



CFS POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS ON PROMOTING YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND EMPLOYMENT IN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS [FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION]

DRAFT FOR NEGOTIATIONS

RATIONALE

1. Young people are [the future and the] key to [realizing the right to food and] [to ensure renewal in the agricultural sector, reformed food systems and the right to food,] achieving sustainable development, in particular in developing countries, where [the vast majority of [them][youth] reside, often][a large proportion of the population are youth, including] in rural areas. [There is a large untapped [potential to expand] [reservoir of] [wage and][employment,] self-employment [farming and entrepreneur] opportunities in] agriculture¹ and food systems, [which] are a significant source of [economic advancement] employment for youth [in rural and urban areas. Yet they often do not provide decent and meaningful work or adequate livelihood opportunities, nor maintain a balance between the needs and rights of different generations]. [Actions are needed to ensure young people understand that sustainable and diverse agriculture and food systems can deliver meaningful lives and make immediate positive contributions to their local communities as well as to global climate change.] Yet, limited access to [and control over][and the means to productively utilize] [climate] land, natural resources, infrastructure, markets, insurance, finance, technology, knowledge and skills, [as well as][.] limited participation in decision-making processes, poor remuneration, income uncertainty, [armed conflict, insecurity, territorial disputes, conflicts over natural resources,] exposure to risks and low social recognition for agricultural and food workers [climate change and environmental degradation among the causes that] turn many youth away from agriculture and rural areas [and force them to migrate]. As a result, many feel that their best option is to migrate, either to urban areas or abroad. [In order to guarantee food security and nutrition,] Actions are needed to make agriculture and food systems more attractive to young people and increase their capacity to generate decent employment opportunities and [secure dignified] livelihoods, especially in the post COVID-19 recovery context [and in response to the worsening effects of climate change].

[ALT LAST PART OF THE PARA: Yet, many young women and men have limited access to and the means to productively utilize land, natural resources, infrastructure, markets, insurance, finance, technology, knowledge and skills. In addition, young people's limited participation in decision-making processes, poor remuneration, income uncertainty, exposure to risks and low social recognition for agricultural and food workers turn many youth away from agriculture and rural areas. As a result, many feel that their best option is to migrate, either to urban areas or abroad. Actions are needed to make agriculture and food systems more attractive to young people and increase their capacity to generate decent employment opportunities and livelihoods, especially in rebuilding from and stemming the spread of COVID-19.]

¹ Agriculture includes crops, forestry, fisheries, livestock and aquaculture. UNGA Resolution A/RES/74/242. Paragraph 20.

[NEW PARA: [Gender norms often further limit young women’s access to and use of productive resources, and expose them to discrimination, violence and harassment in labor markets. Child, early and forced marriage and unions undermine children’s development and well-being and decrease young women’s agricultural productivity over time. Lack of childcare options also compels many young women to leave the labor force.](#)]



2. [\[The potential returns of investing in\]](#) [\[Protecting the human rights of\]](#) young people and ensuring their participation in decision-making processes, [\[are\]](#)[\[can lead to\]](#) considerable [\[outcomes\]](#) in terms of food security and nutrition, [\[economic development in rural areas,\]](#) poverty eradication, employment generation, sustainability of [\[agriculture and\]](#) food systems, [\[including agriculture, climate change adaptation, biodiversity,\]](#) management of natural resources, [\[ecological restoration,\]](#) preservation of [\[indigenous and local\]](#) knowledge systems, as well as peace and socio-political stability] [\[ALT: The potential returns in investing in young people and their contributions to agriculture and food systems, including decision-making processes, are considerable. They can help drive and benefit from the achievement of improved food security and nutrition, poverty reduction\].](#) Further, multiple interlinkages exist with gender equality and [\[women’s and girls’\]](#) empowerment [\[of all women and girls\], \[including through efforts to eliminate child labour, particularly the worst forms of child labour\]](#) child labour elimination in agriculture, harnessing rural-urban linkages [\[diversification of food systems, \[where appropriate,\] circular \[and solidarity\] economy\]](#) and fostering inclusive innovative practices and technologies, [\[including new uses of data, digital tools \[and knowledge-sharing platforms\]\] \[that encourage entrepreneurship\].](#)

3. The [\[entry\]\[engagement\]](#) [\[into and continued participation\]](#) of young people in [\[to sustainable and diverse\]](#) agriculture and food systems is a key driver to fostering [\[a profound transformation\]](#) [\[the competitiveness and vitality\]](#) of these sectors [\[toward greater inclusion, equity, vitality and resilience\].](#) To guarantee generational renewal, it is essential to develop systems, [\[laws,\]](#) policies, and programmes that engage more youth in agriculture and food systems and associated professions, and that enable them to enjoy their [\[human\]](#) rights [\[in order to achieve food security and nutrition\],](#) by [\[addressing\]\[overcoming\]](#) the structural inequalities and discriminatory practices that negatively affect them, while improving overall service provision and well-being in rural [\[and urban\]](#) areas. [\[Redistributive and mediated market policies are needed.\]](#)

