Food governance: what role does policy play?

- What questions have risen in your groups concerning the role of policy?
- If you agree the effort to transform commodification of food into a food commons is necessary – what role for policy?
- Can our place base efforts to strengthen food systems (to be more inclusive, resilient and sustainable) meet the urgency for global transformation – what levels of governance and policy matter

Struggle for the transformation of food systems

What changes in food governance and policy will be the drivers for food and farming in food systems of the future?

Governance "hooks" in lectures here at Eating City Summer Campus

- **Youth are key** to shift the paradigm/economic model for food/ag

- **Youth food governance**: lifestyle choices/rebalance production-consumption patterns/future decision makers

- **Connecting people/institutions** to take action are more important than more research

- **Blockchain:** going from transaction to relational data

- Can blockchain support a **transparent circular food economy?**

- **Working with national governments essential** to work with cities in centrally planned economies

Governance "hooks" in lectures here at Eating City Summer Campus (continued)

- **Innovations to find balanced power relations** are needed between large scale global actors and small scale local actors
- Mainstreaming **sustainable diets** has been helped along by policy developments (farm to school, food waste, "nutrition-sensitive value chains"
- **When do cities and civil society unite** in relation to private sector?
- **How do cities and national governments cooperate** on urban food governance?
- Policy support for is needed for **research on non-fossil fuel based inputs to agriculture**
- What is **food governance role to cultural identity - rural identity**
- **Impact of policy re social food service is food system wide**

Policy "hooks" in lectures here at Eating City Summer Campus

- Policy incentives to **get off the chemical and fossil fuel treadmill** — what are they?

- Policy and protocols for **new food governance mechanisms** are critical (FAO's 8 steps from needs assessment to mulistakeholder process to action – see City Region Food System Toolkit)

- **Immediate challenges** of access to food (urban) or inputs/markets/credit (rural) **makes it difficult to get to other issues/projects** (eg food councils, policy campaigns, reform of institutional relations, etc.)

- How do we learn from **governance failures and policy failures?**

Drivers of food systems change worldwide

- Forces of food commodification: the global capital casino
- Persistence of hunger and malnutrition in the world
- quantitative and qualitative changes in food demand
- transformation of intermediate segments of the food system (distribution, storage, processing, wholesale and retail changes
- emergence of new (and powerful) actors in the food system
- Impact of climate change on farming systems and mix of staple and non-staple crops and livestock products

Who shapes policy narrative on the future of food?

- Agriculture **research and academic institutions** (land grant universities in the US, international agriculture research centers –CGIAR)

- **National governments** and "blocks" (G7, G20, G77, EU, etc.)

- **International Finance** Institutions (IFIs) and centers of private finance

- Large **private sector** actors (big ag – big pharma) and their networks

- **Agricultural ministries** of rich (OECD) countries

- **United Nations** agencies (FAO-IFAD-WFP-UNEP-WHO)

- Larger international nongovernmental (**NGOs**) organizations, donors and development actors (WRI, OECD, IIED, etc.)

- Social movements/farmers organizations/civil society organizations (**CSOs**)

- **Local and regional governments** (subnational governments)

What is the "common narrative" on the future of food?

