

# **FOOD, DIVERSITY, LIFE:** **rooting our Daily Bread in a healthy environment**

ANNUAL JUSTICE AND PEACE CONFERENCE 2017

"A Sabbath for the Earth and the Poor: The Challenge of Pope Francis"

Swanwick, Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2017

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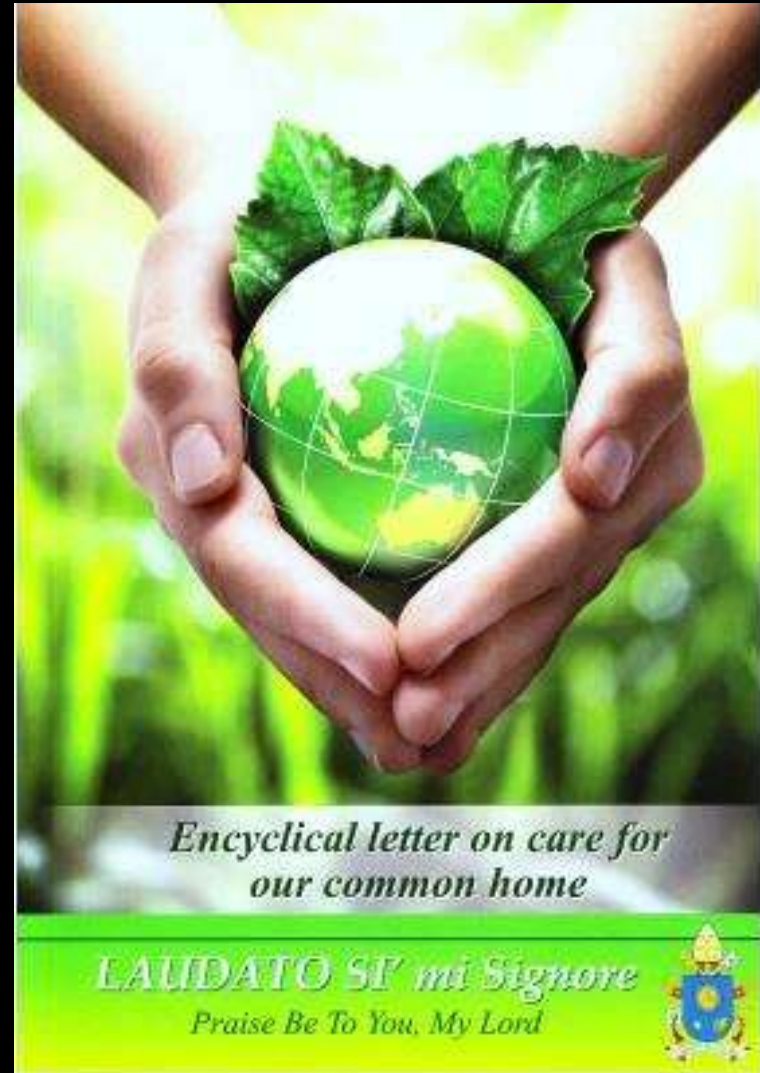
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# Laudato Si & Food Provision

“...there is a great variety of **small-scale food production systems** which feed the greater part of the world’s **peoples**, using a modest amount of land and producing less waste, be it in small agricultural parcels, in orchards and gardens, hunting and wild harvesting or local fishing.”

**Laudato Si, para 129**



# Small-scale Food Providers nourish 70% world's peoples

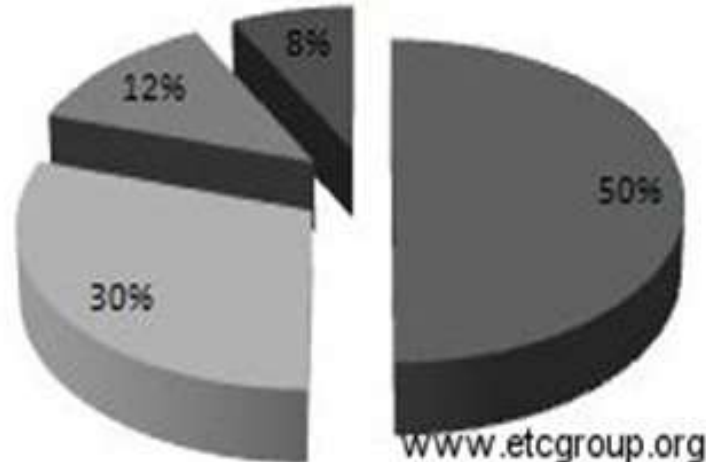
1.5 billion peasants –  
women and men:

- 380 million on farms;
- 800 million cultivating urban gardens;
- 410 million gathering the hidden harvest of our forests and savannahs;
- 190 million pastoralists / herders;
- 100 million + artisanal fishers.



