

CSIPM Comment to HLPE consultation on the zero draft of the upcoming report on “Reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition”

15 January 2023

Overall comment

The Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples Mechanism (CSIPM) once more reconfirms its recognition of the relevance the report “Reducing Inequalities for food security and nutrition” has. We welcome the fact that the CFS addresses this issue, being informed by an HLPE report on this topic. We recognize the general direction of the zero draft and its recognition of growing inequalities and that inequalities exist on many different levels throughout and beyond food systems (e.g. between and within nations) as well as the different histories of the marginalization and colonization of certain countries, regions, and populations.

However, the zero draft should be more explicit in the role of neoliberalism in deepening and sustaining inequalities of class, social status or caste within countries and widening the gap among countries. We therefore suggest locating the contradictions generated by capitalism and the current neoliberal model. Because the overarching issue lies in fact that the very nature of the neoliberal economic system is based on maximizing profit for shareholders rather than collective respect for the needs of people and planet and the governance thereof. Moreover, the financialization of our food systems remains a highly unaddressed issue, even though speculation and unregulated agricultural markets have been shown to cause hunger and inaccessible food prices. The Covid-19 pandemic has shown how it continues to concentrate income and wealth from the exploitation of people and natural resources.

During the pandemic it has been made evident how current models of production and consumption are based on the concentration of wealth and income. While hunger and poverty are rampant and workers can take up to 20 years to recover the purchasing power of their wages, the wealthiest private sectors – also in the food and agricultural sector – have made exorbitant profits. Since 1995, the top 1% have gained almost 20 times more of global wealth than the bottom 50% of humanity. The Pandemic has worsened inequalities with wealth of the 10 richest men doubling while the income of 99% of humanity are worse off. As a response, 73 countries face prospect of IMF backed austerity measures, risking worsening inequalities between countries and in countries.

Considering increased inequalities in and between countries, the report should include as central areas redistribution measures and fiscal policies. Important proposals and practices in this regard are debt cancellation, progressive taxes on capital and wealth, tax evasion, common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, windfall taxes on exceptional profits in times of crises, subsidies, overseas development aid, as well as measures to redistribute power in decision-making and power in the economy. A strong alternative is the **social and solidarity economy** that focuses on collective rather than individual wealth and human rights (including the right to food).¹ Social and solidarity economies embrace cooperatives and other forms of collective creation of wealth with the voices of the constituencies playing a key and determining role, it provides both agency and

¹ ILC Conclusions 2022 on Social and Solidarity Economy and Decent Work

empowerment. Therefore we encourage the HLPE to define social and solidarity economy within their report, taking into consideration the ILO's Conference Conclusions on Decent work and Social and Solidarity Economy and the support it has gotten by Secretary General António Guterres.²

Before sharing our detailed comments below, sorted by chapter, we would like to point out some overarching comments about the **conceptual framework**.

We highly appreciate that the “engine of inequity” has a rights-based approach as its basis where food insecurity and malnutrition are seen as injustices for which duty-bearers are accountable. We also recognize the attempt to bring social justice into the framework.

However, from our point of view, the conceptual framework contains some shortcomings. First, the language that has been used reinforces systems of inequity. For example while referring to “the poor “ or “poor populations” instead of people with low incomes or low wealth populations. Therefore, a more **inclusive language** that puts people first should be used. Second, **intersectionality** should be considered as an aspect of critical race theory in terms of looking at the concepts of race and racism, and the construction of social, political, legal structures, institutional systems and the power distribution that impact food and nutrition security. It is important to act systemically and consider intersectionality, with effective institutions capable of guaranteeing rights, particularly the human right to adequate food and nutrition, and of strengthening social protection, food reserves and other inclusive strategies. The report should be looking at the processes of racialization which are wrongly ascribed to racism here. By influencing these structures and changing them is where the greatest long term real impact can occur. Racism generally means believing that a person's behavior is determined by stable inherited characteristics deriving from separate racial stocks; each of these distinctive attributes is then evaluated in relation to ideas of superiority and inferiority. This implies that there is a social construction in which certain groups of people are superior to others. This social construction is the result of social, economic, and political factors that have ascribed power to some groups, while leaving others powerless. As such the report should be looking at both Racialization and Racism. By influencing these structures and changing them is where the greatest long term real impact can occur.

