

Foodscapes

Lecture 1

September 25, 2025

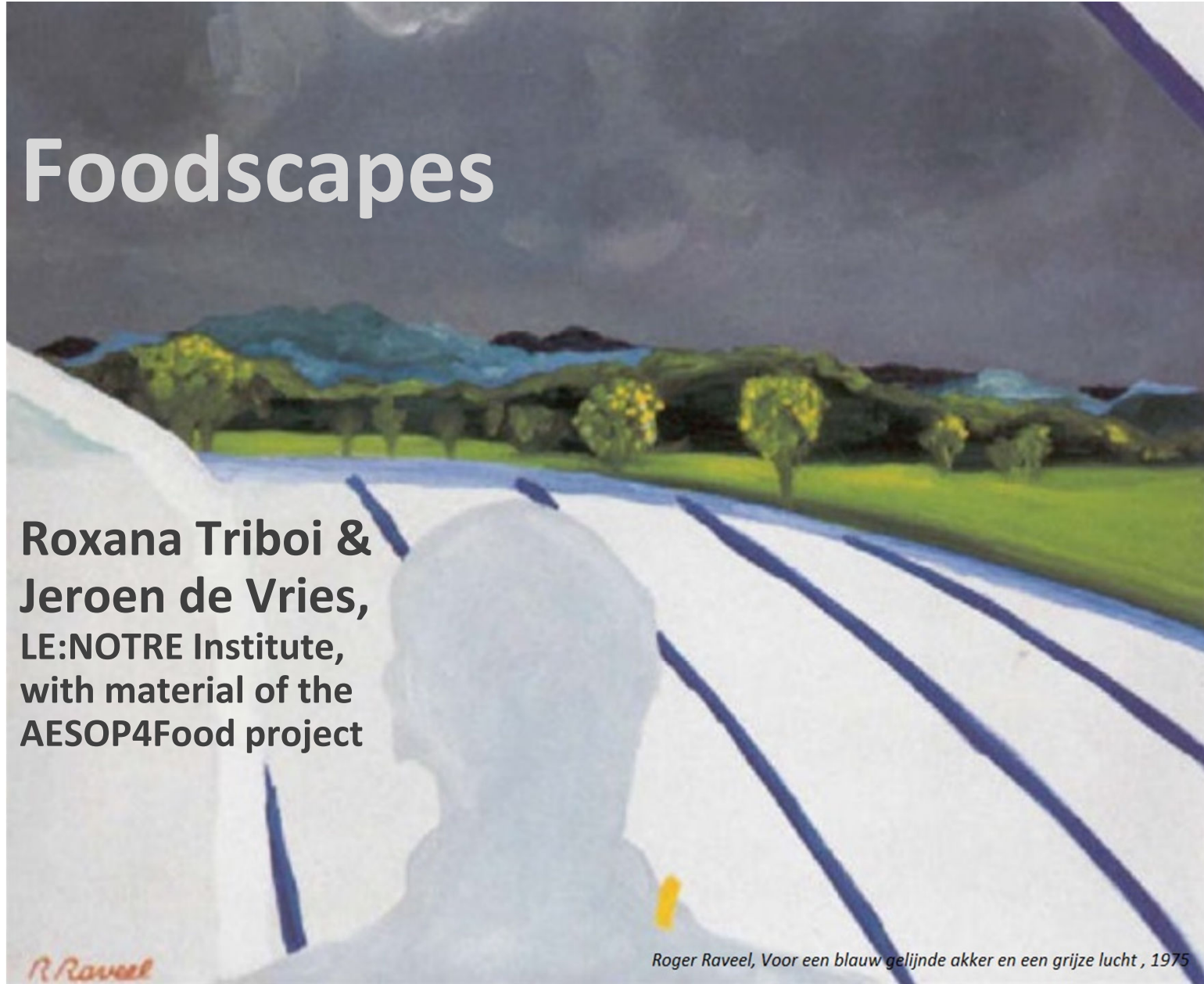
MLA Vilnius Tech

14h30 EET

Roxana Triboi &
Jeroen de Vries,
LE:NOTRE Institute,
with material of the
AESOP4Food project

R. Raveel

Roger Raveel, Voor een blauw gelijkende akker en een grijze lucht, 1975



Overview of the course - all times EE

1. Introduction and Current challenges of the food system, global trends and regional perspective
2. City region food mapping methods and cases on multi-scale levels - *Online*, Monday October 6, 9h05 - 10h05
3. Food governance, food councils, multilevel governance.- *Online*, Thursday October 9, 14h30 - 16h05
4. *Agro-ecological urbanism: concepts and building blocks* - *Onsite*, Monday October 13, 9h00-10h05

Intensive onsite week with lectures by Dr. Roxana Triboi.

