



**CFS Youth Policy Convergence Process on Youth  
Comments by WFO**

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

- Adopt a holistic rural development approach: focus on improving agriculture but also go beyond it, including for example the adoption of policies and strategies to foster young farmers' access to resources, social services, education, capacity building, extension services, technology etc. to improve conditions of the entire rural community with positive impacts on food systems and also on the rural-urban nexus.
- Targeted and responsible investments. It is key to make investments and funds accessible for youth and young farmers, including girls and women. Agriculture is an economic sector and a job, so in order to be a choice for youth, it needs to be viable and guarantee incomes and fair livelihoods, as well as favouring generational renewal.
- Engage youth, including young farmers, in the policy-making processes at all levels. From an agricultural perspective, Farmers' Organisations could play a leading role in this to facilitate the liaison with rural youth. This is why it is also key to invest to strengthen organised agriculture, FOs as well as Ag Cooperatives, would help to empower youth.

***2. Do you have any suggestions for CFS meaningfully engaging youth constituencies in the policy convergence process?***

- This process should be conducted through a direct and constant engagement with youth constituencies through their organisations and networks. In the case of farmers, WFO would be happy to facilitate contacts with young farmers and their organisations, to get direct feedback from them on what is needed in rural areas to make agriculture attractive for youth in a sustainable and economically viable way.



## WORLD FARMERS' ORGANISATION

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- Constant engagement of youth organisations, also as *ad hoc* participants, including young farmers organisations, could be useful to make sure the process is inclusive and that it reflects the real needs, experiences and challenges from youth on the ground.
- Facilitate the liason between Member States Representations in Rome, Capitals and youth organisations. This could be done with the support of RBAs liason offices as well as stakeholders' offices at national/regional level when present. Taking into account that CFS policy products are not binding, this could be a kind of soft monitoring mechanism to make sure that, once the policy recommendations are negotiated and adopted by the Committee, then they reach the ground in an effective way, both at government and ground level, and that youth is aware of this process so that they can refer to this policy products while advocating/negotiating at all levels.