A comprehensive analysis of the institutional roles and responsibilities to ensure the realization of human rights is required, from local authorities up to the global level, as well as between types of actors (executive, legislative and judiciary powers, rights holders), in which strengthening the judiciary powers to protect rights must be particularly considered.

Representation is an aspect of participation and not interchangeable. Participation and representation are two fundamental elements and principles of democracy. They affirm that a democracy is dependent on its citizens and those most impacted by systems of inequities and that this ownership is expressed through meaningful participation by and representation of all citizens and people in democratic institutions and processes.

Chapter 1

- Introduction

² <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N20/328/08/PDF/N2032808.pdf?OpenElement>

- As the global economic, social and environmental crises deepen and the cost of living crisis increases, many new populations are also suffering from marginalization and inequalities and becoming food insecure, including people with (several) jobs.
- p.8 A addressing inequalities and inequities: There is also an increasing breakdown in supermarket supply chains creating food shortages in many products in some developed countries (mainly UK and USA). <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2021/dec/22/food-shortages-hitting-britons-more-than-many-in-eu-poll-finds>
- p.11 at policy and practice would also be useful to define social and solidarity economy and give an example
- "At its 110th Session (June 2022), the International Labour Conference held a general discussion on decent work and the social and solidarity economy. The discussion led to the adoption by the Conference of a resolution and conclusions concerning decent work and the social and solidarity economy that provide a universal definition of the term "social and solidarity economy" and set out its associated principles and values"
- An example: small-scale producers womens' cooperatives that enable them to achieve greater agency and presence as well as providing them with improved income and social protection
- RIPESS, the intercontinental network for the promotion of Social Solidarity Economy (SSE) defines SSE as follows: "The Social Solidarity Economy is an alternative to capitalism and other authoritarian, state- dominated economic systems. In SSE ordinary people play an active role in shaping all of the dimensions of human life: economic, social, cultural, political, and environmental. SSE exists in all sectors of the economy production, finance, distribution, exchange, consumption and governance. It also aims to transform the social and economic system that includes public, private and third sectors. SSE is not only about the poor, but strives to overcome inequalities, which includes all classes of society. SSE has the ability to take the best practices that exist in our present system (such as efficiency, use of technology and knowledge) and transform them to serve the welfare of the community based on different values and goals.
- (...) (...) SSE seeks systemic transformation that goes beyond superficial change in which the root oppressive structures and fundamental issues remain intact (...)"
- Sentence at p. 21 words should be added "Within the report the systemic drivers engaged are: culture and social norms; political (economic and neoliberal) systems; climate change and environmental degradation; innovation and technology; and demography and inequality transitions."
- p.21 concerning Distribution (maldistribution): It is also important to (re)introduce the notion of the Commons. Much of today's maldistribution can be traced back to the enclosure of the Commons. And there is a clear emergence of a Commons movement <https://iasc-commons.org/commons-types/>). This clearly includes traditional rights to land, forests and fisheries, such as those of the Sami peoples and many tribes in the Amazon.
- Why Inequality and Inequity
- There are no current figures available, but soup kitchens across Europe are showing a new population of students and people in low income jobs who are caught in the 'heat or eat' paradigm; many workers, from both the informal and the formal sector now have

to hold down several jobs at once to pay the bills and are increasingly food insecure but not statistically measured. Thus a key aspect in reducing inequalities is a combination of necessary change of the dominant neoliberal economic model to social and solidarity economy that focuses on collective rather than individual wealth and human rights (including the right to food); and bring workers from the informal work sector into the formal sector. This provides them with social protection and in many cases wage agreements. cf ILC Conclusions 2022 on Social and Solidarity Economy and Decent Work.

