

TOWARDS A PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE SYSTEM FOR SSF IN EUROPE?

*IYAFA Regional workshop: Getting the story
straight and envisioning a fair future for small-
scale fisheries in Europe*

Vilanova de Arousa, Galicia, Spain

13-16 November 2023



**DO YOU
KNOW**



The story of a parallel movement, The Organic movement

Founded in 1972, IFOAM - Organics International is a membership-based organization working to bring true sustainability to agriculture across the globe.

"Our food and farming systems currently face multiple challenges ranging from increasing hunger, climate change, and biodiversity loss to farmers and food workers not earning a decent income. The way we produce and consume food can either alleviate or exacerbate these conditions".

700+

Affiliates

100+

Countries

6

Continents

IFOAM
ORGANICS
INTERNATIONAL

Organic is a path to a sustainable future. Let's shape it together.



The four Principles of Organic Agriculture

Health

Ecology

Fairness

Care

They express the contribution that organic agriculture can make to the world, and a vision to improve all agriculture in a global context

They guide their development of positions, programs, and standards.

The origins of the PGS



- Professionalization of the organic sector, **increase of quality assurance- certification schemes to provide credible guarantee for consumers** seeking organic produce
- Specially adapted for **small holder farmers and direct markets**, who have the most to benefit from organic, but faced **barriers to entry third-party certification**, including direct costs, paperwork, etc.
- Complementary, low cost, locally-based System

What is a Participatory Guarantee System (PGS)?

*"Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS) are **locally** focused **quality assurance systems**. They certify producers based on **active participation of stakeholders** and are built on a **foundation of trust, social networks and knowledge exchange**"*

(Term coined in 2004, IFOAM Official Definition, 2008)

CLEAR DOCUMENTED SYSTEM, STEPS ARE CONSISTENT CODIFIED AND CREDIBLE, BUT DIFFER FROM 3RD PARTY CERTIFICATION ON THE APPROACH

NON HIERARCHICAL APPROACH-

GREATER EMPOWERMENT AND RESPONSIBILITY

Examples:

Ecovida (Brazil), OFNZ (New Zealand), CNG (USA), Nature et Progrès (France)

