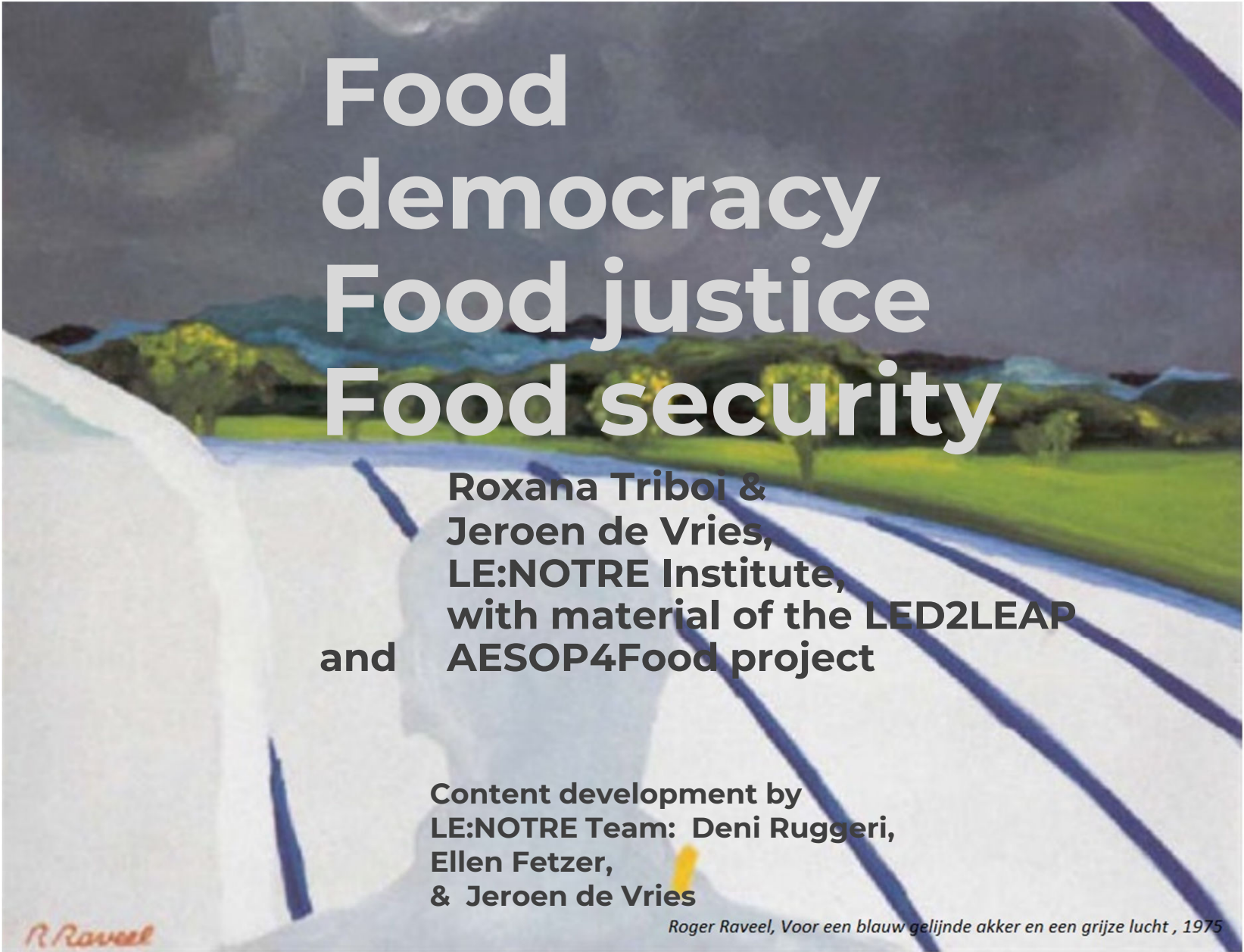




Food democracy Food justice Food security

Roxana Triboi &
Jeroen de Vries,
LE:NOTRE Institute,
with material of the LED2LEAP
and AESOP4Food project

Content development by
LE:NOTRE Team: Deni Ruggeri,
Ellen Fetzer,
& Jeroen de Vries

*Lecture 7
Thursday,
October 23, 2025
MLA Vilnius Tech*

R Raveel

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

Programme

1. Questions & answers on lectures and assignment
2. Introduction on Food Democracy while discussing pro's and con's
3. Food justice, security and sovereignty
4. Discussion on the role of landscape architects
5. Outlook interim presentation

Question & Answers

**Any questions about
previous lectures and the
assignment?**

Food Democracy

how actors may regain democratic control over the food system enabling its sustainable transformation

agroecology is political; it requires us to challenge and transform structures of power in society. We need to put the control of seeds, biodiversity, land and territories, waters, knowledge, culture and the commons in the hands of the peoples who feed the world.

Nyeleni Declaration-2015

<https://www.foodsovereignty.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Download-declaration-Agroecology-Nyeleni-2015.pdf>

Sustainable Development Goals



United Nations (2016), Global Goals for Sustainable Development (<http://www.un.org>)

The Council of Europe Landscape Convention

A photograph of a group of people standing in a grassy field. In the center, an older man in a plaid shirt and light trousers is looking towards the camera. To his left, a woman in a white tank top and maroon pants is smiling. Further left, another woman in a floral dress is visible. The background features a stone wall with a cross on top and lush green trees. The text is overlaid on this image.

