

Special Issue

Emancipatory Agroecologies: Transforming Power Structures, Decolonizing Territories, and Strengthening Peasant Autonomies

Message from the Guest Editors

In recent years, agroecology has become a territory in dispute, between what might be called “agroecologies from above” emanating from agribusiness, big NGOs, and government policies and “agroecologies from below”, from the movements and organizations of peasants, family farmers, indigenous peoples, the landless, peasant women, peasant youth themselves and the urban poor.

The agroecologies from above reinforce the entrenched structures of power that dominate our food system and subjugate peasants to the logics of dependency on value chains. On the other hand, “agroecologies from below” strengthens the autonomy of peasants and communities. They go hand in hand with struggles to transform the food system by building food sovereignty, and with struggles for agrarian reform and the defense of land, territory, and ways of life.

For this Special Issue, Articles can focus on concrete cases of emancipatory processes led by peasant organizations or other popular sectors, or on specific cases that critically exemplify how agroecology is being appropriated and distorted by agribusiness, opportunistic NGOs, and public policies of governments.

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