





The Loss of an Ancestral Practice:

The current situation of agroecology in Honduras









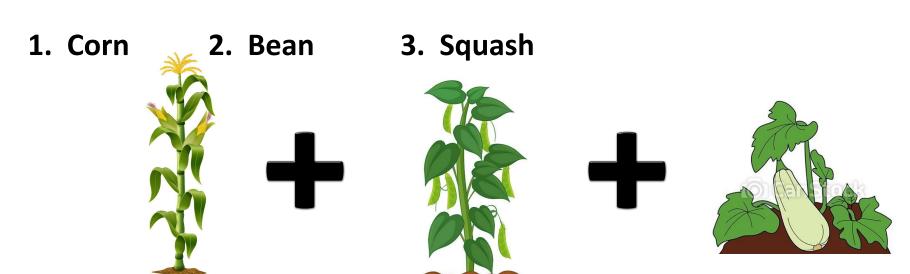








Milpa: A multi-crop growing technique used by the Mayan and other Mesoamerican peoples.



Today **milpa** = a plot of land used to grow only corn.















Milpa System

Corn

















Current Situation (Government):

- 1. **NO** state regulatory framework for sustainable agriculture
- 2. **NO** local policies and norms at municipal governments
- 3. Some laws do legislate some sustainable agriculture techniques Reuse treated wastewater for irrigation
- 4. Some governmental programs promote the use of sustainable agriculture technique.

Produce and apply compost

Agroecology is found as disjointed efforts within some State policies.











Current Situation (Nongovermental):

- 1. NGOs and private sector are main drivers
- 2. Network of NGOs with foreign funding
- 3. Private sector employs agricultural research centers
- 4. Mostly centered in coffee and cacao sector
- 5. Limited scope; no critical mass to achieve transformation











Agriculture in Honduras:

- 1. Small-scale farming
- 2. 39% of the population works in agriculture, aprox. 4 million
- 3. High profitable crops (coffee and cacao) centered in few owners
- 4. Lowland = industrial agriculture; sugarcane & African oil palm
- 5. 70% of rural families practice subsistence farming











Main challenges and opportunity for a complete Sustainable Agriculture Transformation

Challenges:

- 1. No domestic market for agricultural products
- 2. "Established" farmers resilient towards change and loss of profit

Opportunity:

- 1. Transform subsistence farming to sustainable agriculture
- 2. Major impact on SDGs 1, 2, and 15











Thanks!