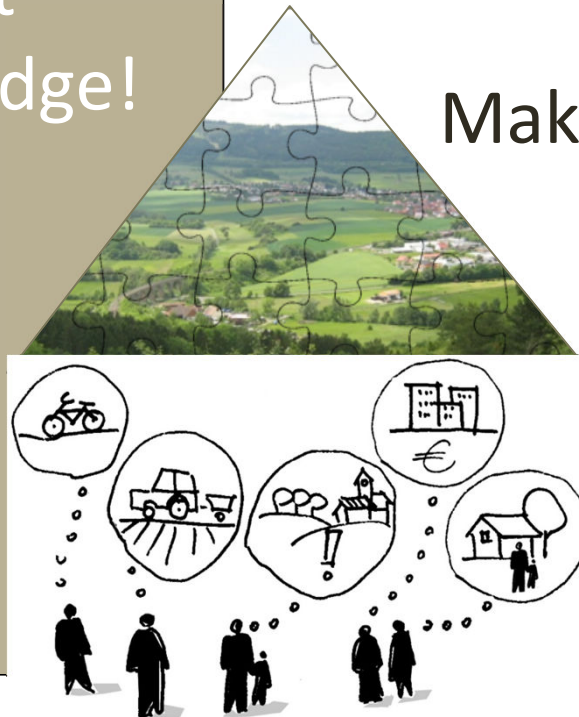
**‘Landscape’ means an area,
as perceived by people, whose
character is the result of the
action and interaction of
natural and/or human factors**

Council of Europe (2000), European Landscape Convention

Foodscape as a landscape

No landscape
without
knowledge!

Making sense of places
by sharing
landscape
knowledge



Landscape

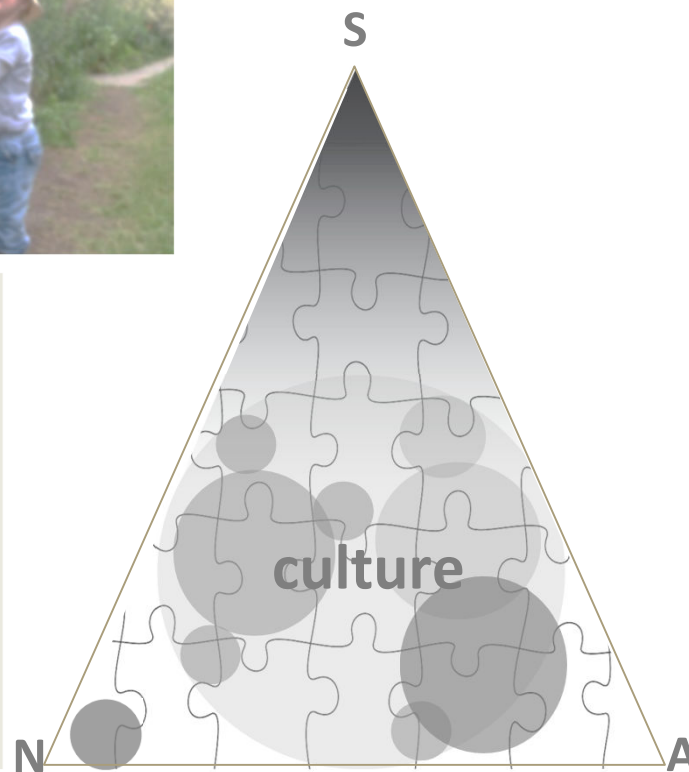
"Landscape is both the
"phenomenon itself and
our perception of it."

WYLIE 2007: 7



"means an
area, as
perceived by
people,
whose
character is
the result of
the action and
interaction of
**natural
and/or
human
factors.**"

ELC, article I, a



"Landscape is a cultural
phenomenon that can
be described by its three
main constituting
components: Nature,
artefacts and social
organisation."

