

Sustainable Food Production



Manifesto!

Conference of Youth

#COY11 - PARIS 2015

- February 2016 -

Sustainable Food Production 1/3

Recommendations :

- ▶ We believe that sustainable and resilient food production systems contribute to the maintenance of peace and stand at the core of climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- ▶ We understand that the increased dependence on fossil fuels and mining extractions of conventional farming have substantially contributed to climate change and degradation of soils, water, biodiversity and air. Regenerative farming based on agro-ecological design, local renewable resources and indigenous knowledge have the potential to create more resilient production systems able to sequester carbon and adapt to climate change.
- ▶ We aspire to new fair trade regimes and global cooperation as we see millions of farmers all around the world not being able to sustain the dignity of their families. This is also a source of rural-to-urban and international migration, unemployment and urban misery in many cases.
- ▶ We recognize that considerable amounts of food wasted along the supply chain from harvest to household means an opportunity to reduce emissions, retain value and provide food for people.
- ▶ We believe that education is a root of responsible food choices. Participatory governance together with respecting human rights are the foundation of food sovereignty.
- ▶ We, the youth, citizens and governments, have the power to act and help implement sustainable food production systems worldwide.
- ▶ We want food production systems that are fit for our common future.

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Call for governments' actions :

- ▶ We call our local, regional, national and international governments, all around the world, to be determined to promote regenerative food systems also supporting their countries' commitments to reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the agricultural sector. These food production systems should be informed by interdisciplinary scientific insights and traditional local knowledge.
- ▶ We urge governments to fight the financial speculation over land.
- ▶ We wish to see the creation of an enabling political and juridical environment to control land and water grabbing, illegal extraction of resources and privatization of genetic resources.
- ▶ We demand facilitation of access and re-allocation of land to small-scale farmers and the protection of traditional seed varieties safeguarding genetic diversity and its right to be used by everyone.
- ▶ We request restoration of degraded soils, forests and fish stocks with the inclusion of local communities.
- ▶ We urge for the regulations of markets that ensure fair prices to producers.
- ▶ We call for the phase-out of subsidies to large agro-industrial businesses and redirecting funds towards small-scale farms and agro-ecological extension services creating more value in rural areas.
- ▶ For the right to know what we eat, we demand the development of specific indicators and clear product labelling to report carbon impact, the presence of GMO and the origin of food.
- ▶ We urge public institutions and premises to lead adopting responsible catering practices.
- ▶ We call for the inclusion of food and agricultural components in school curriculums as well as allocation of funds towards research in agricultural development, sustainable food production systems and knowledge transfer, with the full participation of indigenous people and local communities.
- ▶ We want young adults to feel well equipped and empowered for the challenges of a food regime transition so that they can aspire to the roles of food producers.

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Call for youth action :

- ▶ There is one action that all of us can do, every day : it is to take few seconds before choosing our food and to act according to what we want our food systems to look like.
- ▶ We want young people to reconsider their fish, meat and dairy consumption because of their high environmental footprints, while understanding the role of these foods in people's cultures and agro-ecosystems.
- ▶ We urge the youth to use their values, confidence, creativity and innovation skills to improve the resilience of our food systems from farm to fork.
- ▶ We encourage the participation of youth in local policy making, land use planning and developing alternative ways of farming, sharing food and reducing food waste in their communities.
- ▶ We advise farmers of all ages to farm responsibly, regenerating natural resources and reducing emissions through appropriate technology and external inputs.
- ▶ We encourage everyone to use technology wisely, from farmers using information technology for better decision making to consumers sharing food stories on social media.
- ▶ Let's grow together, embrace climate-smart, ecologically and socially sound sustainable food production systems for people and planet.