## Peasants Feed the World

■ Peasant Agriculture	50%
■ Hunting/Gathering	12%
■ Urban	8%
■ Industrial Agriculture	30%





**80% of African food  
produced by women**





# 70% Food is Local

## 1. Les exploitations familiales contribuent significativement à l'alimentation des sénégalais

Les statistiques officielles sur certaines filières le confirment

(Source: ANSD, 2008: les déterminants de l'inflation au Sénégal)

**30,7%**

Produits importés de  
grande consommation

Céréales,  
lait en poudre,  
Beurres,  
produits  
manufacturés



**69,3%**

Produits locaux

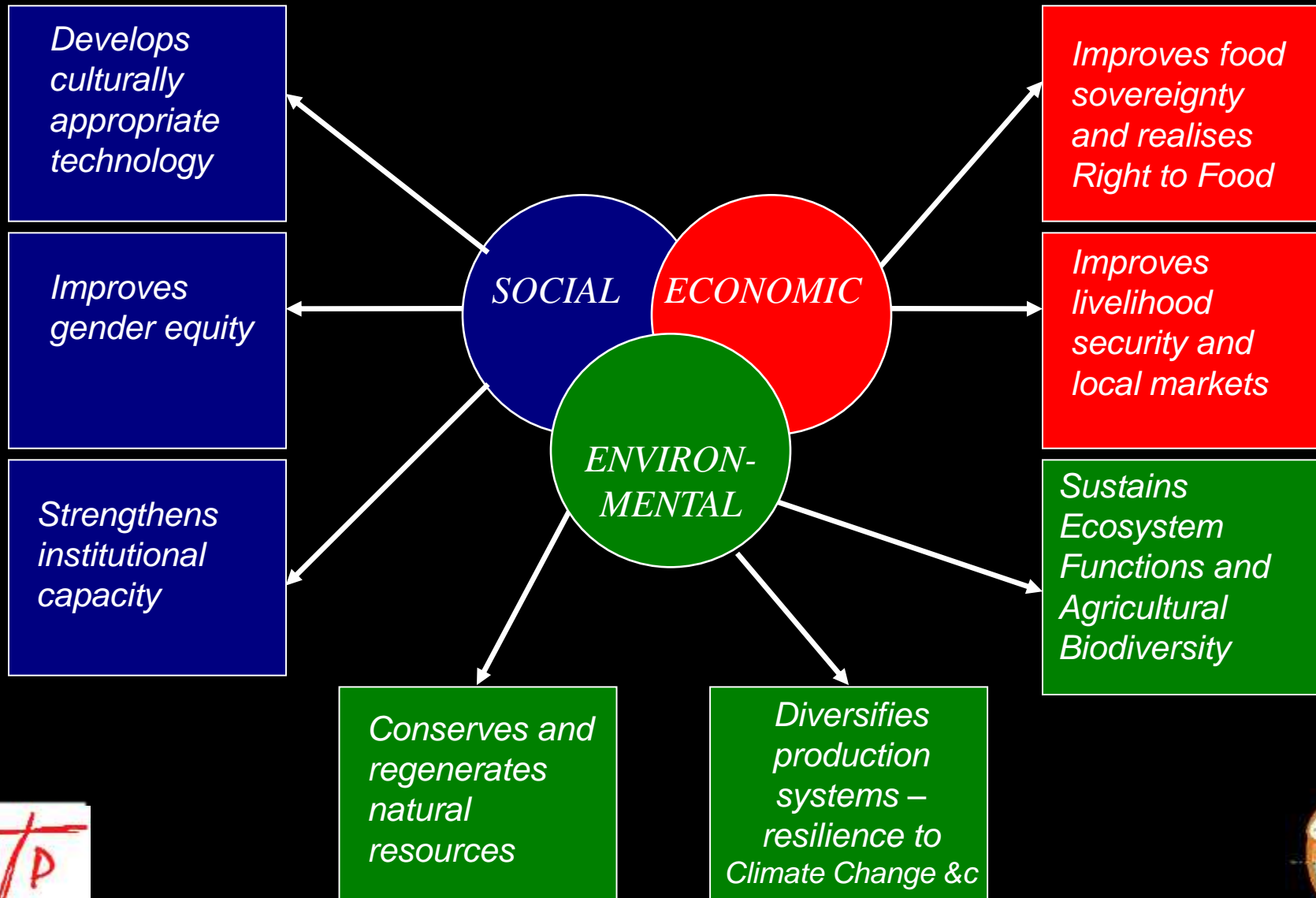
Céréales  
Huiles de palme  
et d'arachide  
Poisson  
Légumes  
Viandes



