

Engaging with Academia and Research Institutions (ARIs) to support Family Farmers and Food System Transformation During and Post COVID-19 Pandemic in Asia



With technical assistance from the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

Participatory Action Research for Agroecology

Tammi Jonas

Jonai Farms & Meatsmiths
Australian Food Sovereignty Alliance
University of Western Australia



Challenges & Family Farmer Solutions

- Agency >>> Food Sovereignty in Constitution (Nepal)
- Control of value chains >>> Cooperatives (FARMCOOP, Philippines)
- Secure land tenure >>> Agrarian Reform (Indonesia)

The role of knowledge & innovation



Agroecology transition – barriers



Weak farmer resources for adopting agroecological practices



Demoralized and eroding rural communities



Investment in export support instead of environmental support

Agroecology enabling dynamics



Crises



coalescing social
organization



effective
agroecological
practices



external allies, and



favorable policies

All are currently coalescing with a global pandemic, a strengthening and increasingly mobilized global food sovereignty movement, and the emergence of more agroecology schools following a pedagogy of horizontal knowledge exchanges.



Farmer to farmer knowledge exchange

- Mokatil
- Korean Women Peasants Association (KWPA)
- Serikat Petonesi Indonesia (SPI)
- Amrita Bhoomi Centre

The role of ARIs

- Creation and maintenance of public databases of research & researchers around agroecology
- Connect honours, postgraduate, and early career researchers to farmers to co-create research projects in both physical and social sciences
- Support for farmer-led Agroecology Schools (administrative & financial)

"Do not monopolise your knowledge nor impose arrogantly your technique, but respect and combine your skills with the knowledge of the researched or /grassroots communities, taking them as full partners and co-researchers.

Do not depend solely on your culture to interpret facts, but recover local values, traits, beliefs, and arts for action by and with the research organisations.

Do not impose your own ponderous scientific style for communicating results, but diffuse and share what you have learned together with the people, in a manner that is wholly understandable and even literary and pleasant, for science should not be necessarily a mystery nor a monopoly of experts and intellectuals."

Orlando Fals Borda

Excellent research examples

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