Are policy frameworks supportive to local sustainable food production?

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Local sustainable food production

- short food supply chains
- stronger linkages between producers and consumers
- reduced consumption of fossil energy
- less prone to wastage

- economically viable
- socially just
- based on the use of accessible and environment-friendly technologies
In urbanised and rich countries:
- dominating industrial food system
- local food marginal

In rural and poor countries:
- traditional family farming of central importance
- efforts to develop an industrialised agriculture based on sophisticated value chains

Policies
In rich countries...

- Farmers seek a better remuneration
- Decreasing trust of consumers in complex value chains
- Increased consciousness for the need of a more sustainable food system

Urban and peri-urban agriculture

Renewed interest for local sustainable food production

Short food supply chains
In rich countries... Local food systems at a disadvantage

- Space is rare and expensive near cities
- Difficult access to finance
- Subsidies in favour of large industrial agriculture
- Technological development large-scale oriented
- Training large-scale oriented
- Unfavourable regulations and control
- Poor involvement in the policy process
- Intrinsic characteristics
In poor countries…

‘Green Revolution’
model

‘Traditional’
model
In poor countries...

- Promotion of industrial production units integrated in "modern" value chains
- Economic austerity and state withdrawal
- Specific programmes, e.g. G8’s New Alliance
- Contract farming

Private sector-lead ‘modern’ agriculture
In poor countries...

G8’s New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition

- Land demarcation and registration
- Reformed forestry governance
- New seed laws
- Tax reform and trade liberalization
- Reform of public funding
Two examples...

Nigeria

State of Taraba

- 30,000ha irrigated land to the Kenya Branch of the US based Dominion Farms
- thousands of families
- to contribute to ‘production and national food security’

Supported by the G8’s New Alliance

India

Reform of the Land Acquisition Act

- to make it easier to acquire land for projects in priority sectors
- tone down conditions of approval by population
- increase the list of eligible projects
- cancel compulsory social impact assessment
Are policy frameworks supportive to local sustainable food production?

Absolutely no!
There is a need to change policies both in rich and poor countries...
Thank you

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