

Values-Based Territorial Food Networks (VTFN): An overarching concept representing the diverse perspectives of sustainable and ethical transitions of Alternative Food Networks – be they Local Food Systems, Civic Food Networks or Short Food Supply Chains.

Keywords:

Values-Based Territorial Food Networks; Comparative literature review; Alternative Food Networks; Local Food Systems; Civic Food Networks; Short Food Supply Chains

Abstract (147 words):

This article proposes a comparative literature review of the concepts Local Food Systems (LFS), Short Food Supply Chains (SFSC), Civic Food Networks (CFN) and Alternative Food Networks (AFN) – converging into the umbrella-term Values-Based Territorial Food Networks (VTFN).

Based on the analysis of the specificities and shortcomings in the four concepts, VTFN aims to enhance conceptual clarity. The current coexistence of the concepts conceals their structural and systemic commonalities – relevant for understanding pathways to ethical and sustainable food system transformations.

Taking a closer look at unsolved issues and ambiguities of AFNs (subdivided into LFS, SFSC and CFNs), VTFN offers a more overarching, and pragmatic, concept. It qualifies the claimed ‘alternativeness’ of AFNs affirmatively through the dimensions of social, economic, environmental and governance ‘sustainability values’ and through varying constellations of ‘territoriality’. Thus, it fosters integrated scientific dialogue about a conceptual determination of emerging networks of food system transitions worldwide.

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Introduction _____ *Error! Bookmark not defined.*

Outline of the article and methods _____ *Error! Bookmark not defined.*

Comparative literature review _____ *Error! Bookmark not defined.*

1. Local Food Systems (LFS) _____ *Error! Bookmark not defined.*

Description and context _____ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Elusiveness of defining localism, without romanticising it _____ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Place-based values, yet occulting power asymmetries _____ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

In a nutshell _____ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

2. Short Food Supply Chains (SFSC) _____ *Error! Bookmark not defined.*

Description and context _____ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Quality conventions _____ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Performance of shortened food supply chains _____ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Co-creation of values _____ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

In a nutshell _____ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

3. Civic Food Networks (CFN) _____ *Error! Bookmark not defined.*

Description and context _____ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Governance by civic processes _____ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Focus on processes of negotiation around values more than on the values themselves_ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

In a nutshell _____ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

4. Alternative Food Networks (AFN) _____ *Error! Bookmark not defined.*

Description and context _____ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Integrative values _____ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Questioning of the dominant system via a socio-cultural exemplification __ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

In a nutshell _____ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Discussion _____ *Error! Bookmark not defined.*

Necessary reframing of the umbrella-concept of AFN towards values and territoriality ___ *Error! Bookmark not defined.*

Impact of sustainability values claimed by the concept AFN _____ **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Systematically including a pragmatist approach, focusing on values and on territoriality **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Umbrella concept “Values-based Territorial Food Networks” (VTFN) _____ *Error! Bookmark not defined.*

References _____ *Error! Bookmark not defined.*