ENFASIS ON SOCIAL CONTROL (PEER-REVIEWS),

KNOWLEDGE AND CAPACITY BUILDING

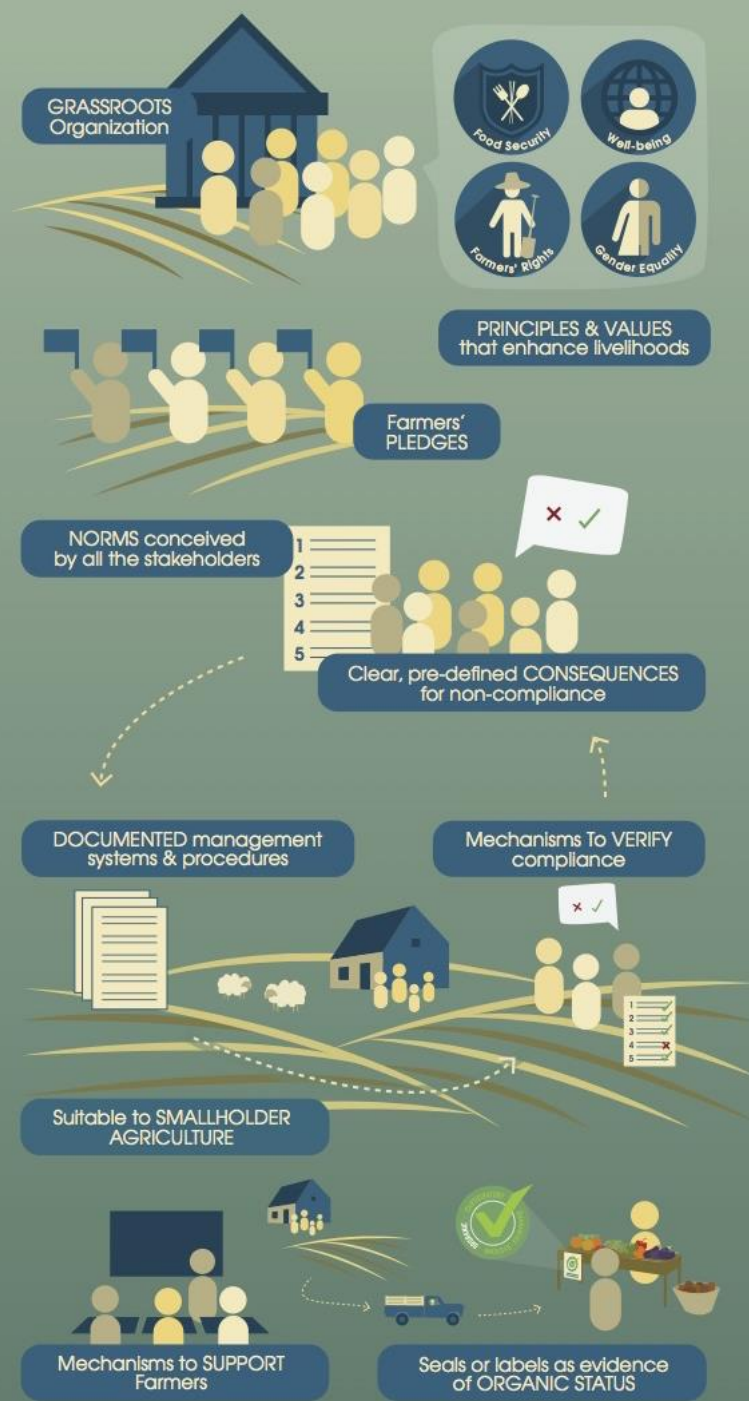
Some of the motivations for PGS



- **Access to markets** and secure **better returns**
- Promote **equity and fairness** throughout the production chain
- Promote **consumer access** to organic food and an **alternative to large scale agriculture** and factory farming
- Support **transformation of food systems** by building alternative food networks
- Enhancing **ownership of production standards** and certification
- **Continuous improvement** of practices enhanced by **knowledge exchange**
- Foster community values and support the potential for **community development**

IMPORTANCE TO SHARE
A VISION

WORK TOGETHER-
MUTUAL TRUST



Participatory Guarantee Systems
KEY ELEMENTS
FEATURES

Mechanisms to verify producer compliance

- **Description of the farm management plan** (declaration describing farming activities)
- **Peer reviews (farm inspections)**. Knowledge exchange component
- **Knowledge building**: regular meetings and workshops to discuss technical issues, collective solutions

