

Background and Objectives

Background

Agriculture stands at a crossroads of transformation. With an aging farmer population and the escalating challenge of food security, the need for generational change is not just desirable but imperative. This workshop aims to spotlight the pivotal role cooperatives can play in attracting, nurturing, and retaining the next generation of farmers. By addressing the barriers to entry for young people and showcasing innovative farming techniques such as smart farming, we hope to pave the way for a more sustainable and resilient agricultural sector.

Objectives

1. Highlight the Importance of Generational Change: Understand the necessity and benefits of bringing young blood into the agriculture sector.
2. Identify Entry Barriers for Youth: Discuss the primary obstacles young people face when entering agriculture and how these can be mitigated.
3. Explore Innovative Farming Practices: Introduce new farming methods, including technology-driven solutions like smart farms, that could appeal to the younger generation.
4. Define the Role of Cooperatives: Delve into how cooperatives can support youth in agriculture through education, resources, networking, and financial support.
5. Showcase Success Stories: Present case studies and best practices from cooperatives that have successfully integrated young farmers and fostered a culture of innovation and sustainability.