1. *Agriculture in a global context and Nominal Group Technique* - *Onsite*, Monday October 13 in the afternoon after the field visit.
2. *Seminar with collaborative work: presentation on reading material by the students, collaborative goal setting.* *Onsite* Thursday, October 16, 10h00 - 16h00
3. *Urban agriculture and the commons* - *Onsite*, Thursday, October 16, 16h20 - 17h50
4. Food security, food justice and food democracy - *Online*, Thursday October 23, 14h30-16h05

AGENDA of the session

- Getting to know each other
- Overview of the programme
- Learning outcomes, goals of the Common Agricultural Policy of the EU
- Challenges as defined in the Common Food Policy of IPES-Food
- Preparatory readings and video
- Global trends and regional perspective
- First assignment: landscape on your plate: Padlet

Learning outcomes

- Understands the concept of food systems in their cultural, local and regional setting.
- Is aware of contemporary challenges to sustainable food systems in context of spatial planning.
- Develops an understanding of the multiple dimensions of food systems: social, environmental, economic and spatial.

Learning outcomes

- Can map and evaluate a concrete situation of a food system, making use of a transparent method, to define the most relevant challenges.
- Can formulate an approach and/or a possible solution for a selected challenge that is related to his/her own competences and role in the system.
- Can define her/his own position and values regarding sustainable food planning
- Is able to reflect on his/her own process, using feedback from others reflecting on cultural, social and economic differences.

Goals of the new Common Agricultural Policy

- ensure a fair income for farmers
- increase competitiveness
- improve the position of farmers in the food chain
- climate change action
- environmental care
- preserve landscapes & biodiversity
- support generational renewal
- vibrant rural areas
- protect food and health quality
- fostering knowledge & innovation.



Common Food Policy

Challenges

Integrated vision

Policy oriented



TOWARDS A COMMON FOOD POLICY FOR THE EUROPEAN UNION

THE POLICY REFORM AND REALIGNMENT THAT IS REQUIRED
TO BUILD SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS IN EUROPE



Challenges for sustainable food planning

CFP: Failure to put sustainable farming first



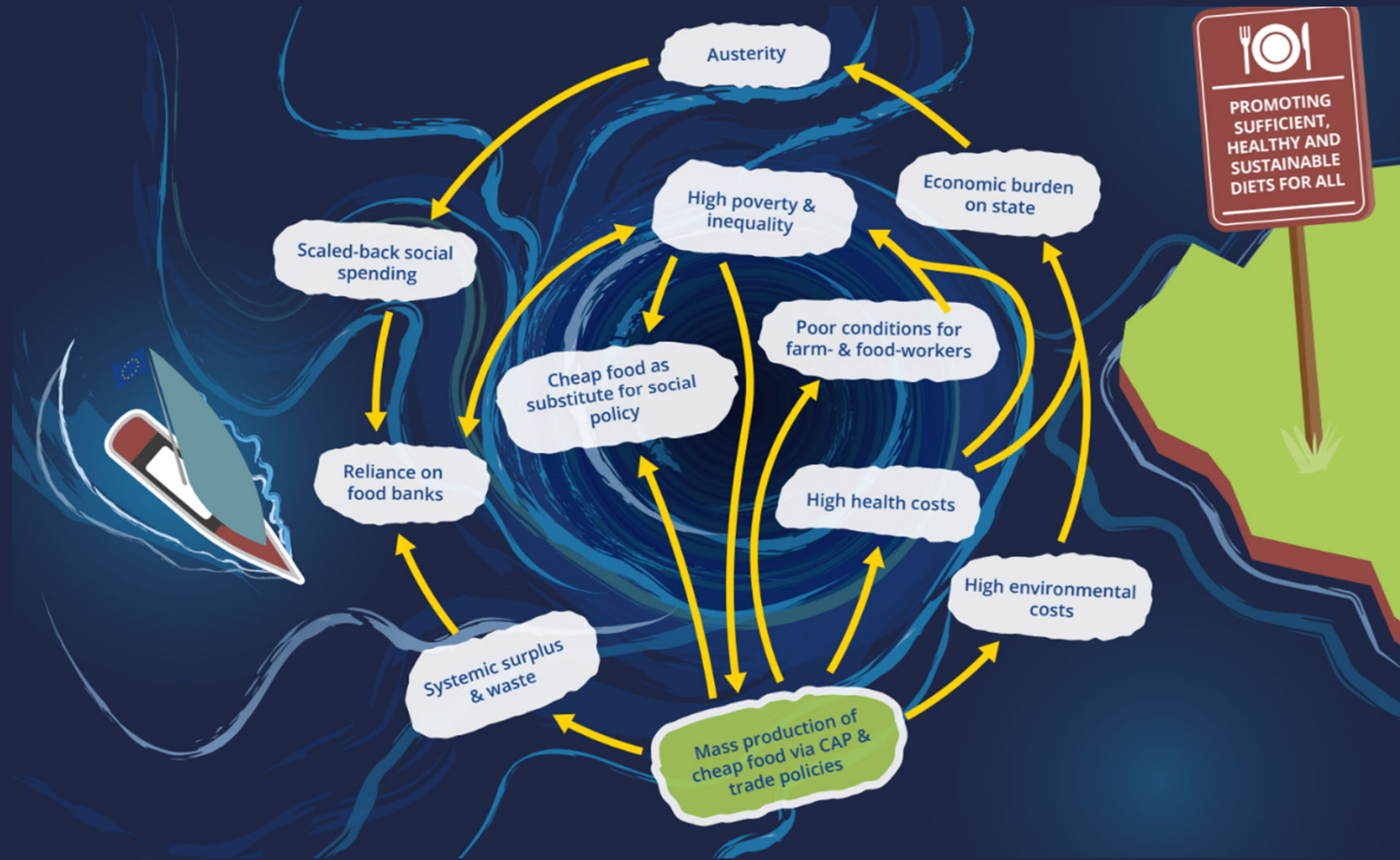
Ensuring
access to
land, water
and healthy
soils

