



# Youth and young farmers' workshop

Brussels, 11-12 December 2013

## Groups 12&14

The role of young farmers' organisations in  
agricultural policy and rural area development

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## Main issues and challenges identified

The discussion focused solely on young farmers' organisations and in particular how to set-up such organisations and what the objective should be.

The main issue identified was the absence in some countries, (e.g. Cyprus) of active and well-structured young farmers' organisations.

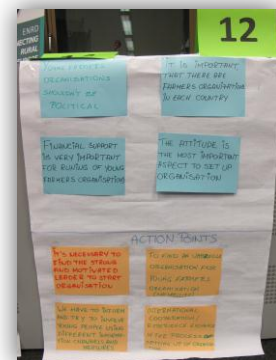
## Main obstacles identified

The main obstacles identified to the setting up and functioning of young farmers' organisations were:

- ✓ Strong political influence can often represent an obstacle to the creation of an organisation and to its capacity to represent all young farmers.
- ✓ Lack of financial resources also represents an important obstacle to the setting up of an organisation and of course to its capacity to work.
- ✓ Lack of human resources is also identified as an obstacle to the effectiveness of an organisation's activity; at least one full-time person should be employed to run the organisation and take care of the contacts with members.

## Lessons learnt

- ✓ The presence of a young farmers' organisation at national level is important in terms of support and representation for young farmers.
- ✓ Adequate financial support is needed to set up and run organisation for young farmers.
- ✓ Adequate human resources are important, in particular a motivated and strong leader is considered key to launching and running such an organisation.



## Possible actions

- ✓ Find the umbrella organisation for young farmers' organisations.
- ✓ It is necessary to inform and involve young people using different measures and communications channels.
- ✓ International cooperation and the sharing of experience is important in setting-up an organisation for young farmers, especially for those countries that do not yet have experience in this field.