

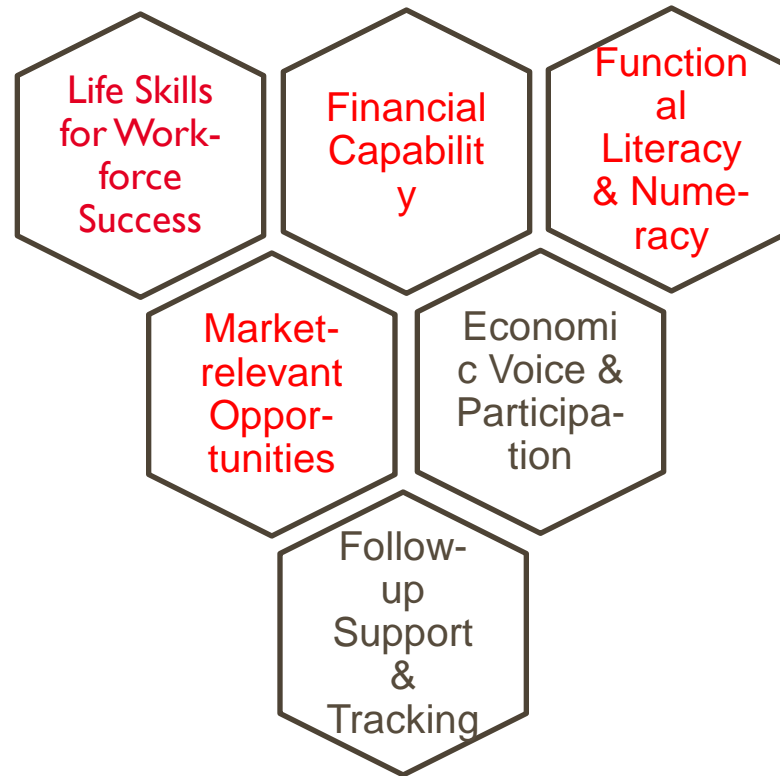
Youth in Agriculture: what works?

Malini Tolat, Save the Children

Why are youth leaving Agriculture?

- Structural issues- land size reducing every generation, lower soil fertility or other issues related to climate change, lack of access to finance, inputs, markets, etc.
- Attitude and preferences- farming not seen as profitable or a “professional” activity for educated youth; too traditional, too labor intensive.
- Capacity & Knowledge barriers- lack of experience and confidence, skills and information needed to make good decisions.

Emerging framework for youth livelihoods programming



What Works?

Foundational skills

- Financial Literacy- budgeting, saving
- Life skills- goal setting, planning, discipline, team-work
- Practical education – agriculture curriculum in rural schools



What Works?

Professionalize the Rural workplace

- Farming as a business- Youth as “Agriprenuers”
- Modernize production practices: new technologies (improved inputs, mechanization)
- Use of ICT- information sharing, collaboration and better data.



What Works?

Alternative Livelihoods

- Wage or enterprise within the supply chain- traders, processors, service providers
- Non farm options: construction, new technologies (cell phone services, solar products etc)
- Where necessary, improve migration prospects: increase remittances



Examples from Save the Children– work in progress (testing our hypothesis)

- Indonesia- Youth in Cacao supply chain
 - Foundational skills for youth
 - Integrating agriculture curriculum into vocational school system
 - Training youth for opportunities within Cacao Supply Chain (nurseries, others TBD)
- Nepal – Youth in Rural areas
 - Financial literacy, life skills entrepreneurship skills
 - Modernizing agriculture & market system strengthening (addressing structural barriers)
 - Alternative Livelihoods (construction, others TBD)
 - Safe/productive migration and productive investment of remittances

Thank You

Malini Tolat
Livelihoods Advisor Asia
Save the Children
mtolat@savechildren.org