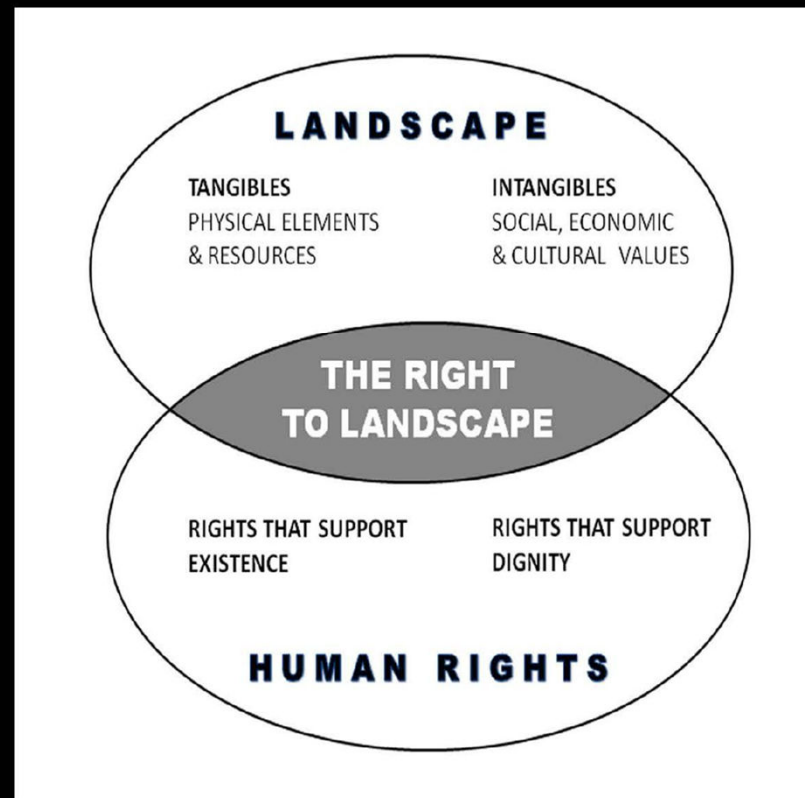
IPSEN, 2012

L(I)andscape D(d)emocracy



L(l)andscape D(d)emocracy

Conceptual diagram



Visual by
Shelley Egoz

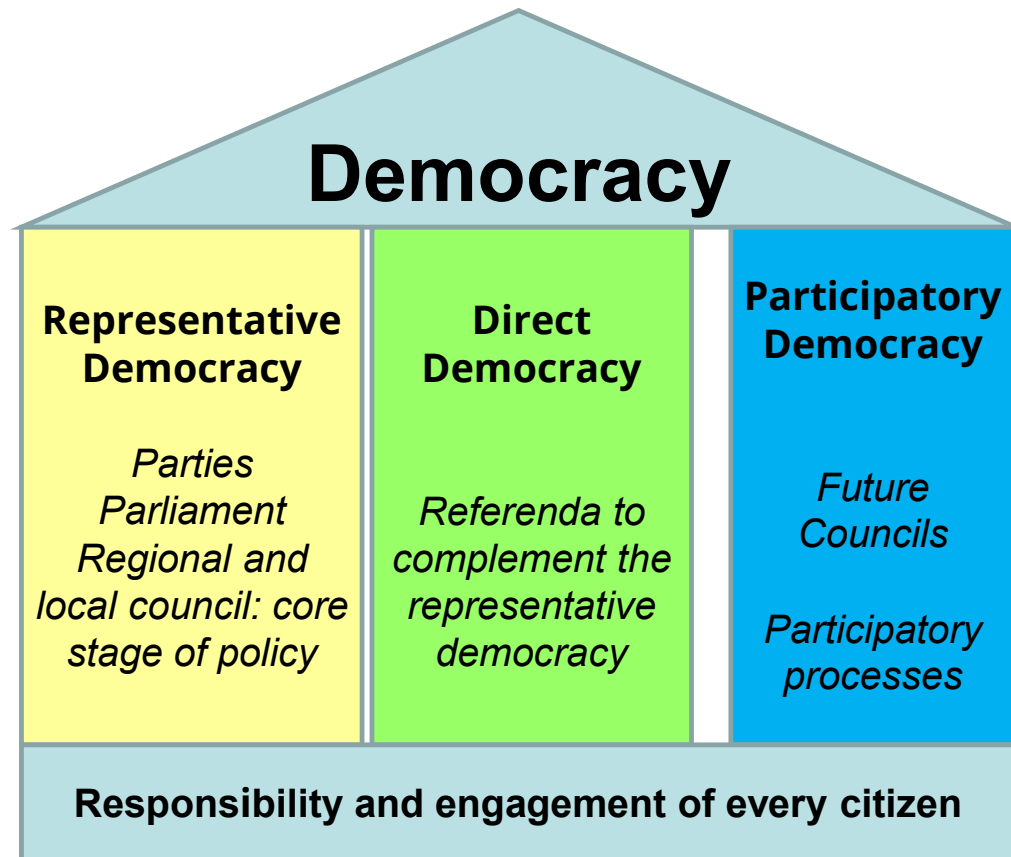
Democracy

Pre-modern forms of collective decision-making: the Greek Agora
From *polis* to politics: the urban landscape as collective framework



By A.Savin (Wikimedia Commons · WikiPhotoSpace) - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=27948211>

Democracy



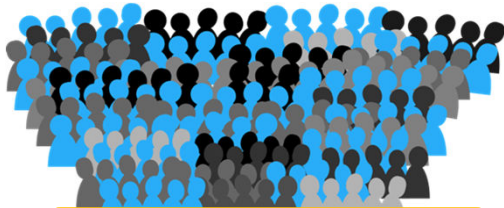
Three columns model of contemporary democracy

Christian Felber: The economy of the common good (Gemeinwohlökonomie), 2010, p. 109

Democracy

Contemporary democracy types

Source: pixabay



Representative democracy

Citizens delegate decisions for a certain period to representatives.

Representation at national, Regional, local and European level.

Pro's	Con's

Democracy

Contemporary democracy types

VOTE

YES ☐ NO ☐



Direct democracy

Citizens decide directly
Eg. Referendum

Mostly at municipality level,
but also regional and national level

Pro's?	Con's

Democracy

Contemporary democracy types



Deliberative democracy

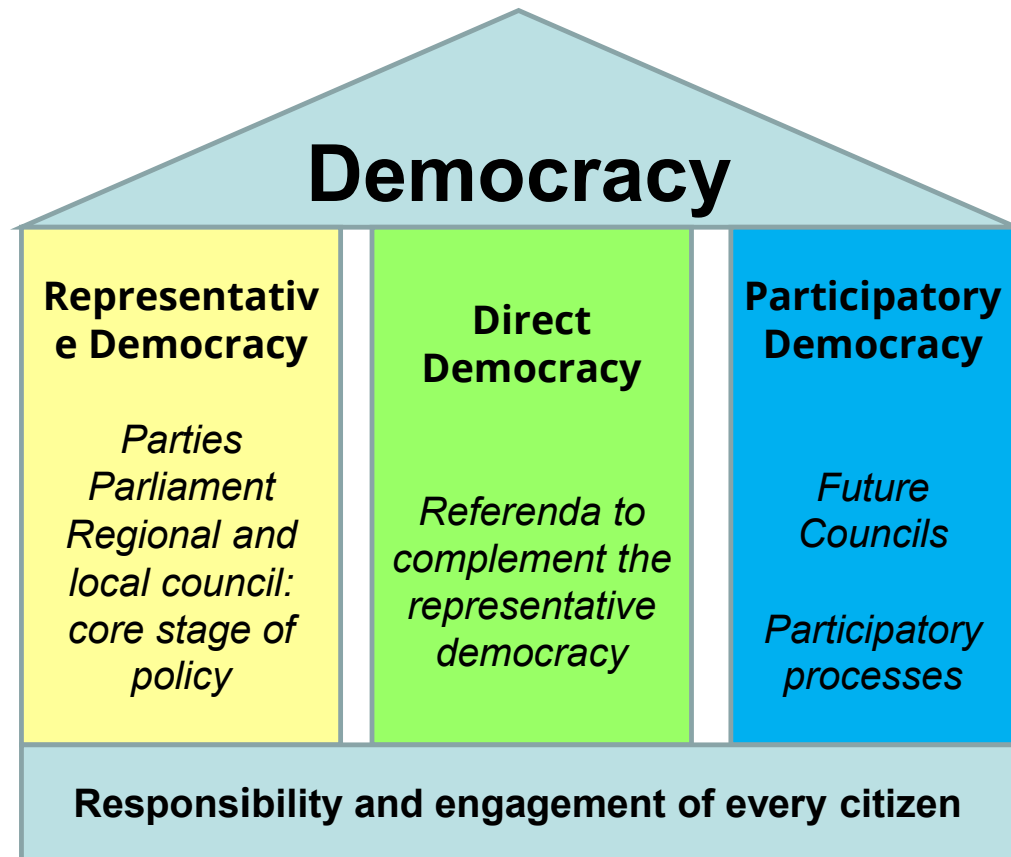
Decisions are only taken upon deliberation of all possible viewpoints

Decisions are taken on the basis of a synopsis of arguments, not by vote.

