



# Minutes TWG RYE Meeting

## Participants

### Group Members

- **Ibrahim Ceesay**, *AAPI*
- **Theresa Herbold**, *BMZ*
- **Yessie Meyer**, *Enabel*
- **Anna Befus**, *FAO*
- **Victor Mugo**, *FAO*
- **Peter Wobst**, *FAO*
- **Frank Bertelmann**, *GIZ*
- **Sven Braulik**, *GIZ*
- **Mollie Brennan**, *IFAD*
- **Elisenda Estruch-Puertas**, *ILO (Co-Chair)*

- **Ji-Yeun Rim**, *OECD/DEV (Co-Chair)*
- **Tim Diphooorn**, *OneAcre Fund*
- **Cyriaque Hakizimana**, *PLAAS*
- **Genna Tesdall**, *YPARD*

### GDPRD Secretariat

- **Maurizio Navarra**
- **Michelle Tang**
- **Alessandro Cordova**
- **Monique Amar**

## Agenda

| ISSUE | ITEM (DAY ONE)                               | DETAILS           |
|-------|--|-------------------|
| 1.    | Welcome and Introduction                     | Ji-Yeun (OECD)    |
| 2.    | Toolbox for Rural Youth Employment Promotion | GIZ               |
| 3.    | Updates from the Secretariat                 | GDPRD Secretariat |
| 4.    | Tour de Table                                | All               |
| 5.    | Wrap-up and closing                          | Ji-Yeun (OECD)    |

# Key Highlights/Issues

## 1. Welcome and Introduction

- Tim Diphorn (OneAcre Fund) joined the call for the first time.

## 2. Toolbox for Rural Youth Employment Promotion

### PURPOSE OF SECTION:

For the German Development Cooperation (GIZ) to present the recently released [Toolbox for Rural Youth Employment Promotion](#).

### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Targeting practitioners and decision makers, the interactive toolbox presents a compilation of existing and proven tools for rural youth employment promotion and shows concrete project examples how these tools can be implemented in practice. This is the first toolbox that combines a variety of scattered resources, consolidating the proven methods into one document.
- While the toolbox is structured based on GIZ's existing integrated approach to employment promotion, it has been adapted to rural areas and youth. The toolbox is aimed at addressing employment constraints in a holistic way, combining the three main pillars of demand for labour (job creation), supply of labour (improving employability) and matching (of demand and supply) with tools to create favourable framework conditions and strengthening systemic foundations by reinforcing existing ecosystems and organizations. There are many examples of how particular tools have been used in different country contexts.
- The toolbox is interactive and user-friendly, making it easy to find relevant topics or tools. Members are encouraged to watch the [introductory video](#) to better understand how to use it.

### Q&A:

- After reviewing all of this information for the toolbox, are there particular areas within the demand, supply, and matching of labour that GIZ will now start prioritizing in future projects?
  - GIZ's projects are generally already designed with these three pillars in mind. However, the tool works very well with an integrated portfolio and/or in collaboration with other partners, since different tools are more relevant for particular actors or targets.
- Is the toolbox able to show whether certain elements are not enough on their own, and nudge the user toward needed complementary components?
  - The “360-degree approach” takes various elements of labour systems into account, but this does not necessarily mean that interventions must target all elements at one time.
- Will the toolbox be updated as a living document?
  - Ideally yes, but this cannot be guaranteed due to possible changes in project funding.

## 3. Updates from the Secretariat

### PURPOSE OF SECTION:

*The GDPRD Secretariat provided updates on ongoing workstreams and upcoming events.*

### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Federica de Gaetano (AICS) is the new Platform Co-Chair, alongside Bruce Campbell (SDC).
- The GDPRD's Annual General Assembly (AGA) will take place in Rome on 28-29 November in a hybrid format. This year's AGA will focus on financing rural development and food systems, bringing together the two workstreams on donor coordination and sustainable financing.
  - The TWG RYE is invited to hold an AGA session, as per usual.
- The Platform has been active in the [donor coordination](#) and [sustainable and innovative finance](#) workstreams:
  - In March 2024, the Platform held its first **Global Coordination Gathering** on the Italian G7 Presidency, to better inform Board Members on the G7 process and other agencies' positions and stances and to promote more aligned engagement and coordination.
  - The Platform's 2023 enquiry on "[Unleashing the catalytic power of donor financing to achieve SDG2](#)", included a recommendation for the establishment of a multi-donor working group on sustainable/blended finance. In April 2024, the **Multi-donor Thematic Working Group on Sustainable/Blended Finance for Food Systems** met for the first time. The group has nominated two Co-Chairs, USAID and IFAD, and is drafting its Work Plan. It will meet for the second time during the beginning of July.
  - The Platform will host a series of roundtables leading up to the AGA, including a webinar on "Decoding the Fundamentals of Development Finance", on June 26. Everyone is welcome to attend this webinar.
- The TWG RYE Co-Chairs will be invited to present the recent work, current priorities, and upcoming events of the TWG at the next GDPRD Board Meeting on 19 June.
- TWG RYE members are encouraged to share recent events and publications with Michelle Tang/the Secretariat, to be included in the [TWG RYE Knowledge Hub](#).

### **Q&A:**

- How can the TWG RYE interact with this new TWG on sustainable finance? Perhaps there are synergies and collaborations to be explored.
  - The new TWG was just established, so they are still creating a work plan and discussing their priorities. However, synergies between the two TWG's are definitely possible, and can be explored in future meetings.

## **4. Tour de Table**

### **PURPOSE OF SECTION:**

*Members gave short updates on their current work.*

### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- The [Global Conference of Decent Jobs for Youth](#) took place in online and in Kigali, Rwanda, on 22-23 May 2024, and focused on green and digital jobs for youth. Some takeaways from the various sessions at the conference include: the need for more evidence-gathering partnerships between organizations, that there is a perhaps too much focus on self-entrepreneurship, and that agricultural jobs are often already "green".
- Enabel recently had an external evaluation on the status of its decent work programs, which found that casual labour is often looked over. A new program in West Africa will therefore pilot having part of the budget and activity dedicated to a practical training for its casual

labour force.

- FAO just signed a renewed memorandum with ILO, and joined ILO's [Global Coalition for Social Justice](#), which presents an opportunity for more collaboration. The coalition already has broad membership but next steps and concrete actions are being discussed.
- The African Union has requested inputs for the post-Malabo process. The TWG-RYE could work together on a joint statement on how to better integrate youth employment into the process. While the request for inputs was not public, some TWG-RYE members received it and the Co-Chairs will work on a common position in line with the submission deadline of 21 June. Since progress on the Malabo declaration has been slow, there is now an attempt to launch Consortium for African Youth. The Consortium will bring together youth, climate-smart agriculture, and climate change resilience networks in Africa.
- The TWG-RYE might consider discussing RYE in post-conflict countries, with climate-smart agriculture as a path for youth in conflict-affected countries.
- The New Planet Alliance will be launched as a network to advocate for increasing focus and advancing progress on the SDGs in Africa, with particular attention to migration.
- YPARD is planning a program for youth engagement with the UNFSS Coordination Hub, and is continuing work on a Gender and Youth Strategy for the International Research Consortium (IRC) between the AU-EU on FSNNA. YPARD also has a new website, and will soon launch a call for new YPARD Country Representatives.
- On 13 May, a webinar co-organized by OECD and BMZ on "[Combatting hunger and poverty through rural youth employment](#)" presented the [assessment of the G20 Initiative for Rural Youth Employment](#).
- On 28 March, the TWG RYE held a webinar on "[Agro-food Jobs for Youth in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia](#)", with speakers from OECD, ILO and AICS.

## Summary of action points

| ITEM | ACTION   | TIMELINE | RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S) |
|------|--|----------|-----------------------|
| 1.   | Review guidelines and establish a small core group for drafting a common TWG-RYE statement for the post-Malabo process | ASAP     | TWG-RYE Co-Chairs     |
| 2.   | Volunteer to help draft the common TWG-RYE statement for the post-Malabo process.                                      | ASAP     | All                   |
| 3.   | Share upcoming events or recent publications with the Secretariat to be featured in the Knowledge Hub.                 | N/A      | All                   |