CFP: Techno-Fixes that sideline the real solutions



Rebuilding
climate-
resilient,
healthy agro-
ecosystems

CFP: The hidden costs of cheap food



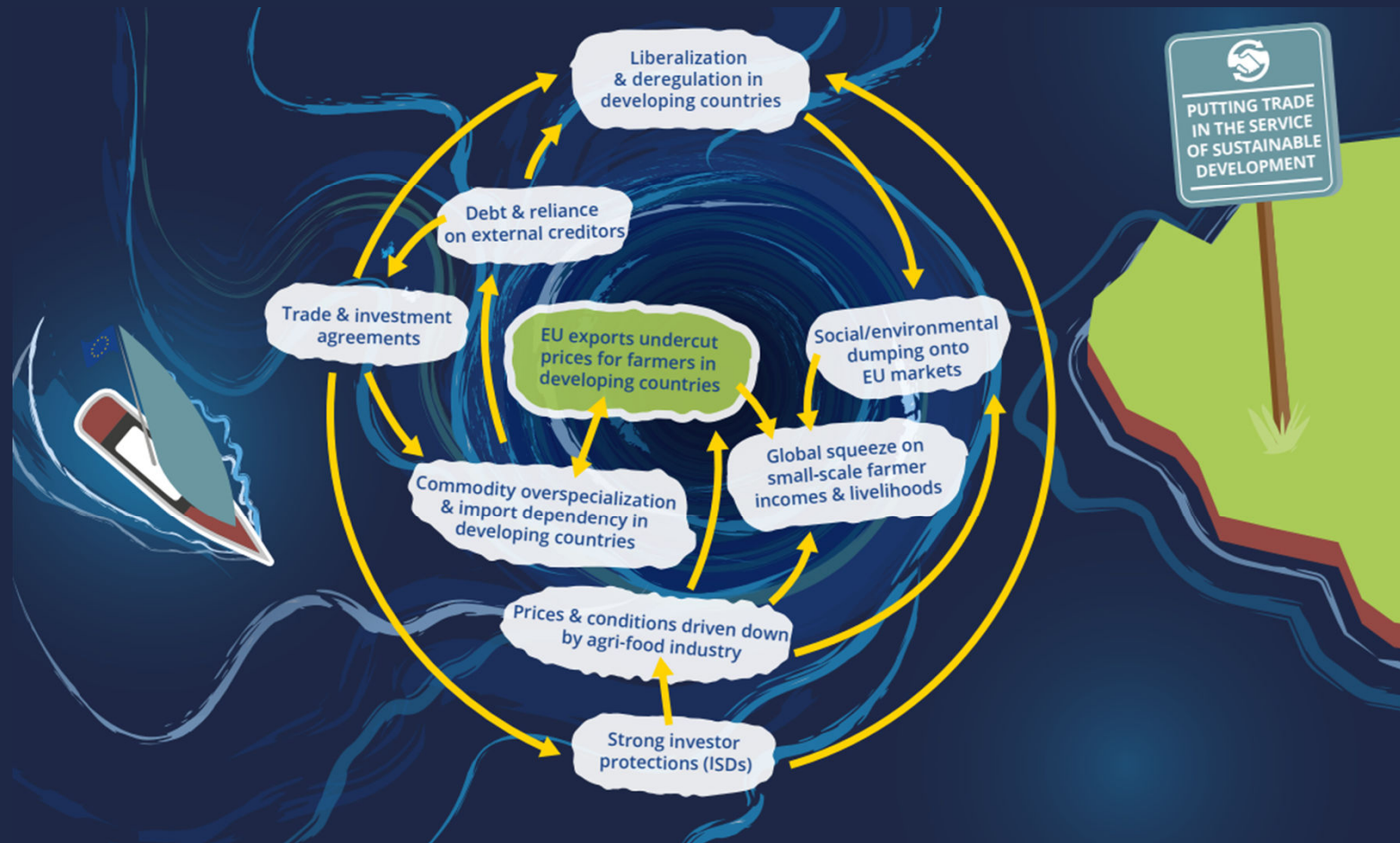
Promoting
sufficient,
healthy and
sustainable
diets for all