4. The following [\[policy\]](#) recommendations are [\[primarily\]](#) addressed to Governments ([\[relevant ministries,\]](#) national, regional and local authorities and institutions, as appropriate) [\[to implement in consultation with\]](#)[\[and other relevant stakeholders, including\]](#) intergovernmental and international organizations, [\[women’s,\]](#) youth and producer organizations, workers’ unions, the private sector (including micro, small and medium as well as larger-sized-entities), research organizations, [\[I\]\[i\]ndigenous \[P\]\[p\]eoples \[and\]\[,\] local communities and civil society \[, especially young people themselves and their organizations\].](#) [\[These policy recommendations build upon and complement existing instruments of the CFS. Moreover, the recommendations are intended to be applied consistently with the following instruments in particular: the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child \(UNCRC\), the UN Security Council resolution on Youth, Peace and Security \(UNSCR 2535\), the UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women \(CEDAW\), the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples \(UNDRIP\), and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas \(UNDROP\), and the eight fundamental Conventions of the ILO.\]](#) [\[The recommendations are](#)

voluntary and non-binding and should be interpreted and applied in accordance with national legal systems and their institutions.]

[NEW PARA: The High-Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) report, Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems (2021), informs these policy recommendations According to the HLPE report, achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals should facilitate transitions toward economies of well-being, based on sustainable food systems that enable dignified livelihoods, promote a healthy environment, and uphold the right to food and food sovereignty. Furthermore, the report emphasizes that significant efforts for the redistribution of power are needed to transform existing social, political and economic relationships and conditions within and across countries, as barriers for youth in access to resources, education and dignified work are often the results of inadequate legal frameworks and insufficient domestic and international resource mobilization and commitment.]



[ALT NEW PARA: The High-Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) report, Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems (2021), informs these policy recommendations. [The report recommended actions that require states, civil society, farmers’ and workers’ organizations, the private sector, social movements, and youth themselves to work together with the aim to realize a fundamental transformation of food systems towards sustainability, well-being and food sovereignty.]

5. [These][This set of] policy recommendations [are][is] envisioned as an ambitious, focused and action-oriented tool that will encourage public policies to foster enabling environments [capable of [tapping][nurturing] into the energy and skills of youth to make agriculture and food systems [more] sustainable and promote [improved] food security and nutrition] [outcomes] [for youth in all their diversities to engage in agriculture and food systems meaningfully and on their own terms. Policies should be oriented toward ensuring that social and cultural life flourishes as a result of protecting the rights and prioritizing the agency and interest of young people.]. In working towards this aim, [the diversity, intersectionality, and] [divergence and inter-sectorality,] context specificity of [youth aspirations, needs and experience] [the aspirations, needs and experience] across the globe should first be recognized.

1. PROVIDE AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND EMPLOYMENT IN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS [FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION]

a) Contribute to the realization of human rights of youth [young persons] [and adolescents] without any discrimination, by implementing existing global policy [and human rights] instruments² [taking into account national context] that are relevant [insert footnote to list most relevant ones] to [youth] [their] engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems [for food security and nutrition], [as applicable], by supporting relevant policy processes and programmes, [as well as by creating accountability mechanisms for youth as right holders to hold duty bearers accountable]; (#Rights)

² [These policy recommendations are intended to be applied consistently with the following instruments in particular: the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), the UN security Council Resolution on Youth, Peace and Security (UNSCR 2535), the UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), UNDRIP, UNDROP, and the eight fundamental Conventions of the ILO.]

b) [Ensure that] [Support] youth-oriented policies and programmes [are gender responsive and][that] [meaningfully] engage youth in their design [implementation and monitoring] [and evaluation] and take [heterogeneity] [context specificity] of [all] youth and intergenerational relationships, [succession planning] and hierarchies [and other dynamics] into account, [providing additional support to improve] [access] [focusing significantly on achieving] [equity and] [re][distribution of] [power], [knowledge] resources across generations, [sex] gender, class, culture, ethnicity [race] [disability] and citizenship status, with specific attention to groups of youth in vulnerable and disadvantaged situations, [due to economic exploitation, political marginalization, armed conflict, occupation, and COVID-19, the climate change and biodiversity emergencies] [including young people with disabilities] [including indigenous communities] [indigenous peoples] [indigenous youth]; (#Diversity and representation)

[ALT “Ensure that youth-oriented policies and programmes meaningfully engage youth in their design implementation, monitoring, and evaluation and take heterogeneity of youth and intergenerational relationships and hierarchies into account;

