



Young Professionals' Platform for Agricultural Research for Development

Supporting the YOUTH in CRP1.1 to
achieve impact



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What is YPARD?

- International movement
- YPs under 40
- Active in Agricultural Dev.
- Multi-stakeholders
- Network of regional offices and country representatives



Why YPARD?

Because youth need...

- To **get involved**
- To access Professional **opportunities**
- To be given a **voice**
- **Sustainable ARD** = their future!





Objectives

1. **Exchanging information & Connecting people**
2. **Contributing to strategic ARD policy debates**
3. **Promoting agriculture** among young people
4. **Facilitating access to resources and capacity building opportunities**

Youth specific needs

- Disenfranchisement of Youth in the dryland areas =
- Lack of:
 - political power and decision making
 - access to finance and markets
 - supportive institutions and policies
 - social inequity

Why a Youth focus in the CRP?

- Policies, institutions and technology's access for **Youth** empowerment
- **Sustainability** through social equity (Payne) and work with leaders of today and tomorrow
- **Research** -> best practices for sustainable livelihoods
- Address the causes of youth **migration** and **unemployment** – retain youth in rural areas and get them to **contribute to** the well-being of their **community**

Youth empowerment in Dryland systems

Strengthening their...

- “ability to learn and make **decisions** based on adequately **contextualized** knowledge”
- **leadership** skills to overcome the **complexity of dryland systems** in its whole

How to empower the youth?

- Conducting Youth targeted **research** (age-disaggregated data)
- Providing **Capacity building** opportunities
- **Involving youth in Policy debates** and decisions
- **Mentoring** – Policy level and beyond
- Making sure to address **young women** issues through the gender-focused activities planned
- Be **context-specific** and valorise **collaborative action**

Youth component in the SRTs

- SRT 1 – Youth as explicit stakeholder in the *innovation platform*, notably as a **voice of the youth on policy level**
- SRT2 – Addressing **youths' specific vulnerabilities and risks** – finance, land, capacity building opportunities
- SRT3 – Capacity building & employment – **entrepreneurship, innovation** and productivity for *sustainable intensification*
- SRT4 – Youth to enhance *cross-regional information sharing* via ICT4D

Key points for Youth empowerment

- **Age disaggregated data** (research)
- **Mentoring** senior/junior partnerships
- Assessing the **capacity needs** of YPs **locally**
- Involving YPARD/**youth** representatives in country **strategic teams**
- Engaging **youth as an explicit stakeholder** representing different groups of stakeholders





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Thank You!



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