# Peoples Innovation: 5,000+ varieties Potatoes



# Multiple Benefits of Agricultural Biodiversity in Resilient, Ecological Food Provision





# Problematic 'Food Chains' for the 30%

- Monocult
- Resource grabs
- Corporate control
- Feed and agrofuels
- Food waste
- Climate change



See: “**Food, diversity, life:** sustaining people and the planet”  
Patrick Mulvany. Chapter in a forthcoming book “Just Food?  
Food and Farming for a Sustainable Future”, Christians Aware





# Industrial Commodity Chains use few plant species and few varieties

>7,000 species, important for food security and nutrition, are almost 'invisible'



105 species provide 98% industrial food

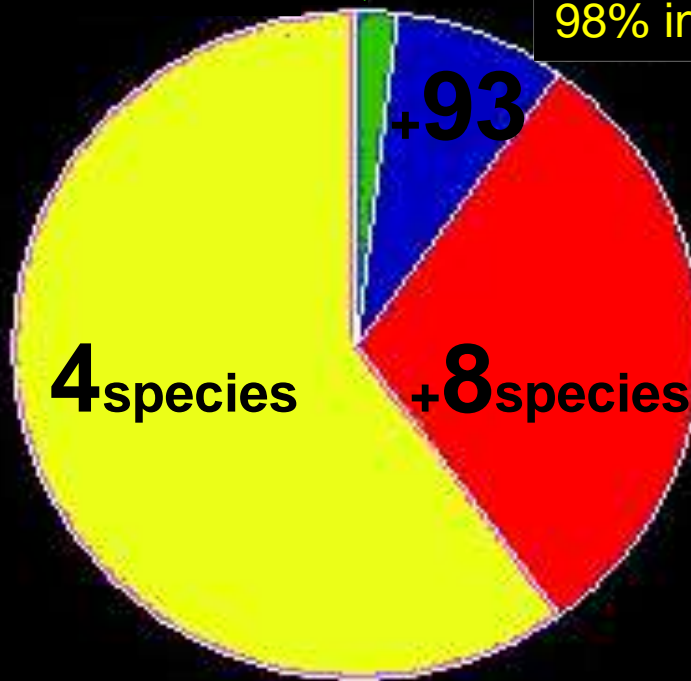
+93

+8 species

4 species

4 species  
Maize, Rice  
Wheat and Potatoes  
provide  
60% industrial food

12 species provide 90% industrial food



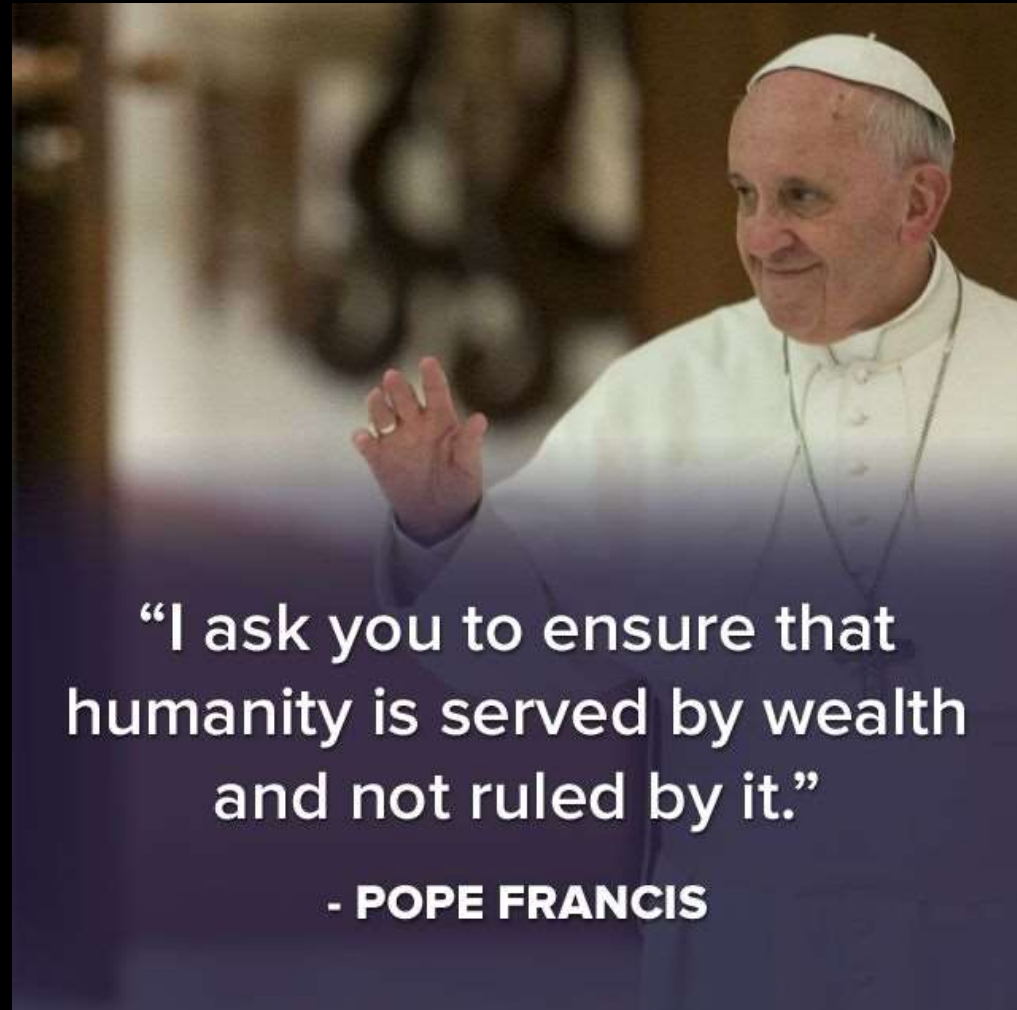
*Significant Under-reporting of the Diversity in Local Food Webs*