WITHOUT DELEGATING THIS STEP TO A 3RD PARTY

SOCIAL CONTROL-ENGAGEMENT

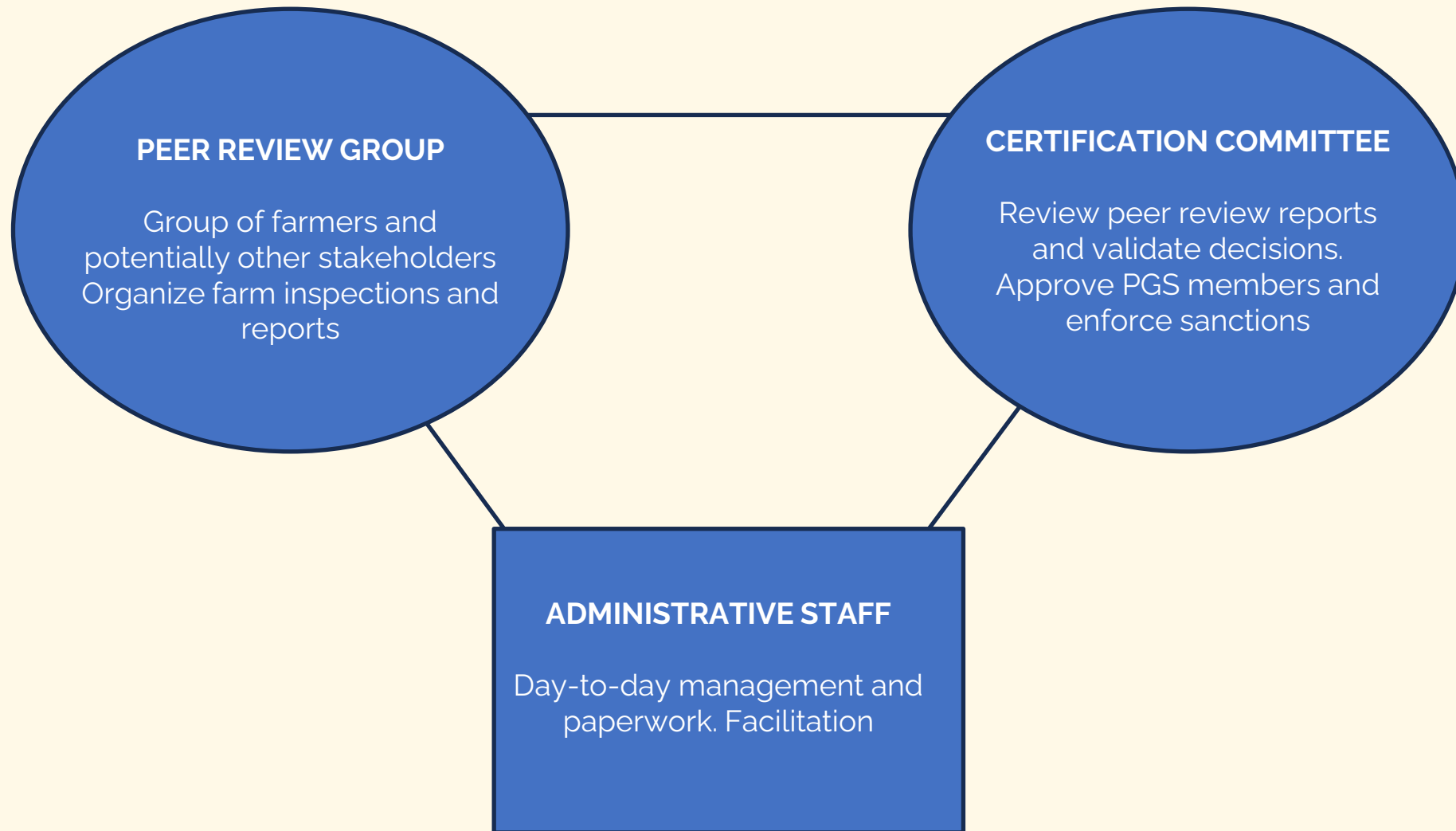
FOCUS ON CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PRACTICES



IMPORTANCE OF THE PLEDGE
(COMITMENT OF THE OWN ESTABLISHED RULES)

CLEAR PRE-DEFINED CONSEQUENCES FOR NON COMPLIANCE

Structure and organization of PGS





foodnetted

TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AND FAIR FOOD SYSTEMS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

