



Definition of the Short Food Supply Chain

in the frame of FASFC SciCom Symposium
“Food safety of the short supply chain”

9-11-2012

Mieke Uyttendaele (UGent), Lieve Herman & Els Daeseleire (ILVO),
André Huyghebaert (UGent), Luc Pussemier (CODA)

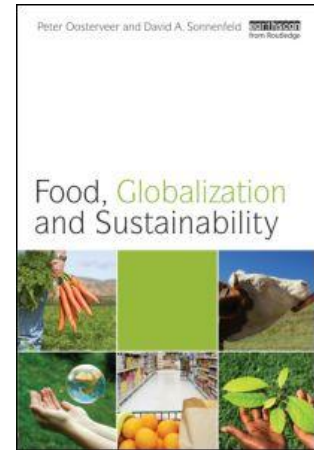
Sci Com FASFC



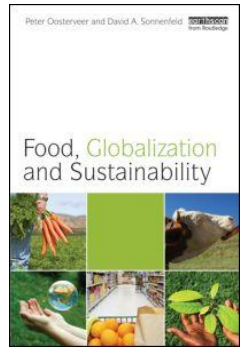
Globalization versus Short Food Supply Chain

- Globalization
= on going process
 - by which regional economies, societies & cultures
 - become integrated through a worldwide network
 - of exchanges of material goods, people, ideas and information

(Robins P., Hintz J., Moore S. 2010 Environment and Society: a Critical Introduction, Wiley-Blackwell)



Globalization versus Short Food Supply Chain



- Growing trade in agricultural products because of innovation in (cooling / preservation) technology, transport (logistics) & networking / communication
... although most food is still consumed domestically
... global food trade is (except for tropical products) only fraction of total production
- Greater role for transnational agro-industrial corporations
- Food regulation increasingly at global and regional level: EU, WTO/Codex



Complexity of the International Agro-Food Trade Network and Its Impact on Food Safety

Mária Ercsey-Ravasz^{1,2}, Zoltán Toroczka¹, Zoltán Lakner³, József Baranyi^{4*}

1 Interdisciplinary Center for Network Science and Applications (iCeNSA) and Department Physics, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana, United States of America, **2** Faculty of Physics, Babes-Bolyai University, RO-400084 Cluj-Napoca, Romania, **3** Department of Food Sciences, Budapest Corvinus University, Budapest, Hungary, **4** Institute of Food Research, Norwich Research Park, Norwich, United Kingdom