- There are many different mechanisms in short supply chains (Community Supported Agriculture in particular) that allow for sliding scale payments of food boxes according to eaters' needs. Cost of living increases are also pushing many small-scale food producers into food insecurity / insolvency, where they previously made a comfortable living.
- Addressing Inequalities and Inequities
 - Greater importance needs to be attached to school feeding programmes, especially if they can be based on sustainable local agro ecological supply chains. There are many positive examples: local governments stepping up and introducing organic, nutritious school meals at no increased cost to families (Mouans-Sartoux, member of the Milan Urban Food Pact). This was also the case in the previous Lula government of Brazil.. In Kenya, in rural areas, many children are now coming to school without having had any breakfast, and their learning ability is being affected by their hunger. This will in turn affect their opportunities at a later stage
 - (On there being no institutional lead for) SDG 10 There is some positive lead within the European Union on Public Procurement and school meals.
- Concepts and Definitions
 - Agency should not exclude the need for duty bearers to ensure social protection, however; and this may include a food safety net for vulnerable people. (Urgenci conclusions in the report 'Enacting Resilience' 2021)
 - It would also be useful to define social and solidarity economy and give an example
 - "At its 110th Session (June 2022), the International Labour Conference held a general discussion on decent work and the social and solidarity economy. The discussion led to the adoption by the Conference of a resolution and conclusions concerning decent work and the social and solidarity economy that provide a universal definition of the term "social and solidarity economy" and set out its associated principles and values"
 - An example: small-scale producers womens' cooperatives that enable them to achieve greater agency and presence as well as providing them with improved income and social protection
 - Definition of Patriarchy comment: Gender diversity becomes another source of prosecution and social exclusion rather than embraced as a natural enrichment + Failure to recognise gender diversity. a term that can be used to acknowledge gender diversity is to talk about non-heteronormative persons / persons historically subjected to discrimination because of their gender identity or sexual orientation. "heteronormative" social norms and structures complement "male centric" (as used in the example in the table)

- PG10: inequalities definition: gender is not listed, although it is in other parts of the text. But it should be added as it is the first time the definition appears. There is a reference to “sexuality”: maybe it should be changed to “sexual orientation”, so that it corresponds to what we find in the SOGI acronym (sexual orientation and gender identity) which is the name agreed in the mandate of the UN SOGI expert. [ref here](#) (this also applies to the marginalization definition)
- Definition of “Power asymmetries” example on food lobbies in the US should be extended to and the European Union and in many other States
- Definition of Empowerment: Because social and solidarity economy embraces cooperatives and other forms of collective creation of wealth with the voices of the constituencies playing a key and determining role, it provides both agency and empowerment. The much awaited UN Resolution on SSE is expected to be passed in spring of 2023 by the UNGA.
- Forms of Knowledge and Evidence
- It is also important to include the new dynamics of the Commons in the approach to reducing inequalities. This can include such practices as ecovillages using land to grow food for a whole community; Local Government land being used to grow food for canteens, the remunicipalisation of water (TNI book reference here), local traditional fishing rights and much more.

Chapter 2

- Introduction
 - Last paragraph: qualitative data not only crucial to identify marginalized populations, but also to understand the intersectional nature of inequalities. And to assess situation when no data actually exists eg. on unpaid care work
 - There seems to be a blind spot on unpaid care work, that is both rooted in inequities and leads to enormous gender inequalities. Sometime “time use/ time use differential” is referred to, but it seems to lack political meaning, and thus undermines the link between unpaid care work and inequalities (in particular gender)
 - Inequalities in FSN outcomes across Regions and countries (the SOFI report, double and triple burden of malnutrition, diet quality, breastfeeding and child diets, long-run trends inequality)
 - In the table summing up the SOFI report: “In every region of the world, food insecurity is higher among women than men” this would deserve more development and should be in text/ in a paragraph outside the table as well.
 - Double and triple burdens of malnutrition: could also include a reference on how nutrition inequalities spread and evolve over lifetime: for example malnutrition for children under five increases obesity risks later [ref here](#)
 - Diet quality: even if this is not included in the SOFI, why not introduce the concept of healthy and sustainable diets. The HLPE probably already has a definition, also this is drawn from the vision paper of the CSIPM on the food systems and nutrition guidelines: “Healthy and sustainable diets are diets that are balanced and varied, and provide the nutrients required to live a healthy and active life for both present and future

generations. They are composed of fresh and seasonal food, wherever possible, and contain a high proportion of foods that are not or only minimally processed.”