# Laudato Si & Technology

“... a technology severed from ethics will not easily be able to limit its own power.”

*Laudato Si, para 136*



“I ask you to ensure that humanity is served by wealth and not ruled by it.”

- POPE FRANCIS

*World Economic Forum,  
Davos, 2014*



# Laudato Si: GM Crops

[Para 134] ...there remain a number of significant difficulties which should not be underestimated. In many places, following the introduction of these [GM] crops, productive land is concentrated in the hands of a few owners due to “the progressive disappearance of small producers, who, as a consequence of the loss of the exploited lands, are obliged to withdraw from direct production”. The most vulnerable of these become temporary labourers, and many rural workers end up moving to poverty-stricken urban areas. The expansion of these crops has the effect of destroying the complex network of ecosystems, diminishing the diversity of production and affecting regional economies, now and in the future. In various countries, we see an expansion of oligopolies for the production of cereals and other products needed for their cultivation. This dependency would be aggravated were the production of infertile [Terminator] seeds to be considered; the effect would be to force farmers to purchase them from larger producers.





# Three Agribusinesses Monopolise Industrial Seeds

[www.etcgroup.org/content/just-3-companies-control-more-half-53-global-commercial-market-seed](http://www.etcgroup.org/content/just-3-companies-control-more-half-53-global-commercial-market-seed)

## Increasingly GM seeds Compliant with their Agrochemicals

### World's Top 10 Seed Companies

Source: ETC Group  
(reporting currencies converted to US\$ using historical exchange rates)

Company	Seed Sales 2009 (US\$ million)	Market Share
Top 3 = 54%		
1. Monsanto (USA)	7,297	27%
2. DuPont (Pioneer) (USA)	4,641	17%
3. Syngenta (Switzerland)	2,564	9%
4. Groupe Limagrain (France)	1,252	5%
5. Land O' Lakes/Winfield Solutions (USA)	1,100	4%
6. KWS AG (Germany)	997	4%
7. Bayer CropScience (Germany)	700	3%
8. Dow AgroSciences (USA)	635	2%
9. Sakata (Japan)	491	2%
10. DLF-Trifolium A/S (Denmark)	385	1%
<b>Total Top 10</b>	<b>20,062</b>	<b>64%</b>