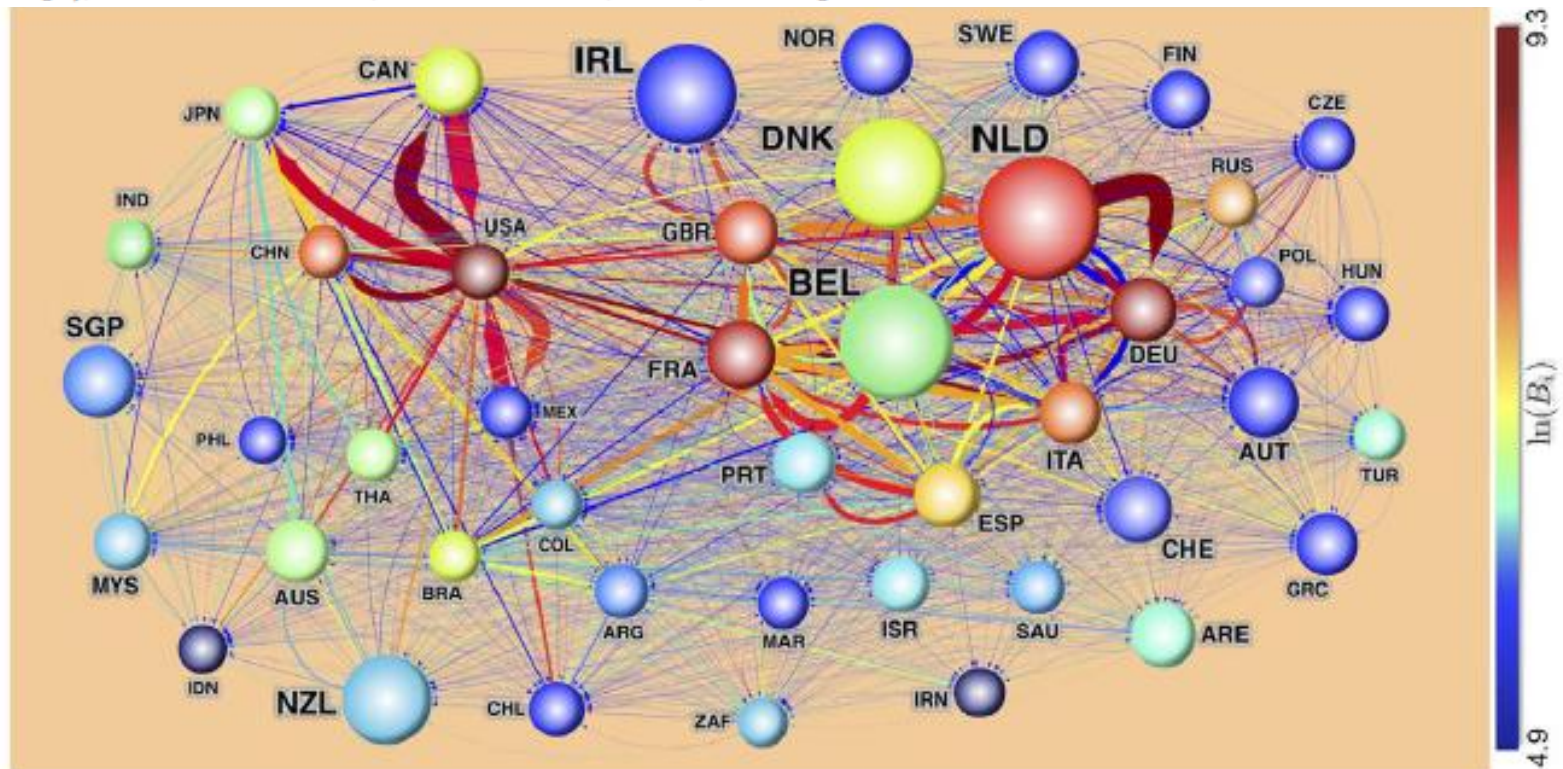


Figure 4. The backbone of the IFTN based on the 2007 dataset. The backbone is formed by the top 44 nodes (countries) with the largest total trade activity (import+export). Nodes and edges are both colored by their betweenness values; the thickness of the directed edges is proportional to the natural logarithm of the trade value in that direction, as in Fig. 2. The size of a node, in this figure, is proportional to the logarithm of the *per capita* trade activity, i.e. $\ln[(E_i+1)/I_i]$ where I_i is the population size of the country i . Countries are labeled by their 3-letter ISO 3166 codes. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0037810.g004

Globalization versus

Short Food Supply Chain (SFSC)

- **Alternative (local) agri-food networks** (involved/interested) consumers seek for
 - “Fresh healthy high quality food”:
 - taste, nutritional & safety (*organic or non-organic*)
 - Exchange of information on quality attributes & provenance/origin of food