Strengthen efforts to improve the enabling environment for youth involvement and provide additional support to improve equity and distribution of resources across generation, gender, class, culture, ethnicity and citizenship status, with specific attention to groups of youth in vulnerable and disadvantaged situations”;

b)c) [Guarantee a dignified] [Enhance youth’s standards of living by [ensuring] [improve] their access to quality education, health, [water, sanitation] hygiene [including menstrual hygiene] and [adequate food and] healthy diets [through sustainable food systems] [adequate] housing][safe and fair working conditions and land]; and reduce present and future [situations of] vulnerability of youth by ensuring their access to [all necessary] [basic] [climate shock and climate resilient] infrastructure and services [by activating redistributive policies like agrarian reform] and by [designing and] implementing context-specific [gender transformative] social protection systems [including unemployment schemes] that [contribute to meeting] [are responsive to] children’s and adolescents’ specific needs, including food and nutrition, [youth’s rights to a decent standard of living and], [with specific attention towards girls and young women]; (#Social protection)[Devote specific attention to gender equity and protecting the human rights of young women and girls, ensuring their equitable access to and control over productive resources, and ending sexual and gender based violence as well as toward recognizing and compensating unpaid care work and other forms of reproductive labour]

e)d) Provide [income] [social] support [mechanisms] [measures] [fostering the generation of young entrepreneurs] and [policies and investments to stimulate the demand for youth] [decent] employment opportunities [for young people], especially young women, [who have lost their jobs] [whose livelihoods have been disrupted] as a result of shocks, conflicts [and land grabs, climate change] or [other] crises, [to ensure social well-being] as a means to ensure [bolster] stability, reintegration, [socio]-[economic growth] and [sustainable] [development] peace [and strive to prevent such disruptions by increasing the resilience of food systems through the diversification of food production capacities at the national level, strengthening the capacity of local and regional markets, ending gender-based discrimination and transitioning towards less energy intensive forms of agricultural production, particularly agroecology]; (#Social protection)

[NEW PARA: Provide incentives for the direct commercialization of family farming production, rural family business and the formation of cooperative.]

[ALT: Ensure the availability of meaningful employment opportunities for young people in agriculture and food systems with adequate remuneration to support their well-being and self-fulfilment, and to create

societal co-benefits linked to prosperity, stability and security. The provision of income support to young people in situations of vulnerability, as appropriate, is important for young people, especially women who have lost their jobs as a result of shocks, conflicts or crises]

d)e) Support and encourage equal, non-discriminatory and meaningful youth participation and leadership in organizations [in agriculture and food systems], including through civil society and private sector organizations [as well as in], in governance mechanisms and decision-making fora at all levels, such as CFS, parliaments, unions and other national and local policy-making spaces, as appropriate, [by eliminating barriers to their participation, including structural racism, sexism and socio-economic inequalities] and promote youth-led organizations and initiatives [with the aim of providing tailored solutions and policies directed to tackle food insecurity and malnutrition of youth] [especially in rural and farming communities that are on the forefront of food security and nutrition challenges]; (#Participation and governance)

e)f) Strengthen collection of sex- and age-disaggregated labour market information and statistics [in accordance with data protection and privacy] to capture the [diverse realities and heterogeneity] [diverse realities and conditions of] of youth [context specificity], their employment status and working conditions in agriculture and food systems, [oriented towards policy measures that enhance fair employment conditions and eliminate worker exploitation, focusing on elements such as] access to social protection, [education] migration and mobility patterns, working time devoted to different [paid and unpaid] activities and their overall living conditions³ [in order to develop and implement policies that are more effectively protect the human rights of youth and provide conditions that enable their leadership in food systems transformations, recalling that transformation of food systems should be encouraged in a coherent manner, as appropriate and in accordance with and dependent on national context and capacities]; (#Data collection)

f)g) Improve the documentation of different forms of youth engagement in agriculture and food systems, combining quantitative and qualitative methods and youth-led [and youth-focused] participatory research, with due regard to data privacy and safety, [and quality data control] to better understand youth needs, experiences, aspirations and behaviours [related to food security and nutrition] and inform [policy development] [decision making] [especially for supporting youth participation in environmental monitoring and regulation, agroecology transitions and other actions to preserve the natural resource base (land, forests, water) for coming generations]. (#Data collection)

[NEW PARA: Establish feedback mechanisms with youth participants, in order to continually ensure meaningful character of participation and further improvements of participation form, as well as to provide participants with feedback of how their input was advanced.]



