



“OUR FUTURE IS YOUR YOUTH”

Youth Involvement in Agricultural Societies

Presentation to OAAS
Convention
February 2022



WHO WE ARE



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TODAY'S AGENDA

- Functions of Youth Program Committee
- Get to Know You Activity (Take a Seat ... Make A Friend)
- Background of Youth Activities
- A Walk Through the “Youth Handbook” & Resources to support youth activities with your agricultural society
- Sample Governance Activity
- Maneuver the Minefield
- Social Media Resources
- The Pilot Project
- Feedback and Questions



FUNCTIONS OF THE YOUTH PROGRAM COMMITTEE

From the OAAS Terms of Reference

Provide guidelines to ensure a safe, positive and inclusive environment for youth within the Agricultural Societies and the Agricultural Society activities.

Engage youth and provide leadership opportunities for youth in Agricultural Societies and the Agricultural and Rural Communities.

Create meaningful and engaging programs for youth in Agricultural Societies and the Agricultural and Rural Communities.

Inform the OAAS membership of their responsibilities in providing a safe, positive, and inclusive environment for youth within their Agricultural Society and the Agricultural Society activities.

TAKE A SEAT...MAKE A FRIEND

- Access to questions to go with video



BACKGROUND & STRUCTURE

- - the Youth Committee has been developing a “Handbook for Youth Involvement in Agricultural Societies” to provide to for their use in an effort to assist agricultural societies to engage youth as part of their regular programming.
- Ideally, the program will offer a hands-on support manual with PowerPoints, resources, & social media promotion for getting youth involved in agricultural societies.
- At the local level, all resources can be customized to fit each board’s needs, and added to, depending on the agricultural society’s needs.
- Our hope is to have at least one fair in each District to pilot the handbook and provide us with feedback for future updates.



A WALK THROUGH THE HANDBOOK



OAAS Vision For

Youth Involvement Within Agricultural Societies

Draft Handbook 2022

(For Revision as part of a pilot program in 2022)

- Philosophy of working with youth
- Adaptable to you fit your agricultural society's needs
- Resources & ideas youth leaders can use

WHAT'S IN THE HANDBOOK?

- Part 1 - Recruitment of Youth in Agricultural Societies
 - Part A: Parameters of a Youth Program
 - Part B: Ways to Recruit Youth
- Part 2 - Implementation Options for Youth Programs
 - Model # 1 - Mentoring Program
 - Model # 2 – Youth Board Structure
- Part 3 - OAAS Youth Policies & Procedures
- Part 4 - Agricultural Awareness Resources to Share with Youth
- Part 5 - Governance Resources for Youth Programs and Youth Leaders
- Part 6 - Resources for Youth Programs and Youth Leaders
 - Links to Resources
 - Take A Seat....Make A Friend Reflection Sheets
 - The 9 Best Leadership Games for Skill Development
 - Promoting Positive Mental Health with Youth (students)
 - Mentor and Mentee Activity Templates



GOVERNANCE

- PowerPoints and Resources provided to explain governance and board structures that are geared towards youth so that they can see how the agricultural societies work.
- Can be customized towards any specific board or society.



MANEUVER THE MINDFIELD



Social Media Resources

- Clips that could be used for promotion, or training
- Pamphlets – promotion of training & key messages
- “Tell Your Youth Engagement Story”
- How did you get involved?
- Posts for websites and Facebook pages
- These are being developed and will be available to you as they come to us.





PILOT PROJECT



- Looking for about 12 Agricultural Societies to participate in a pilot project with the Youth Handbook and involving Youth in your activities
- Will involve about five Zoom calls over the course of the next year
- An opportunity to share ideas on the use of the handbook, and/or implementation of youth programs
- Gaining ideas and providing feedback for the next Handbook edition.

QUESTIONS & NEXT STEPS



- ❖ Be sure to leave your contact information if you would like to be part of the pilot
- ❖ Let us know if you have ideas to share or items you feel need to be part of the handbook
- ❖ Questions?