CFP: The untapped potential of alternative foodsystem initiatives



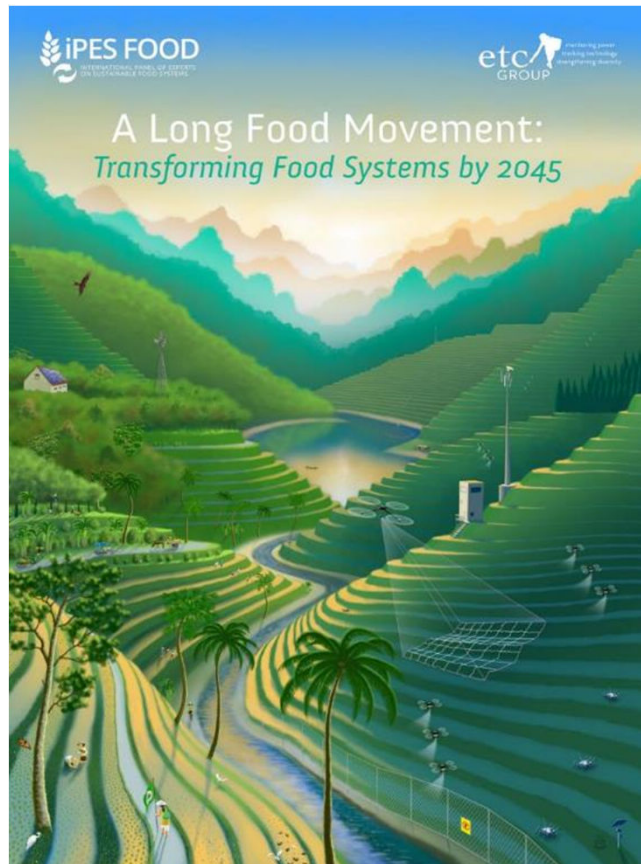
Fairer,
shorter &
cleaner
supply
chains

CFP: Export orientation, race to the bottom



Putting
trade in the
service of
sustainable
develop-
ment

IPES Long food movement



Two scenarios

Looking ahead to 2045: Agribusiness-as-Usual

Looking ahead to 2045: Civil society as Unusual

Four pathways

Rooting food systems in diversity, agroecology, and human rights

Transforming governance structures

Shifting financial flows

Rethinking the modalities of civil society collaboration

<http://www.ipes-food.org/pages/LongFoodMovement>



Agroecology

the application of ecological principles to the study, design and management of agroecosystems that are both productive and natural resource conserving, culturally sensitive, socially just and economically viable

Altieri and Toledo 2011; Gliessman 2012; Fernandez et al. 2013.

a practice, a science and a social movement that has been embraced by the international food sovereignty movement through the Declaration of the International Forum for Agroecology

