

**Are the CAP and other EU policies coherent
with food security in the Global South?**

Feeding the world : factory or family farming ?

Presentation by
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The problem : how to feed the World population

- 2011 : 7 billion people
- 2050 : 9 billion people
- Overall assessment : Need to raise food production by 70 %
- But today over 40% of cereal production are used to produce animal feed : could feed 3,5 billion people. Is it possible to rallocate this to human consumption ?
- Conventional agriculture and green revolution agriculture face new limits to further increase production
- Need to increase incomes of smallholders if we want to successfully combat hunger

Challenges

A. Concentration and specialisation of conventional agriculture in industrialized countries and in Brazil

- Number of farmers in the 6 founding states of CAP
 - 22 million in 1957
 - 7 million in 2005
- But at the same time production increased more rapidly than population thanks to
 - More and more heavy equipment and machinery

- Intensive ploughing
 - Tendency towards monoculture
 - More and more irrigation
 - More and more use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides
 - Genetic and seed manipulation, including – in US and Brazil-, of GMO'
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- In 2000, more than 2/3 of all agricultural subsidies – some 17 billion dollars-, allocated to only 10% of farms, the biggest including to agro-business
 - In the US, number of pig farms fell from 200 000 to 80 000 between 1994 and 2001
 - Half of all pigs are on farms with 5000 head or more (1/3 only in 1996)

B. Transnational companies (TC)

- **Provide inputs (seeds, fertilizers, agricultural machinery,...)**
 - Monsanto has a turnover of 2.8 billion dollars (\$)
 - 6 TC control 71% of the world market for chemicals
- **Buy, store, transport food products :**
 - Cargill in 2007
 - ▶ 160 000 employees in 67 countries
 - ▶ 88 billion \$, profit of 2.4 billion (+ 55%)
 - ▶ Covers
 - 45% of US corn exports
 - 30% of soya
 - 20% of wheat

Transnational companies (TC)....

- **Marketing food products in supermarkets: Nestlé, Kellogg's, Danone, etc.**
 - Nestlé in 2009
 - 265 000 employees in 80 countries
 - 75 billion €, 11 billion profit (14.6%)
 - Wal-Mart:
 - 6000 stores
 - 140 million customers / week
 - 374 billion \$ in 2007, is more than the GDP of sub-Saharan Africa
 - 2 million of employees, including 1.6 in the USA

- **Fast growing concentration of agro-business**
 - ▶ Four multinationals, Monsanto (US), Dupont (US), Syngenta (Switzerland) and Limagrain (France) represent 82 % of all seeds sold worldwide
 - ▶ Some 100 companies control 74 % of all global food sales.
 - ▶ 35% of these are controlled by 10 multinationals : Nestlé, PepsiCo, Kraft Foods (US), Coca-Cola, Unilever (NL), Tyson Foods (US), Cargill (US), Mars (US), Archer Daniels Midland (US), Danone (France).
 - ▶ Negative health impact : more and more sugar and fat products lead to increasing health problems : obesity, diabetes, cardio-vascular illnesses

Transnational companies (TC)....

- Largely benefit from globalization (privatisation, trade liberalization...)
- Can minimize prices paid to producers
- And maximize prices to be paid by consumers
- Strong lobbying power

C. Recent development : investment increase in agriculture in developing countries

- Last 30 years : low interest of governments or private sector for agriculture
- This is changing since the 2008 food crisis
- Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in agriculture :
 - ▶ In the 1990's : average of 600 million dollars
 - ▶ 2005 – 2007 : 3 billion dollars
 - ▶ Fast growing investments for agro-fuel production and land sales (land grabbing)

D. « Land grabbing »

- Between 2006 and 2009
 - ▶ 50 million hectares sold or leased – one-third of the cultivable land of China – in Africa, Asia and Latin America
 - ▶ 20 million hectares on the African continent
 - ▶ more than 50 countries are targeted ,
 - ▶ actors : states and often investment funds, hedge funds, pension funds etc. involving about a thousand groups of investors
 - ▶ 50-100 billion dollars mobilized
 - ▶ 40 % South/South component in 2008

Problems raised by these investments

- opacity of these contracts
- expulsion of small peasants and indigenous communities from their land
- crops for exports, not for national food security
- industrial type of agriculture introduced : heavy machinery, GMO's,
- ongoing work at Food Security Committee in Rome for voluntary guidelines

E. Climate change

- Agriculture contributes considerably to greenhouse gas emissions – up to one-third of the total. Reasons:
 - the burning down of forests
 - ploughing
 - irrigation
 - the use of nitrogen fertilizers
 - methane emissions by ruminants
- According to FAO, animal production is creating increasing pressure on land, air, water and biodiversity but while cattle-raising contributes to climate change it also suffers from the consequences

Climate change...