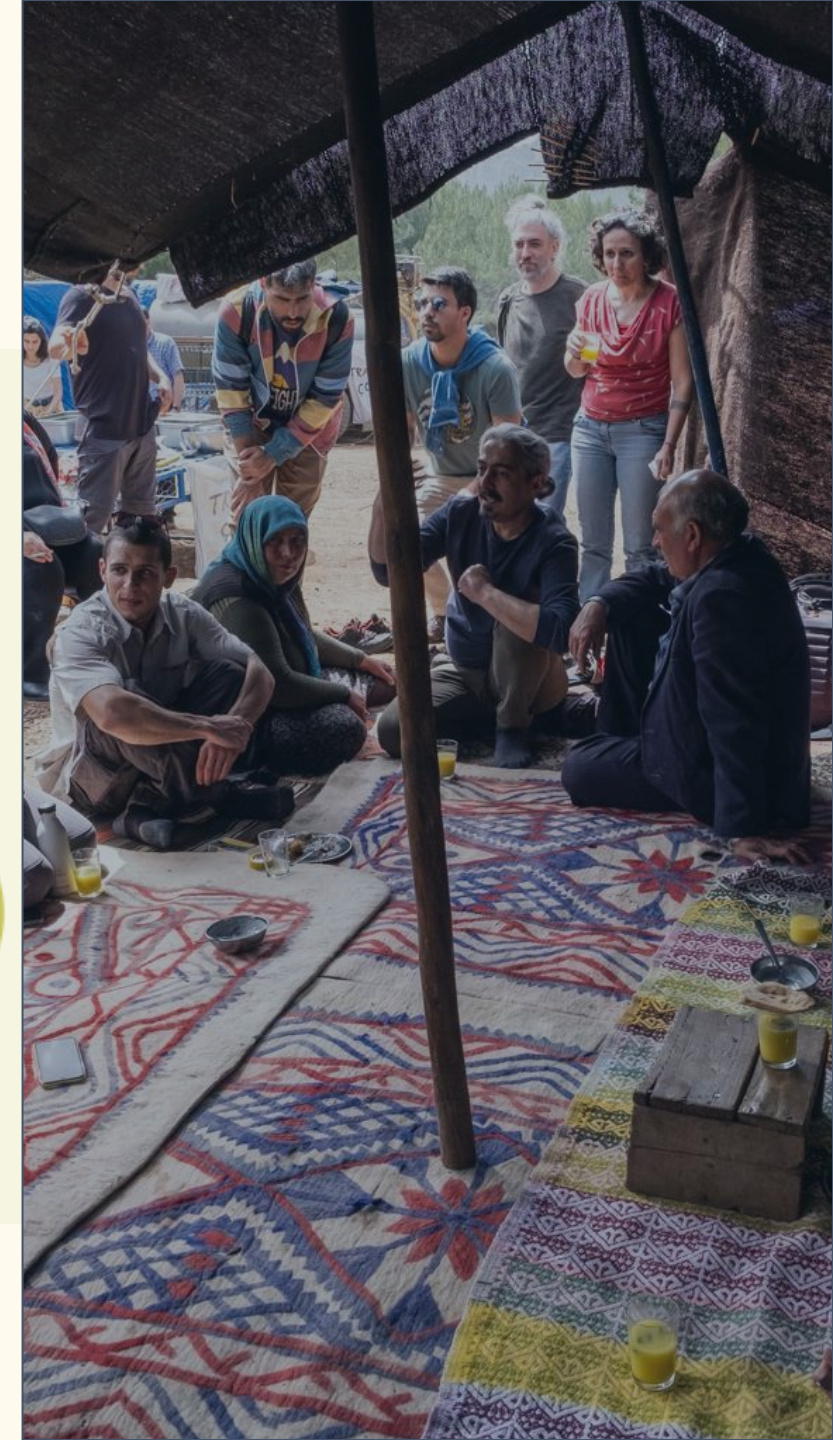




Foodnected Pilot sites



How a Communities of Practice at local level look like?





RISULTATI

CONOSCENZA DEI
PRODOTTI LOCALI,
DEL NOSTRO TERRITORIO

MIGLIORARE 1

Empesca't

Pescadors Artesanals de l'Escala i l'Estartit





5 Pillars

Fair and sustainable food systems must ensure:

Food sovereignty, quality and health

People both now and in the future enjoy access to food of high nutritional quality, while meeting dietary needs for a healthy life and fostering well-being.



Local development, inclusive governance and social cohesion

Food systems encourage local development, the role of women is valued and younger generations are encouraged to take over. This requires new models of governance that involve all local stakeholders.



Low environmental impact

Fair and sustainable food systems prioritise local low-impact production methods that do no harm to the environment.



Fair livelihoods and fair trade

Providing food brings fair economic returns to producers and encourages the resilience of their communities. The supply chains are short and transparent.

Traditional ecological knowledge

Food systems preserve the knowledge acquired by locals over hundreds or thousands of years through direct contact with the environment. It is recognised as complementary to scientific knowledge.