2. SECURE DIGNIFIED, ATTRACTIVE AND REWARDING LIVELIHOODS [OF YOUTH IN ORDER TO GUARANTEE FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION]

a) Develop [and maintain] [rights based] social protection, employment and labour market policies and labour demand interventions, as well as investments [and private sector development strategies] that target young people, with emphasis on [marginalized] youth in [situations of vulnerability,] providing opportunities for dignified engagement and decent jobs [including with living wages] [with occupational

³ [The 2020 Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI): <http://hdr.undp.org/en/2020-MPI>]

and professional mobility opportunities] for youth in agriculture and food systems. [Such jobs should preferably contribute to adapting agriculture and food systems to_ mitigate their impact on climate change, while conserving or restoring biodiversity, soils and the environment] *[ALT for last sentence: Such jobs may preferably contribute to the for the sustainable use and preservation of biodiversity, soils and the environment and the promotion of technology derived from bio-economy, as well as for the implementation of measures to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change];-(#Targeting youth)*

a)b) ___ Implement comprehensive labour market policies [that eliminate child labour and] to increase youth engagement [the employability of youth of legal working age] in agriculture and food systems through [interventions] [actions] [aimed at improving the conditions of all people working in rural areas] such as job [search] assistance, employment services, culturally-appropriate [and relevant] training, skills development and apprenticeship, job matching, mentorship programming, [business education] entrepreneurship coaching and [business] incubators, [management consulting] and [payment for] [promoting the stewardship of ecosystem services] [adapting modalities for young women and strengthening their engagement in decision-making]; (*#Labour market policies*)

b)c) ___ Implement [human rights based] labour demand-side measures for youth to promote more inclusive, resilient and sustainable food systems through investments that [fully respect the relevant ILO Conventions] are consistent with the CFS Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI); (*#Labour market policies*)

e)d) ___ Establish [gender responsive] programmes to facilitate school to work transition[by starting education programmes based around agriculture and food systems at the earliest education levels], ensuring equitable access to these programmes across [sex] gender, [race] ethnicity, [disability] [class], levels of education and citizenship status [with specific attention to youth in vulnerable and disadvantaged situations] and ensuring that they support the diversity of youth aspirations; (*#Labour market policies*)

[NEW PARA: Promote cooperativism as an effective mechanism for reducing social and economic inequalities, for strengthening family farming production, food security, entrepreneurial leadership and sustainable development.]


d)e) ___ Develop [,and] adopt [and enforce] [and educate workers on] labour laws, policies and regulations, and [where possible] [allocate][assign] adequate budgets to [enable] [establish and enforce] [dignified][decent] living [adequate]-wages and incomes and ensure [dignified][decent] [acceptable] working conditions for youth in agriculture and food systems, with particular attention to children of legal working age, [rural youth] migrants and marginalized groups [and young people with disabilities]. [Decent working conditions imply]-ensuring occupational safety and health, [reducing][eliminating] exposures to hazards, [agrochemicals and pesticides],[upholding non-discrimination] providing personal protective equipment, adequate working hours, non-discrimination, adequate access to social security, [the right to unionize] and education; [these labour laws and regulations should align with key international frameworks including the ILO conventions and UNDROP]; (*#Employment legislation and governance*)

e)f) ___ Recognize and compensate [and redistribute], as appropriate, unpaid work performed by youth [engaged] [, including all young women and girls] in agriculture and food systems, including [the unpaid] care [and domestic] work [, those participating in internships,] [disproportionally undertaken] [by young women,] by developing [rights-based] social protection programmes that promote access to [public] childcare, [elder care, education on gender-based discrimination] essential health care, [sexual and

[reproductive health care,](#) maternity care, parental leave and community services [\[and systemic transition towards economies of well-being\] \[that support the equitable redistribution of unpaid care and domestic work between women and men, girls and boys\];](#) (#Social protection)

f)g) [\[Ensure\] \[Prevent and eliminate child labour by ensuring\]](#) labour inspection systems in sectors and occupations related to agriculture and food systems, where young people are prevalent, and develop [\[and support\]](#) community-level monitoring of compliance to labour legislation and labour rights, [\[reinforcing the need to prevent and eliminate child labour\];](#) (#Employment legislation and governance)

g)h) Establish monitoring mechanisms [\[and conducive environments\]](#) to foster the progressive [\[transition \[to sustainable food systems including agroecological \[practices\]\[and other innovative approaches\]\]](#) to formalization of informal enterprises [\[strengthening enterprises\]](#) in agriculture and food systems, [\[including youth-led ones,\] \[for business owners and employees to get formal social and labour coverage\]](#) [\[to ensure decent conditions and dignified livelihoods for all\],](#) as well as access to financial and other support; (#Formalization)