**Monsanto  
DuPont  
Syngenta**

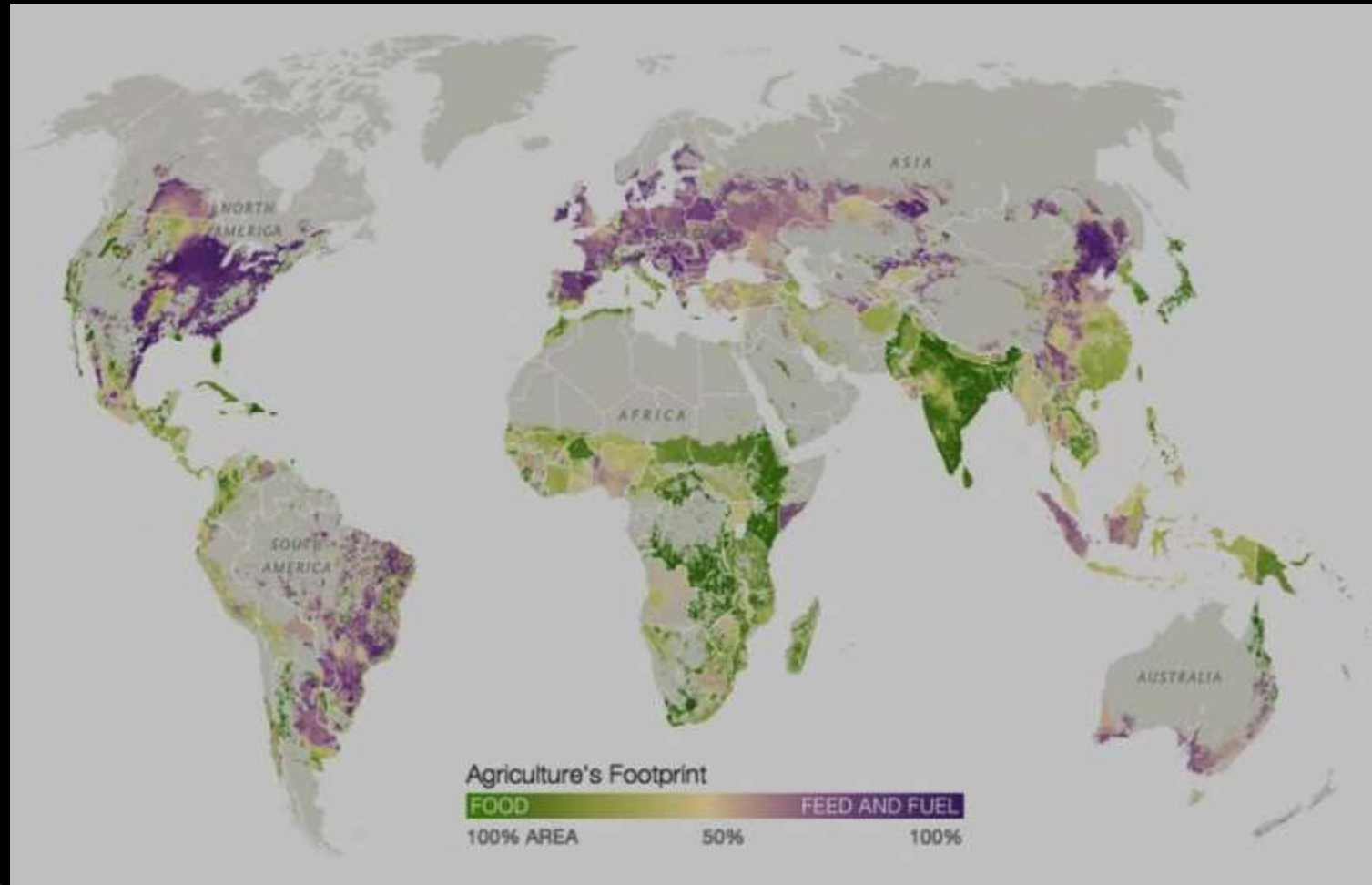
### World's Top 10 Agrochemical Companies



Sources: ETC Group  
(reporting currencies converted to US\$ using historical exchange rates)

Rank / Company	Agrochemical Sales, 2009 (US\$ million)	Market Share
(Headquarters)		
1. Syngenta (Switzerland)	8,491	19%
2. Bayer CropScience (Germany)	7,544	17%
3. BASF (Germany)	5,007	11%
4. Monsanto (USA)	4,427	10%
5. Dow AgroSciences (USA)	3,902	9%
6. DuPont (USA)	2,403	5%
7. Sumitomo Chemical (Japan)	2,374	5%
8. Nufarm (Australia)	2,082	5%
9. Makhteshim-Agan Industries (Israel)	2,042	5%
10. Arysta LifeScience (Japan)	1,196	3%
<b>Total Top 10</b>	<b>39,468</b>	<b>89%</b>

# Animal Feed & Agrofuels or Food



 **Agriculture's Footprint**



# Pope Francis on Agrarian Reform

**Hunger is criminal, food is an inalienable right.**  
*I know that you are calling for agrarian reform in order to solve these problems, and for some “**agrarian reform is, besides a political necessity, a moral obligation**”.*

*Meeting with Social Movements, 2014*



Elvie François, Haitian farmer and migrant worker in Florida, USA meets Pope Francis in the Vatican, 2014  
See Blog [HERE](#)





# Elvie meets Pope Francis

Elvire “Elvie” Francois will never forget the surreal moment last October when the most powerful person in Christendom reached for her hand, a warm smile on his face. She was in Rome, standing before Pope Francis in the Vatican, a world away from her home in Fellsmere and her life as a migrant farmworker.

Francois leads a life many would consider harsh. And rightly so. The petite single mother escaped the poverty and turmoil of her native Haiti 18 years ago, eventually settling in Fellsmere. A Catholic, she has attended Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission in Fellsmere, which had a Haitian priest for a time.