- Breastfeeding: -it lacks a few words about how unpaid work is a structural cause for inequalities regarding breastfeeding practices/ What “aggressive marketing of formula” are should be precise, maybe with a ref to WHO, [Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes](#)
- Inequalities in FSN within countries (data, nutritional status and wealth/income, child feeding practices, place based FSN, Gender, Religious minorities, people with disabilities)
 - The intro is good, in particular this sentence: “These inequalities are a function of how the global food system is constructed and how it operates”
 - The section on gender & FSN inequalities is good - the section should be moved up because it is really structural
 - It lacks a few words on unpaid care work and maybe environmental degradation
 - It could be reinforced on gender diversities: not only vulnerability but also discrimination
 - People with disabilities and FSN: not only issue of access or vulnerability, any evidence on discrimination as well?
 - There is a need to be more explicit ‘Thus, FSN inequalities are rooted deeply in social hierarchies that are very context specific.’These are Social hierarchies based on Racism and positioning white people as powerful or power that maintain and perpetuate racist institutions
- Overall chapter 2
 - The report presents information in the diversity section, which is more qualitative and relies heavily on case examples than the rest of the chapter. While this is good, giving some richness of detail, there could be more research or unpacking of information on those diversity factors : LGBTQI, displacement status, fragile contexts, disability ... Also, while there is a mention of intersectionality - there must be more of an emphasis on how much risk is exacerbated when individuals or households are exposed to multiple diversity factors. Including risk of malnutrition and death. The section is stronger for bigger “blanket” diversity factors such as gender, education, wealth, and geographic remoteness (or rural). But even age often focused solely on child versus adult.
 - Should be the addition of more quantitative data and evidence presented to support the case studies. And, that a deeper richness to diversity and intersectionality were included. With that information, the report could help further push for sex and age disaggregated data, as well as to promote more inclusive programs that address barriers to access.

Chapter 3

- Inequalities in land, livestock and other food production resources
 - Section on Land: could go further to explain how resource grabbing by industrial food systems deepens inequalities (not only “ethnic” or for Indigenous Peoples p48 - but also gender inequalities). For example women having to cover longer distances to fetch water, which increases their workload.

- *“Indigenous peoples have long been concerned that colonial approaches to land for growing food rooted in agribusiness and industrial agriculture characterised by large-scale farming and the adoption of scientific-technological systems such as the use of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) disregards their rights to self-determination and spiritual, cultural and physical relationships to ancestral lands” => to some extent this could be said for non-Indigenous peasant communities as well.*
- Section on availability, 2nd para: as it is important that availability is not only measured in terms of output/quantity produced, the para could specify what makes small farms better connected to territorial markets
- Inequalities in Finance and Information
 - should mention that the *risks* (not only the advantages/opportunities) associated with loans and microfinance reflect gender (or other) inequalities: harassment to repay loans, loss of land titles used as credentials
- Inequalities in value chains and markets (participation, exploitation, gender)
 - This is biased in favor of small-holder integration within value chains as the end-goal. Small-holder participation in shaping food systems should rather be the objective. (or should be recognised as the objective for peasant and/or women food producers)
 - An emphasis on participation in agri food systems, and long value chains is still extractive and does not necessarily allow for individual or social agency and empowerment. Localized, territorial food systems built on the values of food sovereignty and short supply chains provide physical access and affordability of healthy, nutritious and culturally acceptable food to communities, and can include procurement and public provide partnerships. These systems by nature enable participation, democratic control, agency and empowerment.
- Inequalities in international food trade (trade liberalization and role for food security, availability, domestic producers, power and policy space)
 - No mention of speculation or inequal attributes of mechanisms behind food pricing in any of the relevant subsections nor of the alarming financialization of the food system (in chapter 4, under Inequality in trade and FSN implications: Power wielded by commodity trading firms, however no text yet)
- Inequalities in food environments(affordability, availability, safety,...)
 - Under food safety no mention of the differentiated impact of pesticide use on rural populations but they speak of the distribution of the burden of foodborne disease.
 - Inequalities in other systems(income, health, housing, water, sanitation, education, reproductive system)
 - Access to health services paragraph is quite short. does not mention that two determinants of unequal access to health are: whether there is an “entry cost” or if the service is free of charge. and geographic distribution of “1st point” of access to health service (community health centers...) or available transportation means.
 - “Reproductive systems and time use” seems an odd way to phrase “unpaid care and domestic work”, and the paragraph does not really state how unequal work/ time distribution is according to gender. I feel this section is particularly uncomplete

Chapter 4

- Culture and social norms
 - lacks comment on how women often eat less and last (regardless of diet type/ pregnancy) because of cultural and social norms.
- Gender and Intersectional social position
 - “gendered assumptions are common in domestic care work including childcare, food purchase and preparation” = this sentence is welcomed. This aspect could be mentioned earlier in the report
 - care burden also includes : of the elders and the community, often not only children.
 - Gender disparities should include gender and sexual diversity. There is a lack of disaggregated data available
- Global political architecture, geopolitics:
 - Needs to be more explicit about imperialism and colonialism, particularly in regions such as the Caribbean and in the Pacific that are still colonized and lack political agency, are basically plantations serving the corporations and powerful global north countries, Debt and underdevelopment
- Fragility and conflict
 - must cover gender inequalities in conflict and fragility situations, impact on SGVB on food security and nutrition
 - must include/ recognise situations of occupation as a specific reality

