



The Youth Alliance for Zero Hunger would like to share their views on the following questions. It has to be said, that statements made from the Youth Alliance do not formally represent the individual convening organizations, but instead reflect a consensus of the views of the members of the Youth Alliance:

In general, we are really attracted by the idea of having a practical approach to the document so that it can be easily adopted. Any contribution that makes it more practical will be very positive, especially for it to have a more real impact.

First, in the rationale, we would add the fact that food systems are the largest employer of youth, particularly in the global south, but still often fail to provide adequate livelihoods or decent work (HLPE 2021). We think it is a fact that helps to understand the importance of young people in food systems. In addition, in the 2nd paragraph / 3 line we would like to add a reference to the “sustainable management of resources.”

Another key idea of the HLPE report, which is not explicitly included in this document, is the need for a radical change in food systems and that young people are at the forefront for leading that change. In this regard, we also notice the absence of mentioning the potential of young people to be agents of change in all facets of food systems. For example, among other aspects, it is important that this document helps governments to understand that young people can have a lot of influence in changing the eating habits of the population.

We would like to add the word “climate” at the end of the first paragraph of the secure and rewarding livelihoods section.

On the issue of governance, we think it should be given more importance as it is a key point for youth engagement in agrifood systems. First, we would like to see a higher emphasis on the point of "active" youth participation in policy processes at all levels. In this regard, there is a lot of tokenism at all scales, where the simple fact of having young people present usually is equal to having had an effective youth participation. It must be ensured that young people have not had a symbolic participation. To do this, they must be present in all phases and contribute to them effectively (agenda creation, research prior to decision-making, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, etc.). In addition, they must be supported so that they have an effective contribution with sufficient tools and the confidence to be able to model these processes. For example, offering training and capacity building in these policy areas. A specific mention of the need for more data regarding the role of youth in food systems policy spaces would also be positive.

Lastly, we believe it is very good that age is not mentioned as the factor to define a young person, but that we must be much more flexible when it comes to identifying young people within the enormous variety of experiences and aspirations that there are in the world and within

countries (following the HLPE concept). Perhaps, it would be good to add a sentence in the last paragraph of the rationale to make it clearer that it is important not to put strict limits on age, since there are many more factors that characterize a young person.