[NEW PARA: [Strengthen the regulatory framework conditions for financial institutions \(banks, non-banking financial institutions, fintechs, insurance companies\) serving rural clients with a focus on youth, and pursue the promotion of appropriate de-risking mechanisms, specifically for youth-led and youth-focused farmers and producer organizations, in a way that will reduce their borrowing costs, make their cash flows more predictable for financial institutions, improve their creditworthiness and facilitate their access to loan markets.\]](#) 

h)i) [\[Support and \]](#)Promote, in line with relevant CFS policy recommendations⁴, [\[agroecological and other innovative practices\]](#) for inclusive, resilient and sustainable agriculture and food systems to generate decent job opportunities for youth [\[.\] \[a\]\[A\]](#)nd, in doing so, supporting the financial, management and technical capacity [\[training and management\]](#) of youth [\[as well as providing support and market opportunities for foods that contribute to healthy diets \[from\]\[through\] sustainable food systems\];](#) (#Incentives and social finance)

[\[ALT: Promote and support in line with the Declaration of the International Forum for Agroecology, the FAO's 10 elements of agroecology and the HLPE's 13 principles of agroecology, agroecological practices for inclusive, resilient and sustainable agriculture and food systems to generate dignified livelihoods for youth and in doing so supporting the financial, management and technical capacity of youth as well as providing support and market opportunities for foods that contribute to healthy diets from sustainable food systems\]](#)

3. INCREASE EQUITABLE ACCESS OF YOUTH TO RESOURCES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND MARKETS

a) Recognize and protect [\[the right to land for youth\] \[youth tenure rights\] \[the legitimate tenure rights of young persons\]](#) and support youth equitable access, sustainable use, conservation and protection of land, [\[natural resources,\] \[water,\] \[seeds\]\[genetic resources\]](#) and biodiversity, fisheries and forests by adopting appropriate policies, legal measures and programmes at the national level, [\[including agrarian](#)

⁴ [\[Such as the CFS Policy Recommendations on Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems that Enhance Food Security and Nutrition.\]](#)

[reform](#) consistent with the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (CFS-VGGT) [\[UNDROP, UNDRIP\]](#) and other relevant frameworks; (#Natural resources)

Rapporteur's Proposal: Recognize and protect all legitimate tenure rights of [\[young persons\]](#) [\[youth\]](#) and support youth equitable access, sustainable use, conservation and protection of land, natural resources, water, seeds and biodiversity, fisheries and forests by adopting appropriate policies, legal measures and programmes at the national level, [\[including agrarian reform, where appropriate\]](#) consistent with the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (CFS-VGGT) and other relevant frameworks; (#Natural resources)

b) Develop legal measures, policies and regulations [\[, according to national legislations,\]](#) to facilitate [\[gender-equal\]](#) [\[and encourage\]](#) inter-generational transfer of [\[knowledge, land,\]](#) natural and productive resources and enterprises, [\[by supporting succession planning through the establishment of specific help centres that can assist SME's unfamiliar with these processes to plan for them,\]](#) [\[including\]](#) [\[with a focus on\]](#) specific measures targeting [\[transfer to\]](#) young women, [\[laws, programmes that connect retiring farmers with youth who do not have access to land, mentorship programmes, educational resources,\]](#) by [\[supporting\]](#) [\[by eliminating gender-based discrimination in\]](#) inheritance [\[and successions\]](#) [\[in line with national laws\]](#), [\[start-ups\]](#) and increased access to retirement and pension system [\[, with a focus on promoting equitable access and participation of young women\]](#); (#Natural and productive resources)

Rapporteur's Proposal: Develop legal measures, policies and regulations to facilitate and encourage gender-equal inter-generational sharing of knowledge and transfer of land, natural and productive resources and enterprises, with a focus on specific measures promoting transfer to young women, by supporting programmes that connect retiring farmers with youth who do not have access to land, mentorship programmes, educational resources, and [\[by eliminating gender-based discrimination in inheritance\]](#) [\[ALT: by supporting gender-\[sensitive\]\[responsive\] inheritance \[frameworks\]\]](#) and succession planning, start-ups and increased access to retirement and pension system; (#Natural and productive resources)

[NEW PARA]: [Establish legal frameworks at national and regional levels that recognise and compensate for ecosystems services provided by farmers that are restoring biodiversity, soil and water health and producing more highly nutritious and diversified food products;](#) (#Ecosystem services)



c) Support the establishment and functioning of gender-equitable cooperatives and other organizations to empower youth and facilitate their access to productive assets, markets, technology and services that increase their capacity to sustainably manage agricultural land, water resources and businesses, and that can assist directly with business and cash flow management and planning. Additionally, encourage existing cooperatives and other organizations to establish youth sections; (#Productive resources) (*Agreed ad ref.*)

d) Promote youth financial literacy and inclusion and, in collaboration with financial service providers, the development and availability of affordable, accessible and inclusive financial services and products, that de-risk lending and borrowing costs for banks engaging with young emerging farmers and agricultural SMEs, and that increase young people's resilience and autonomy and protect them from high interest rates and falling into debt. This includes the transfer and investment of remittances tailored to

