parallel. This will be considered when revising the AGA concept note.
- The planning of this session will be accelerated at the next TWG call in April. Confirmations, additions and comments are welcomed until then.

5. WORK PLAN FOR 2022

- No additional comments were made to the final version of the work plan. The work plan was therefore adopted and accepted as a living document, which can be updated during the year.
- The work plan will be shared on the website.

6. FOLLOW-UP ON POLITICAL PROCESSES

- For the CFS Policy Convergence Process on Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems, feedback is being gathered on the zero draft. The importance of inclusion and variety in perspectives gathered was underscored.
- TWG RYE is preparing consolidated feedback to the CFS process. Group members' inputs to the process have been assembled in a document, and all were broadly agreed upon.
  - The importance of action-oriented recommendations was highlighted.
  - It was agreed that the points should be high-level and general to ensure concurrence among all TWG members.
- Encouragement was made to continue giving inputs and to share with colleagues from respective organizations.
- It was suggested that the TWG wait to submit until the deadline (18 March) in order to develop the points further, and possibly add new points.
- The points must be revised and expanded before submission. Cyriaque/YARA will go over the recommendations by the middle of next week.
  - The next open-ended working group discussion is scheduled for 14 March.

7. TOUR DE TABLE AND MISCELLANOUS

- **OECD:** The RYE initiative of the G20 which was launched in 2017 is coming to its final year, and will be assessed in a study. Further updates will be shared as they arise.
  - The initiative is a stocktaking process more than an action-based initiative, with the goal to assess investment in this area, and present good practices and lessons learned.
  - o A project in Egypt, Morocco, and Tunisia is examining youth employment before and after covid-19, with focus on employment creation in the agri-food industry.
    - An event on this project will be held on 29 March. A call was made to share relevant speakers and panellists from these countries (especially Egypt).
- **IFAD** has a target that 60% of projects should be youth sensitive
  - o A request was made for further discussion with any members that have experience in monitoring youth sensitivity in projects
    - GIZ: What Needs to Change for Africa's Youth
    - OECD: Guide on Measuring Decent Jobs for Youth
  - o A conference on child labour will be held later this year, and youth employment could be embedded further. If anyone is interested in following this, their email can be added to the list by Rahul Antao.
  - o A call for proposals on a green finance project is being held.
  - o The ILC Land Forum in Jordan (21-26 May 2022) will have a youth focus.
  - o The Stockholm+50 event will have a session focused on youth.

SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS

Agenda item/Issue	Action	Timeline	Responsible Person(s)
3	Search for inputs for the webinar on 'Green Jobs for Youth' and share with group by email	ASAP	ALL
3	Set date for new planning call on Webinar	Next week	Co-chairs
4	Share inputs and confirmations for AGA session	Before next TWG Call (14 April)	ALL
5	Upload Work Plan to website	ASAP	Secretariat/ GDPRD
6	Review CFS Recommendations paper	10 March	Cyriaque/YARA