➡ **Big-box grocery supermarket stores**

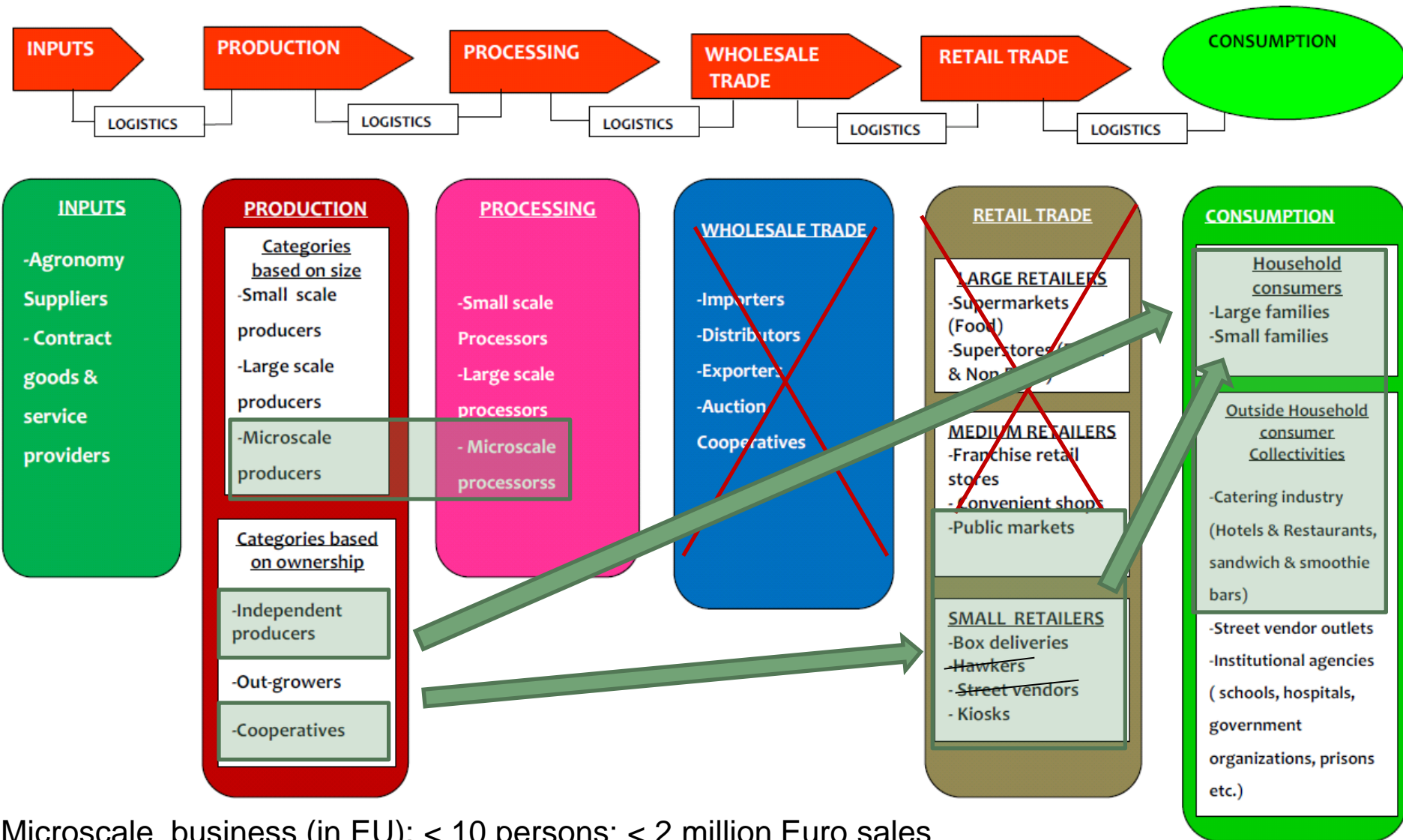
➡ **Short Food Supply Chain:**

- *sales direct from source seen as a place to buy “good food”*



Stakeholders in the “short” versus “long” Food Supply Chain

Figure adapted from D 1.1. Veg-i-Trade



Microscale business (in EU): < 10 persons; < 2 million Euro sales

Globalization versus short food supply chain

Short Food Supply Chain:

- *face to face/proximate producer-consumer contact*
- FASFC registered operators (with registered activities at primary production and/or processing) having direct sales of primary and locally processed primary products to consumers
e.g. farm shops or farm automates, farmers markets
=promoted in agricultural economy & rural development



Belgian Federal A



Globalization versus short food supply chain

Short Food Supply Chain:

- *face to face/proximate producer-consumer contact*
- FASFC registered operators having direct sales of primary and locally processed primary products to consumers
 - Occasionally one registered FASFC operator (with registered activity of trade or retail sales) may act as an intermediary to stock and transfer or sell (processed) primary products but without performing any manipulation on these locally grown/produced products.
e.g. box schemes & collective food buying teams



Globalization versus short food supply chain

Short Food Supply Chain:

- *face to face/proximate producer-consumer contact*
- FASFC registered operators (with registered activity of food serving operation but without FASFC registered primary production activity) serving (or selling) own grown crops, dairy or processed products to consumers (guests)
*e.g. guesthouses, restaurants, day care centers', food service operations **cooking meals with input from own garden***