As a farmworker and migrant day laborer, Francois must follow the harvest to support her family, leaving her Fellsmere home to work in nearby citrus groves or joining 100 or so other migrant farmworkers aboard buses headed for New Jersey, Michigan or wherever the apples, peaches and blueberries are ripe for harvest...

See: [http://www.veronews.com/32963\\_features/people/migrant-farmworker-from-fellsmere-meets-pope-francis/article\\_6c23ce14-8ab3-11e4-90fd-47f05ff8db95.html](http://www.veronews.com/32963_features/people/migrant-farmworker-from-fellsmere-meets-pope-francis/article_6c23ce14-8ab3-11e4-90fd-47f05ff8db95.html)



# Farmers and Gardeners

Innovative family farming, backed by appropriate research, supportive investments and adequate protection, can out-perform industrial commodity production. It provides the basis for the food sovereignty of communities, countries and sub-regions of Africa. (europAfrica, 2014)



# Herders and Livestock Keepers

“We affirm that it is not possible to conserve animal diversity without protecting and strengthening the local communities that currently maintain and nurture this diversity....We defend a way of life that is linked deeply with our cultures and spirituality and not just aimed at production...”  
(Wilderswil Declaration, 2007)





# Artisanal Fishers



“The fishing community can definitely claim the foremost position among all the communities on earth that survive on the basis of a combination of knowledge and skill.”

Robert Panipilla, Kerala fisher, 2015



# Laudato Si – Caring for our common home

*Every effort to protect and improve our world entails **profound changes in “lifestyles, models of production and consumption, and the established structures of power** which today govern societies”.*

