



WORLD FOOD FORUM GLOBAL YOUTH ACTION INITIATIVE

INVESTING IN YOUTH IS INVESTING IN DURABLE SOLUTIONS

Empowering youth for a better food future

© FAO

SDGs

This initiative advances all SDGs, in particular:



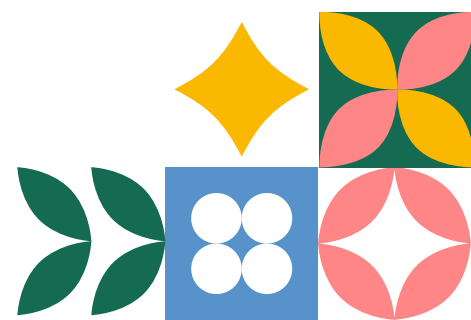
Partnerships

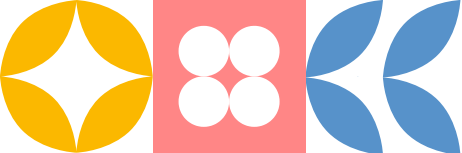
Bringing together all relevant youth stakeholders, including public and private institutions; policymakers; national youth delegates; young farmers, fishers and pastoralists; Indigenous youth; researchers; scientists and innovators; investors; civil society organizations; producers; consumers; and United Nations entities to engage and empower youth for a better food future.

The challenges of our time - climate change, pandemics and conflicts are putting immense pressure on our agrifood systems, affecting food availability, accessibility and sustainability. These issues are deeply connected to poverty, nutrition, employment and global stability, making it clear that urgent, decisive action is needed to achieve the 2030 Agenda and ensure no one is left behind.

Yet, the very generation that will inherit these challenges – youth – continues to be overlooked in shaping the policies and solutions that will define the future of food and agriculture. To create inclusive and sustainable agrifood systems, young people must not only be heard but actively engaged as leaders and changemakers.

A platform that amplifies youth voices, ensures their representation in key decision-making spaces and equips them with the tools to lead is essential. Meaningful youth engagement is one of the most powerful drivers of a better, more sustainable food future.





THE ACTION

The World Food Forum (WFF), launched in 2021 and hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), is an open and inclusive global platform that drives action to transform agrifood systems. Through youth action, science and innovation, and investment, the WFF fosters strategic partnerships and cross-sector collaborations to catalyze transformative change in agrifood systems at the local, regional and global levels, working towards a sustainable, resilient and hunger-free world, leaving no one behind.

Within this framework, the WFF's Global Youth Action Initiative (Youth Initiative) was established to harness the passion and power of youth to transform our agrifood systems. It sparks youth engagement in food governance, fosters innovation and supports youth-led solutions for a sustainable future.

The WFF Youth Initiative is implemented through a set of thematic programmes, that work together to create awareness, foster engagement and inspire youth-led transformative action. From amplifying youth voices in policy discussions and nurturing innovative solutions, to advancing education, empowering local initiatives and leveraging cultural engagement, the Youth Initiative equips young leaders to shape a more sustainable and equitable food future in their communities and countries.

YOUTH ASSEMBLY

Serving as the premier platform for the structured and systematic engagement of youth in agrifood systems policy and governance spaces, developing recommendations and solutions to inform intergovernmental processes and drive programmatic actions.

YOUTH INNOVATION LAB

Empowering young innovators by offering visibility, capacity development and funding opportunities to develop, elevate and scale high impact solutions that address agrifood systems challenges.

YOUTH EDUCATION

Providing learning, career opportunities and resources to enable young people to become agents of change for sustainable agrifood systems.

YOUTH CULTURE

Inspiring and empowering youth through film, art, music and gastronomy, enabling them to be catalysts for behavioural change in support of more sustainable agrifood systems.

YOUTH ADVOCACY

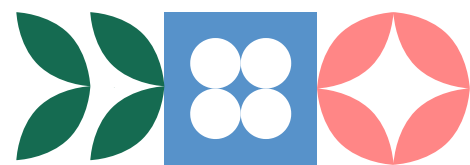
Raising awareness of the key challenges facing our agrifood systems to reach a diverse and inclusive global audience of young people.

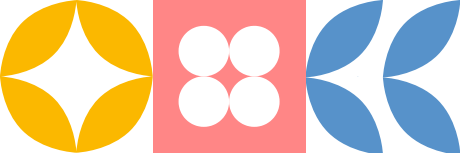
LOCAL YOUTH ACTION

Mobilizing local youth-driven initiatives via national youth platforms at the country level, catalyzing sustainable transformation in agrifood systems across local, regional and global contexts.

WORLD FOOD FORUM FLAGSHIP EVENT

The Youth Initiative culminates at the annual WFF, where stakeholders worldwide come together in an intergenerational and cross-sectoral event to share ideas, forge partnerships and accelerate progress towards a better food future.





THE IMPACT

Since its inception in 2021, the WFF's Youth Initiative has been committed to delivering measurable results through the engagement and empowerment of youth in agrifood systems transformation worldwide:

- **Tens of thousands of youths** engaged globally through workshops, campaigns and training programmes.
- **350+ youth-led projects and solutions** supported with funding, capacity development, mentorship and visibility.
- **20+ National Youth Chapters** established, driving local initiatives and fostering collaboration across the globe.
- **Hundreds of Youth Assembly consultations** held, ensuring a unified youth voice is represented in global intergovernmental fora, including the Conferences of the Parties, the ECOSOC Youth Forum and High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), the FAO Committees on Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture, and more.
- **2 Youth Food Labs** launched to incubate youth-led innovation projects.
- Creation of **Sustainable Gastronomy Week** to address and promote sustainable production and consumption in agrifood systems around the world.
- **Hundreds of learning events** delivered annually, focusing on innovation, education and action.
- Contributions to the goal of **Zero Hunger (SDG 2)** and other global objectives through targeted programmes focused on supporting youth in policy, education, innovation, culture and local action.

Together we aim to create a global community dedicated to building a better food future.

BE PART OF THE YOUTH-LED SOLUTION – JOIN US!

Investing in youth will unlock their creativity and energy, driving bold, innovative solutions for sustainable agrifood systems. Together we can empower young leaders to shape policies, amplify their voices in decision-making, and ignite grassroots and regional initiatives that create lasting, transformative change.

CONTACT

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Office of Youth and Women

OYW-Director@fao.org



Website



Discover more



Some rights reserved. This work is made available under the Creative Commons Attribution - 4.0 International licence ([CCBY4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)).