



MORE and BETTER
An international network for support to food, agriculture
and rural development to eradicate hunger and poverty
www.moreandbetter.org

Newsletter no. 9— 2018

New leadership in More and Better Network

The biannual General Meeting for the More and Better Network was held in Cameroon on September 13th. The report of the main activities for the last two years which was adopted by the conference is available at <http://www.moreandbetter.org/en/about/>

The General Meeting elected a new coordination committee. See the list of members in the committee at www.moreandbetter.org/en/about/the-coordination-committee

The new coordinator for the network is Mamadou Goïta from Mali who is also the Executive Director at IRPAD/Africa. Aksel Naerstad from Norway stepped down from being coordinator for 15 years – since More and Better was founded.



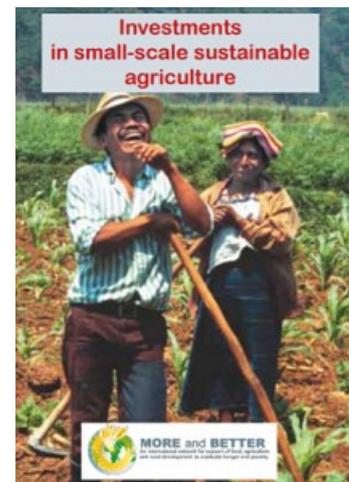
Mamadou Goïta

Marracuene Agroecology Project

There is a small, but very interesting project on agroecology and investments in Marracuene in Mozambique which More and Better Network has supported financially. You can watch two short videos about the project at www.youtube.com/watch?v=3b8EtGmnYm0 and on

www.youtube.com/watch?v=pnzAvhhD-r0&feature=youtu.be

It is also written about the project in the report *Investments in small-scale sustainable agriculture* which you can download in English and French at www.moreandbetter.org/en/news/mab-report-investments-in-small-scale-agriculture



More pressure needed to reach the Sustainable Development Goals

About 50 people from 15 countries took part in the conference on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with a focus on agriculture and fisheries which was organized by More and Better network in cooperation with other organizations, held in Cameroon on September 11-13th.

In June 2017 More and Better Network sent out a sign-on-letter about the SDGs with focus on agriculture and fisheries. 129 organizations have signed on to the letter. The letter and the list of organizations which has signed on to it can be seen at www.moreandbetter.org. The conference in Cameroon discussed how to put more pressure on governments to reach the goals, and how organizations and each of us can contribute to reach the goals.



**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS**

Reminder:

Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) for relations to the UN Committee on World Food Security

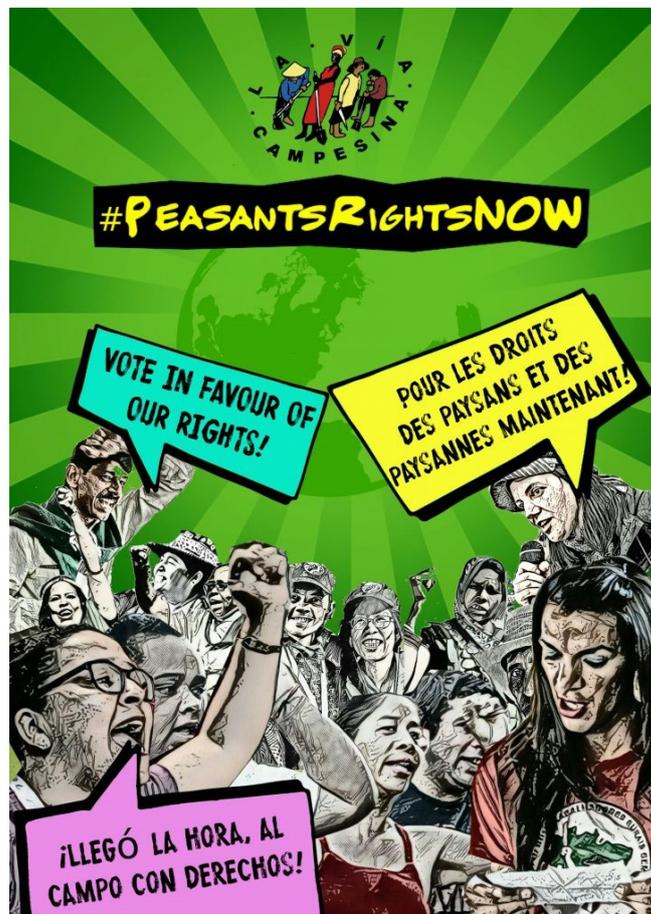
The CSM is an important and unique body for civil society. It is a body for cooperation between different kind of civil society organizations working on food and agriculture. The CSM also give civil society more influence in the United Nation than civil society has in any other sectors. Make the registration for the CSM Forum 13-14 October now! The deadline for registration is September 21st! See more information at www.csm4cfs.org



Declaration on the rights of peasants

The international peasant organization La Via Campesina has been in the forefront to fight for the rights of peasants. After ten long years of negotiations in Geneva, a 'United Nations Declaration on Rights of Peasants and other People Working in Rural Areas' is now at the point of being finalised. The declaration will be handled by the UN Human Rights Council in September 2018 and during the UN General Assembly in New York.

Peasants and other people working in rural areas are key to achieving food security and food sovereignty, realising the right to food, fighting climate change, conserving biodiversity and revitalising rural areas. But peasants and their families face increasing violation of their rights – in the form of evictions from their lands and territories, unfavourable production and market policies, poor working conditions, ongoing criminalisation and killings, among others. This is a highly disturbing situation. In this context, La Via Campesina is calling upon all our members and allies to mobilise and reach out to the respective governments, demand and convince them to vote in favour of this initiative that upholds humanity. See more information at <http://viacampesina.org/en/mobilise-for-a-un-declaration-now-is-the-time-to-globalise-our-struggle/>



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