

SUSTAINABLE VS UNSUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS



Unsustainable Practices

- Current farming methods
 - Lack of soil conservation
 - Monoculture
 - Deforestation
- Chemical Agriculture
- Overgrazing
- Single-sectoral planning: not looking beyond the farm gates
- Plastic packaging
- Current levels of food waste



Consequences

- Worldwide, global food systems account for 26% of greenhouse gas emissions
 - 20% = agriculture
 - 6% = food waste and loss
- 2 billion people globally are overweight or obese
- More than 3 billion people are malnourished in the world

Sustainable Practices

- Urban Agriculture
- Agroforestry
- No-till and cover crops
- Sustainable extensive pastoralism
- Inter-sectoral and landscape-level planning: looking beyond the farm gates
- Ecosystem restoration
- Monitoring status and trends



Benefits

- **Economic** = fair price
- **Environmental** = protection and conservation of natural land and biodiversity, sustainable use of natural resources
- **Socio-cultural** = generation of jobs and their long-term maintenance, fundamental rights, and government
- Estimates suggest that one urban garden the size of a football field can feed up to 30,000 residents

Potential Careers in Sustainable Food Systems

- Organic farmer
- Agrotourism employee
- Land-use consultant
- Agricultural researcher
- Nutrient management planner
- Soil and water analyst
- Research development specialist
- Sustainability coordinator
- Policy analyst



Create a More Sustainable Food System:

- Move from high quantity of food → healthy food production
- Protect natural ecosystems
- At least halve food losses and waste