- Agriculture is also a victim of climate change. It is already affecting cultivation, forests and fisheries because of
 - ▶ higher temperatures
 - ▶ the mounting sea levels
 - ▶ a greater concentration of CO₂
 - ▶ irregular rainfall
 - ▶ lower water tables
 - ▶ increasing devastation by pests and diseases
 - ▶ higher temperatures
- FAO estimates that the negative impact on African agriculture from now until 2080-2100 could be between 15 and 30 per cent

Climate change...

- In 2010, there were severe droughts in Russia, Ukraine and Australia, floodings in Pakistan and China,
 - ▶ more and more severe droughts and floods can be expected in the future
 - ▶ as Durban Conference is failing, the planet's temperature likely to increase by 3-6 % with unexpected catastrophes

Climate change...

Fast degradation of ecological systems

- Land erosion through use of chemicals
- Decrease of groundwater
- Drying up and pollution of water resources
- Exhaustion of fish stocks
- reduction of biodiversity
- growing desertification

E. What to do?: Develop Agro-ecology and small scale (family) farming

- In 2008, meeting of 400 experts who made an 'International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD). Their recommendations
 - ▶ Agro-ecology
 - ▶ Small scale or family farming
- In March 2011, - In 2011, Olivier de Schutter, Special Rapporteur on the right to food presented his report to the Human Rights Council devoted to agro-ecology
- **Agro-ecology** is both a science and a set of practices : brings together two disciplines : agronomy and ecology

Core principles of agro-ecology :

- recycling nutrients and energy on the farm, fixing nitrogen within farm systems
- integrate crops and livestock : use of livestock manure for soil fertilization
- diversify species and genetic resources
- value local, farmer's knowledge and experimentation
- use traditional seed varieties
- promote agro-forestry : development of nitrogen fixing trees
- water harvesting in dryland areas : develop water retention capacity, increasing biomass

Agro-ecology...

- main advantages
 - ▶ better yields and income
 - ▶ sustainability of agriculture
 - ▶ easily accessible for poor peasants
 - ▶ more labour intensive
 - ▶ is healthier : no exposure to chemicals
 - ▶ mitigates climate change effects and risks from extreme weather events
- on a one ha area, a peasant can produce enough to feed 30 people, provided he focuses on vegetables and fruit production
- if he produces eggs and meat, he only can feed on this area 5 persons

Participation of farmers associations and cooperatives such as

- Via Campesina
 - ROPPA (Réseau des Organisations Paysannes et de Producteurs Agricoles)
 - Landless Peasants Mouvement in Brazil (MST)
 - Family Farmers Associations
 - AgriCultures Network
 - PELUM (Participatory Ecological Land Use Management)
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- ▶ Need to support these associations : strengthen organizational capacities
 - ▶ Need to promote training, schooling and networking
 - ▶ Supply of public goods : storage facilities, rural roads, electricity, communication technologies...
 - ▶ Develop research
 - ▶ Land reform
 - ▶ Market regulation

To know more :

Hunger Kills by Jean Feyder

Foreword : Jean-Claude Juncker

Summary

Part I. The causes of the food crisis

1. Hunger and the peasants
2. The food crisis
3. Agriculture, a neglected sector
4. Wrong strategies
5. The case of Ghana
6. Haiti and the others

Part 2 : What to do ?

1. Rethinking development
2. The right to food
3. Food aid
4. Access to land
5. Relaunching staple food agriculture
6. Making agriculture sustainable
7. An adequate regulation of agricultural markets
8. Reviewing trade policies

Part 3 : The main actors

1. The European Union
2. The United States of America
3. China
4. India
5. Brazil
6. The agrofuels
7. The biotechnologies
8. The transnational companies
9. Is Africa on sale?
10. The role of civil society and peasants organizations

Thank you