

Workshop Results

Motivation Agriculture

- Problems in agriculture
- Family and traditions
- Practical experience
- Boost rural economies
- Change agriculture into prestige job
- Biology roots
- Eco-friendly agriculture
- Support rural communities and agricultural development



Questions/Group Discussion

1. What are the present realities of youth in agriculture? How has the situation changed in the last ten years, for agriculture and youth's participation in the sector?

- Positive: high developed technologies → large scale farms, youth participation, agriculture as useful source of income, globalization
- Negative: immediate impact, impatience, practical experience x research, rural communities vs subsistence farming, image of farmers, work conditions, bad image of agriculture, older generation (often) does not want to change, land ownership, parents want youth to have a 'better' life, youth is not interested in agriculture
- Depending on development status of the country → less developed: more dependent on production of their own food



- Developed countries: young people not interested/not motivated → do not see advantages, earning gap → prefer academic career, agriculture as side activity, youth is moving to cities
- Developing countries: switching from agriculture to academic status, industrialisation

might add value

2. What are the primary drivers and influencers of this change? What can you do now as the present generation in the sector to make a change for the future generations?

- Globalization, market changes, climate change, sustainability, government, NGOs, consumers, education system (not taught in school although traditional job), regional products, digitalization, alternative small scale-farms (home gardening), encourage young people participation



3. What are the different perceptions between different stakeholder groups?

- Students: lack of practical experience, low connection of research and practice and research, role of NGOs, large companies not sustainable
- Consumers: education access to information
- NGOs: farmers' image
- Researcher: lack of communication between farmer and researcher
- Government: financial support → regulations, access to market
- Companies: multinational companies need to be controlled by professionals → no exploitation

4. What actions/strategies can we take now and what are the near goals for improving positions of young people in agricultural sectors?



- Image of agriculture
- highlight importance of agriculture
- improve education → access, start at an early age
- sharing experiences, knowledge and success stories
- promote agriculture as a good source of income
- role model
- keep people connected to food production → more information for consumers
- more space for small scale farming



5. Could we identify the crucial actions needed for active participation of youth in agriculture?

- Education of youth, but also adults
- Funding, get large stakeholders involved
- Tools → access to knowledge
- Training
- Extension services
- Career opportunities
- Better wages, access to money
- Involvement of institutions, collaborations, partnerships, ...

Conclusion

6. What do you expect from youth focused organizations in helping you to reach your vision and what services provided by them do you see valuable? (Post-Its)

- Videos, interviews, PPT → spread knowledge
- Stakeholders participation (in discussions)
- Networking with scientific organization, be part of scientific events
- Focus on researchers and farmers, not just students
- Interact with organizations, associations → share experiences, support each other
- Organize scientific sessions for young people
- Focus more on youth in rural areas
- Motivate young people to take part in building the future; encourage + empower youth to engage in agriculture
- More promotion → most organizations are not well-known, become more popular
- Free access to information about agriculture
- Give young people chance to improve soft skills and practical skills
- Put pressure on politics
- Create experiences around the world, share ideas, continue with local movement
- Be present → e.g. go to schools, include elementary/high school pupils into projects
- “Young Farmers Club” for teenagers
- “Think globally, act locally”
- Be a bridge between student, researchers, farmers, politician
- Network



Thank you to all participants for taking part in
our workshop!