



**LEUPHANA**  
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## **Delivering Food Sovereignty in a World of Interacting Scales: Insights from multilevel governance research**

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# FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

- Process
- Democracy
- Environmental sustainability
- (Biodiversity)

*Patel, 2009; Chappell et al., 2013*

- Rights of local people or nations?
- Individuals or states?
- Challenges of implementation

*Edelman et al., 2014; Agarwal, 2014.*

The screenshot shows the website for La Via Campesina, International Peasant's Movement. The header features a banner with images of farmers and the text 'LA VIA CAMPESINA THE INTERNATIONAL PEASANT'S VOICE' and 'La Via Campesina International Peasant's Movement'. Below the banner is a navigation menu with items like Home, Organisation, Actions and Events, Main Issues (Agrarian Reform And Water, Biodiversity And Genetic Resources, Food Sovereignty And Trade, Women, Human Rights, Migrations And Rural Workers, Sustainable Peasant's Agriculture, Youth!), Our Conferences, News from the regions, Publications, and Contact Us. The main content area displays an article titled 'Via Campesina at the colloquium "Food Sovereignty : a critical dialogue"' published on Monday, 24 February 2014. The article includes a photo of a woman speaking at a podium and text describing the colloquium. A sidebar on the right contains links for 'Resolutions and Declarations' and 'International Peasant Conference' with the slogan 'Stop the land grab! 17-19 November, Mali'.



## I WILL ARGUE THAT:

- Food sovereignty cannot be local or national. It is both, and everything in between, and above, and below.
- Within this food sovereignty system, to deliver rights, environmental sustainability and food security, we need to think critically about scales of action, without isolating interests.

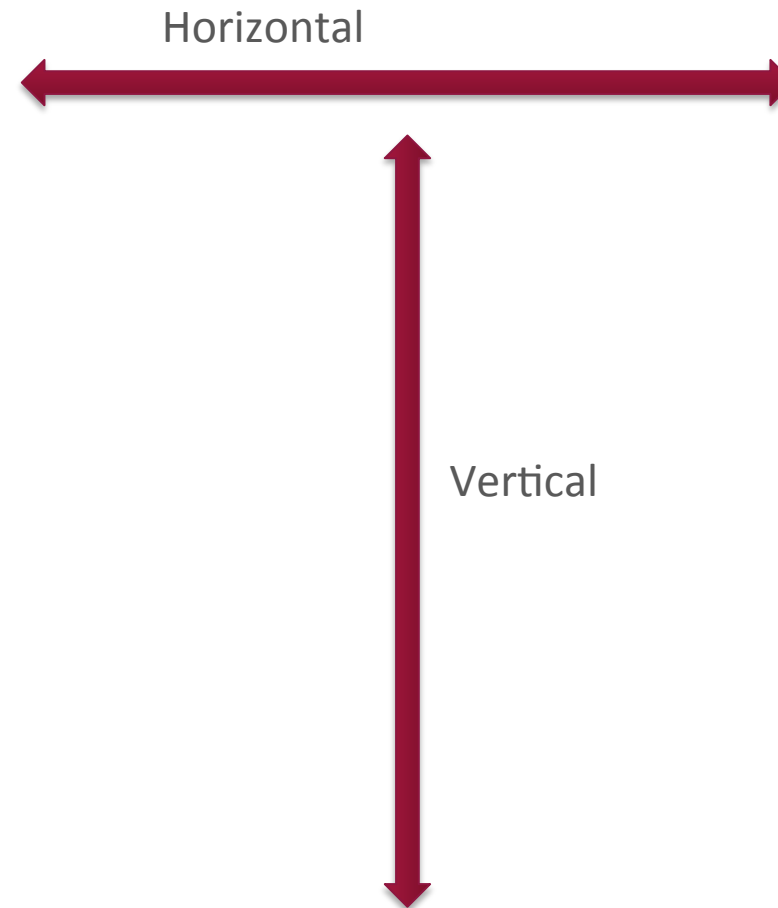
## Outline:

- Challenges in Food Sovereignty Governance
- The Multi-Level Governance (MLG) Framework
- Ways Forward with Multi-Level Food Sovereignty



## MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE (MLG) FRAMEWORK

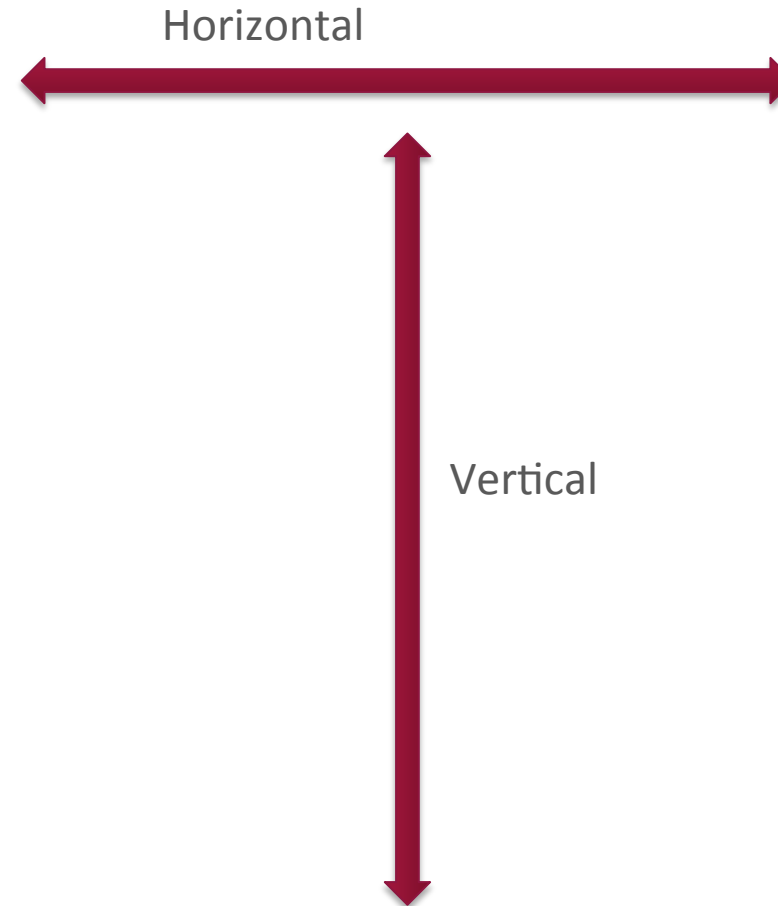
- Supra-national
- National
- Sub-national to local
  
- Actor-centric
- Relationships
- Governance networks





## MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

- Political mobilisation
- Polity making
- Policy making
  
- Within and between scales
- Processes within networks





## CHALLENGES IN FOOD SOVEREIGNTY GOVERNANCE

- Slightly wider sectoral governance
- Local, horizontal decision making





## CHALLENGES IN FOOD SOVEREIGNTY GOVERNANCE

- Powerful (inter) national interests excluded
- Vertical, political interests and polity





## CHALLENGES IN FOOD SOVEREIGNTY GOVERNANCE

- Powerful (inter)national interests excluded
- Vertical political systems and polity

Situate food  
sovereignty within  
broader governance  
system







## CHALLENGES IN FOOD SOVEREIGNTY GOVERNANCE

- Fit between ‘food sovereignties’ (horizontal)
- Fit to global environmental problems (vertical)
- Questions of political mobilisation and polity





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- Fit between 'food sovereignties' (horizontal)
- Fit to global environmental problems (vertical)
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Scales of democracy  
with scales of  
problem/action

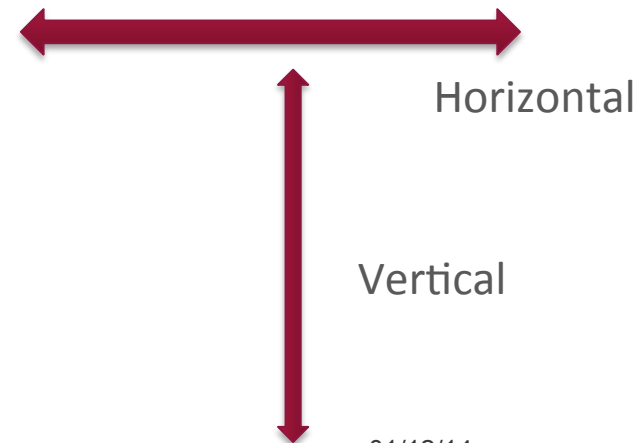




## WAYS FORWARD

- *Situate food sovereignty within broader governance system*
- *Scales of democracy with scales of action*
- Consider how actors and interests come together
- Distribution of powers and available structures
- At what level do we make what trade-offs?

- Rights
- Environmental
- Food security





## CONCLUSIONS

- Food sovereignty cannot be local or national. It is both, and everything in between, and above, and below.
- Within this food sovereignty system, to deliver rights, environmental sustainability and food security, we need to think critically about scales of action, without isolating interests.