



# Food Sovereignty and Economic Justice The contribution of Local Act

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Local Action Links



# Food Sovereignty and Economic Justice

## The contribution of Local Act



### 1. How does Local Act understand Food Sovereignty?

#### Definition

*“Food Sovereignty is the **RIGHT** of peoples, communities, and countries to define their own agricultural, labor, fishing, food and land policies which are ecologically, socially, economically and culturally appropriate to their unique circumstances.”*

#### Food Sovereignty calls for

- Elimination of export and production support measures
- Reinstitution of the possibility to implement import controls
- Support measures for sustainable agriculture
- Establishment of regulations to control and limit power of corporation
- Protection of local knowledge



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## 2. Awareness raising

### Background

- Ninety percent of global production and consumption of rice takes place in Asia
- Rice represents a substantial part of the existence of Asian people; rice is their culture
- Due to neo-liberal politics livelihoods of rice farmers have changed (example Thailand)
- Small-scale rice farmers in both rice-exporting and rice-importing countries lose from trade liberalization
- Farmers in the various countries of Asia lack an understanding of their common challenges resulting from the current rice production and trading system



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## 2. Awareness raising

### Objectives

- Region-wide campaign on the issue of rice to show using rice as an example how food sovereignty is violated
- Public awareness building about the adverse impact of industrialized rice production and unjust trade
- Awareness building among farmers of rice-exporting and rice-importing countries for each other

### Activities

- Organization of cross-national exchanges between rice farmers of Asia
- Documentation of the situation of rice farmers
- Organization of seminars to gain public awareness
- Production of CDs and other educational material

