

CSM Youth Working Groups Comments on Zero Draft

March 18, 2022

Youth are the future of our food systems. Their engagement in food systems is of the utmost importance. But in order to ensure this engagement, a paradigm shift is urgently needed to address the compounding social, political, economic, health, and ecological crises of today. These crises are rooted in grave inequalities and historical injustices that have constituted structural features of the capitalist economy over its development for more than five hundred years. Thus, systemic changes in food systems require a significant redistribution of power and resources as part of broader processes of transformation toward economies of well-being. The Zero Draft is a good start, but falls short to offer recommendations that will achieve the transformations that youth desperately need. In the following chart, we recommend concrete text changes that offer a transformative potential. These text changes are firmly grounded in the empirical evidence detailed in the HLPE’s report “Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems” and seek to achieve radical transformation through, building economies of well-being, realizing food sovereignty and promoting youth agency, supporting agroecology and climate justice, and centering human rights and responsible governance.

Zero Draft	CSM Youth WG Proposed Text
RATIONALE PREAMBLE	
<p>1. Young people are one of the keys to achieving just sustainable development, in particular in developing countries, where the vast majority of them reside, often in rural areas. There is a large untapped reservoir of employment opportunities in the agri-food sector. Yet, poor access to land, natural resources, infrastructure, finance, technology, knowledge, and poor remuneration for agricultural and food workers turn youth away from agriculture and from remaining rural areas. As a result, many feel that their best option is to migrate, either to urban areas or overseas. Actions are needed to make the agri-food sector more attractive to young people and to promote their capacity to generate incomes.</p>	<p>Revised para 1(a): Food systems are the largest employer of young people, 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. Holistic action at all political levels is necessary to make agriculture more attractive and fulfilling for youth, particularly in developing countries, where the vast majority of them reside, mostly in rural areas. Policy responses are particularly needed to address the problem of youth migration out of rural areas. Human rights violations, neoliberal economic policies, gender-based violence and discrimination, and forced displacement are major factors that push youth out of the countryside and away from agriculture. Systemic injustices must be addressed through redistributive and mediated market policies in order to realize the rights of young peasants and other young people working in rural and urban areas.</p>
	<p>New para: Historical inequalities need to be resolved in order to realize a just transition toward economies of wellbeing. Policies at all levels should guarantee the collective and individual rights of young people to land, natural resources, education, healthcare, and all other protections</p>

	<p>enshrined in international law. Public infrastructure and social financing are key to promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems. Youth also need much greater access to and control over technology and knowledge, especially indigenous and traditional knowledge as well as local agroecological knowledge held by peasants and other environmental stewards whose lives and ways of life are increasingly at risk due to extractivism, the criminalization of social movements, land grabs, armed conflict, and occupation.</p>
<p>2. The potential returns of investing in young people are boundless in terms of food security, poverty reduction, employment generation, as well as peace and political stability.</p>	<p>Revised para 2: Young people are vital to achieving economies of wellbeing defined by food sovereignty, dignified livelihoods, and healthy environments in rural and urban areas. Food systems transformations are urgently needed to ensure that youth can live well in the countryside and cities, restore ecological harmony, and receive fair remuneration for their work in the agri-food sector. Systemic shifts in the agri-food sector should center the core principles of rights, equity, agency, and recognition of the role of youth as collective and individual protagonists of social change.</p>
<p>3. As the average age of farmers worldwide approaches 60, it is essential to develop systems, policies, and programmes that engage more youth in agriculture and agricultural professions. Youth engagement and leadership are linked intrinsically to countless aspects of the achievement of food security and good nutrition for all. Among these aspects, interlinkages with gender equality and women’s empowerment, the rural-urban continuum and innovative practices and technologies, including new uses of data and knowledge-sharing platforms, are particularly relevant.</p>	<p>Revised para 3: As the average age of farmers worldwide approaches 60, it is essential to develop systems, policies, and programmes that engage more youth in agriculture and agricultural professions. These systems, policies, and programmes must be human rights based, aimed at transitioning to economies of well-being based on food sovereignty, solidarity, cooperation, care, participatory democracy and ecological restoration. They must also recognize the diversity and intersectionality of youth identities, the diversity of youth aspirations and the diversity of traditions and practices that are meaningful to youth. Youth participation and leadership in the design and implementation of these systems, policies and programmes is also essential.</p>
	<p>New para: The global climate and ecological crisis is one of the most disruptive factors influencing the dynamics of ecosystems and the food systems that rely on them, thus posing one of the biggest threats to the food security of youth, both today and ever more severely in their future life course. Without a radical transformation of economies away from fossil fuel dependency and resource extractivism, the youth of today, who are already facing the impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss, will face even more severe impacts of the intensification of these crises as they grow older. Due to social marginalization and their special interdependencies with land, fisheries and forests, Indigenous youths, young peasants and other youths working in rural areas will be impacted disproportionately. Therefore, all measures and targets aimed at engaging youths in agriculture and food systems need to be accompanied by and coherent with an acceleration and intensification of states’ climate change mitigation actions to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels, the goal set in</p>