*Laudato Si, para 5*

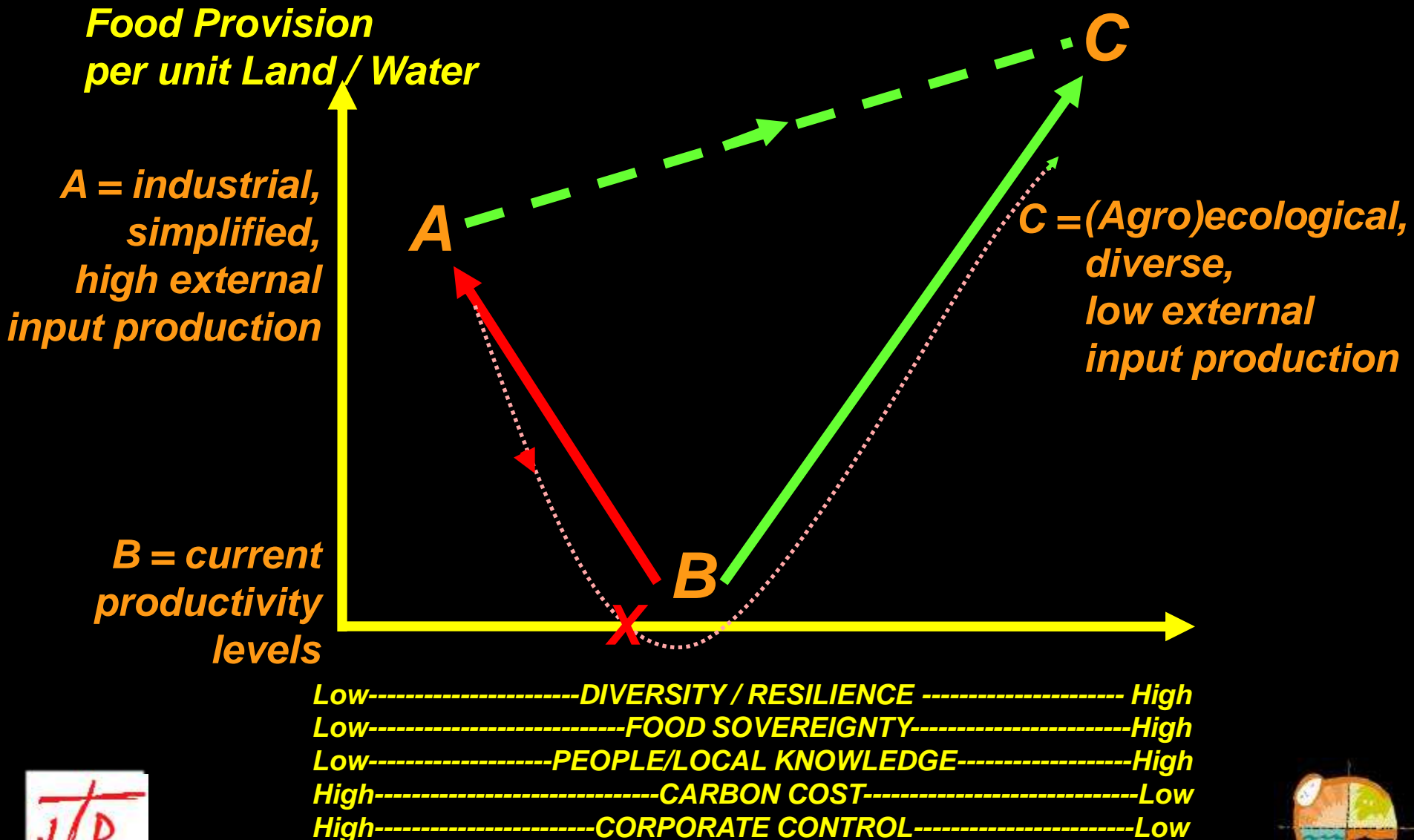


*“We must never forget that the natural environment is a collective good, the patrimony of all humanity and the responsibility of everyone.”*

*Pope Francis indirectly tweeting Donald Trump about the Paris Accord on Climate Change, June 2017*



# Sustaining Agricultural Biodiversity by Ecological Food Provision Methods



# International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAATSD) Finding # 7

*Economic competitiveness is the enemy of biological efficiency*

“An increase and strengthening of AKST towards agroecological sciences will contribute to addressing environmental issues while maintaining and increasing productivity. Formal, traditional and community-based AKST [Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology] need to respond to increasing pressures on natural resources, such as reduced availability and worsening quality of water, degraded soils and landscapes, loss of biodiversity and agroecosystem function, degradation and loss of forest cover and degraded marine and inshore fisheries. Agricultural strategies will also need to include limiting emission of greenhouse gases and adapting to human-induced climate change and increased variability”.

<http://apps.unep.org/publications/pmtdocuments/-Agriculture%2520at%2520a%2520crossroads%2520-%2520Synthesis%2520report-2009Agriculture at Crossroads Synthesis Report.pdf>

Also see: “Changing a dysfunctional food system: Towards ecological food provision in the framework of food sovereignty”, Patrick Mulvaney & Jon Ensor. Food Chain, Volume 1, Number 1, May 2011 pp. 34-51(18)





# Soberanía Alimentaria “control over | food system”



J/P

1996



# Food Sovereignty Framework

What it stands for | What it opposes

## 6 Pillars

1. **Focuses on Food for People and the Right to Food, rather than industrial commodities**
2. **Values Food Providers and respects Farmers' Rights, rather than squeezing them off the land and destroying their seeds**
3. **Localises Food Systems, rather than unfair global trade**
4. **Puts Control Locally, rather than control by distant TNCs**
5. **Builds Knowledge and Skills - of real farmers, rather than remote science and GMOs etc.**
6. **Works with Nature in ecological production, rather than chemically-intensive monocultures**

Nyéléni 2007





# Food Sovereignty 2017



Via Campesina at its VII<sup>th</sup> International Conference, July 2017, celebrating peasant food production and its links with urban food systems

## A Matter Of Scale

A study of the productivity, financial viability and multifunctional benefits of small farms (20 ha and less) 2017



Rebecca Laughton  
of the Landworkers' Alliance

Supported by  
the Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience (CAWR)

UK Via Campesina member, Landworkers' Alliance, publishes study on benefits of agroecology



# World's Food Providers' Commitments

Respecting the collective rights of the women and men who use, maintain and enhance peasant-based Agricultural Biodiversity in the framework of Food Sovereignty, we will strive to:

- Strengthen and promote our dynamic management of biodiversity
- Transform research
- Realise actions that guarantee the collective rights of peasants over seeds, livestock breeds, fish seed
- Reinforce our interconnecting and collective rural-urban food webs





# Peasants give Life to Agricultural Biodiversity, People and Planet



# The Challenge

The challenge, recognised by Pope Francis, is not only to support and protect those who provide food for the majority and who dynamically manage the biodiversity of the species and their ecosystems upon which we all depend, but also to release the chains that constrain consumer choice and lock larger-scale producers into unsustainable production systems dependent on proprietary technologies and crippling contracts.