Anderson et al. 2015:3 & Nyéleni Declaration, Mali, 27 February 2015

For next time preparatory reading material

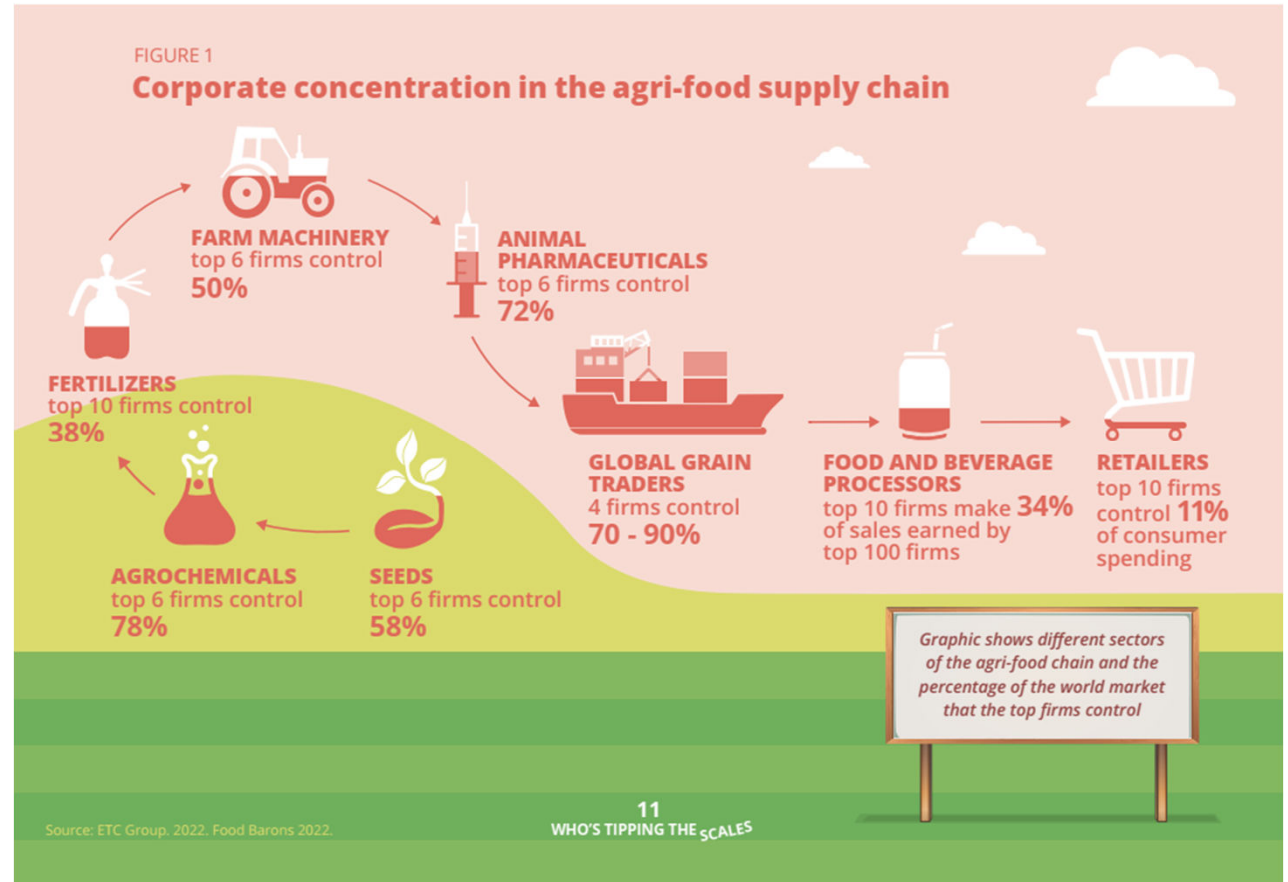
Hungry Cities by Carolyn Steel video

IPES-Food report A Long Food Movement

Deh-Tor, C.M. . 2017 From Agriculture in the City to an Agroecological Urbanism: The transformative pathway of urban (political) agroecology

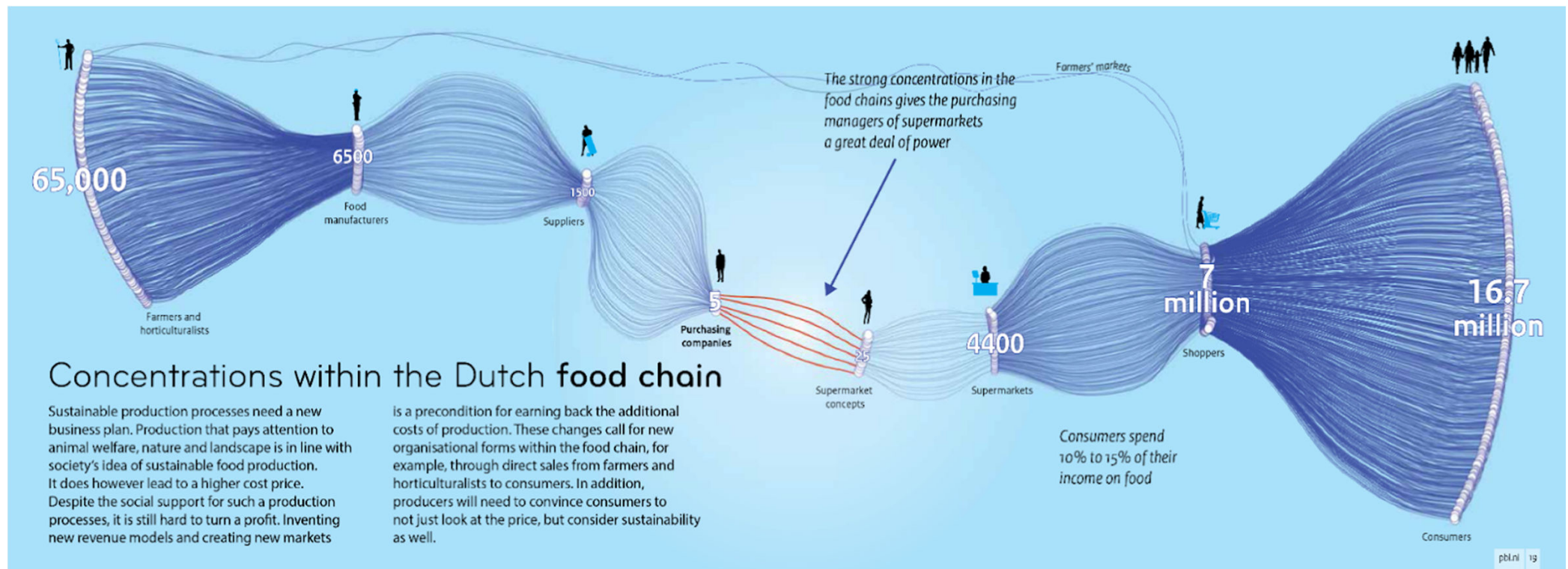
https://wiki.landscape-portal.org/index.php/2025_MLA_Vilnius_Prod_Landscape

