



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# EMPOWERING YOUTH TO ENGAGE IN RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS

## Rapid capacity assessment tool



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# INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS

Who is considered as “youth” in your country?	
Is there more than one official definition? If so, explain how these are used.	
In general, what would be needed to make agriculture more attractive for the youth?	

## Part 1 Institutional set-up for agricultural investment related policy processes

Objective: In this part, you will:

- identify the main entities, organizations and coordination mechanisms that are, or should ideally be involved in policy-making processes related to agricultural investments;
- discuss the roles that these entities, organizations and coordination mechanisms currently play, and which additional roles they should ideally have; and
- assess the participation of youth in policy-making processes.

By doing so, you will be able to get a broad understanding of the current and ideal institutional set-up for investments in agriculture and food systems in your country.

**1. What are the main entities or organizations that are currently involved in policy-making processes related to investments in agriculture and food systems? What roles do these entities play, and what other functions should they ideally carry out?**

Entities or organizations	Current roles	Desired roles
State (Identify up to 5 of the most relevant or important)		

Non-state (Identify up to 7 of the most relevant or important)


**2. What entities and actors are not currently involved, but should be involved in the development and review of policies, laws and incentives that empower youth to carry out and benefit from agricultural investment? What constraints need to be overcome to ensure that these entities participate?**

Entities & actors	Constraint(s) Faced	Desired Roles
State (identify up to 5):		
Non-state (Identify up to 5):		


**3. What are the existing coordination mechanisms for agricultural investment related policy making? What is the purpose of coordination?**

<p>Existing coordination mechanisms</p> <p>(specify if these mechanisms specifically address issues related to youth in agriculture)</p>	<p>Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Activity monitoring</li> <li>b. Programme implementation</li> <li>c. Policy formulation</li> <li>d. Policy review</li> <li>e. Decision making</li> <li>f. Information sharing,</li> <li>g. Youth-related issues</li> <li>h. Budget / finance allocation</li> <li>i. Other _____ (please state)</li> </ul> <p>* You can enter more than one purpose.</p>




**4. Are existing coordination mechanisms inclusive of all relevant stakeholders?**

Name of coordination mechanism:  
 [copy this table as many times as needed]

Stakeholder group	Currently included <small>(Yes/No/Not sure)</small>	Should be included <small>(Yes/No/Not sure)</small>	Leaders in the mechanism? <small>(Yes/No/Not sure)</small>
Central government			
Ministry of Agriculture			
Ministry of Economy			
Ministry of Finance			

Ministry of (... please fill in ...)			
Investment Authority / Promotion Agency			
Local government			
Intergovernmental and regional organizations			
Financing institutions, funds and commercial banks			
Donors and foundations			
Research organizations, universities and extension organizations			
Small-scale producers, incl. family farmers and their organizations			
Youth organizations			
Business enterprises, including large-scale farmers and multinational corporations			
Civil society organizations and social movements			
Women organizations			
Indigenous peoples' organizations			
Community representatives			
Workers organizations			
Other (specify)			

**5. Please rate the presence and participation of youth in the existing coordination mechanisms identified in question 1.3.**

Existing coordination mechanisms <small>*Copy the names of the coordination mechanisms that were identified in questions 1.3.</small>	Presence: <small>(Yes/No/Not sure)</small>	Participation: <small>(Score: 1-5, 1= low)</small>

**6. What actions need to be taken to increase the presence and participation of youth in existing coordination mechanisms?**



**7. Is a new coordination mechanism needed? If yes, what should be the purpose? Who should be the members and leaders?**

Needed (non-existing) coordination mechanism's purpose	Suggested Members	Suggested Leaders

# Part 2 Policies, strategies, laws and incentives

Objective: In this part, you will:

- identify the main policies, strategies, laws and incentives relevant to agricultural investment; and
- discuss whether existing policies, strategies, laws and incentives need to be strengthened or new ones developed to promote responsible investment with a specific focus on youth.

## 1. What are the main existing national policies, strategies, laws (incl. international) and incentives relevant to agricultural investments?

Issue area	Name of policy, strategy, law or incentive	Status: Draft, current or obsolete	Awareness of strategy, policy, law or incentive within the group currently discussing Rate 1 to 5 (1 = no knowledge about the existence 2 = basic knowledge 5= advanced knowledge of the content)	General awareness at subnational levels (i.e. outside the capital)? Rate 1 to 5 (1 is low)
Youth engagement in agriculture				
Access to land				

Access to finance and insurance schemes				
Access to markets				
Access to agri-business development services, including incubation				
Access to information, knowledge, education				
Incentives for larger-scale companies that employ youth in new agricultural investments and agribusinesses				
Incentives for businesses and farmers (including youth) to invest into sustainable agriculture				

Gender-equality promotion and young girls empowerment				
Decent wages and working hours				
Occupational health and safety				
Collective bargaining				
Promotion of larger-scale investment				
Other				

**2. Reflecting upon question 2.1, among those policies, strategies, laws and incentives that have been identified, what changes should be made to ensure that they support youth in agriculture?**

Current national policy, programme, strategy, law, incentive	Change needed:


**3. Reflecting upon question 2.1, are there any policies, strategies, laws and incentives that you have identified that require changes to be aligned with the CFS-RAI (beyond youth)? If yes, please indicate which changes are needed.**

Current national policy, programme, strategy, law, incentive	Change needed:



**4. Are there any policies, laws or incentives identified under 2.1 that are not yet fully implemented? Which actions could lead to full implementation?**

Current national policy, programme, strategy, law, incentive	Which actions are needed to ensure full implementation?