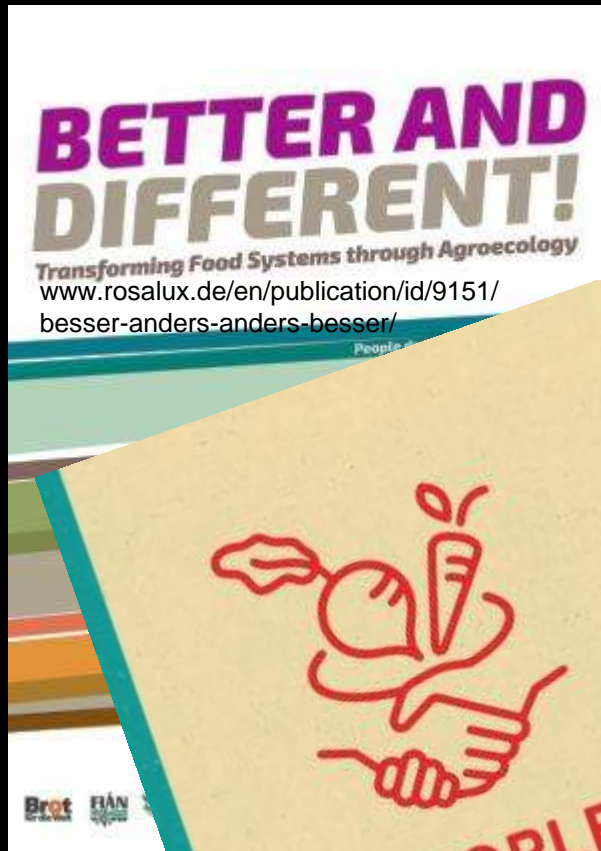
Busting the myth of the dominant narrative about food security pushed by Big Ag and Bioscience, is as important as nurturing the reality of food sovereignty and democratic control over localised, biodiverse and ecological food systems.



Ref: Patrick Mulvany (2017) 'Agricultural biodiversity is sustained in the framework of food sovereignty'



# Further Reading/Contacts

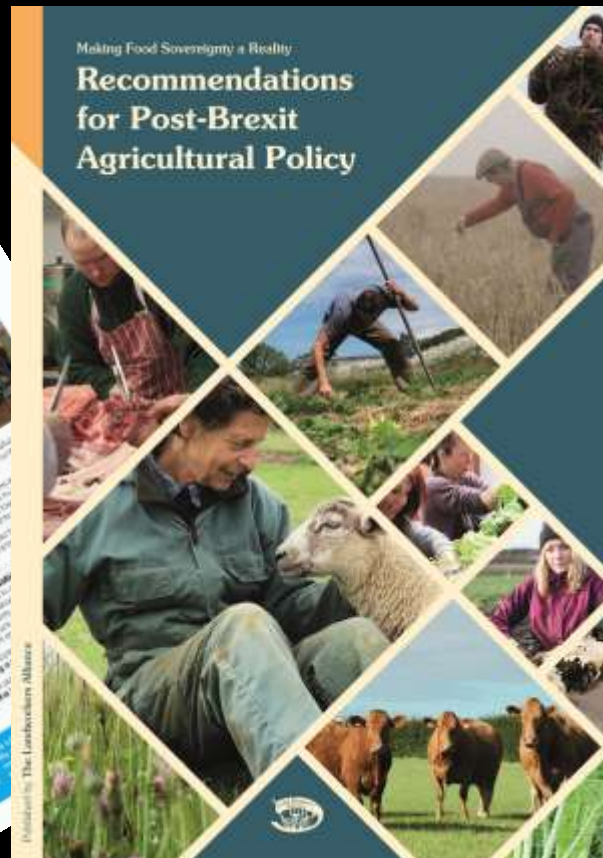


Click on Images to Download





# Brexit Briefings



Click on Images to Download





# Further Reading Links

Better and Different : transforming food systems through agroecology [www.rosalux.de/en/publication/id/9151/besser-anders-anders-besser](http://www.rosalux.de/en/publication/id/9151/besser-anders-anders-besser)

From Uniformity to Diversity [www.ipes-food.org/agroecology](http://www.ipes-food.org/agroecology)  
Agricultural Biodiversity and Food Sovereignty  
[www.foodsovereignty.org/biodiversity](http://www.foodsovereignty.org/biodiversity)

A People's Food Policy [www.peoplesfoodpolicy.org/](http://www.peoplesfoodpolicy.org/)  
Sustainable Food Systems: how does the UK measure up?  
[www.foodethicscouncil.org/uploads/publications/sustainability\\_index\\_2017\\_WEB.pdf](http://www.foodethicscouncil.org/uploads/publications/sustainability_index_2017_WEB.pdf)

Re-imagining UK aid [www.globaljustice.org.uk/resources/re-imagining-uk-aid-what-progressive-strategy-could-look/](http://www.globaljustice.org.uk/resources/re-imagining-uk-aid-what-progressive-strategy-could-look/)

Landworkers Alliance [www.landworkersalliance.org.uk/](http://www.landworkersalliance.org.uk/)

Via Campesina [www.viacampesina.org/](http://www.viacampesina.org/)

Sustain: the alliance for better food and farming  
[www.sustainweb.org](http://www.sustainweb.org)

