

Written inputs on the CFS Zero Draft of the Policy Recommendations on Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems

WFP

First and foremost, we appreciate the opportunity to review the Zero Draft of the Policy Recommendations on Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in Agriculture and Food Systems, that is being presented by the Rapporteur, Ambassador Pio Wennubst.

As WFP-nominated focal point to this exercise, I was happy to see the overall approach taken regarding the priority issues, how this was articulated under the five policy areas presented in the paper.

We also echoed the comments made by CFS stakeholders in previous iterations on some of the areas that should be strengthened, and as part of our feedback, we would like to offer/propose the following observations:

- Under Section 1, we would welcome the inclusion of ‘*disability*’ and ‘*sexual orientation*’ as one of the dimensions alongside ‘generation, gender, class, culture, ethnicity and citizenship status’, referred to under point b). This would confirm the point that youth have diverse profiles, backgrounds, experiences, challenges and needs.
- Under Section 2, we would suggest the inclusion of a standalone bullet point on the issue of youth employment in conflict and emergency settings. Therefore, a suggested line could be: *Enhance youth-sensitive economic opportunities for young women and men at risk through decent jobs as means to ensure stability, reintegration, socio-economic growth and sustainable peace.*
- Under Section 3, we would recommend the inclusion of a standalone bullet on the issue of the youth unemployment crisis that is being generated by the Covid-19 pandemic, which has affected disproportionately young people in low-income countries, especially young women. Therefore, a suggested line could be: *Provide emergency and additional income support measures for and strengthen employment opportunities for young people, especially young women, who have lost their jobs during conflicts and emergencies, in particular during the Covid-19 crisis.*

For ease of reference, there’s an ILO report on this matter as well

https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/documents/publication/wcms_753026.pdf).