	the Paris Climate Agreement as well as with policies and programmes aimed at the immediate reversal of biodiversity loss, such as through the promotion of agroecology. All policy measures in favor of youth employment must be guided by the goal of a radical transformation away from fossil fuels and ecological destruction, including by critically assessing and avoiding any potential adverse effects of policy measures.
4. The following recommendations are addressed to Governments (relevant ministries, national, regional and local authorities and institutions, as appropriate) in consultation with intergovernmental organizations, producer organizations, the private sector (including micro, small and medium as well as larger-sized-entities) and civil society.	Revised para 4: The following recommendations are addressed to Governments (relevant ministries, national, regional and local authorities and institutions, as appropriate). They draw on and are to be read in conjunction with the High Level of Panel of Experts’ report, <i>Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems</i> (2021). They are adopted by states, but were developed with intergovernmental organizations, producer organizations, the private sector (including micro, small and medium as well as larger-sized-entities), Indigenous peoples, social movements and civil society.
5. They are envisioned as a focused, action-oriented document that will encourage public policies to foster enabling environments capable of tapping into the energy and skills of youth to improve food systems. In working towards this aim, the diversity, intersectionality, and context specificity of youth aspirations and experience across the globe should be recognized.	Revised para 5: They are envisioned as a focused, action-oriented document that will offer governments direction for adopting public policies that foster transitions towards food sovereignty and respect planetary boundaries. They do this by offering tools for creating enabling environments for youth to engage meaningfully and on their own terms in food systems. In working towards this aim, the diversity, intersectionality, and context specificity of youth aspirations and experience across the globe should be recognized.
1. PROVIDE AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND EMPLOYMENT IN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS	
a) Contribute to the realization of youth rights without any discrimination, by implementing existing global policy instruments that are relevant to youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems, by supporting relevant policy processes and programmes, as well as by creating accountability mechanisms; (#Rights)	Revised para 1(a): Contribute to the realization of food sovereignty and the human rights of youth rights without any discrimination, by implementing existing global policy and human rights instruments that are relevant to youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems, by supporting relevant policy processes and programmes, as well as by creating accountability mechanisms. These policy and human rights instruments include, but are not limited to, the 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); (#Rights)
b) Ensure that youth-oriented policies and programmes take heterogeneity of youth and intergenerational relationships and hierarchies into account, providing additional support to improve	Revised para 1(b): Ensure that youth-oriented policies and programmes take heterogeneity of youth and intergenerational relationships and hierarchies into account, providing additional support to improve equity and distribution of resources across generation, gender (respecting