Chapter 5

- Principles of designing equity specific action (agency)
 - Concerning Focus on agency: It is also important to note that in the current multiple crises, especially the cost of living crisis, that there are constantly emerging new groups, such as the working poor. this makes focusing on the concepts of Decent work and Social and Solidarity Economy and the conclusions of the International Labour Conference 2022 https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/cooperatives/sse/WCMS_851103/lang--en/index.htm particularly relevant
 - Address power
 - This is amply illustrated in the UNCTAD report (16th December "A double Burden: the effects of food price increases and currency depreciations" <https://unctad.org/news/high-food-prices-and-strong-us-dollar-are-double-burden-developing-countries-unctad-says>)
 - Adapt to context
 - be careful that this injunction for context-specificity does not end up in negating or justifying some forms of gender inequalities as “part of traditional or social structures”
 - Nevertheless it is clear that the greater the element of food self-sufficiency and food sovereignty and short sustainable agroecological supply chain component, the more likely a higher degree of agency, equity and equality. This is the heart of the counter narrative that needs to be developed
 - Create equity and equality sensitive policy

- no mention of the problematic aspects related to multistakeholderism, an approach adopted by too many UN institutions and perpetuating power asymmetries.
 - not sure in what section of recommendation it would end up but need to mention transformative policies / gender transformative policies (going beyond “sensitive policies” and addressing structures of inequalities)
- Actions to reduce inequalities
 - Concerning Table 5.1 Actions and the inequalities they address: It would be useful to create a 3rd column here, illustrating with successful/best practice stories such as public procurement for school meals sourced from groups of agroecological local small scale family farmers; different methods within Community Supported Agriculture to integrate financially challenged members; food policy councils ...
- Equalize access to food production resources
 - The VGGT are a powerful tool and deserve mention here as well. Other aspects that can be included are Community Land Trusts that exist as legal instruments in many countries. They protect agricultural land from development either for tourism or urban development.
 - There needs to be stronger internationally binding legislation on mining of all kinds that disrupts agricultural production, especially focusing on pollution of land and water supplies. In a world in climate crisis, water pollution is increasingly encroaching on the possibility to farm, especially for small-scale food producers. <https://ccfutures.co/Water>
- Develop inclusive farmer’ organisations
 - Producer-consumer organisations such as Urgenci, the global community supported agriculture network are equally important for several reasons:
 - a) they build direct local sustainable agroecological value chains. This largely decreases the impact of food price increases
 - b) they build solidarity and community
 - c) they create a greater collective territorial political force. The wider more inclusive term frequently used is Local Solidarity Partnerships for Agroecology.
 - d) They have devised a number of techniques for social inclusion. <http://elikadura21.eus/en/publicaciones/>
 - e) They help achieve the SDGs: "How Community Supported Agriculture contributes to the realisation of solidarity Economy in the SDGs" https://www.academia.edu/39716398/UNRISD_paper_in_template_final
- Boost public agricultural research/rural public investments
 - Farmer-led research based on the use of farmers' seeds and participatory breeding are an essential element, as are the many low-tech farm hacks
 - The importance of direct and short value chains of agroecological/organic produce is essential to bridging the urban/rural divide. There are many different forms such as collective/cooperative farmers' shops, direct purchasing schemes, farm-gate sales, Community Supported Agriculture groups, Participatory