- Food systems are failing and must be transformed dramatically.
- The role of the private sector (farm/food enterprises) is critical.
- The private sector cannot transform the food system on its own, neither can government or social and farmers movements on their own.
- Hunger and malnutrition is on the rise in rich and poor countries.
- Malnutrition is even larger than hunger and impacts all countries (SOFI).
- Climate change will drive food system transformation more than anything else.
- Environmental sustainability, resilient and healthier food systems is now a top priority for all actors (governments, private sector, civil society)
- Struggle over the future of food systems is a matter of planetary life and death (stronger in civil society and scientific arena than in governments)
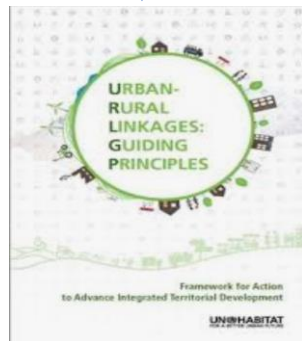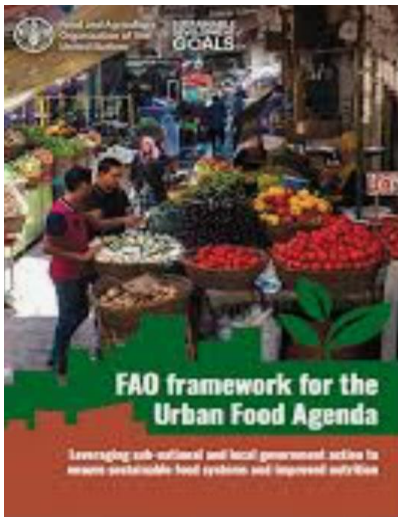
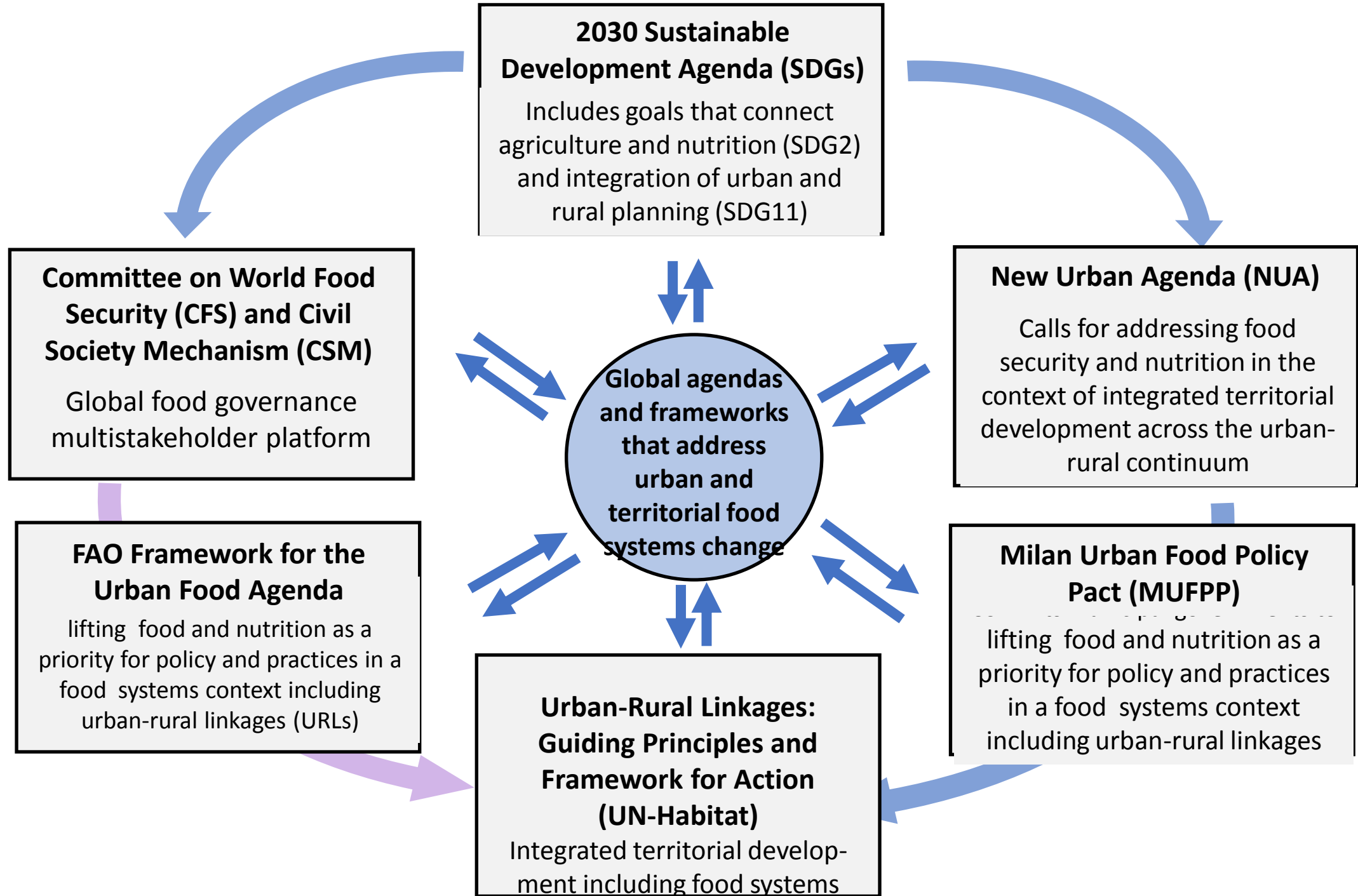# 4 Biases of the "dominant" narrative versus "counter" narratives

