

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

Last few years, FIMARC as well as other farmers and rural organizations have worked quite a lot to progress in this concept, which is fundamental in our search for the autonomy of rural populations. We will refer to this concept in the following files on agricultural products and the document here below is a tentative of definition of the same to facilitate your lecture and comprehension.

Food sovereignty is the right of farmers, communities, countries or groups of countries to define their own food, agricultural and territorial policies, as well as their work in those sectors, fishing sector and other indigenous populations. Those policies must be ecologically, socially and culturally adapted to each specific situation. Food sovereignty includes a real right to food and to food production, which means that all the populations have the right to safe food, culturally and nutritionally adapted as well as access to resources of food production and capacity to ensure their survivals and their community survival.

Food sovereignty includes quite a lot of measures:

- To give priority to food production addressed to national and local markets, based on diversified and agro-ecological systems, functioning on a farmer and familial model;
- To ensure fair prices to the producers and their families which can induce the protection of internal markets, the denial of dumping and importation at low prices;
- To ensure the access to land, waters, forests, and fisher zones and other productive resources, via a natural and fair redistribution;
- To recognize and promote the role of women in food production;
- To ensure the fair access and control of the communities on natural resources;
- To ensure the protection of seeds which are the base of food production and life, in order to organize a free trade and free usages of the farmers. This means no patents on life and a moratorium on genetically modified seeds;
- To promote public investments for productive agricultural, familial and community activities, oriented to the re-enforcement of local control on food production for the population and local markets;
- To re-enforce social movements and organizations of farmers, women, indigenous populations, fisher folk and agricultural workers;
- To plan a real agrarian reform for an integral and global redistribution of productive resources in favor of the poor and landless populations.