This requires: information, active listening, reflexive value construction

Pro's?	Con's?

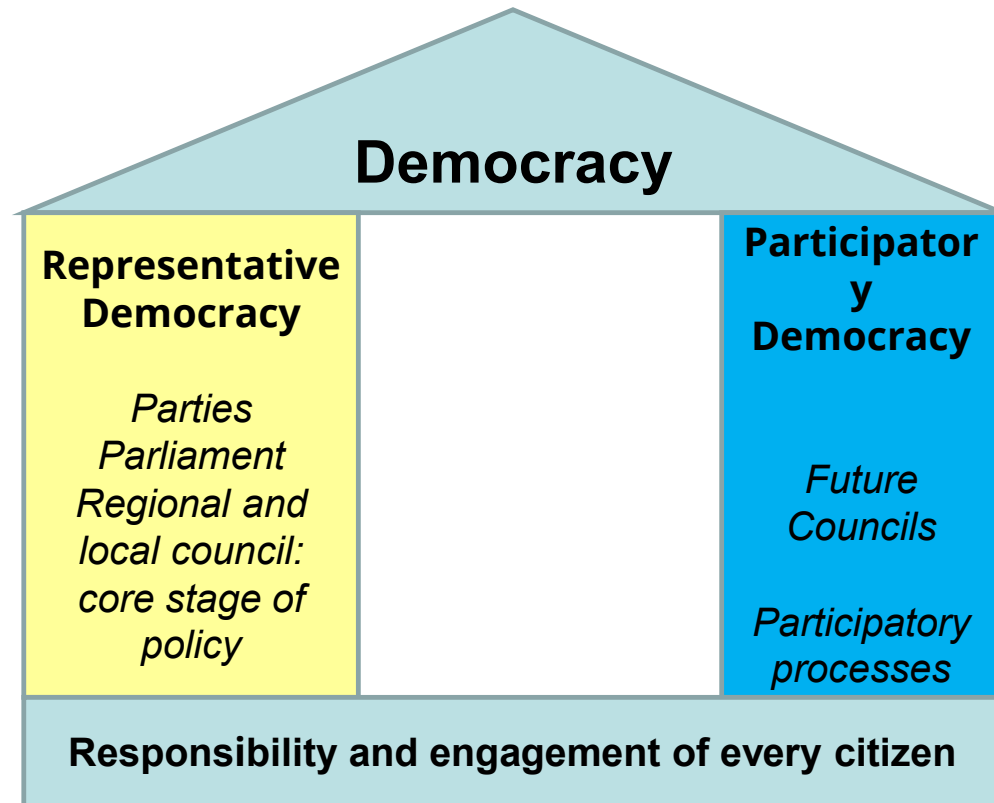
Democracy



Three columns model of contemporary democracy

Christian Felber: The economy of the common good (Gemeinwohlökonomie), 2010, p. 109

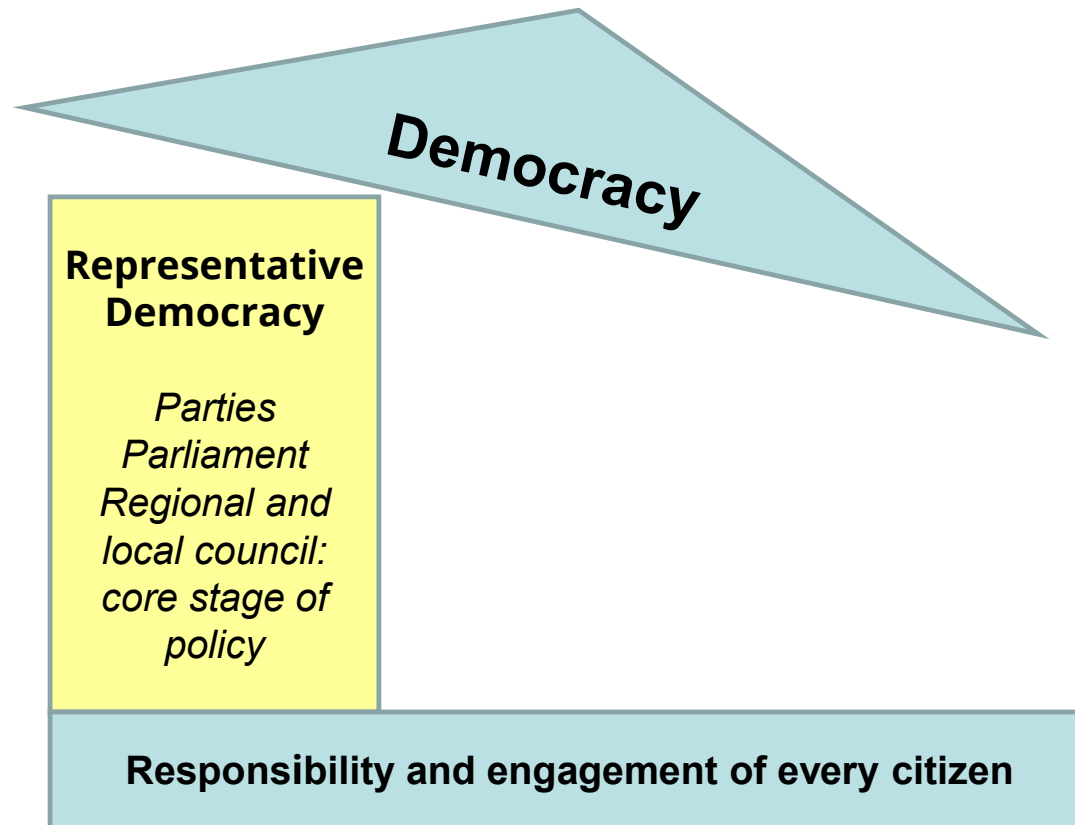
Democracy



Three columns model of contemporary democracy

Christian Felber: The economy of the common good (Gemeinwohlökonomie), 2010, p. 109