Corporate influence on global and national food systems



Source: IPES-Food, *Who's Tipping the Scales?*

the flows of food in the Netherlands

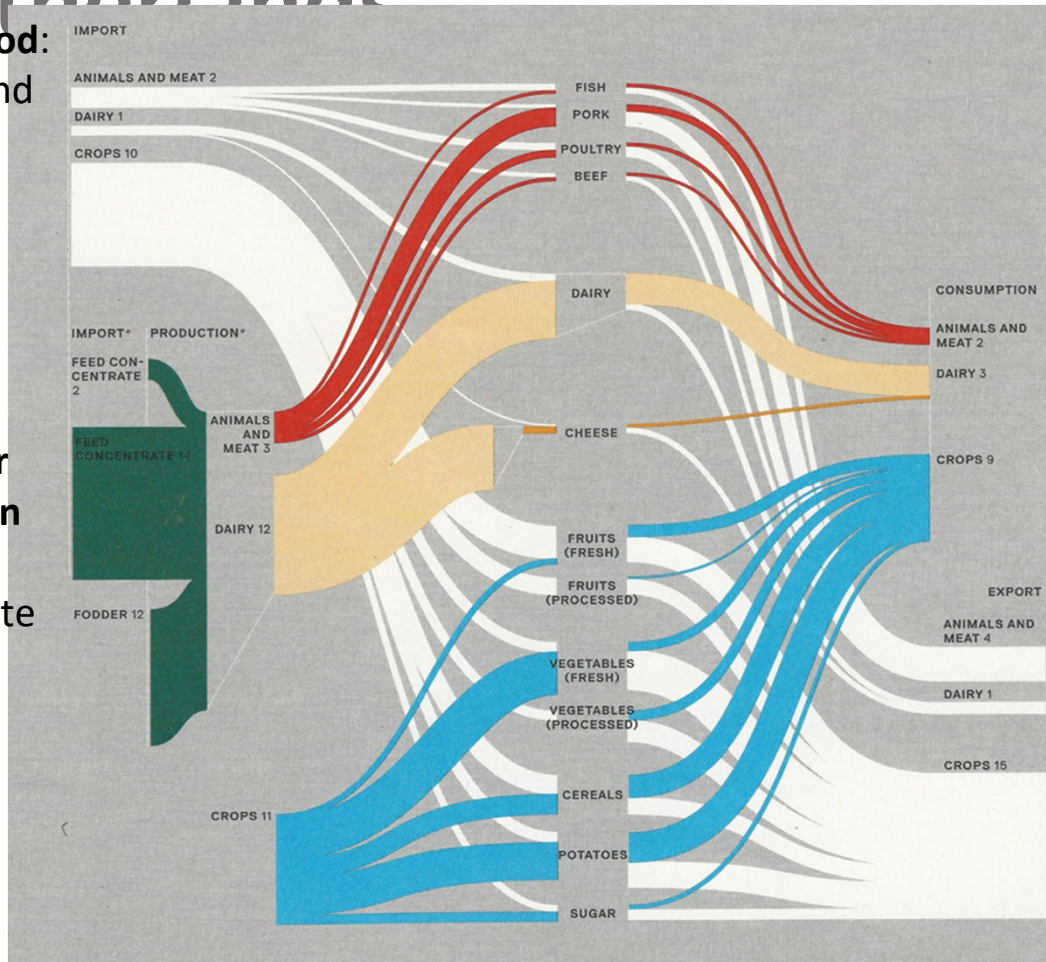


power concentration in the food chain

the flows of food in the Netherlands

Import food:
animals and meat,
dairy
and
crops

Import for production
Feed
concentrate
Fodder



Consumption of
animals and meat,
dairy
and
crops

Export of
animals and
meat,
dairy
and
crops

Import
Production
Export
Consumption

*An open system
with a major
import and
culture of animal
feed*

Source: PBL, 2014

Food systems

- Food systems encompass the entire range of activities involved in the **production, processing, marketing, consumption and disposal of goods that originate from agriculture, forestry or fisheries**, including the inputs needed and the outputs generated at each of these steps.
- Food systems also involve the **people and institutions** that initiate or inhibit change in the systems as well as the sociopolitical, economic and technological environment in which these activities take place.

Source: FAO, 2013.