- Guarantee Systems, and also selective public procurement that favours purchasing from groups of small-scale producers, <https://www.developmentaid.org/news-stream/post/138998/cow-on-a-balcony>
- Adapt inclusive value chain approaches to the local context to improve participation and outcomes of disadvantaged groups in value chains
 - Community Supported Agriculture in particular provides agency for both producers and consumers. In China for example a recent on-line conference/ event linking producers and consumers had 500,000 participants. The attraction to healthy agroecological food and direct purchasing can also be linked to peoples' preoccupation with their health due to Covid-19. Other examples can include local governments in various countries issuing food vouchers that can specifically be exchanged for CSA shares or at organic food markets (France, USA...) and National/territorial/local food plans that cover all aspects of territorial food self-sufficiency and food policy councils. (Plan d'aménagement du Territoire in France...)
 - Concerning: However, despite general agreement about the barriers underlying women's dis-empowerment in agricultural value chains, the need to build an evidence-base of the practical steps that is valid in different contexts remains a global imperative (Njuki et al., 2022). -> There are also many examples of self-empowerment to overcome racial injustice in the USA such as Soul Fire Farm: <https://www.soulfirefarm.org/> There is a long history of black empowerment and providing food support through the Black Panther movement, starting in the 1960s <https://www.winstonwatchman.com/remembering-winston-salem-black-panther-party-chapter/>
 - Territorial approaches in FSS, planning and policy
 - Another interesting example is Bordeaux in France: https://eurocities.eu/stories/bordeaux-says-yes-to-its-new-food-policy/?fbclid=IwAR0J5EqzDG537O9leA4RJ2kkDTHFEX0A2jmFqBOEIXFH7Lbtz2J_af0od8k
 - Mouans Sartoux in SE France takes these aspects to a higher level: <https://urbact.eu/food-purchase-agriculture-act>
 - The concept of food sovereignty and food self-sufficiency based on food as part of the Commons is best illustrated by Mouans Sartoux in South East France: the municipality has used some of its land to hire a farmer to grow organic food for school and other local canteens. This is also linked to an overall sustainable local food policy (see comment above) <https://innovationinpolitics.eu/showroom/project/municipal-farm-for-mouans-sartoux-school-canteens/>
 - Invest in information systems
 - must qualify the type of information systems needed: respecting the right to privacy and personal information, accessible in local languages, services co-designed by men & women, respecting the priorities of communities...
 - Food retail environment planning and governance
 - For many years Community Supported Agriculture was considered by some as a 'yuppie' phenomenon. This myth was truly busted during the height of the Covid

19 pandemic, especially before vaccines were readily available, and many people were scared to go to large retail environments.

- Because CSAs are relatively small, the number of people handling the food is limited. There was a very rapid response to the pandemic in terms of establishing safety protocols for picking up food boxes <https://urgenci.net/enacting-resilience-the-response-of-lspa-to-the-covid-19-crisis/>
 - Where long supply chains broke down, CSA distribution was allowed in all countries of the world, and demand was in excess of the possibility to meet supplies. In many cases (China, Basque Country in Spain...) the CSAs made home deliveries, thus supporting vulnerable people in the communities. Because short supply chains also mean consumers generally know the producers, there is a very high level of trust in the
 - Because short supply chains also mean consumers generally know the producers, there is a very high level of trust in the healthy and nutritious quality of the food
 - In Brazil, many of the Landless Peoples' Movement and small-scale producers involved in CSA brought any surplus production to the favelas (slums) for free distribution to the poor.
 - It is important to be aware of the millions of jobs lost during the Covid pandemic that have not been recovered, in spite of States denying the continued existence of the pandemic and the thousands of deaths still occurring on a weekly basis from Covid-19
- Universal health care
 - There is currently an emerging trend at global level: while during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic many people turned to local healthy and nutritious food choices, the current cost of living increases is having a significant increase on food choices that are becoming less healthy: many families are currently faced with the 'heat or eat' dilemma in the winter in the Northern hemisphere. This has not yet been properly documented, but there are some emerging studies: <https://www.reading.ac.uk/news/2022/Research-News/Heat-or-eat-dilemma-means-less-veg-eaten>
 - This dilemma is also affecting young people: over 10% of students are turning to food banks and are not eating a nutritious diet: <https://thetab.com/uk/2022/07/11/more-than-one-in-ten-students-are-forced-to-use-food-banks-261135>

Chapter 6

- Introduction

- The overarching issue is in fact the very nature of the neoliberal economic system based on maximizing profit for shareholders rather than collective respect for the needs of people and planet and the governance thereof. The Social and Solidarity Economy is a key aspect of response to this. This has been recognised by Antonio Guterres, Secretary General of the United Nations (p24 of <https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=E%2FCN.5%2F2021%2F3&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequest>

ed=False). The much-awaited planned resolution to recognise SSE as a key factor to achieving the SDGs is being led by France and is hoped to be passed in the UNGA in March of this year. It is the fruit of several years of work by the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Social Solidarity Economy - especially the ILO -, CSO observers, and particularly RIPESS (the Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of Social Solidarity Economy).
<https://www.ripest.org/?lang=en>