Tuinman in 'keukenteam' bij Hertog Jan

verschenen in MissetHoreca.nl, op 05 06 2012

"90 tot 95 procent van de groenten, kruiden en fruitsoorten die chef-kok Gert de Mangeleer serveert in driesterrenrestaurant Hertog Jan in Brugge, komen uit eigen tuin. Zondag 3 juni had hij zijn 'tuinman' Bart Praet zelfs meegenomen naar Zwolle, waar hij een masterclass deed op Chefs (R) Evolution. 'Wat 's ochtends wordt geplukt, ligt uiterlijk 's avonds op het



Globalization versus Short Food Supply Chain

Short Food Supply Chain:

- *face to face/proximate producer-consumer contact*
- Non-FASFC registered individuals or hobby breeders who sell or set available own grown/produced products at home at gate.

e.g. gate or roadside sales/supplies, urban farming, consumer cooperatives, Community Supported Agriculture, pick your own

In Brussels

A ROOFTOP URBAN FARM ON THE SITE OF THE ANDERLECHT ABATTOIRS

26/07/2012 - SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION



Redeveloping disused areas and vegetable gardening - that's the farm project on the roof of the Abattoirs project that's both 'green' and 'pink' and is conducted by Saint-Louis University. The development of sustainable agriculture will create several thousand jobs in the Region.

Eigen kweek eerst: moestuiniers en stadslandbouwers

HUMO-ARCHIEF Dinsdag 21 augustus 2012 - 07u34

Vind ik leuk 93 personen vinden dit leuk. Sign Up om te zien wat je vrienden leuk vinden.

Vroeger was alles simpel: vóór de moderne kweek-, transport- en bewaarmethoden aten we 's zomers tomaten, 's winters witlof en daarmee basta.



Short Food Supply Chain

= local ?, small scale ?

= ≠ natural, artisanal, traditional

- Numerous “artisanal” “terroir” “designation of origin” food products



are direct sales
or long supply chain

- Some are widely marketed !
national/international



= ≠ ‘free range’ ‘organic’ ‘fair trade’



Short Food Supply Chain may evolve...

- Minimum production level to generate sufficient income BUT large volumes at odds with specific marketing structure
- Some may drop in and out SFSC depending upon seasonality & time
- Some may have a hybrid system ? (partially selling at gate/ partially local shops – wholesalers?)



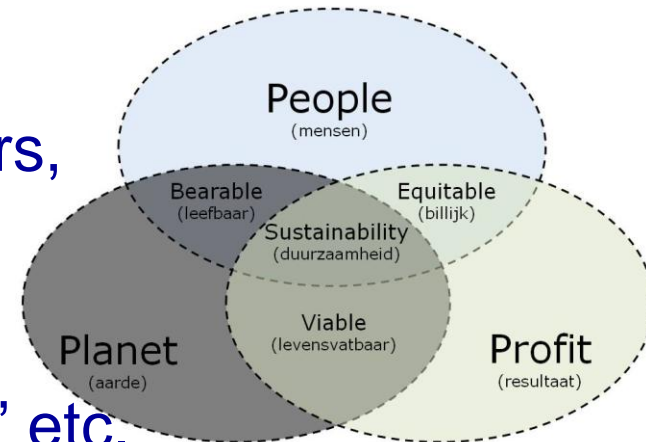
Short Food Supply Chain = ≠ Sustainability



People = social responsibility e.g. labour conditions
= (producer & consumer) health

Planet = environmental impacts:

- water, energy, pesticides, fertilizers, monocultures, animal welfare, etc.
- to be determined by e.g. Life Cycle Analysis, “footprints” etc.



Profit = economical aspects e.g. Generation of continuous business earnings but accessible/affordable by all consumer

SFSC (“long” FSC): may (or may not) involve PPP





Short Food Supply Chain & Food safety

- In scientific literature little or no information on “quality & safety” of food products from SFSC versus “conventional/long” supply chain
- **BUT**
 - Managed by one person/small team: comprehensive knowledge of food safety management ?
 - Fresh foods, restricted processing/transaction: less demanding to control ?



Thank you for your attention !