Global approach of the food system

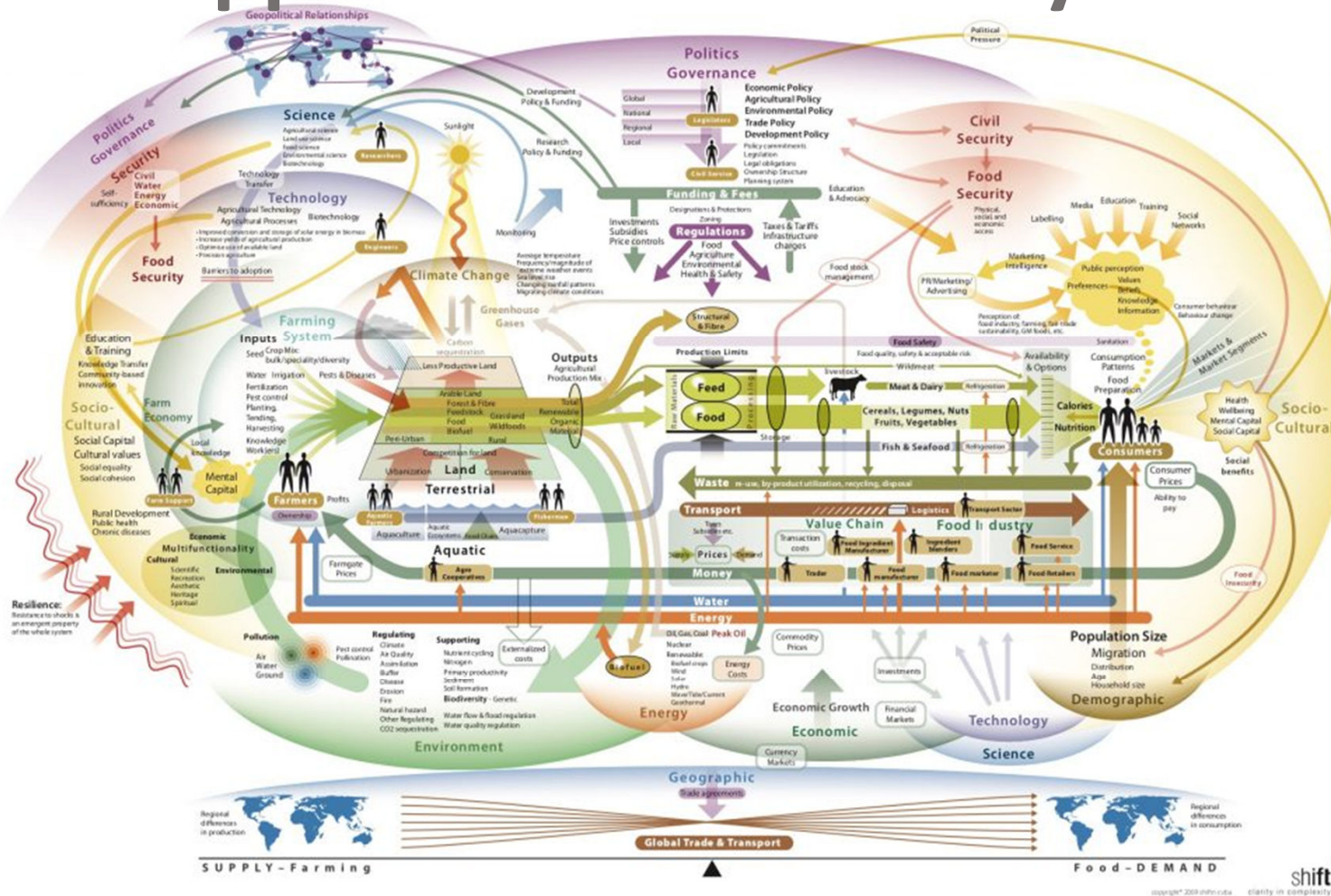


Figure 1: Global Food System Map 3. Source: ShiftN, 2009

Nicholson, C.F. et al. 2019.

City Region Food Systems

A food system is the complex set of activities and relationships in the food cycle: growing, producing, processing, distributing, marketing, retailing, storing, preparing, consuming and disposing' (City of Hamilton 2014).

An ideal CRFS fosters four interconnected elements through out the food chain:

- (1) food security and nutrition;
- (2) livelihoods and economic development;
- (3) sustainable natural resources management;
- (4) social inclusion and equity (FAO and RUAF 2015).

Better connections among cities and towns and between them and their rural surroundings

Question to you all:

What do you think is an important challenge for the food system in Lithuania.

Take some minutes to think and then we have a short round of answers.

The Milan Urban Food Policy Pact

In 2014, the Mayor of Milan decided to launch an international protocol aimed at tackling food-related issues at the urban level, to be adopted by as many world cities as possible.

The Milan Urban Food Policy Pact was signed on the **15 October 2015** in Milan by more than **100 cities**.
It represents one of the most important legacies of Milan EXPO 2015.



225

Signatory cities

400M

Inhabitants

7

Global Fora

14

Regional Fora

370

Practices collected

Milan Urban Food Policy Pact

More than 50% of the world's population currently lives in urban areas, a proportion that is projected to increase to almost 70% by 2050.

