

A. SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE, LOCAL MARKETS AND FOOD SECURITY

1. What are the specific impacts of globalization?

It limits people's abilities to plan and direct communities and nations. Withdrawal of government support for managing production leads to "market" management. Reduction of government support for crop research leads to priority placed on increasing company profit rather than the interests of the community.

2. What are specific policies that need to be changed?

In Mexico, the more they are importing the more political power is being gained by the foreign corporations in their country. In the United Kingdom, 70 percent of food is distributed by only six corporations who can value-add and dictate prices, even the type of food fed by the market. Corporations have reasons to manufacture consent and create markets. Producers are transformed to consumers - in the North and West.

3. How are communities responding at a local, national, or international level?

Model building at the community level. Claim making land rights tenure. Sustainable and integrated agricultural agrarian development. Recognize the power of local and municipal governments. Communities are becoming experts in themselves.

Community/regional boycotts of chemical farming.

International networking, useless at governments and corporation level but valuable at the people's level. Difficulty for indigenous peoples in Colombia, trying to set up a forum at the UN. Rediscovery that indigenous agriculture is sustainable. PNG - "decolonize the mind" and promote culture to resist globalization ("land is life"). Influence local government as follow up to food security in Rome '96.

Other strategies: fair trade, extricate self from international markets.

Using Filipino example, need more south-south support to access money from international donors. Build southern network to exchange information and strategies.

4. What are the specific next steps?

Alternative trading arrangements such as buy high - sell low and linking small producers to consumers. Market information systems. Use all opportunities to influence and make representations to government bodies at local and international levels that have to do with food security and agricultural development.

Intensify awareness/advocacy on indigenous ways of producing food. Sustain education awareness campaigns, so that consumers in the north have the power to control demand for certain products. Need for consumer education in the north, such as successful campaigns to ban use of chloroform in milk. Strengthen linkages and action among nations. Personal change. Oxfam Ten Basic Rights campaign. Formation of community food security councils to link to national regulations and international action. Peoples' movements must connect internationally.