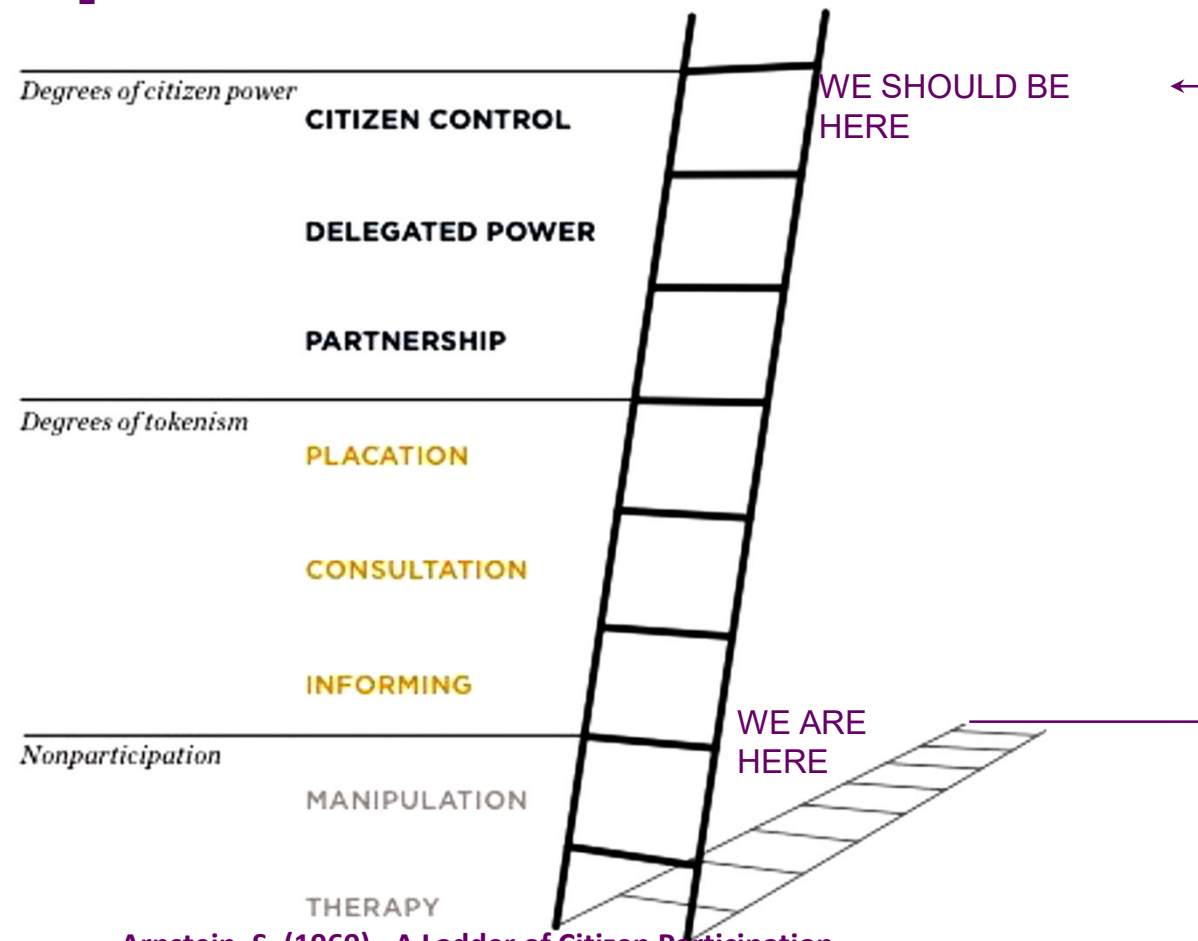
Democracy



Three columns model of contemporary democracy

Christian Felber: The economy of the common good (Gemeinwohlökonomie), 2010, p. 109

participation



Arnstein, S. (1969). A Ladder of Citizen Participation

design advocacy and activism



*As landscape architects we vow to **create places that serve the higher purpose of social and ecological justice** for all peoples and all species. We vow to create places that nourish our deepest needs for **communion with the natural world and with one another**. We vow to serve the **health and well-being of all communities**.*

*To fulfill these promises, we will work to strengthen and diversify our global capacity as a profession. We will work to **cultivate a bold culture of inclusive leadership, advocacy and activism** in our ranks. We will work to raise awareness of landscape architecture's vital contribution. We will work to support research and champion new practices that result in design innovation and **policy transformation***

The New Landscape Declaration Philadelphia, PA June 10-11, 2016 (<http://lafoundation.org>)

Right to Food

- **A fundamental human right:** everyone must have regular, physical and economic access to **adequate, safe, nutritious and culturally acceptable** food for a **dignified** life.
- **Not** just calories: adequacy = quality & safety, cultural acceptability, **or the means to procure** food; realised **progressively**, with a **minimum core** (freedom from hunger).