Scan to learn
more about
Foodnected's
core values



FOOD SOVEREIGNTY, QUALITY AND HEALTH

FAIR PRICE THROUGH SHORT SUPPLY CHAINS

JOB CREATION AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

ENSURING JUSTICE AND EQUITY

AGROECOLOGY AND LOW IMPACT FISHING

FAIR AND INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE

HONORING NATURE

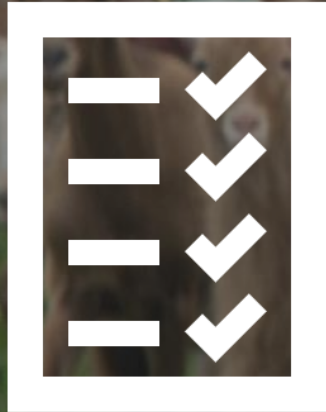
INCREASED TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

EMPOWERMENT, CREATIVITY AND COLLABORATION

SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT TO TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

**FOODNECTED
CORE
VALUES**

Foodnetted Tools- Monitoring questionnaire



A checklist that gathers key aspects about a sustainable and fair food systems

FOR PRODUCING SYSTEMS

- Fish production
- Cattle farming
- Nomadic pastoralism
- Vegetable farming



FOR OTHER ACTORS OF THE VALUE CHAIN

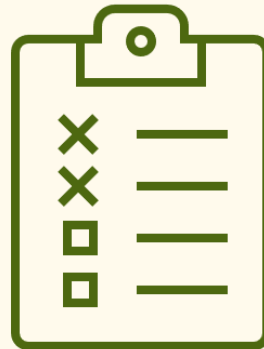
- Markets
- Cooks

Foodneted Tools- Monitoring questionnaire



Accompany actors of the COP

- In the process of improvement,
- Self-evaluation
- Peer review
- Communicate their contributions more clearly/systematically



- Food security, quality and health
- Low environmental impact
- Fair livelihoods and fair trade
- Local development, improved governance and social cohesion

- Scientific support to traditional ecological knowledge

Foodneted Tools- Monitoring questionnaire



MONITORING QUESTIONNAIRE FOR FISH PRODUCTION

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY, QUALITY AND HEALTH

Core values	question	0	1
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LOW ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Agroecology Honoring Nature	question	0	1	2
Agroecology Honoring Nature	5. Autochthonous breeds	Not native and not adapted to the territory. Chosen just for the yields.	Not native, but adapted to the environment and territory.	Native of the region or from the same environment in other places (eg. Alps).
	6. Livestock farming method	Stable breeding, with possible fixed posts.	Stable breeding, but the animals are free to move. The animals have the same spaces provided by the organic farming.	The animals are reared in semi-wild conditions. Pasture is practiced. The animals have a guaranteed shelter. There is a period in the barn (well ventilated, and clean). The animals have the same spaces provided by the organic farming.
	7. Feeding	Part (less than 70%) of the feed is fresh or dry forage. Forage is entirely purchased from outside without specific attention to the origin. Silage is commonly used.	Seasonal grazing. Part (less than 70%) of the feed is fresh or dry forage. Forage is entirely purchased from local farms. Silage is commonly used.	Based on seasonal grazing. At least 70% or more of the feed is fresh or dry forage from polyphitic grasslands. Forage is produced on the farm or purchased from neighboring farms. Farm silage is used.
	8. Dehorning and castration	Routine horn cutting.	Antler clipping only when proven necessary.	Antler trimming in case of extreme necessity (i.e. after an accident).

FAIR LIVELIHOODS AND FAIR TRADE

Core values	Question	0	1	2	3	Total	Notes
Ensuring justice and equity Increased transparency and accountability Job creation	22. Work conditions	Working conditions are not regulated. Wages are barely reaching the national minimum. Employment is seasonal.	Work conditions and wages comply with the national minimum. Seasonal employment.	Decent work conditions are assured. Personnel legally employed (including self-employment) and in a system of social security (unemployment and sick leave). Employees remain in	Decent work conditions are assured and salaries of all workers are above the national average for the sector. Personnel is legally employed (including self-employment) and in a system of social security (unemployment and sick leave). Basic safety is always assured at work (safety)		

Free Choice (proposals to submit for the next round)

question	0	1	2	3	Total	Notes/Comments

TOTAL (total score of the questions/number of questions):

Legend:



from 0 to 1: insufficient (severe non-compliance with the core values of the project)