**5. What actions need to be taken to improve existing coordination mechanisms to increase the presence and participation of youth? (Please be as specific as possible.)**



## Part 3 Organizations and services that empower youth

Objective: In this part you will discuss whether organizations in your country currently provide all services youth need to be empowered to carry out and benefit from agricultural investments. Subsequently, you will discuss how to improve the availability and accessibility of services that empower youth to carry out and benefit from agricultural investment.

### 1. How easy is it for young people to access the services below? Which organizations provide them?

Service	Accessibility for youth (rate 1-5, 1=low, "none" if the service is not being provided)	Organizations providing these services
Access to credit		
Facilitation to access land		
Agricultural insurance		

Saving schemes		
Training to improve contract negotiation skills		
Linkages between buyers and sellers of raw produce		
Strengthening capacities of members to develop agri-business skills, including the development of business plans and agribusiness development services in general		
Business incubation		
Facilitate knowledge exchange		
Collective marketing of products		
Training / information on policy processes		

Information and communication technologies		
Extension services and agricultural skill development, including on mechanization		
Value addition, transformation, processing		
Certification schemes (incl. both quality and sustainability standards)		
Daycare / crèche		
Representation of interests of young workers (such as collective bargaining for decent wages in agribusinesses and plantation farms)		
Others		

**2. What are the main youth-led organizations in your country that support young farmers, workers and agri-entrepreneurs along the value chains in carrying out and benefitting from responsible investments in agriculture and food systems? What are their current and desired roles?**

Organizations (by name)	Current roles	Desired roles

**3. Which other (non-youth-led) organizations in your country support young farmers, workers and agri-entrepreneurs along the value chains in carrying out and benefitting from responsible investments in agriculture and food systems? What are their current and desired roles?**

Organizations (by name)	Current roles	Desired roles


**4. Are the organizations enumerated in 3.2 and 3.3 inclusive of different youth stakeholders?**

Name of the organization [one table per organization]:			
Stakeholder group	Included (Yes/No/Not sure )	Active participation (rate 1 - 5, 5 = high)	Should be included (check if yes)
Younger youth between 15 and 17			
Young men between 18 and 24			
Young women between 18 and 24			
Young farmers (rural)			
Young farmers (urban)			
Young agri-entrepreneurs engaged in non-farming activities (rural)			
Young agri-entrepreneurs engaged in non-farming activities (urban)			

**5. Reflecting upon question 3.1, what could be done to improve the accessibility of services that have been rated 1-2?**

Service	Main challenge for youth to access the service

**6. Which services that are currently not being provided, are needed? Which existing organization should provide them?**

Service	Organization


**7. Is a new youth-sensitive / led organization needed?**

**What should the purpose of such organization be?**

**Who should be the members and leaders?**

Purpose of needed (non-existing) organizations	Suggested Members	Suggested Leaders



## Part 4 Individual Capacities

Objective: In this part you will identify the main existing and needed capacities of young farmers, agri-entrepreneurs and those who seek to support them to carry out and benefit from agricultural investment.

### 1. Please respond to the questions below that relate to the accessibility and attendance of agriculture / agribusiness related education programmes in your country.

Is agriculture / agribusiness related education existing in your country?	
If yes, describe where is this education available (e.g. only in the capital, in urban centres, in rural areas, etc.?)	
Do young people have access to agriculture / agribusiness related education?	
Do young people take advantage of existing education opportunities? (If no, why not?)	

**2. Are relevant learning opportunities that allow young women and men to strengthen technical agricultural/agronomist skills available and accessible in your country?**

Skill/subject	Available through formal education? (Yes/No/Not sure)	Available through informal education? (Yes/No/Not sure)	Is education accessible outside of the capital? (rate 1 - 5, 5 = high)
Example: Farming skills (such as those taught in school gardens)			

### 3. Are relevant learning opportunities that strengthen entrepreneurial and analytical skills available and accessible in your country?

Stakeholder group	Available through formal education? (Yes/No/Not sure)	Should be available through formal education? (Yes/No/Not sure)	Available through informal education? (Yes/No/Not sure)	Should be available through informal education? (Yes/No/Not sure)	Education accessible outside of the capital? (rate 1 - 5, 5 = high)
Example: financial literacy					

**4. What is the objective of your institution / organization in regard to empowering youth to carry out and benefit from responsible agricultural investment? What capacities (including skills, information and knowledge) do members of your institution or organisation need to successfully convey the message / project of your organization among your key target audience (for example: policy makers, private companies, youth, etc.)?**

Organizations	Objective of your organization/ institution in regard to empowering youth	Capacities needed to achieve the objective



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