

## Input of the Russian Federation to the CFS Policy convergence process on Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems

Modern youth ultimately differs from the previous generation. Information from official sources is not as credible as that from the Internet. The exposure of the quality of alimentary products and the attitude of mass media to them undermine the credibility of the consumers to the official information. As a result, more attention is paid to the safety of alimentary products, including their origin, transparency of ingredients and cooking technics. In this regard, youth shows interest to all food processing chain including the very first step. It is important to stimulate this interest and to create all conditions for youth to make them participate in the work of agro-industrial sector of the economy.

### 1. Educational programs

It is important to enhance the prestige of agricultural professions in the opinion of youth, to pay more attention to their career guidance. Often because of objective and subjective reasons, there is a big gap in the quality of town life compared to country life: in the access to infrastructure, in the income level and its strong seasonal aspect, in the possibilities of employment, career potential and professional growth. As a result, we get low competence level of the applicants to agricultural institutions from the start and a very low level of loyalty of the graduates to the obtained profession.

It is necessary to structure the existing systems in the field of agricultural education to have the opportunity to react in time to growing demands regarding food supply.

It is necessary to renovate the education programs of agricultural institutes, to develop and to implement such fields of education that will contribute to the inclusion of agricultural industry to the value chains, to its integration to the digital environment and will ensure the environmental management.

It is necessary to integrate education programs and respective knowledge skills abilities that young professionals get in the institutes into the tasks of the

agricultural sector; to envision facilities to create scientific and research centers on the basis of agricultural institutions to implement and to test new innovative technologies; to increase the engagement of the students in the practical work at the farms and agricultural enterprises including longstanding applied practical training.

## 2. Financial support

It is necessary to create and to promote in mass media a positive image of life at the countryside and of work in agricultural sector, to contribute to the creation of mass oriented cultural product.

Governments should give grants to agricultural enterprises for the reimbursement of labor and accommodation expenses of young specialists as well as the advanced training expenses.

It is suggested to provide young specialists that are ready to work in the rural areas with social accommodation, social payments to build or buy personal lodging. Those who wish to organize personal (farming) enterprise – to give the opportunity to take part in the competitions to receive grants.

## 3. Programs of social development of rural areas

Firstly we should talk about the construction of residential accommodation and conforming social infrastructure which includes the construction of hospitals, pre-school educational institutions and schools as well as the creation of material and technical facilities for the realization of basic and additional comprehensive programs of digital, natural science, technical and humanitarian spheres. It is necessary to have access to universal communication services and Internet. To allocate funds to the construction of leisure infrastructure. To solve the problems of transport accessibility.