the needs of youth engaged in agriculture and food systems, taking into account specific challenges faced by some groups (such as young women, youth living in rural areas, Indigenous Peoples, migrants and young people with disabilities); (#Finance) (*Agreed ad ref.*)

e) Support youth engagement and entrepreneurship in agriculture and food systems, in both individual and collective enterprises. Specific attention should be paid to supporting young women farmers, smallholders, and entrepreneurs, by providing extension and advisory services that respond to the needs and aspirations of youth and their communities and by providing flexible, inclusive and equitable financing programmes. These approaches can include savings mobilization, access to credit, removing policies that prevent crowdfunding, alternative forms of collateral or collateral-free loans, low interest loans, contract farming and other value chain finance arrangements, warehouse receipts, digital and mobile financial services, insurance, remittances, investment products, improved supply of financial services, provision of seed capital grants, capacity development, partnerships with financial institutions, and risk sharing instruments; (#Finance) (*Agreed ad ref.*)

f) Improve [\[shared\]](#) public [\[and private\]](#) infrastructure [\[as regard to the fight against food loss and waste\]](#) to [\[shorten supply and value chains to\]](#) increase [\[gender-equitable\]](#) access to markets [\[and agricultural inputs\]](#) for youth producers, entrepreneurs [\[smallholders,\]](#) and traders and empower youth to contribute to better link urban and rural territories, Indigenous Peoples and local communities [\[for \[more\] sustainable agriculture and food systems\]](#) [\[in agriculture and food systems\]](#) [\[to support informal and alternative markets that provide decent working conditions, improve incomes for small-scale food producers, promote short food supply chains and lower existing barriers to entry for youth\];](#) (#Infrastructure)

Rapporteur's proposal: *Improve public and private infrastructure to increase gender-equitable access to formal [\[and informal\]](#) markets and agricultural inputs for youth producers, entrepreneurs, smallholders, traders and promote public policies to empower youth to contribute to: i) better linking urban and rural territories, Indigenous Peoples and local communities for more sustainable agriculture and food systems; ii) addressing food loss and waste; iii) promoting decent working conditions; iv) improving incomes for small-scale food producers; v) and lowering existing barriers for youth; (#Infrastructure)*

g) Create enabling conditions for the engagement and leadership of youth to obtain a better income from their production, in line with the guidance provided by the CFS Policy Recommendations on Connecting Smallholders to Markets, through sustainable and resilient food supply chains, including by encouraging community supported agriculture, urban and peri-urban agriculture, food baskets and] public procurement programmes in support of markets that reduce the distance between consumers and producers; (#Markets) (*agreed ad ref.*)

[NEW PARA: [Promote sustainable production based on agroecology, family agro-industries, integration between farming, livestock and forest and sustainable extrativism.\]](#)




h) Support development of [\[effective\]\[youth-specific\]](#) business models [\[for youth\]](#), [\[business\]](#) incubators [\[local food hubs\]](#) and relevant programmes to enable youth entry and [\[engagement\]\[advancement\]](#) in food [\[supply chains\]\[systems\]](#) [\[on their own terms\]](#) [\[.\]](#) and support youth [\[engagement\]\[participation\]](#) in [\[voluntary price premium and certification systems\]\[in all the components of food systems value chains\]](#) [\[, according to international agreed trade rules and without creating barriers to free trade,\]](#) [\[for agroecological, fair trade, organic, denomination of origin and other ecological](#)


[and animal welfare-oriented programmes](#) which may support better returns while contributing to [\[more sustainable agriculture and food systems\]](#) [\[food system transformation\]](#) [\[while ensuring that any certification systems quantifiably demonstrate higher returns for young farmers that access their services\]](#) ; (#Markets)

Rapporteur's proposal: Support the development of effective and targeted business models, business incubators, local food hubs, and other relevant programmes to enable youth entry and engagement in food systems which may support better returns [\[and-\[decent\] \[and\] \[dignified\] livelihoods\]](#) for youth while contributing to sustainable agriculture and food systems. [\[Support youth participation in various \[market-access\] trainings and capacity building \[programmes\], \[in connecting\]\[to better connect\] them to markets\];\]](#) (#Markets)

i) Support the development of [\[and enhance existing\]](#) public procurement programmes [\[and other forms of structured and mediated markets\]](#) in agriculture and food systems, such as farm-to-school, [\[healthy, culturally-appropriate\]](#) school feeding and public [\[programmes that engage youth in food loss and waste reduction and promotion of sustainable diets\]](#) [\[nutrition programmes\]](#) that engage sustainable [\[, agroecological\]](#) and youth-led enterprises [\[using fair and transparent prices that cover the basic costs of production san promote ecological restoration through community-based stewardship projects\]](#). (#Markets)