Source: <http://www.milanurbanfoodpact.org>

The Milan Urban Food Policy Pact

- Milan Urban Food Policy Pact : The MUFPP today unites 225 cities
- Monitoring Framework consists of 37 recommended actions organized around **6 categories**:
 1. Governance
 2. Sustainable diets and nutrition
 3. Social and economic equity
 4. Food production (including urban-rural linkages)
 5. Food supply and distribution
 6. Food waste

Source: <http://www.milanurbanfoodpolicypact.org>

The Milan Urban Food Policy Pact

1. Acknowledging that **cities** which *host over half the world's population* have a **strategic role to play in developing sustainable food systems and promoting healthy diets**, and because while every city is different, they are all centres of economic, political and cultural innovation, and manage vast public resources, infrastructure, investments and expertise;
2. Noting **current food systems are being challenged to provide permanent and reliable access to adequate, safe, local, diversified, fair, healthy and nutrient rich food for all**; and that the task of feeding cities will face multiple constraints posed by inter alia, unbalanced distribution and access, environmental degradation, resource scarcity and climate change, unsustainable production and consumption patterns, and food loss and waste;
3. Acknowledging that accelerated urbanisation is profoundly impacting our world –in economic, social and environmental dimensions –which therefore necessitates re-examination of the ways in which **cities are provisioned with food and water** as well as other **essential goods and services**;
4. Acknowledging that **hunger** and **malnutrition** in its various forms exist within all cities, posing great burdens on individual health and well-being and thus generating major social and economic costs at household, community, municipality and national levels;
5. Recognizing that **family farmers** and **smallholder food producers**, (notably women producers in many countries) play a **key role in feeding cities** and their territories, by helping to maintain *resilient, equitable, culturally appropriate food systems*; and that reorienting food systems and value chains for *sustainable diets* is a means to **reconnect consumers with both rural and urban producers**;

The Milan Urban Food Policy Pact

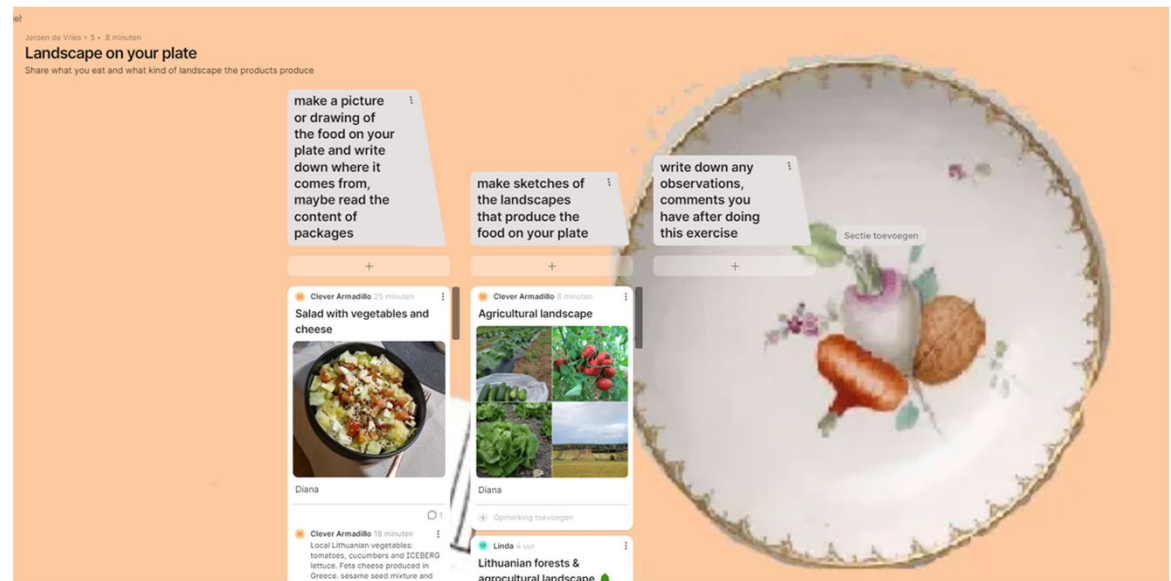
6. Acknowledging that **urban and peri-urban agriculture** offers **opportunities to protect and integrate biodiversity into city** region landscapes and food systems, thereby contributing to synergies across food and nutrition security, ecosystem services and human well-being
7. Acknowledging that since **food policies are closely related to many other urban challenges and policies**, such as *poverty, health and social protection, hygiene and sanitation, land use planning, transport and commerce, energy, education, and disaster preparedness*, it is essential to adopt an approach that is comprehensive, interdisciplinary and inter-institutional
8. Acknowledging that **civil society** and the **private sector** have **major roles** to play in **feeding cities**, bringing experience, innovation and campaigns for more sustainable food systems and mainstreaming the critical need for a socially inclusive and a rights-based approach in urban food policy;
9. Recalling that cities have made commitments to **address climate change**;
10. Acknowledging that cities and their neighbouring territories will be active in operationalising international processes such as **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** and targets in the post-2015 Development Agenda;

Prepare the exercise before October 6:

<https://padlet.com/geronimo2/landscape-on-your-plate-7hsu4djzr0ln5n8n>

The assignment is meant to have more awareness of where your food comes from and what kind of landscapes these create

The results will be presented by you on October 6 or 9, 2025



Next lectures

- City region food mapping methods and cases on multi-scale levels - ***Online***, Monday October 6, **9h05 - 10h05**
- Food governance, food councils, multilevel governance.-
Online, Thursday October 9, **14h30 - 16h05**

Reading and exercise see:

https://wiki.landscape-portal.org/index.php/2025_MLA_Vilnius_Prod_Landscape