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| **How can Alternative Food Systems help us achieve the Sustainable Development Goals?** |
| **Background**In 2015, the United Nations proposed a plan of action comprised of 17 Goals in order to achieve Sustainable Development by 2030. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 aims to "end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”. Further reflection on the ways Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) may serve as a lever for helping to achieve the SDGs are needed. Therefore, this essay’s objective is to explain why SDG2 requires alternative food systems supported by STI. **Method**First, a literature review was conducted to characterize alternative food systems, which were then analyzed in the light of the SDG framework. Finally, key relations with SDG2 were illustrated through 3 examples from the province of Quebec, in Canada.**Results and Discussion**STI approaches dedicated to alternative systems could help to achieve SDG2. These approaches include (1) the scientific focus on underutilized crops to increase their presence in the fields, and consumers' acceptance; (2) the strengthening of organizational forms that have social impacts as their main concern. We selected 3 examples from Quebec (Canada) of initiatives that are part of alternative food systems to illustrate these relations to SDG2: **Equiterre,** a non-profit organization that proposes solutions so that citizens, organizations and governments can make ecological choices that are healthy and equitable. **Lufa**, a private company that aims to provide local food to people in Quebec urban areas, with a focus in Montreal. They created the first commercial rooftop greenhouse in the world in 2011. **Montreal Food System Council**, a regional network committed to improving the food system in the city of Montreal. These initiatives could affect positively food systems by increasing the diversity of crops cultivated and local food availability, favouring the responsible use of inputs, as well as the development of policies that help to consolidate alternative organizational forms.**Conclusion**STI investments could make alternative food systems stronger. The examples from Quebec reflect a systemic change that is happening all around the world. Whether this change will be strong enough to help us achieve SDGs, however, will depend on what food systems will take more advantage on past, current and future STI investments.**Keywords**Alternative Food System; Responsible innovation; Sustainability. |