

Present the

First International Film Festival and Workshop

on

Alternatives in Food and Agriculture

Beijing, China

Target Date January 2010

Venue TBD



Our global food and agriculture systems are in crisis. Energy and input-intensive farming practices, as well as industrial food processing and distribution systems, with their huge carbon footprint, are widely understood as out of sync with our current and future needs to achieve sustainability.

During the Alternatives in Food and Agriculture International Film Festival and Workshop, participants from China and the world over will meet to share their knowledge, discuss the current challenges of our global food and agriculture systems, and identify the best ways forward to sustainable solutions.

From exchanges on practical alternatives in agricultural techniques and food production drawn from around the world, to policy roundtables on innovative pathways toward systemic change, to film screenings, competitions, international food tastings and interactive panel discussions bringing together film makers, experts and practitioners from far-flung locales, this lively event will push the boundaries of the current discussion. The time for change is now.

No food and agriculture event of this kind has ever been held in China before!

You are invited to participate in this unique event and to become a part of its annual legacy!



Why in China?

Current events place Beijing at the center of a growing economic, environmental, and agricultural crisis that is felt throughout the world. The time to come together to share ideas and generate solutions is now.

International food price hikes and other recent events have brought awareness of food security and food safety to an all-time high in China and in the world. In China, the general public, the academy, and the government are all deeply concerned about these issues and are eager for more information from other parts of the globe.

As a result of the ongoing financial and economic crisis, tens of millions of migrant workers in China have lost their jobs in the export zones due to the decreased demands from the US and other OECD countries. Millions have returned to their rural villages, dependent on the ever-scarcer land. Like small farmers everywhere, they desperately need a viable and meaningful livelihood. But what is the 'right' way to do this, not just in China, but around the world?

With the right enabling conditions, the current crisis can serve as a catalyst to transform our existing food and agriculture systems towards greater social equity and environmental sustainability.

This event will help make this possible by bringing together an uncommon group of people from around the world to discuss alternatives. Selected films will be captioned in multiple languages to ensure greater accessibility and enjoyment among all participants. Simultaneous translation will be available at panels and plenary events to enable maximum participation and exchange.

Framed by China's growing international importance, this event can spur discussion about a global green new deal in the face of current crises, and explore what it can mean for the world's rural majority.



You can participate!

We invite you to submit your film, discussion ideas, or offer your time to spread the word to friends and colleagues about this important event. Here's what you can do:

- Submit your film, documentary, or multimedia production for screening at the film festival. Selected films will be captioned in multiple languages, and prizes will be awarded. Deadline for submissions is October 15, 2009
- Are you an expert, researcher, or practitioner in the area of food and agriculture? Does your organization work on food or agriculture innovations? Submit your ideas for presentations, panel discussions, or roundtables, and help lead the discussion!
- Would you like to see this event have a greater impact, have greater student outreach, or include more participants from rural areas around the world? Consider becoming a sponsor. Contributions are tax-deductible.

General Inquiries

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Stay updated!

For the latest info, or to join our mailing list, see: <http://action2030.org/foodag/>

Be sure to check our website regularly for news and updates!