State obligations & operating principles

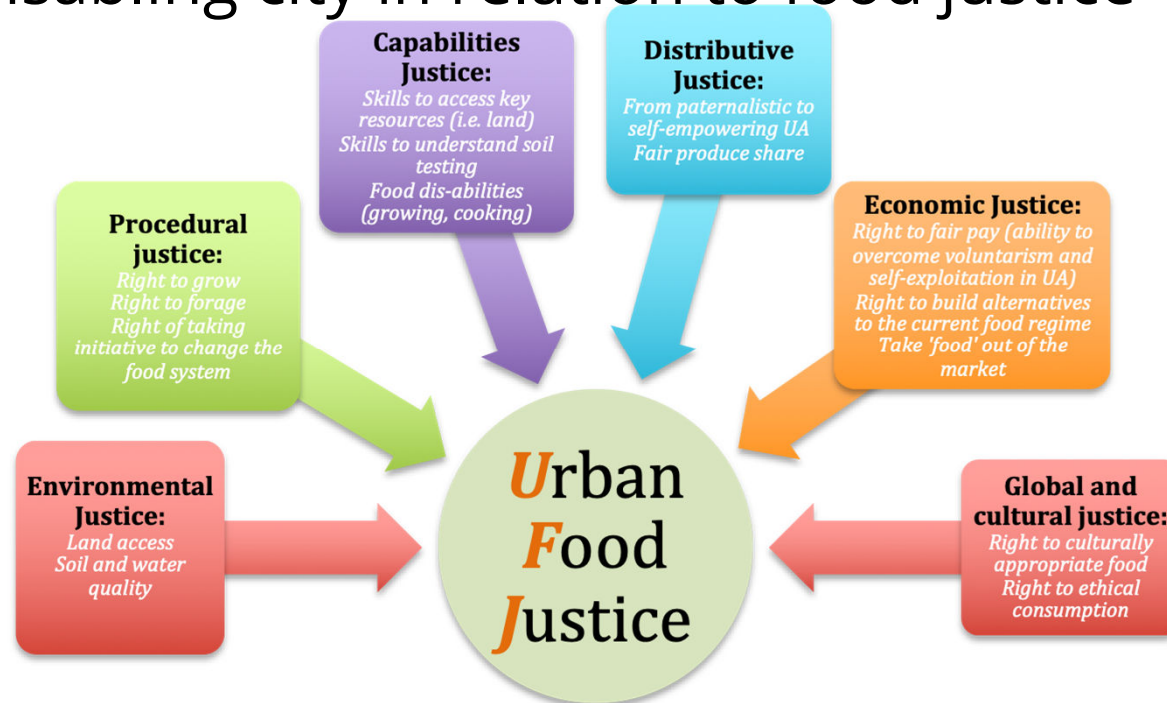
- **Respect • Protect • Fulfil:** do not impede access; prevent third-party interference; adopt measures (laws, policies, **safety nets**) and ensure **access to remedies**.
- **Human-rights-based approach:** participation & agency, non-discrimination, transparency, accountability, rule of law; food must **not** be used as political/economic pressure.
- **Coherence & reporting:** align local–national–international actions; engage with **CFS** and partners; monitor with indicators and public reporting.

Source: General Comment No. 12 — UN CESCR (1999); Voluntary Guidelines... — FAO (2004).

Food Democracy context

Food Justice

The food disabling city in relation to food justice



Source: Dehaene & Tornaghi, lecture Spring 2021, April 29,
On: https://www.landscape-portal.org/sustainable-food-planning-2021/#AGROECOLOGICAL_URBANISM



Food Sovereignty

Nyeleni Declaration 2007. La Vía Campesina

The right of peoples to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods, and their right to define their own food and agriculture systems.

It puts the aspirations and needs of those who produce, distribute and consume food at the heart of food systems and policies rather than the demands of markets and corporations.

**Defends the interests and inclusion of the next generation.
Offers a strategy to resist and dismantle the current corporate trade and food regime, and directions for food farming**

Forms of power: visible, hidden, invisible

Visible power: observable decision-making	Hidden power: setting the political agenda	Invisible power: shaping meaning and what is acceptable
Visible power includes the aspects of political power that we “see” – formal rules, structures, institutions and procedures informing decisionmaking. In other words, it is about how those people with power use existing procedures and structures to control the actions of others. Examples include: elections, political parties, Budget, laws, etc.	Hidden power is exercised when powerful people and institutions maintain their influence by setting and manipulating agendas and marginalising the concerns and voices of less powerful groups. Those with power see and understand these rules of the game; others don't. Examples include: quality of some consultation processes that exclude some voices; and when decisions are made prior to the consultation.	Invisible power can be seen in the adoption of belief systems that are created by those with power. Problems and issues are kept away not only from the decision-making table but also from the minds and hearts of different people, including those affected by these.

Source: <https://www.participatorymethods.org/method/power>

<https://www.participatorymethods.org/sites/participatorymethods.org/files/Power%20and%20Making%20Change%20Happen.pdf>

Versions of this framework can be found in the following works: VeneKlasen and Miller (2002), A New Weave of Power, People & Politics; Lukes, S. (1974, reprinted 2005), Power: A Radical View, 2nd edition, Basingstoke and New York: Palgrave Macmillan. The framework originates in Lukes' work, but using the labels of “three faces” or “dimensions” of power, rather than visible, hidden and invisible; Gaventa, J. (1980), Power and Powerlessness: Quiescence and Rebellion in an Appalachian Valley, Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press. See also Gaventa (2006), “Finding the Spaces for Change”.