1. **Sustainable intensification**: investment and technology **vs.** agroecological intensification

2. **Climate smart agriculture**: current food systems/agriculture can mitigate/adapt to climate change **vs.** pushing for diversification and decoupling from fossil fuels and reducing all food system emissions

3. **Nutrition sensitive foods**: agriculture requires biofortification **vs.** sustainable diets through agroecology and dietary shift

4. **Rural transformation**: graduate small farmers into global supply chains **vs.** integrating farmers into city region food systems through urban rural linkages

2030 Sustainable Development Agenda (SDGs)
Includes goals that connect agriculture and nutrition (SDG2) and integration of urban and rural planning (SDG11)

Committee on World Food Security (CFS) and Civil Society Mechanism (CSM)
Global food governance multistakeholder platform

New Urban Agenda (NUA)
Calls for addressing food security and nutrition in the context of integrated territorial development across the urban-rural continuum

Global agendas and frameworks that address urban and territorial food systems change

FAO Framework for the Urban Food Agenda
lifting food and nutrition as a priority for policy and practices in a food systems context including urban-rural linkages (URLs)

Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP)
lifting food and nutrition as a priority for policy and practices in a food systems context including urban-rural linkages

Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding Principles and Framework for Action (UN-Habitat)
Integrated territorial develop-ment including food systems

Some types of policy support for farm and food actors (local, national and interelational levels)

- Strategies for climate and disaster risk reduction that include food actors and territorial agriculture (all levels)

- Zoning, spatial planning, regulatory and food handling requirements (local)

- Credit access and financial incentives (all levels)

- Market regulations, access and incentives (all levels)

- Risk protection and supply management (local and national)

- Health and dietary standards (all levels)

- Regulation for brand recognition, nutrition labeling and definitions (all levels)

- Procurement regulations and incentives (all levels)

- Support and protection of small and medium businesses in farm and food sector (all levels)

Definition of City Region Food System

"The city region is understood as a given geographical region that includes one or more urban centers and their surrounding peri-urban and rural hinterland across which flows of people, food, goods, resources and ecosystem services are happening. A CRFS encompasses all food system actors and activities taking place in the city region and over which the local/regional government have planning and intervention powers. It is understood that any city region will always be fed by multiple food sources, be it local, regional, national and international, so that city regional food system does not exist in isolation from a global food system."

(From 2014 CRFS Toolkit: http://www.fao.org/in-action/food-for-cities-programme/toolkit/defining-the-crfs/en/)

Drivers for private sector engagement: towards a city region food *enterprise system*

Driver category	Larger industry actors in food systems	Small, medium scale enterprises (SMEs) in city region food systems
Economic	Market share priority	Diversification priority
Social	Transactional anonymity	Relational value (product story)
Environmental	Externalize costs outside business	Adaptive, seeking sustainability and internalization of costs
Political	Vested institutional, political and market power in global supply chains	New champions and popular social food movements (territorial markets and food webs)

From RUAF, Role of Privatre Sector in CRFS page 13

Policies for an adaptive, cooperative food supply:
supporting emerging enterprise behaviors

- Applying local/regional procurement/sourcing
- Targeting city region (territorial) markets
- Aligning corporate social responsibility (CSR) strategies with CRFS
- Pooling production and sharing infrastructure
- Pioneering innovations with social inclusion
- Innovating financing and governance mechanisms

Thank YOU Eating City Summer Campus 2019!!

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