



Public policies for resilient food systems

2015-present | 2021: € 25,000 (INREF)*

Diversified farming systems have received considerable attention for their potential to contribute to environmentally sustainable, resilient, and socially-just food systems. Identifying mechanisms by which policies and interventions in agriculture may support diversified farming systems, while also addressing issues such as gender inequality, is of paramount importance. This project investigates how targeted public food procurement, a promising policy instrument, may support both farm diversification and women's empowerment. The project builds on an earlier project conducted with the University of Michigan and its next phase is supported by an INREF Seed Grant. Results show that public procurement programmes in Brazil, such as the School Meal Programme (Portuguese acronym PNAE) have driven diversification of agricultural systems and increased production of diversified, healthy agricultural products. Programmes such as PNAE create a market that allows small-scale farmers to switch from commodity crops, such as soy or corn, to food crops (Valencia et al., 2019), while also supporting women's empowerment (Valencia et al. under review). The next phase of this project expands to a larger collaboration and includes the Andean region to learn by comparison from other public procurement programmes.

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More information:

<http://link.springer.com/10.1007/s13593-019-0572-4>

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