

The More and Better monthly newsletter
Issue N.8 August-October 2016
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MORE and BETTER
An international network for support of food, agriculture
and rural development to eradicate hunger and poverty

The More and Better general assembly in Rome



The More and Better Network general assembly was successfully held at FAO headquarters, in Rome, the 16th of October, after the conclusion of the Annual Forum of the Civil Society Mechanism for relations with the UN Committee on World Food Security. Among the other things, the General Assembly approved the plans for More and Better for 2016-2018, re-confirmed Elisabeth Atangana, president of the Farmers Regional Platform for Central Africa (PROPAC) and Aksel Naerstad, senior policy adviser for the Development Fund, Norway, as co-coordinators and elected a new member in the coordinating committee for the African region, Mamadou Goita, executive director of the Institute for Research and the Promotion of Alternative Developments (IRAPD) based in Mali. The list of the 14 members of the coordinating committee is available [here](#). The minutes of the general assembly will be circulated soon among our members.

Statements and interventions of civil society at the CFS 43



The opening statement at the 43rd session of the UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS43) in Rome was delivered by Elisabeth Mfou, general coordinator of La Via Campesina, on behalf of the Civil Society Mechanism:

“CSM welcomes the attention being given at World Food Day to the links between climate change, agriculture and food security. To be sure, we, small scale food providers, farmers, pastoralists, fishers, indigenous peoples, food and agricultural workers, youth and women live in the places where climate change is felt most acutely, in the most fragile ecosystems, and under the most difficult working conditions. We nurture and grow biodiversity in our fields, forests, waters, mountains and deserts, where the greatest biodiversity is often found. For centuries we have safeguarded precious and diverse seeds and animal breeds — through conservation, sustainable use, breeding, exchange and our intimate knowledge of how they perform in the changing contexts of our ecosystems. We practice agroecology: a vast body of knowledge, practices, and ways of knowing and working with our agro-ecosystems. Agroecology is our systems approach to climate adaptation and mitigation.”

Read the whole statement and other interventions of civil society's organization [here](#)

Nyeléni, the European Forum for Food Sovereignty



The Nyéléni European Forum for Food Sovereignty has just started in Cluj Napoca, Romania, it will last until the 30 of October and will provide a unique opportunity for civil society's organizations active in the Food Sovereignty Movement in Europe to debate and plan around five intertwined thematic axes: production and consumption; distribution; work and social conditions; natural resources and commons; public policies. Aksel Naerstad, our coordinator is at the Forum on behalf of the network.

Read more about the Forum and the Nyéléni-Europe movement [here](#) and follow its activities on the Nyéléni Europe Facebook page, [here](#).

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Connecting Smallholders to Markets

Connecting Smallholders to Markets' is the title of policy recommendations negotiated on 8- 9 June 2016 in the Committee on World Food Security. The publication is an analytical guide on how small- scale food producers' organisations and allied civil society can use the recommendations in their national and international advocacy and how they can work together with their governments to apply them in the context of national and regional policies and programmes.



[The Right to Food and Nutrition Watch 2016. Keeping Seeds in Peoples' Hands](#)

The publication explores the articulation of seeds, land and other natural resources with the human right to adequate food and nutrition. It assesses the role played by access to and control over natural resources in the realization of the right to food and nutrition across the world. Over the last few decades, the privatization and commoditization of nature has resulted in a multiplication of local struggles using human rights against the appropriation of agricultural biodiversity, land and water resources by corporations and states. How are peasant movements, indigenous peoples, and other local communities resisting—and what are the alternatives they present?



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Upcoming events

- 26-30 October, 2nd Nyeleni Forum for Food Sovereignty, Cluj, Napoca, Romania
<http://www.nyelenieurope.net/en/news> - Just started!

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