<p>equity and distribution of resources across generation, gender, class, culture, ethnicity and citizenship status, with specific attention to vulnerable and disadvantaged groups of youth; (#Intergenerational approach)</p>	<p>gender and sexual diversity), class, culture, ethnicity and citizenship status, with specific attention to vulnerable and disadvantaged groups of youth; (#Intergenerational approach)</p>
<p>c) Enhance youth's standards of living by ensuring access to adequate education, health, hygiene and nutrition; and reduce vulnerability of youth by ensuring their access to basic infrastructure and services and by implementing social protection and safety net programmes that contribute to meet children's and adolescents' specific food and nutrition needs; (#Social protection)</p>	<p>Revised para 1(c): Enhance youth's standards of living by ensuring rights and access to adequate education, health, hygiene and nutrition, as well as rights to land, seeds, water, and traditional knowledge; and reduce vulnerability of youth by ensuring their access to basic infrastructure and services (including transportation, education telecommunications and public health) and by implementing rights-based social protection and safety net programmes that contribute to meet children's and adolescents' specific food and nutrition basic needs; (#Social protection)</p>
	<p>New para: Promote, strengthen and protect longstanding and new diversified localized food systems, such as Indigenous food systems, territorial food systems including local and territorial markets that have been providing and could provide healthy, fresh and regional food to communities around the world. This can be accomplished by, inter alia, redirecting subsidies away from the corporate-controlled industrial food system and toward building food sovereignty, implementing the CFS Policy Recommendations on Connecting Smallholders Markets and by creating an enabling policy environment to support consumers' involvement in co-production, local direct food webs, and smallholder access to territorial markets.</p>
	<p>New para: Ensure the right to land for youth, particularly for youth from marginalized groups like women, landless and Indigenous peoples, and migrant workers, by promoting redistributive and mediated market policies such as comprehensive and genuine agrarian reform.</p>
	<p>New para: Address systemic forms of discrimination and injustices in all forms. This includes discrimination against women by protecting and promoting women's rights, remedying women's unequal access to productive resources, ending gender-based violence, and recognizing the currently undervalued and unpaid care work, provided predominantly by women and young girls.</p>
<p>d) Support and encourage equal, non-discriminatory and active youth participation and leadership in relevant organizations, including through civil society and private sector organizations, in governance mechanisms and decision-making fora at all levels, such as CFS, parliaments and other national and local policy-making spaces, and promote youth-led organizations and initiatives; (#Participation and governance)</p>	<p>Revised para 1(d): Support and encourage youth-led organizations and initiatives as well as equal, non-discriminatory and active youth participation and leadership in relevant organizations, including through civil society and private sector organizations, in governance mechanisms and decision-making fora at all levels, such as CFS, parliaments and other national and local policy-making spaces, including by promoting youth-led organizations and initiatives, funding space for autonomous engagement of social movements in policy processes, addressing conflicts of interest and unequal bargaining power in policy-making spaces and stopping the criminalization of social movements and human rights defenders (#Participation and</p>

	governance)
e) Strengthen collection of labour market information and statistics to capture the diverse realities and heterogeneity of youth, their employment and working conditions in agriculture and food systems, as well as mobility and working time devoted to different activities; (#Data collection)	Revised para 1(e): Strengthen collection of labour market information and statistics on small-scale food producers and rural youth to capture the diverse realities and heterogeneity of youth, their employment and working conditions in agriculture and food systems, as well as mobility and working time devoted to different activities; (#Data collection)
f) Improve the documentation of different forms of youth engagement in agriculture and food systems, combining quantitative and qualitative methods, to better understand youth needs and behaviours and inform policy development. (#Data collection)	Revised para 1(f): Improve the documentation of different forms of youth engagement in agriculture and food systems, combining quantitative and qualitative methods, to better understand youth needs and behaviours and inform policy development. (#Data collection)
2. SECURE DIGNIFIED AND REWARDING LIVELIHOODS	
a) Ensure that employment and labour market policies and labour demand interventions target young people, providing opportunities for dignified engagement and decent jobs for youth in agriculture and food systems that contribute to preserving or restoring the environment; (#Labour market policies)	Revised para 2(a): Ensure that employment and labour market policies and labour demand interventions target young people in all their diversity , providing opportunities for dignified engagement and decent jobs (including with living wages) for youth in agriculture and food systems that contribute to preserving or restoring the environment and that respect their human rights ; (#Labour market policies)
b) Implement comprehensive labour market policies to increase youth employability in agriculture and food systems through interventions such as job assistance, employment services, training and skills development, job matching and entrepreneurship coaching and incubators; (#Labour market policies)	Revised para 2(b): Implement comprehensive labour market policies to increase youth engagement and employability in agriculture and food systems through interventions such as comprehensive agrarian reform and land redistribution , job assistance, employment services, education , training and skills development, job matching, extension services, rights to resources like seeds and water , and business education entrepreneurship coaching and incubators ; (#Labour market policies)
c) Implement labour demand-side measures for youth to promote more inclusive and sustainable food systems and investments, consistent with the CFS Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI); (#Labour market policies)	Revised para 2(c): Implement labour demand-side measures for youth to promote more inclusive and sustainable food systems and investments, consistent with the CFS Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI) ; (#Labour market policies)
d) Establish programmes to facilitate the transition from school to work , ensuring equitable access to these programmes across gender, ethnicity and citizenship status; (#Labour market policies)	Revised para 2(d):) Establish programmes to facilitate the transition from school to work, ensuring equitable access to these programmes across gender, ability, socio-economic class , ethnicity and citizenship status and that support the diversity of youth aspirations ; (#Labour market policies)