- The fact that civil society managed to gain recognition for the importance of agroecology as a key reparatory factor to land at the COP on biodiversity in Montreal in December 2023 is a major victory.
 - “Box 6.1 outlines a definition of transformative change in relation to FSN inequalities.” We propose following changes in red: Transformative change incorporates actions across the entire food **and economic** system that require fundamental changes to food, **economic and political** system governance to redress power imbalances that have ‘normalised’ high rates of food insecurity and malnutrition¹.
- Identify HR-approaches
 - It is impossible to achieve the right to food principles under the current economic system. Food and agriculture need to be removed from speculative markets. Food is not a commodity and first needs to be removed from the WTO as a prerequisite to achieving the Right to Food.
- Recognize both government and other actors’ obligation to R,P,F those HR
 - This also needs to be further linked to social protection to include a food safety net. This is one of the demands of social movements in several countries.
 - Additionally it is essential to refer here to the ILO's Conference Conclusions on Decent work and Social and Solidarity Economy as a key lever to achieving the SDGs through the above-mentioned obligations and the ILC Action Plan endorsed in November 2022: https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/cooperatives/sse/WCMS_861625/lang--en/index.htm
- Focus on marginalized groups and their participation
 - migrant workers, especially those working in agriculture and food chain workers as well as refugees
 - Food sovereignty is also part of the constitution of Mali, and the Minister for Agriculture and Food Sovereignty in Senegal should also be mentioned
 - It is also important to acknowledge the issues facing new groups of food insecure people such as the working poor in developed countries, the elderly and students who have all become increasingly food insecure in the current cost of living crisis.
- Transformative action: addressing agency and power through inclusive governance
 - “Box 6.3 [To be added]: Agency and power in labour relations” The ILC Conclusions and subsequent action plan are essential here. Refs already given. The fact that Decent Work as defined by the ILO brings the informal sector workers into the formal means providing them with social security. In industrial agriculture there is a major issue of the exploitation of migrants (Spain, Portugal, Italy...). In other countries the visa is limited to the employer, creating slave-like

conditions, and no unions are tolerated (meat processing and fisheries are the most common sectors for this).

- Second paragraph: In the case of Indigenous People, traditional hunting and access to lands and diets may be at odds with attempts to establish both mining or conservation. This is a very sensitive issue, and is often further complicated by climate change, especially in the Arctic. In the case of fisheries, conservation and tourism and wind farms are often at odds with the rights and practices of artisanal fishers. These are highly sensitive issues and FPIC is not always observed
- Third paragraph: Nutritious school meals based on sustainable local, agroecological public procurement plays a key role as well. Several countries managed to maintain school meals even during school holidays and lock-down, which was very important, as many children have no other proper meal in their day.
- Activism in governance
 - The current global cost of living crisis is leading to major trade union action around the world. It could soon lead to food riots of an even more serious nature than in 2008
- Transformative action: a holistic approach to climate and sustainability
 - “to be written”: and solidarity economy examples based on the FAO Principles of Agroecology, as these address multiple levels of sustainability
- Transformative action: universal access to services and social protection
 - Concerning social protection:
 - Social protection should refer to the ILO principles as laid out in the ILC 2022 Conclusions and Action Plan. The French AMAP network (Association pour le Maintien de l'Agriculture Paysanne), - Community Supported Agriculture in France - is also calling for a food safety net. This is supported by Urgenci, the International CSA network
 - In an increasing number of countries, young children in primary schools are arriving at school without having eaten any breakfast. This seriously impairs their ability to learn as well as impacting their health. And this in turn increases potential future inequalities. It is therefore essential that national and local governments step up and ensure school breakfast feeding programmes, especially in remote, impoverished areas of countries such as Kenya.
 - Concerning Universal access to services and infrastructure and the WFP: the fundamental principles of food sovereignty as outlined in the Nyéléni Declaration 2007 should always be integrated into these programmes.
- Structural reformation approaches with implications for equity – agroecology
 - concerning agroecology
 - Agroecology is also linked to economic system change. The FAO principles of Agroecology mention circular and solidarity economy, and this needs to be further developed in conjunction with an intersectional approach and the relevant grass-roots networks.

- The power of food sovereignty combined with social solidarity economy provides one of the strongest levers of change: tni.org/es/node/1665
- Conclusion
 - first paragraph should include: systemic economic change that shifts the locus away from the neoliberal system and towards social solidarity economy,