

NYÉLÉNI

TOWARDS A GLOBAL FORUM ON

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY



TABLE OF CONTENTS



03 Who we are

04 What we've accomplished

05 Today's challenges

06 Building a global response

07 From the Nyéléni Process to the Nyéléni Forum

WHO WE ARE

The **International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC)** is an autonomous and self-organized global platform led by global social movements of Indigenous people, small-scale food producers, consumers, and rural workers whose goal is to advance the food sovereignty agenda at regional and global levels.

Currently, IPC is formed by 18 regional and global social movements and networks, with **more than 6,000 organizations** representing an estimate of **over 300 million people** worldwide. The global social movements in IPC share the principles and the six pillars of food sovereignty as outlined in the **Nyéléni 2007 Declaration** and synthesis report. The IPC also counts with a group of ally movement support NGOs (non-governmental organizations) providing critical analysis and technical expertise.



WHAT WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED

The IPC plays a critical role as a coordination space for the food sovereignty movement worldwide, articulating strategies and solutions for more **just and ecological food systems** since the 1990s. Through IPC, global social movements were able to organize the landmark **Nyeléni Food Sovereignty Forum** in 2007 and the **Agroecology International Forum** in 2015.

In the last two decades, IPC members achieved great results for small-scale food producers, Indigenous Peoples, and consumers in general, **defending and promoting the rights of those who produce a significant part of our food**, but are largely marginalized from decision making spaces.

As a global political force, **IPC has amplified the voice and perspectives of Indigenous Peoples and other groups** in international treaties and policies.

For example, social movements were able to:

- **include the rights of farmers** in the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources (ITPGRFA) in 2001;
- influence the **creation of a mechanism for the participation** of civil society groups in the United Nations' Committee on Food Security (2010);
- contribute in the elaboration of the **Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests** in the Context of National Food Security (2012) and the **Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries** in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (2014);
- build a **formal agreement with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** to provide a space for participation of social movements in the relevant processes at the United Nations.

In IPC, social movements have a **global platform that combines high-level technical expertise with a bottom-up decision-making process**. The IPC facilitates global dialogue between social movements, indigenous peoples, small-scale food producers and allies, building a powerful coalition capable of bringing their issues to the highest level of international governance, to ensure the full respect of their human and social rights.

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TODAY'S CHALLENGES

In 25 years, our collective has come a long way, but much remains to be done. The world is in unprecedented turmoil and we all are **facing deep-rooted overlapping crises** – economic, social, democratic, ecological, health, patriarchal and racist. The dominant mindset and its institutions are unable to provide real solutions. We urgently need systemic, transformative change and to support the protagonism of social movements.

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The **COVID-19 pandemic** has shone a light on the connections between different global justice **struggles**, but at the same time forced many social movements to focus on immediate responses and local needs. Now we risk that the governments' recovery plans will exacerbate inequalities and power asymmetries between civil society and corporations. Many vulnerable communities to food insecurity and climate change are not supported as they should. For instance, **small-scale producers are going bankrupt**, while food and agricultural workers (many of them migrants) lose their underpaid jobs and also their access to food. At the same time their employers, large agribusinesses, absorb key public resources.

IPC members foresee **this crisis will reinforce an industrial food system** responsible for environmental degradation, and one-third of the global greenhouse gas emissions. This system contributes to global health crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic, generates poverty and hunger, and floods the global market with junk food linked to widespread diseases such as obesity and diabetes.



BUILDING THE GLOBAL RESPONSE

IPC members are not waiting for the catastrophe. We will fight back. That is why we are organising **a new moment of discussion in the movement for food sovereignty**, to build our response at the global and the local levels and tighten alliances with climate justice movements, labour and environmental groups. It's now or never.

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Twenty-five years after the creation of the concept of Food Sovereignty, the moment is now to launch a process to deepen and widen the principles and concepts for food sovereignty and invite global movements to articulate an intersectional convergence towards joint proposals for system change.

The IPC is **calling for a new edition of the Nyéléni Process**, that is going to culminate in the **Global Nyéléni Forum** in March 2023. This is a critical and huge undertaking that will involve a democratic consultation in regions and territories in which IPC is organized.

We plan to bring together hundreds of thousands of people, peasants, small-scale fishers, Indigenous Peoples, consumers, NGOs and scholars - to discuss and propose solutions and priorities for the next twenty-five years of our collective struggle for food sovereignty.

The outcomes of this global consultation process will be presented in the Nyéléni Forum, in which hundreds of delegates from all over the world will discuss strategies and solutions for more just and ecological food systems, and will relaunch a global alliance capable of counteracting the forces that are pushing the world into a deeper, multidimensional crisis.



