



# Healthy Soils, Climate Crisis, Biodiversity, and Food Security: A Political Economy Perspective on Food Sovereignty in Africa

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# The Political Economy of Food Systems



Power structures shaping agriculture and food policies, disproportionately impacting smallholder farmers



Corporate control vs. farmer-led food systems: The struggle for access to land, markets, and resources



The role of international financial institutions and trade agreements in marginalizing local food producers



The impact of subsidies and global trade policies on smallholder farmers' livelihoods

## Healthy Soils: The Foundation of Food Sovereignty

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- Soil health is critical in African agriculture
- Threats: Industrial agriculture, monocropping, and chemical inputs
- Agroecology as a solution: Soil regeneration and farmer-led practices



# Climate Crisis and African Food Systems

- Climate change impacts on food production and livelihoods, particularly in the Sahel, the Horn of Africa, and Southern Africa
- False solutions: Green revolution models vs. agroecology
- Policy shifts are needed support climate-resilient farming



# Biodiversity and the Fight Against Industrial Agriculture

- Biodiversity refers to the variety of life in ecosystems, including crops, livestock, soil organisms, and pollinators, which contribute to resilient food systems
- Biodiversity has a huge role in resilient food systems
- Corporate seed control vs. Indigenous seed systems
- The impact of GMOs and synthetic fertilizers on biodiversity



# Agroecology as a Transformational Solution

Agroecology principles are aligned with food sovereignty

Economic benefits of agroecology: Reduced input costs, increased farmer income, and local job creation

Success stories from AFSA's work in Africa

Policy and grassroots actions needed for scaling up

# The Role of Policy and Governance

- Advocating for policies that support smallholder farmers
- There are a number of challenges in implementing agroecological policies
- Local movements, traditional knowledge, and advocacy have a role in promoting biodiversity, climate resilience and food security



# Challenging the Corporate Narrative



EXPOSING MYTHS  
PROMOTED BY  
AGRIBUSINESS



REDUCING THE INFLUENCE  
OF MULTINATIONAL  
CORPORATIONS ON  
AFRICAN AGRICULTURE



STRATEGISING TO RECLAIM  
AFRICA'S FOOD SYSTEMS

# The Path Forward: Mobilizing for Change

- Strengthening farmer movements and grassroots activism
- Building alliances and influencing policy through movements
- A united front for food sovereignty with community-led solutions





Thanks