

Table 9. Other System Rules and Supporting Functions – Considerations and Approaches

Elements	Systems as a Support	Systems as a Barrier	Illustrative Activity Design Options to Build Barriers
Value Chain Norms	Lead firms and other value chain actors can play an important catalytic role in expanding youth economic opportunity.	Influential value chain actors may perceive young men and/or women as unreliable or unskilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate linkages between lead firms and youth entrepreneurs/job-seekers, offering support to youth as needed Engage lead firms and support their role as agents of change
Land Policies, Customs, and Practices	Customs and statutes that support land inheritance and youth's access to land that makes agriculture production viable.	Lack of ability for youth (especially females) to access land creates barriers for youth engagement in production and value chain growth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess how land policies impact young men and women's participation in agriculture Strengthen youth organizations and participation in land policy making process and local land dispute resolution Support education and awareness raising activities for youth to know their land rights Strengthen youth access to legal services to recognize and defend their land rights
Finance Policies and Practices	Accessible, affordable finance tailored to agriculture cycles facilitates youth investment in productive and profitable activities. Access to finance can help youth overcome many constraints to agricultural productivity, such as ability to buy inputs and technologies, hire labor or mechanization services, etc.	Lack of access to finance (either cost or accessibility) can be a critical barrier limiting young people's, and particularly young women's, involvement in activities requiring any up-front investment or collateral (e.g., land), however small.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finance market studies, technical assistance, guarantees, influence policy reform and other activities that increase financial sector's ability to serve youth Engage service providers embedded in the value chain as possible sources of finance Establish youth savings/lending groups Focus engagement in low capital-intensive value chain activities
Legal Structure	A legal system that empowers young men and women to sign contracts, access a full range of legal services, and operate enterprises allows them to engage within the economy.	Age of Majority policies (age when youth can enter into contracts) barring youth from accessing services (opening up savings accounts, taking loans, signing contracts, etc) and identification regimes (prevalence/requirements to get a legal identification card) that inhibit youth from accessing finance, registering mobile phones, acquiring certificates (e.g. driver's license) and accessing land; burdensome requirements for formalizing enterprises.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible reform of Age of Majority policies Possible reform of identification policies and requirements Possible reform of legal micro enterprise requirements to encourage economic engagement



Elements	Systems as a Support	Systems as a Barrier	Illustrative Activity Design Options to Build Barriers
Infrastructure	Functional infrastructure enables market access, opening the door to downstream activities from which young people in particular benefit.	Infrastructure limiting commercial access and profitability of food systems activities degrades value chain opportunities for youth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support diversified livelihoods activities • Support policies encouraging infrastructure investment • Support local market upgrades that are safe and both youth and women-friendly
Institutions: Agriculture Associations	Youth-inclusive agriculture associations allow young people to contribute skills, such as finding new markets and creative application of technology, that enhance associations while providing a platform for learning and engagement.	Agriculture association may be non-existent, dysfunctional, or not youth-friendly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support youth-friendly management practices in agriculture associations • Support youth networking with associations • Support initiatives to attract young women
Technology (ICT, Mechanization)	Mechanization can positively influence young people's attitudes toward food systems by reducing physical hardship and increasing diversified employment opportunities. Information and communication technology (ICT) enables young people to seek useful and value-added roles.	Limited mechanization maintains the drudgery of on- and off-farm activities, decreasing youth interest. Limited ICT engagement misses the opportunity to solve challenges and engage youth. Mechanization may result in job loss for youth engaged in the activities being mechanized.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capitalize on youth as early adapters of ICT • Use of low entry barrier ICT (e.g., radio) • Establish points of contact in the community to help share mobile connectivity • Partner with ICT sector to find solutions • Invest in mechanization (on- and off-farm) • Consider changes or shifts in labor dynamics as a result of mechanization. Re-employ youth who have lost employment to mechanization.
Structure & Governance of Food Systems	Food systems with high and rising productivity at the farm level, generally due to the adoption of labor-saving technologies, drives the development of off-farm (higher value-added) opportunities. This growth in food systems creates opportunities and market-led demand for youth engagement.	<p>Stagnant productivity resulting from subsistence farming on small plots of land using basic technologies locks youth and families into poverty and limits the opportunities available to young people.</p> <p>Highly commercialized and/or centralized crops (those with captive or hierarchical governance) may be difficult for youth integration because of the power of a few lead firms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote productivity increases with crops that have market demand through investment and policy reform • Seek viable entry points for youth to engage, upgrade, and/or pursue alternative value chains with less hierarchical governance

