

Introduction to the Zero Draft of the World Food Forum Youth Action Documents

The Youth Action Assembly aims at providing a dedicated, apolitical, sustained, self-organized, and institutional space for youth in agri-food systems advocacy and action founded on **inclusivity, diversity and respect of all persons**.

YOUTH ACTION COMPENDIUM

GOAL: Analytically summarize youth calls to action to Members and Partners around agri-food systems topics and map them according to the Four Betters of the FAO Strategic Framework which is fundamentally anchored in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Additionally, this document also provides priority actions that youth have committed and can commit themselves to.

YOUTH ASK MEMBERS AND PARTNERS TO...

Consider food as a public good and basic human right and organize agri-food systems around the principles of food security and towards achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



BETTER
PRODUCTION

- Shift towards more nutrient-rich, healthy diets while recognizing socio-cultural and economic contexts.
- Support smallholder, family, indigenous peoples, and youth-farmers to grow healthy and nutritious food and to allow them to realize their agencies in agri-food systems through access to resources.
- Take action to maintain, revitalize and protect terrestrial and marine areas as well as traditional indigenous and local knowledge based on currently available information, data and practices, while looking for new inclusive and sustainable technologies that are accessible to all.



BETTER
NUTRITION

- Reduce and eliminate the consumption, production, and marketing of ultra-processed foods and junk and fast food, while making nutritious, safe and sustainably produced food affordable and accessible to all.
- Ensure inclusive, healthy and sustainable feeding programmes at schools, nurseries and colleges are procured from local producers and provide inclusive and integral food education.
- Redirect subsidies to move towards the true cost of food, internalizing environmental, social, welfare, and health costs.
- Stimulate and promote the creation of inclusive local production and short food chain networks with diverse foods.



BETTER
ENVIRONMENT

- Invest in resilient and nature-positive agri-food systems through the application of forward-looking approaches, such as agroecology, for sustainable agri-food systems, prioritizing soil health, cleanwater, and biodiversity.
- Move towards public policies and investment, that incentivize environmentally and socially friendly practices that restore natural ecosystems in the long term, and by redirecting unsustainable subsidies.
- Collaborate with, support, and scale-up forward-looking initiatives and local/national youth groups in local realities and make them advocates for change and advocates of nature conservation.



BETTER
LIFE

- Leave no one behind as a principle in policy discussions and dialogues; ensure young people, indigenous people, women, and smallholder farmers have a meaningful and equal voice in the decisionmaking processes at local, regional, and national levels.
- Value, understand, and acknowledge indigenous and local food knowledge and recognize and acknowledge indigenous and local communities as experts on resilience and sustainable agri-food systems.
- Demand that agri-food systems be organized around food security considering food as a basic human need and right using a human rights approach, including equity and rights to resources.

YOUTH AND YOUTH GROUPS WILL TAKE ACTIONS TO...



Strengthen and value local and indigenous knowledge and networks to stimulate transparency and partnerships along the food chain.



Advocate locally and nationally for holistic and good quality education and training on agri-food systems and their impact on our planet and health, starting at primary schools.



Support, advocate, and strengthen local and national actions towards nature conservation and restoration with forward-looking initiatives and knowledge.



Engage with broader youth networks and constituencies for collaboration around agri-food systems transformation, cultural representation, and decent employment for youth in this sector at all levels in order to unite ourselves around a Better Life For All!

YOUTH MECHANISM

GOAL: Coordinate and facilitate youth engagement, while fostering partnerships for action, in the context of the World Food Forum (WFF).

ASSEMBLY: Universal constituency structure composed of either youth-led and youth-serving organizations and/or youth branches of existing organizations, as well as individual youth advocates (under the age of 35).

FOCAL POINTS GROUP: Body that guides the strategic direction of the WFF Youth Mechanism as mandated by the Assembly.

CO-CHAIRS OF THE FOCAL POINTS GROUP: Facilitate the work of Focal Points Group.

OPEN-ENDED PARTNERS WORKING GROUP: Multiplier group and an open network for joint action.

THE YOUTH ACTION COMPENDIUM LAYS THE FOUNDATION FOR THE MECHANISM TO GATHER ACTIONABLE SOLUTIONS ON THE FOUR BETTERS AND THUS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SDGs. IT IS ALSO SHAPED BY THE PRIORITIES WITHIN THE MECHANISM.

ACTION PLAN

FIVE GOALS

- Reach equal representation from all regions in the world.
- Make membership and partnership easily accessible to all youth.
- Ensure that youth priorities will be WFF priorities.
- Increase youth representation, partnership and impact in agri-food systems processes, including in CFS Conferences of the Parties (COPs).
- Expand, support and sustain grassroots initiatives and partnership.

VISION

- WFF is a key leader in achieving equitable food distribution and climate action.
- WFF empowers youths around the world; from the grassroots to the policy levels.
- WFF works as an independent youth-organized platform in agri-food systems.
- WFF serves as an open space for all agri-food systems stakeholders to engage, including women, smallholder farmers, indigenous groups and marginalized communities.
- WFF acts as an educational platform that enables knowledge-sharing.