FROM THE NYÉLÉNI PROCESS TO THE NYÉLÉNI FORUM

The IPC will organize regional meetings in the Americas; Europe and Central Asia; Africa; the Middle East and North Africa; Asia; and the Pacific region. In these regional consultations, social movements, non-governmental organizations and scholars close to IPC - and leading organizers on climate justice or workers' rights groups - will be invited to participate. The goal is to reach out to as many allied organizations as possible to have regional dialogues focusing on areas of convergence.

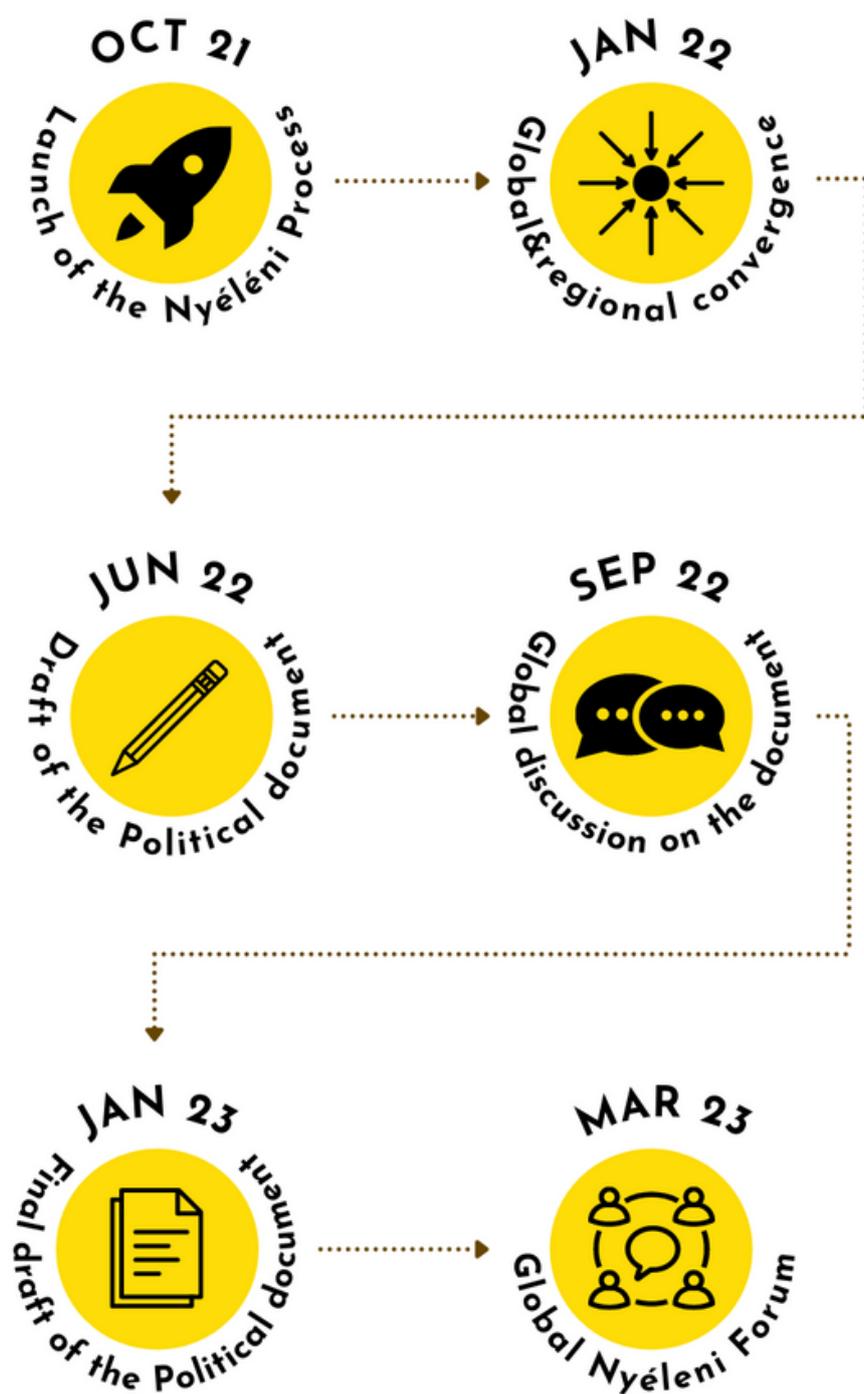
In a **second phase**, a group of regional coordinators will produce a synthesis document in which summarise the discussions held in the consultations and will identify common issues.

In the **following moment**, the document will be shared in the regions, with IPC members, and allies, for **a final round of inputs**.

The group of regional coordinators (or "political weavers") will be responsible to finalise the political document as well as the agenda for the Global Nyéléni Forum. As the final phase, the Nyéléni Forum will bring together cross-regional, cross-thematic discussions and make final analyses and decisions as well as achieve the other goals of the forum, like (re)energize the food sovereignty movement, foster solidarity, create momentum to make the voices of grassroots organizations and people heard and to give **a common direction to the social movements for the years to come**.



NYÉLÉNI PROCESS TIMELINE



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