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Priorities of a Food Policy Council for Luxembourg towards a Just, Diversified and Sustainable Food System: Surveys with Citizens and Food System Professionals

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Abstract (ca. 150 words)

Transitioning towards food sovereignty within planetary boundaries in a just, sustainable and diversified way is gaining public momentum. Participative tools such as Food Policy Councils play a key role in an ethical reconfiguration of shared governance, by combining legislative action with market initiatives, innovations from civil society and research. Collective commitment, also including citizens, can initiate concrete projects for a systemic food system change and implement food democracy.

I will interpret two surveys conducted with both food system professionals and citizens (2019 and 2021) on the establishment of a national-scale Food Policy Council in Luxembourg. This empirically documented insight focuses on what Luxembourgish citizens and professionals would like to see a national-scale Food Policy Council accomplish and avoid, and which goald and topics it should address.

It transpires that specific, concrete, and ambitious sustainability projects around food systems rate very high on professionals' and citizens' priorities for a just transition of the food system, especially if they are embedded in compelling projections of realistic diversification and societal participation initiatives. This opportunity should be seized, to build multistakeholder-led effective food policies; cooperatively shorten sustainable supply circuits; and encourage innovation, diversification, and collective learning. Luxembourg can use its political and economic international weight to push best practices for food sovereignty forward, underpinned by systemic ethics.