

## Contribution of the coalition Religions for Rights on food security to the Peoples Summit

The one-functional agricultural industrial system has failed to deliver on hunger eradication. It has reduced agriculture to an industry driven by profit interests that turns food for life into biomass for profit maximisation. The dramatic loss of biodiversity and extractive nature of agriculture has led us to the brink of the collapse of our ecological system. Widespread pollution and destruction of our natural resources threaten the livelihoods of many in particular poor people.

The International Agricultural Assessment on Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development – IAASTD finds that agroecological solutions can turn agriculture from being a problem to becoming a solution in the fight against poverty, climate change and regeneration of natural resource. Agroecological approaches have the potential to provide a sustainable basis for the over 350 million smallholders farming women and men worldwide who depend on agriculture for their livelihoods and produce already 80% of today's food. The future belongs to diversified and people intensive farming methods that are rooted in their specific context and own value creation. Supporting diversified farming systems means de-monopolising solutions and support of democratic and participatory food systems. A practical example for this is the work of the many community seed banks.

Women and men from Latin America, Africa, Asia and Europe witness increasing pressure by agribusiness investing in land acquisitions, biofuel based energy production, extractive and export-gear agricultural production. Ongoing consolidation and concentration of biotechnology are increasing and undermine human rights, democratic control and participatory societies. Control, patenting and privatisation of seeds is a violation of basic human rights that grant reproductive sexual and health rights and should be expanded to reproductive seeds rights. Feminist economic analysis of care and social economies recognise the dynamic interaction of micro, meso and macro levels, and integrate the social, environmental and economic pillars of sustainability.

Experiences from Brazil, Africa, Latin America and Asia share concerns about 'hungry corporations' that push for biotech, capital intensive and transgenic solutions that disempower small-scale farming and people. Energy dependency of industrial societies increase competition on land and water and result in land evictions and displacement of local and indigenous people in many experiences.

At the same time it is recognised which positive impact institutional markets can have for agroecology, increasing agroecological production, strengthening of local economies and the valorisation of agro-sociobiodiversity when these markets as for example school feeding programs are linked to small scale producers and other traditional rural communities.

Also it is recognised that problem of food waste and post-harvest losses needs to be addressed.

The Peoples Summit calls and demands the implementation of the IAASTD recommendations in research, politics, social sciences and law – build on a social and grassroots movement - and institutional the IAASTD as an authoritative body to of independent scientists to guide and support the transition to an agroecological solutions, policies and strategies.

Furthermore the Peoples Summit calls and asks that the Committee on Food Security (CFS) has to be the guiding body for the implementation of sustainable agriculture. The implementation needs to be based on the IAASTD report and the principles of agroecology.

In the full meaning of the Rio Principle of common but differentiated responsibility this means that Northern America and European and other main drivers of industrialised and non-sustainable agriculture in have to drastically reform their current way of agricultural production and respect and support the agroecological farming systems in the developing countries.