



## YOUNG FARMERS' ROUNDTABLE 2023

- Organized in the framework of the **UN Decade of Family Farming (2019-2028)** -  
**SUPPORTING YOUTH AND THE GENERATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY OF FAMILY FARMING**

**When: 20 October 2023, 8.30-10.00**

**Where: FAO Ethiopia Room or register [here](#) to follow us online**

**Simultaneous interpretation will be available in English, French and Spanish**

One of the main preconditions for keeping agrifood systems viable and sustainable is the generational renewal of family farming: young people are agents of change in all dimensions of food systems, while the aging of farmers should be considered as one of the main global trends shaping agriculture in the 21st century. An inadequate generational rotation puts sustainable development at risk as it risks the existence of family farming.

Urgent actions are therefore needed to support young people's engagement in family farming: both a goal to be realized and a means for the transformation of agrifood systems. For this purpose, both inter- and intra-generational exchange of information, knowledge and practices are vital to accelerate activities which can increase youth's economic stability, autonomy and help them to take informed decisions about their future.

When defining strategies and policies on youth it is crucial to recognize young people as an heterogeneous group with different cultural backgrounds and socioeconomic opportunities, whose relationship to food systems is uniquely shaped by specific intersections with multiple factors including gender, class, wealth, health, location, ethnicity, religious affiliation, migrant status/non migrant, rural/urban location. In addition, it is important to understand youth as defined by their position in the intergenerational relationship and in their life cycle.

The UN Decade of Family Farming 2019-2028 (UNDF) devotes special attention to the generational renewal of family farming and promotes the generational sustainability of agri-food systems. Indeed, the UNDF Global Action Plan, guiding the implementation of the UNDF, dedicated the Pillar 2 to support youth and ensure the generational sustainability of family farming approaching the issues related to young farmers from a relational perspective: by emphasizing generational sustainability, it promotes the importance of intergenerational knowledge exchange and the balance between generations. The UNDF therefore offers an opportunity to promote young farmers and rural youth both through dedicated public policies and the establishment of National Action Plans for Family Farming.

### **Plan de Acción Global del DNUAF Pilar 2 (Transversal)**

#### **SUPPORT YOUTH AND ENSURE THE GENERATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY OF FAMILY FARMING**

Ensure the generational sustainability of family farming through enabling youth accessing land, other natural resources, information, education, infrastructure and financial services, markets and policymaking processes related to farming. Benefiting from the intergenerational transfer of tangible and non-tangible farming assets, stimulate young farmers to interconnect traditional, local knowledge with innovative ideas to become agent of inclusive rural development.

The **UNDF Young Farmers' Roundtable 2023** will be co-organized by FAO and young members of family farmers' organizations to continue inter- and intra-generational exchange of experiences and the sharing of

policy and practical solutions, which successfully address generational renewal in family farming. The event will be hosted by the World Food Forum.

### Objectives of the Young Farmers' Roundtable

1. Promote inter- and intra-generational exchange of knowledge and experiences between family farmers' organizations about generational sustainability in family farming;
2. Showcase existing policy solutions and success stories for the support of generational sustainability in family farming, and identify needs and challenges of policy and legislative process to simultaneously supporting the needs of young and elderly farmers;
3. Identify priority areas of future actions for the support and mobilization of young farmers and their organizations, also to enhance the implementation of the UNDF.

### Agenda (draft)

<b>20 October 2023</b>	
<b>8.30-10.00</b>	
<b>8.30-8.40</b>	<b>Opening</b> – Moderator: <b>Anna Korzenszky</b> , Partnership Officer (Family Farming), FAO
<b>8.40-9.20</b>	<p><b>Roundtable discussion about generational turnover in family farming:</b> <b>Intra and intergenerational dialogue about</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>personal, farming-related aspects</b> <b>Reem Salah Faleh Al-Zorqan – WAMIP, Jordan</b> <b>Josiane Irakamara – WFO, Rwanda</b></li> <li>2. <b>policy environment for generational turnover</b> <b>Justine Lynn Limocon – AFA, Philippines</b> <b>Samuel Ikua – Habitat International Coalition, Kenya</b></li> <li>3. <b>supporting instruments for generational turnover</b> <b>Silvia Caprara – WFO, Italy</b> <b>Lucía Cordero – Alianza, Uruguay</b></li> </ol> <p><b>Reflection by</b> <b>Esther Penunia – AFA</b></p>
<b>9.20-9.50</b>	<p><b>Interactive discussion</b></p> <p>What are your experiences? What do you see as the urgent actions needed to support generational turnover in family farming? What types of innovations are enhanced by generational turnover? How do young farmers as agents of change contribute to food systems transformation?</p>
<b>9.50-10.00</b>	<b>Closing, identification of possible next steps</b> – <b>Guilherme Brady</b> , Head of Unit, Family Farming Engagement and Parliamentarian Networks Unit, FAO