Forms of power: visible, hidden, invisible

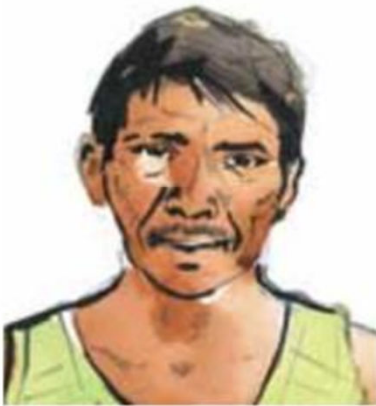
Visible power: observable decision-making	Hidden power: setting the political agenda	Invisible power: shaping meaning and what is acceptable
Visible power includes the aspects of political power that we “see” – formal rules, structures, institutions and procedures informing decisionmaking. In other words, it is about how those people with power use existing procedures and structures to control the actions of others. Examples include: elections, political parties, Budget, laws, etc.	Hidden power is exercised when powerful people and institutions maintain their influence by setting and manipulating recognize powerful actors and reasons for their agenda	Invisible power can be seen in the adoption of belief systems that are created by recognize cultural drivers, which became “natural” for society and for you particularly; recognize who shapes, petrifies and keeps meaning

Source: <https://www.participatorymethods.org/method/power>

<https://www.participatorymethods.org/sites/participatorymethods.org/files/Power%20and%20Making%20Change%20Happen.pdf>

Versions of this framework can be found in the following works: VeneKlasen and Miller (2002), A New Weave of Power, People & Politics; Lukes, S. (1974, reprinted 2005), Power: A Radical View, 2nd edition, Basingstoke and New York: Palgrave Macmillan. The framework originates in Lukes' work, but using the labels of “three faces” or “dimensions” of power, rather than visible, hidden and invisible; Gaventa, J. (1980), Power and Powerlessness: Quiescence and Rebellion in an Appalachian Valley, Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press. See also Gaventa (2006), “Finding the Spaces for Change”.

Forms of power: visible, hidden, invisible



–The rich landowners were able to influence the decision about where the irrigation channels should be placed so that they could get most of the water. Poor farmers were not even consulted.

Source:
https://www.participatorymethods.org/sites/participatorymethods.org/files/Power%20elite%20capture%20and%20hidden%20influence_2012_0.pdf





Food Security

A situation that exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.

Based on this definition, four food security dimensions can be identified: food availability, economic and physical access to food, food utilization, and stability over time.
(<https://a4nh.cgiar.org/2020/01/26/glossary-food-systems>)

Social Food Security *Sécurité sociale de l'alimentation, SSA*

- A public scheme extending social-security principles to food: a **universal right**, **solidarity-based contributions**, and **democratic conventioning** of eligible outlets/products to guarantee **dignified, healthy and sustainable** food access and fair incomes for producers.
- **Three pillars.** (1) **Universality** (an allowance for everyone); (2) **Social contributions** (ability-to-pay financing); (3) **Democratic governance** via local **food funds** (“**caisses**”) deciding what counts as eligible (health, environment, fairness).
- **How it would work.** Each resident is linked to a **local food fund** and receives a **food allowance** spendable with **contracted** producers/retailers/canteens that meet agreed standards; rules are set with citizens, producers and local authorities, and reviewed transparently.
- **State of play (France & neighbours).** France is debating **SSA experimentation** while many **local pilots** test “food funds” and earmarked vouchers; civil-society initiatives are also active in **Belgium, Switzerland and Luxembourg**.
- **Why now.** Moves the focus **from food aid to rights**, reducing stigma, improving **choice**, and aligning affordability with **ecological transition** and **fair prices** for farmers.