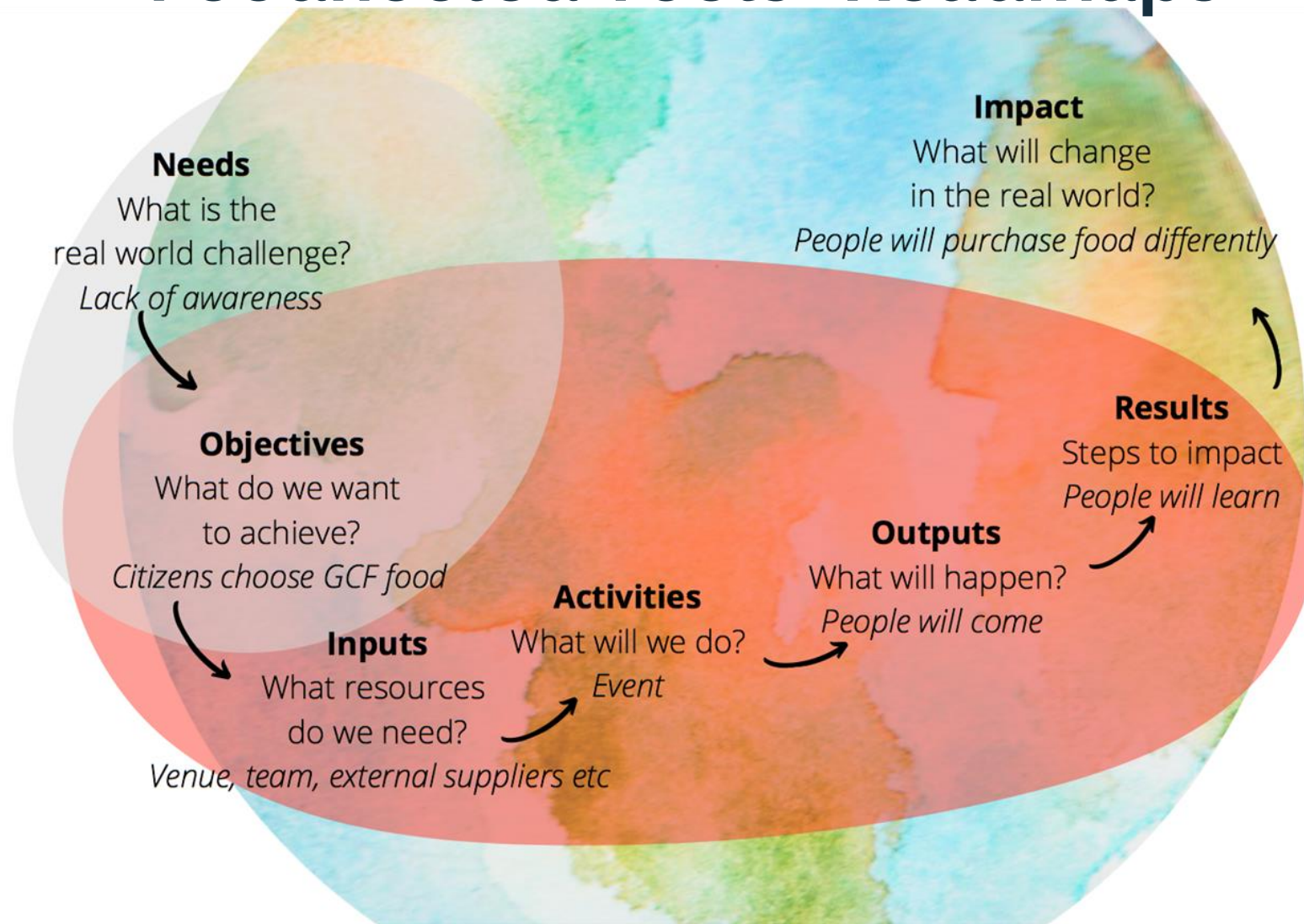
from 1.1 to 2: sufficient, but weak (non-severe non-compliance, update necessary on the main issues)



from 2.1 to 3: optimal (total compliance with the core values of the project)



Foodnetted Tools- Roadmaps



ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Develop a PGS for SSF in Europe would be beneficial?
How could this work and what main elements should have?