Rapporteur's proposal: Support the development of and enhance existing public procurement programmes and other forms of structured and mediated markets in agriculture and food systems, such as farm-to-school, culturally-appropriate school feeding, public programmes that engage youth in food loss and waste reduction and promotion of healthy diets through sustainable food systems and others that engage [\[sustainable and\]](#) [\[agroecological systems and other innovative systems\]](#) youth-led enterprises. (#Markets)

[NEW PARA: [Develop partnership mechanisms between cooperatives, financial institutions, and governments to provide streamlined assistance services that can provide a full range of financial, business and farming advice to young farmers and young agricultural entrepreneurs across the entire supply and value chain;](#) (#Productive partnerships)] 

[NEW PARA: [Encourage and promote youth entrepreneurship by creating favourable environments for them to formalize their businesses by reducing bureaucratic and financial barriers and through tax exemption or reduction policies for first time agri-entrepreneurs and simplified registration procedures by digitising the process](#) (#Simplified processes)] 

4. **ENHANCE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATIONS AND SKILLS OF YOUTH**

a) Promote the right to education, especially for young women and girls, [\[including by\]\[as well as\]](#) improving infrastructure and introducing child grants and school meals programmes, ensuring free and quality education and its continuity during crises—_through access to long-distance learning, communication technology and broadband access, and ensuring a safe and inclusive return to school without discrimination of any kind, and adopting multi-sectoral approaches to implement and enforce policies on girls' school attendance; (#Education) [*agreed pending final confirmation by USA](#)

b) [\[Create learning environments that value local conditions and knowledge, actively encourage and create opportunities for contributing to their communities and imbue students with respect and reverence for life.\]](#) Support multidisciplinary [\[and gender-sensitive\]](#) educational curriculum development

in primary and secondary schools [by including subjects related to] [that integrate] [more] sustainable agriculture and food systems, [agroecology, food systems transitions,] healthy diets [through sustainable food systems], food security and nutrition, food literacy, [and the right to food, water, land and seeds] as well as to [include] leadership skills to prepare young people who wish to pursue agricultural [food systems reforms] and rural livelihoods, with related technical skills and practical learning components; (#Education)

Rapporteur's proposal: Support multidisciplinary and gender-responsive educational curriculum development in primary and secondary schools that integrate sustainable agriculture [and food systems], healthy diets [through sustainable food systems], food security and nutrition, food literacy, and the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security, as well as to include leadership skills to prepare young people who wish to pursue agricultural and rural livelihoods, with related technical skills and practical learning; (#Education)

[NEW PARA: Support education on rural family succession, encouraging the exchange of best practices between countries.]



c) Finance and promote the development and uptake of training, capacity-building and vocational programmes, including through South-South and Triangular Cooperation, that develop youth's skills for jobs in agriculture and food systems such as nutritionists, food educators, cooks, farm managers, agri-food technicians, veterinary service providers, – those trained in agroecology and other innovative approaches, environmental stewards, and extension and advisory service providers, among others, while encouraging youth employment in the aforementioned sectors; (#Training) (agreed ad ref.)

d) Engage [and recognize] [and fund] youth in research [and support youth-led research] related to sustainable agriculture and food systems, [agroecology, human rights] sustainable use and conservation of [natural] [genetic] resources, – biodiversity and the environment, climate change mitigation and adaptation, [renewable energy] and strengthen [and develop] opportunities for youth to participate in community-based [and other] research partnerships [including through the development of methodologies that integrate diverse ways of knowing and communicating]; (#Research)

Rapporteur's proposal: Engage, support and invest in youth-led research related to sustainable agriculture and food systems, sustainable use and conservation of natural resources, biodiversity and the environment, climate change mitigation and adaptation, renewable energy, [agroecology], [agroecology, sustainable intensification, no-till farming and all other innovations and technologies to promote sustainable food systems]] [agroecology and other innovative approaches], as well as strengthen and develop opportunities for youth to participate in community-based and other research partnerships [that recognize diverse forms of knowledge]; (#Research)

e) Promote [and support community-led] inter-generational and intra-generational exchange of information, knowledge and practices [related to food security and nutrition], including [Indigenous- [and local communities'] [and] ,] traditional [and local] knowledge, [through mentorship and peer-to-peer engagement] [, local land stewardship practices, and region specific agroecology practices] [while also protecting relevant knowledge systems through appropriate legislative frameworks] [by recruiting existing farmers, agricultural professionals and agri-entrepreneurs to engage with youth all the way from primary to vocational education]; (#Information and knowledge exchange)

Rapporteur's proposal: Promote inter-generational and intra-generational exchange of information by recruiting existing farmers, agricultural professionals and agri-entrepreneurs to engage with youth all the way from primary to vocational education, and through mentorship and peer-to-peer engagement. Additionally, protect knowledge systems and practices, including Indigenous, traditional and local knowledge, through appropriate legislative frameworks; (#Information and knowledge exchange)

[NEW PARA: Providing ongoing funding and support for existing youth development and industry led programs offered through national or regional agricultural groups that can customise educational skillsets particular industries are lacking in that will support sustainable food systems and will contribute to climate solutions (#Targeted training)]

f) Develop [and support existing] intellectual property legislative frameworks recognizing and protecting Indigenous Peoples' [and local communities'] traditional knowledge systems to [guarantee][promote] effective intergenerational transfer of Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, addressing the risk of misappropriation or misuse by third parties. (*#Indigenous knowledge*)

[ALT: Promote legal frameworks that facilitate effective intergenerational transfer of Indigenous peoples knowledge.]

