Food Sovereignty and Agroecology

Guiding Principles for the international Agricultural System

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Worldwide situation

- 2.5 billion people working in agriculture worldwide
- Number of chronically undernourished people rose from 777 million in 2015 to 815 million in 2016
- 98% of starving people live in developing countries
- 75% of starving people live in rural areas
- 80% of all food in developing countries is produced in small-scale farms
Challenges for Rural Areas

- Hunger and malnutrition
- Environment
- Climate change
- Access to markets
- Jobs
- Overageing of population and depopulation
- Infrastructure
- Negative impacts of industrial agriculture
Characteristics of industrial agricultural production

- High degree of specialisation and monocultures
- High level of technical input and input of chemical-synthetic resources
- High level of capital input
- Factory Farming and Mass production
Characteristics of agroecology

- High biodiversity - Mixed cultivation
- Natural Plant protection
- Rooted in traditional and local knowledge
- Preservation of the ecosystem Soil
- Food Sovereignty
Agroecological methods of biological pest control:
*Push and Pull*
**What is Agroecology?**

- Agroecology is the "...holistic research on the ecology of the entire food system, including its ecological, economic and social dimensions" (Dalgaard et al (2003))

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agroecology as research</th>
<th>Agroecology as movement</th>
<th>Agroecology as practice</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Explores interactions between the components of the agricultural system</td>
<td>Strengthening of food sovereignty</td>
<td>Resources and energy are being used in a circular system per farm</td>
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<td>Holistic research on the factors involved in the process of food producing</td>
<td>Maintaining cultural identities</td>
<td>Renunciation to synthetic means and utilisation of adopted techniques</td>
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<td>Empowerment of farmers</td>
<td>Maintaining biodiversity</td>
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Paths to sustainability

Source: IAASTD Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) Summary for Decision Makers
Political Demands - Transformation of the CAP

- Spending on CAP in Germany 2014 - 2020

First Pillar
- Area Payment
- Greening Payment
- First Hectare Payment
- Young Farmers Payment
- Market Intervention
- Crisis reserve
- Stocking cost

ca. 4.85 bn. €

Second Pillar
- Rural Development
  - Organic agriculture
  - Nature conservation
  - Animal welfare
  - Water conservation
  - Manual Processing
  - Regional marketing
  - Investment support

ca. 1.35 bn. €
Political Demands - General

- Align all funding programs on agroecology
- Funding for agroecological, participatory research
- Creating a common agroecological knowledge base through participatory cooperation with local peasants
- Local and cultural experiences need to be integrated into the agroecological process
- Sensitisation of the population for agroecological products
- Creating reliable markets for agroecological products
- Policy coherence
Thank you for your attention!

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