City of Montpellier – example right to food

29



Montpellier: 26% **poverty**

Dramatic rise in the use of food aid

1,1 million equivalent meals/year provided by food aid

Food aid questions inclusion and dignity

City of Montpellier – Common Food Support



Experimentation: social security for food

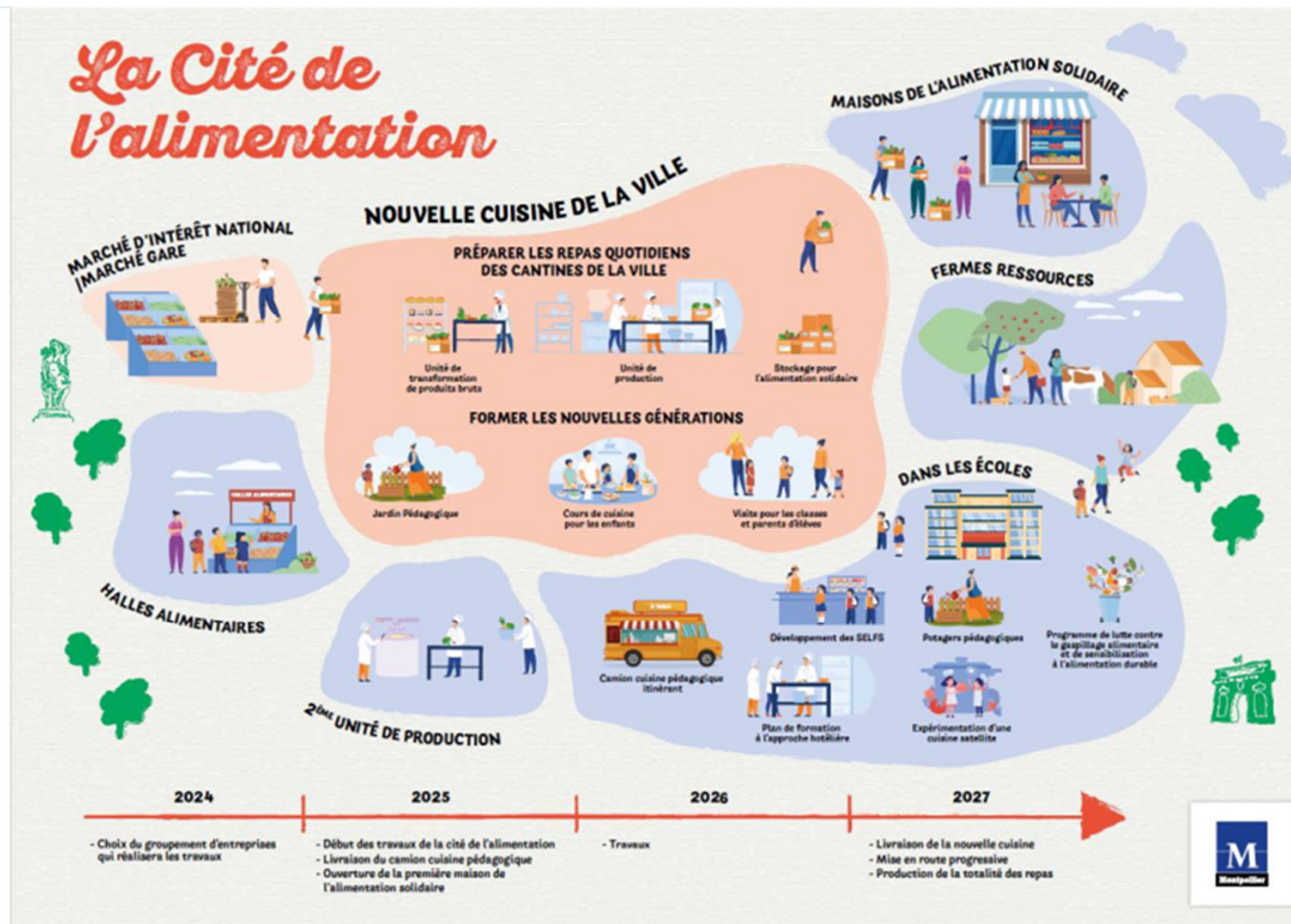
Common fund for food

caisse alimentaire
commune

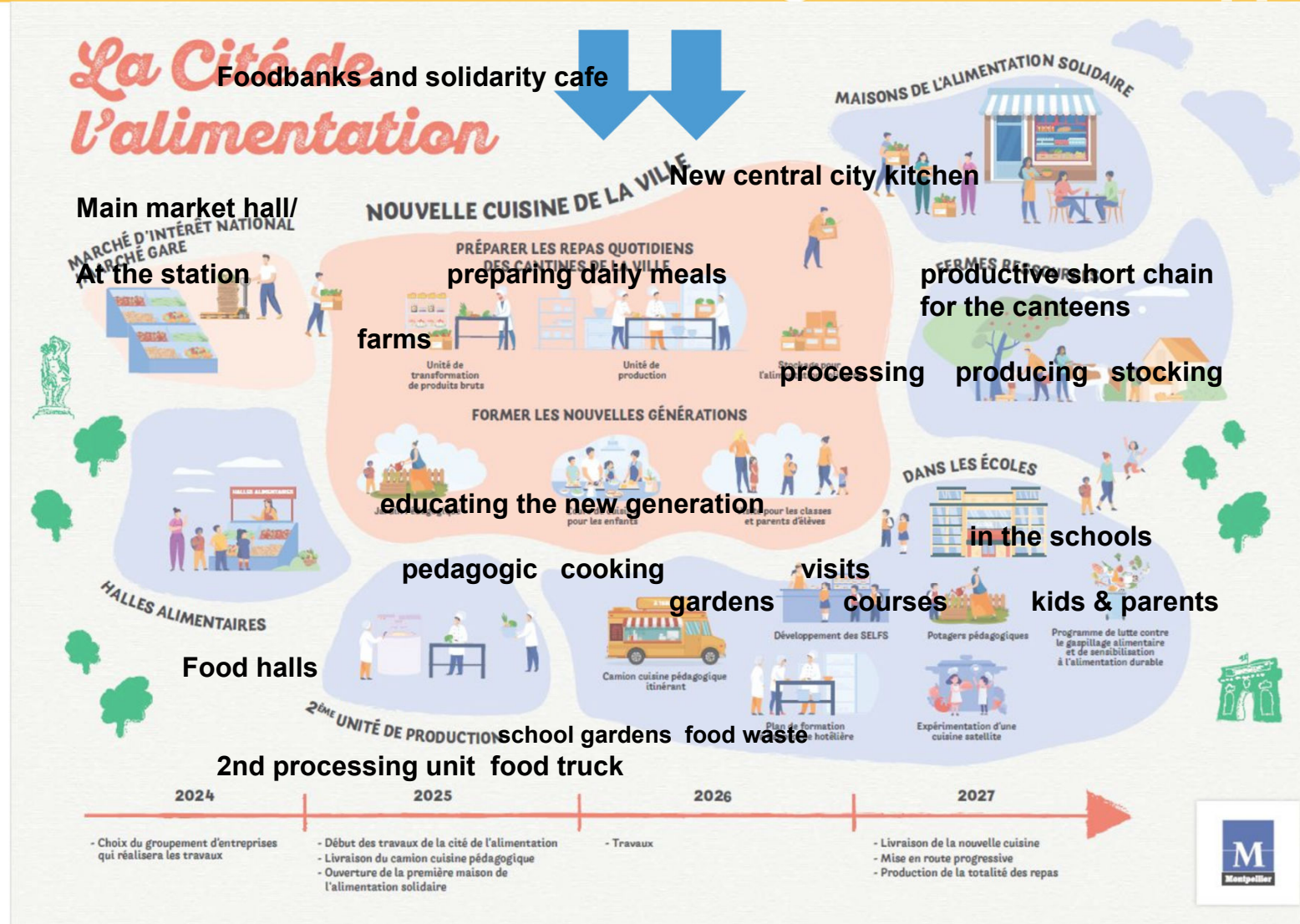


Montpellier – Food Education in Schools

31



Structuring sustainable and resilient foodchain through canteens supply



Discussing Three Questions

Do you have the feeling that Food Security is an real issue in Lithuania?

Do you think food democracy is relevant for Lithuania, or is it more something for Western Countries and the Global South?

What might change in your role as a Landscape Architect by your insights of Food justice, democracy, sovereignty and Right to Food?

Next session:
Intermediar presentation
Thursday November 7, 14h30-16h05 EET

One short group presentation

Followed by short individual presentations of the progress

Plenary on questions on the assignment