	New para: Accompany and support social movements with capacity-building support and benefits for youth to engage in agroecology, including by supporting participants of urban and rural agroecology schools and peasant-to-peasant training processes
e) Develop labour laws and regulations, and associate adequate budget, to guarantee living wages and enhance working conditions for youth, with particular attention to children of legal working age, in agriculture and food systems through reducing hazardous exposures, supporting occupational safety and health, promoting sustainable agricultural practices, providing personal protective equipment, safe hours and unemployment insurance; (#Employment legislation and governance)	Revised para 2(e): Develop labour laws and regulations, and associate adequate budget, to guarantee living wages and enhance working conditions for youth, with particular attention to children of legal working age and other marginalized groups , in agriculture and food systems through reducing hazardous exposures, eliminating exposure to agro chemicals and pesticides , supporting occupational safety and health, the right to unionize , promoting sustainable agricultural practices, providing personal protective equipment, safe hours and unemployment insurance; these labour laws and regulations should align with key international frameworks, including the ILO Conventions and UNDROP; (#Employment legislation and governance)
f) Develop social protection programmes that compensate youth's unpaid contribution to food systems, and that legitimize care work, especially that performed by young women, through the provision of public childcare, parental leave, and other community services; (#Social protection)	Revised para 2(f): Develop human rights based social protection programmes that recognize, value, compensate and where applicable redistribute youth's unpaid contribution to food systems, especially that performed by young women, through the provision of public childcare, elder care , parental leave, education on gender based discrimination, transitions towards economies of well-being and the provision of more community services; (#Social protection)
g) Support labour inspection systems in sectors and occupations where young people are prevalent and develop community-level monitoring of compliance to labour legislation and labour rights; (#Employment legislation and governance)	Revised para 2(g): Support rights-based labour inspection systems in all sectors and occupations where young people work and develop community-level monitoring of compliance to labour legislation and labour rights; (#Employment legislation and governance)
h) Promote, in line with existing CFS policy recommendations, agroecological and other innovative practices for sustainable agriculture and food systems to generate decent jobs for youth, by supporting the capacity of youth as well as by providing support and market opportunities for sustainable products; (#Incentives and social finance)	Revised para 2(h): Promote, 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 existing CFS policy recommendations , agroecological and other innovative practices and democratic control over food systems for sustainable agriculture and food systems to generate decent futures and dignified livelihoods jobs for youth, by supporting the organizational and productive capacity of youth as well as by providing support and market opportunities for sustainable and local products; (#Incentives and social finance)
3. INCREASE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO RESOURCES	
a) Support rural youth equitable access, conservation and protection of land, seeds and biodiversity, fisheries and forests by adopting appropriate policies and programmes at the national level, consistent with the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (CFS-VGGT)	Revised para 3(a): Guarantee the human rights of rural youth to Support rural youth equitable access, conservation, tenure and protection of land, seeds and biodiversity, fisheries and forests by recognizing rural youth' legitimate tenure rights, especially for Indigenous and customary collective land ownership, and implementing agrarian reform, land restitution and redistribution programmes. In addition, adopting appropriate policies and programmes at the national level,

<p>and other relevant frameworks; (<i>#Natural resources</i>)</p>	<p>that implement consistent with the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (CFS-VGGT), 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 other relevant frameworks; (#Natural resources)</p>
<p>b) Develop legal measures, policies and regulations to facilitate inter-generational transfer of natural and productive resources and enterprises by supporting successions, start-ups and increased access to retirement system; (<i>#Natural and productive resources</i>)</p>	<p>Revised para 3(b): Develop legal measures, policies and regulations to facilitate inter-generational transfer of natural and productive resources and enterprises—farms from smallholders to smallholders by protecting customary land tenure systems, ending land grabs and other forms of large-scale land acquisitions that expropriate smallholders as well as by supporting successions, start-ups and increased access to retirement system; (#Natural and productive resources)</p>
<p>c) Support the establishment of cooperatives and other organizations to facilitate youth’s access to productive assets and increase their capacity to manage agricultural land and business; (<i>#Productive resources</i>)</p>	<p>Revised para 3(c): Support the establishment of cooperatives and other organizations to facilitate youth’s access and tenure of productive assets and increase their capacity to manage agricultural land and businesses including in a collective and/or self-determined manner; (#Productive resources)</p>
<p>d) Promote youth financial literacy and, in collaboration with financial service providers, the development and availability of affordable and inclusive financial services and products tailored to the needs of youth engaged in agriculture and food systems; (<i>#Finance</i>)</p>	<p>Revised para 3(d): Promote the development and availability of affordable, publicly funded, and affordable financial and advisory services (extension, training, direct funds, favorable interest rates, cash transfers, targeted subsidies, micro-credit and other credit programmes, start-up capital, insurance) youth financial literacy and, in collaboration with financial service providers, the development and availability of affordable and inclusive financial services and products tailored to the needs of young agroecological and smallholder farmers, pastoralists and fisherfolks, especially considering the needs of young women, LGBTQ+ youth, indigenous youth, and youth with disabilities, by prioritising financial services aimed at young people’s resilience and autonomy, and by protecting them from high interest rates and falling into debt youth engaged in agriculture and food systems (#Finance)</p>
<p>e) Support youth entrepreneurship in agriculture and food systems, in both individual and collective enterprises, by providing flexible financing programmes, including through savings mobilization, crowdfunding, alternative forms of collateral to access and lower the cost of loans in rural areas, 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, partnerships with financial institutions and risk sharing instruments; (<i>#Finance</i>)</p>	<p>Revised para 3(e): Recognize and create an enabling political economy for youth pluri-activity in food systems by generating holistic opportunities for dignified engagement and decent work in collectives and as individuals, whether as entrepreneurs, wage laborers, or autonomous or own-account workers.</p>

