



Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development -- www.asianfarmers.org

The needs of women farmers to be more empowered

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Empowering small scale women and men farmers in Asia



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Initiative – Women Advanced Farmers' Federation (Skorea)





The need for collective action

- The problem : decades of neglect, mis- and underinvestment in smallholder agriculture
- The result : growing poverty and hunger in farming communities , esp among women
- Women farmers' response : awareness raising, organizing (geographic and cropline); learning exchanges, claim-making –from local, national, international levels



The roles FOs play

- Political empowerment
 - influencing, shaping policies and programs
 - representation in consultative and decision making bodies
- Economic empowerment
 - access and control over assets and resources : natural , production, marketing, information - to get fairer, higher incomes, more participation in value chains



The need: enabling environment

- Gender sensitization activities
- Policies and programs in FOs- affirmative action, own space
- Policies, programs of government for claim making
- Appropriate, women-friendly technologies
- Capacity building
- Leadership training and reflections
- Learning and sharing
- Networking and solidarity
- Support of men leaders promoting gender equality



Requirements

- Community organizers/ facilitators/animations
- Technical expertise
- Financial resources
- Favorable policy environment



Recommendations

- Support and involve FOs in the planning, designing , and implementation of agri and rural policies and programs through institutionalized processes
- Enact appropriate legislation and regulatory frameworks for FOs to enjoy the rights and freedom to operate independently
- Support capacity building of FOs in a sustained manner
- Proactively involve FOs in agri research and extension .



- Thank you for your attention 😊