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)

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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

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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

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Requirements

• Community organizers/ facilitators/animators
• 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.

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• Thank you for your attention 😊