<p>f) Improve public infrastructure to increase access to markets for youth producers, entrepreneurs and traders and empower youth to contribute to better link urban and rural territories and communities for sustainable food systems; (#Infrastructure)</p>	<p>Revised para 3(f): Improve shared public infrastructure (irrigation, processing and packaging facilities, food safety measures, physical and virtual market spaces, supportive zoning and regulation, roads that link urban and rural markets, and start-up funds) for informal, newly emerging and alternative markets that promote short food supply chains to improve income and lower barriers to entry for youth producers, entrepreneurs and traders.</p>
<p>g) Support development of incubators and relevant programmes to enable youth entry and engagement in sustainable food supply chains and support youth engagement in price premium and certification systems which could guarantee better returns while contributing to more sustainable agriculture and food systems; (#Markets)</p>	<p>Revised para 3(g): Promote and strengthen longstanding and new diversified localized food systems, such as Indigenous food systems, including local and territorial markets, and support youth engagement in price premium and certification systems for agroecological, fair trade, organic, denomination of origin and other ecological and animal welfare-oriented programmes to enable youth entry and engagement in sustainable and resilient food supply chains that generate economic empowerment and autonomy; (#Markets)</p>
	<p>New para: Create enabling conditions for the engagement and leadership of youth in setting up short-distance supply chain initiatives, such as community supported agriculture, urban and peri-urban agriculture, food baskets and local markets, that reduce the distance between consumers and producers, including by facilitating access to land and other productive resources for young smallholders and food system actors, by supporting incubators and relevant programmes and by implementing guidance provided by the CFS Policy Recommendations on Connecting Smallholders to Markets.</p>
<p>h) Support the development of public procurement programmes in the agri-food sector, such as farm-to-school and public nutrition programmes that engage sustainable and youth-led enterprises, through quotas, sensitization and technical support. (#Markets)</p>	<p>Revised para 3(h): Create and strengthen existing public procurement programs and other forms of structured and mediated markets, such as farm-to-school and public nutrition programs, for supporting small-scale producer associations and youth-led enterprises, using fair and transparent prices that cover the basic costs of production, encourage experimentation within production systems, and promote ecological restoration through community-based stewardship projects.</p>
<p>4. ENHANCE KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATIONS AND SKILLS</p>	
<p>a) Ensure universal access to free and quality education, improving infrastructure to facilitate access to school, ensuring school continuity during emergencies through access to long-distance learning and ensuring a safe and inclusive return to school without discrimination of any kind, and adopting multi- sectoral approach to implement and enforce policies on girls' school attendance; (#Education)</p>	<p>Revised para 4(a): Realize the right to free, quality, and culturally-specific education, especially for young women and girls who face a variety of barriers to education, and ensure that youth have access to basic infrastructure and services (nutrition, sanitation, formal and informal health services, energy, information and communication technology and broadband access, agroecological extension services) in rural and urban areas to guarantee good standards of living.</p>
<p>b) Support educational curriculum development in primary and</p>	<p>Revised para 4(b): Support educational curriculum development and reform in primary and</p>

