

Working Group

Urbanization and Rural Transformation

implications on food security and Nutrition

Intervention of Emily Mattheisen, FIAN, Germany, on behalf of the CSM Working Group on Urbanisation and Rural Transformation

I first to start up by clarifying our previous unease; our seemingly boring statements come from a long process of consultations.

Urban/rural sectors have traditionally been treated separately, to the detriment of rural areas. Urbanisation has been driven by policies that have privileged urban areas and penalized rural economies, leading to deterioration of rural spaces (such as accelerated exodus from rural areas). This fragmentation tends to be perpetuated in the SDGs and Habitat III. CFS is the legitimate space in which to overcome this dichotomy, using food security and nutrition and sustainable food systems as the entry point.

- The root causes, regional specificities and localized solutions for intergenerational change in agriculture and the abandonment of rural areas by the young, which is becoming an irreparable, inadmissible trend affecting the future of the sustainable food systems;
- We need specific public policies to secure producers' access to resources, create and retain value added in rural areas, make them attractive for young people and build links between rural producers and consumers, including linking peri-urban farmers with poor urban consumers.

The question of finance is fundamental: the majority of public money has been spent to support large scale food producers, in fact is not missing middle we are discussing, we have to listen to those voices that have been made completely silent by industrial food chains, hope we are going on in a policy process and reach conclusion taking them into consideration.