Rapporteur's proposal: *Develop and support existing intellectual property legislative frameworks recognizing and protecting Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' traditional knowledge systems to promote effective intergenerational transfer of Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, addressing the risk of misappropriation or misuse by third parties. (#Indigenous knowledge)*

5. FOSTER SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE INNOVATION[S] [TO PROMOTE FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION]

[NEW PARA: Innovation can help unlock new opportunities for youth to engage profitably in agriculture and supporting markets and secure decent livelihoods for them and their families. Farming and other work in agriculture and food systems must be profitable to entice youth to the profession and safeguard the sustainability of agriculture for future generations.]

a) [Promote public policies and incentives to] Empower youth to [promote][to be part of] [entrepreneurship and] inclusive innovation, through social and community enterprises, multi-stakeholder innovation platforms, community finance, and institutional innovations to link farmers to markets, [including territorial markets] [especially at the local and regional levels] acknowledging and utilizing [, where appropriate,] inter-generational and Indigenous Peoples' traditional [and agroecological] knowledge related to [food security and nutrition and] sustainable food systems; (*#Social innovation*)

[ALT 1: Develop public policies in partnership with youth to promote inclusive and youth-led social, technological, economic, cultural and practical innovations designed to advance people-centred economics and dignified livelihoods, including through social and community enterprises, community finance, institutional innovations to link farmers to local and regional markets, and inter-generational and Indigenous Peoples' traditional knowledge related to sustainable food systems.]

[ALT 2: Support the empowerment of youth to be innovative amongst others through social and community enterprises, multistakeholder innovation platforms, community finance and institutional innovations recognizing and utilizing relevant knowledge systems as appropriate related to sustainable food systems]

b) Support the provision of demand-driven rural and urban extension services and digital services tailored to youth needs and priorities while ensuring inclusive access to these services, including to close the gender [and] digital divide; (*#Extension and digital services*)

c) Develop [social, ecological and] digital skills of young farmers and food workers and of those transitioning from school to work, enhance their capacities to safely and effectively operate in digital environments and engage them in co-designing sustainable [innovations] and [innovative] digital solutions and in [facilitating digital access for] [digital knowledge transfer to] elders;

[ALT: Create safe, physical and digital environments in which young farmers and food workers and those transitioning from school to work can develop technological and practical and digital skills as well as critical awareness, can engage in co-designing practical and technological solutions that are need-based, affordable and sustainable, and can engage in digital knowledge transfer to elders.]

d) (*#Digital skills*) Invest in [physical (roads, schools, healthcare) and] digital infrastructure [and promote [digital literacy,] digitalization] to [ensure][improve] connectivity [and dignified livelihoods] in peri-urban, rural and remote areas as a mean of [strengthening and diversifying food systems as well as] [amplifying opportunities to link with urban markets and diversifying food systems as well as] creating job [, farming and entrepreneurial] opportunities for youth; (*#Digital ecosystems*)

[NEW PARA: Develop public policies that guarantee young food system actors' full ownership and control of digital tools and their data and protect them from falling into economic dependence on providers of digital and other technology solutions, particularly focusing on the resilience and self-determination of smallholders and other marginalized food system actors, including by promoting open-access and community-owned technologies and digital solutions, as well as by critically assessing new and old digital and other technologies regarding their social, ecological, and economic impacts.]

e) _____ Support [capacity building of youth through] [the exchange of agroecological knowledge, including through intergenerational and peasant-to-peasant knowledge exchange, equitable access to context specific] transfer [and co-creation] of [knowledge and] technology [and all forms of innovations as well as technical scientific international cooperation,], especially [to][in] developing countries, and technical scientific international cooperation [guided by the traditional knowledge and needs of the most marginalized food system actors], including through mechanisms such as South-South and Triangular Cooperation [with the purpose of building capacity and skills among youth in these countries]. (*#[knowledge][innovation] transfer*) [proposed deletion of the para]

[ALT: Support gender-sensitive capacity building of youth by fostering knowledge generation and exchange, and supporting access to technology through transfer of technology, and technical scientific international cooperation, especially in developing countries, including through mechanisms such as South-South and Triangular Cooperation.]