secondary schools by including subjects related to sustainable agriculture and food systems to equip young people that wish to pursue agricultural and rural livelihoods; (#Education)	secondary schools on the need for transforming food systems as well as practices for achieving them, including agroecology, food literacy, food systems, health and life skills more generally.
c) Promote training and vocational programmes for professions and creation of jobs in food systems such as nutritionists, food educators, extension and advisory service providers; (#Training)	Revised para 4(c): Develop and improve outreach for vocational training curricula that facilitate collaborative assessments of local community needs, focusing on the entry points of most interest to youth, such as agroecological production, environmental stewardship, cultural , nutrition, and food systems education.
d) Engage youth in research related to sustainable agriculture and food systems, resource conservation, change mitigation and environmental management, and strengthen opportunities for youth to participate in community-based research partnerships; (#Research)	Revised para 4(d): Support youth-led research related to agroecology, biological and cultural diversity, resource conservation, and climate change adaption and mitigation, and strengthen opportunities for youth to participate in community-based research partnerships through the development of methodologies that integrate diverse ways of knowing and communicating.
e) Promote inter-generational and intra-generational exchange of information, knowledge and practices through mentorship and peer-to-peer engagement. (#Information and knowledge exchange)	Revised para 4(e): Promote the inter-generational and intra-generational exchange of information, knowledge and practices by encouraging youth to practice agroecology, particularly by connecting knowledge that is locally-specific with horizontal training and formal education programmes, as well as through advisory and extension services, to improve the resilience of agriculture, farming systems and food systems to environmental and social shocks and stresses.
	New para: Realize the right of young peasants and other youth to training suited to specific agroecological, sociocultural, and political economic environments in which they find themselves.
	New para: Realize the right of young peasants and other youth in rural and urban areas to be protected from any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with education, or to be harmful to their health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.
	New para: Develop and implement educational and public awareness programs on the health and ecological effects of agrotoxins commonly used in rural areas and on alternatives to their use.
5. FOSTER SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE INNOVATION	
a) Support the key role of youth in promoting social innovation, through social and community enterprises, multi-stakeholder innovation platforms, community finance, institutional innovations to link farmers to markets, taking into account inter-generational	Revised para 5(a): Support the key role of youth in promoting social innovation aimed at building economies of wellbeing, by supporting youth-led initiatives and enterprises, embracing community and solidarity economies, creating space for cooperative farming enterprises, community finance, and innovations to link farmers to local and territorial markets, and

and indigenous knowledge related to sustainable food systems; (#Social innovation)	respecting inter-generational and indigenous knowledge related to sustainable food systems (#Social innovation).
	New para: Support the key role of Indigenous and inter-generational agroecological knowledge for innovation towards sustainable food systems, by stimulating research and programmes embracing such knowledge and by promoting academic research that is, from the outset, guided by the needs, demands, and priorities of small-scale food producers and other agroecological food system actors and that include these actors and their knowledges into all steps of the research process.
b) Support the provision of rural and urban extension services and digital services tailored to youth needs and priorities while ensuring inclusive access to these services; (#Extension and digital services)	Revised para 5(b): Support the provision of rural and urban extension services and digital services tailored to youth needs and their transition to and development of agroecological farming, following best practice examples such as peasant-to-peasant trainings such as provided by La Via Campesina, while ensuring inclusive access to these services; (#Extension and digital services)
c) Develop digital skills of young workers and of those transitioning from school to work, enhance their capacities in sustainable and innovative approaches and engage them in co-designing digital solutions; (#Digital skills)	Revised para 5(c): Promote an agroecological approach to digitalization and technological innovation by prioritizing co-creation and co-design, including by the most marginalized actors within the food system, and by prioritizing the resilience, self-determination and independence of smallholders and other independent food system actors as guiding principle in digitalization, digital education and technology development, for instance by promoting open-access technology and community-owned technologies (#Digital skills)
	New para: Guarantee smallholders' and other independent food system actors' full ownership of digital tools, methodologies and their data and protect them from economic and social dependence on corporate providers of digital technology solutions, including by critically assessing new technologies and their redistributive impacts in society, such as by assessing who will (not) have access, who will (not) benefit and who will (not) bear the social and ecological costs of a new technology or digital solution;
d) Invest in digital infrastructure and promote digitalization to ensure connectivity in peri-urban, rural and remote areas as a mean of strengthening and diversifying food systems as well as creating job opportunities for youth. (#Digital infrastructure)	Revised para 5(d): Invest in digital infrastructure and promote digitalization to ensure connectivity in peri-urban, rural and remote areas as a means of strengthening and diversifying food systems as well as creating job opportunities for youth. (#Digital infrastructure)