

Honest Food

10 Principles for People and Planet

Food production faces increasing challenges as our climate changes. Agriculture produces greenhouse gases, yet it provides opportunities to reduce climate change. I offer the following guiding principles for evaluating our food systems from ecological, economic and social perspectives.

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1

ENSURES RELIABLE AND AFFORDABLE FOOD FOR ALL

Provides food security: “all people at all times have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life.” (World Food Summit 1996)

2

MITIGATES AND ADAPTS TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Reduces greenhouse gas emissions from agricultural production, puts carbon back into the soil. Develops climate-resilient food systems.

3

SUSTAINS ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY

Avoids harm to ecosystems.
Contributes to water quality, soil formation and ecological processes.

4

SUSTAINS THE DIVERSITY OF LIFE

Supports biological diversity of crop varieties.
Practices food production in biodiverse landscapes.

5

CONTRIBUTES TO HUMAN COMMUNITIES

Conserves and shares traditional and local agro-ecological practices.
Fosters local adaptation and resilience.

6

RESPECTS AND REWARDS GROWERS

Recognizes key role of the food producer through fair economic and social returns and sustainable livelihoods.

7

IMPROVES PEOPLE'S HEALTH

Produces healthy, nutritious food and fosters healthy diets.
Reduces exposure to toxins through organic agriculture.

8

BUILDS STABLE ECONOMIES

Creates sustainable economic structures that include principles of fair trade throughout the production and distribution system.

9

MEETS MEASURABLE AND OBJECTIVE STANDARDS

Tracks and reports on progress toward practical outcomes using rigorous protocols.

10

INCORPORATES PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

Encourages the sharing of practical knowledge across all regions and cultures.