



Global Donor Platform
for Rural Development

MINUTES

TWG RURAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

DATE: 16 NOVEMBER 2021

Thematic discussion on CFS Policy Convergence Process on Youth Engagement and Employment

PARTICIPANTS

- Anna Befus, FAO
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- Elisenda Estruch Puertas, ILO
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- Julie Rødje, Spire
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- Marie Balse, ART
- Maurizio Navarra, GDPRD
- Nick Goetschalckx, EU
- Peter Wobst, FAO

AGENDA

Time	Topic	PIC
5 min	Context - why this meeting	Frank
10 min	Overview CFS youth workstream : Milestones / timeframe, process, etc.	Ileana
10 min	Insights from the CFS 49. discussion – and overview of “agreements” Link to CFS 49 plenary report	All
10 min	TWG perspectives and scope for joint positions	All
20 min	Discussion on the 2 guiding questions for CFS Feedback (see below)	All
5 min	Agreements, next steps	Frank

KEY HIGHLIGHTS/ISSUES

- The High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) launched a report on '[Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems](#)'.
- At CFS 49 in October a policy convergence process was initiated on the same topic. The CFS process on youth is a key policy process in the field of RYE, which the working group could engage in.
 - [Highlights from the session on Youth Engagement and Employment at CFS 49](#)
 - [Plenary report of CFS 49.](#)
 - [Overview of the workstream](#)

Ileana (FAO) presented the policy convergence process of the CFS on Youth engagement and employment. The final objective of the process is to develop policy recommendations to be presented at CFS 50 in October 2022 for endorsement. A nominated rapporteur and a secretariat will facilitate the negotiation processes for the policy recommendations.

- **22 November is the deadline for the public call for submission of written statements**, which they will base the zero draft of the recommendations on. The inputs are built around two questions; the priority issues and the policy relevant areas that should be addressed in the recommendations. To ensure inclusivity, there is a question about how to engage with youth constituencies as well.
- **On 19 November there is an open-ended working group meeting for all CFS stakeholders to discuss the policy areas** that should be included in those recommendations.
- For the topic of youth, a new approach has been introduced to include thematic discussions that are meant to be oriented towards capacity development, aimed at clarifying concepts. The first thematic discussion will be held on 10 December and will be a session to clarify and explain the conceptual framework of the HLPE report.
- **In May-June-July 2022 they have planned for six days of negotiations.**
- In the CFS 49 discussion, there were controversial discussions to base the policy recommendations on the HLPE report, with its conceptual framework strongly based on the pillars of recognition, agency, equity, and rights.
- Lessons learnt from other similar processes is to engage stakeholders that policies are aimed at early in the formulation of the policy, and to ensure that the target groups are empowered in the uptake of the policy.

Guiding Questions – for discussion and to collect feedback from the TWG

1) Which priority issues and policy-relevant areas should be addressed through this CFS policy convergence process and included in the policy recommendations?

- The HLPE report presents good recommendations, e.g. on
 - The wellbeing economy as a core concept to a holistic approach
 - The importance of cross-sectoral policy coherence
- Youth as key actors for food systems transformation
- Strengthen focus on “demand side” measures (like e.g. entrepreneurship, VC, RAI) and the role of the private sector for job creation and food systems transformations.

