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.
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 interests, states and polity

Situate food sovereignty within broader governance system

See Leventon et al., 2014
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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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.