



# **A G R I C U L T U R E , F O O D S E C U R I T Y A N D C O M M U N I T Y P L A N N I N G**

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# The Territorial Agrifood Association

The Territorial Agrifood Association (TAA) is a non-governmental, non-profit organization based in the Northwest Territories that is mandated to develop and advocate for the NWT food system and represent members of the agri-food value chain across the territory.

TAA was born from the Territorial Farmers Association and the NWT Food Network.

[www.nwtagrifood.ca](http://www.nwtagrifood.ca)



# The language of agrifood

Agriculture

Agrifood

Food  
Production

Community  
Garden

Farm

Market  
Garden

Harvesting

Food  
Sovereignty

Food Security



# Food is a bridge

Food represents a cultural and an agricultural act.

Conserving, protecting and regenerating natural resources, landscapes and biodiversity that provide us with food, while also supporting healthy and resilient economies and societies.



# A Community Food Plan

A community food plan is a holistic approach to improving the food system, promoting food security and sustainability and fostering community health and well being.

By addressing a range of issues related to food access, nutrition, and agriculture, a community food plan can help create a more resilient and equitable food system for all residents.





**Local governments must put into place programs and policies that support the agricultural economy and the future of food sovereignty in their communities and regions.**

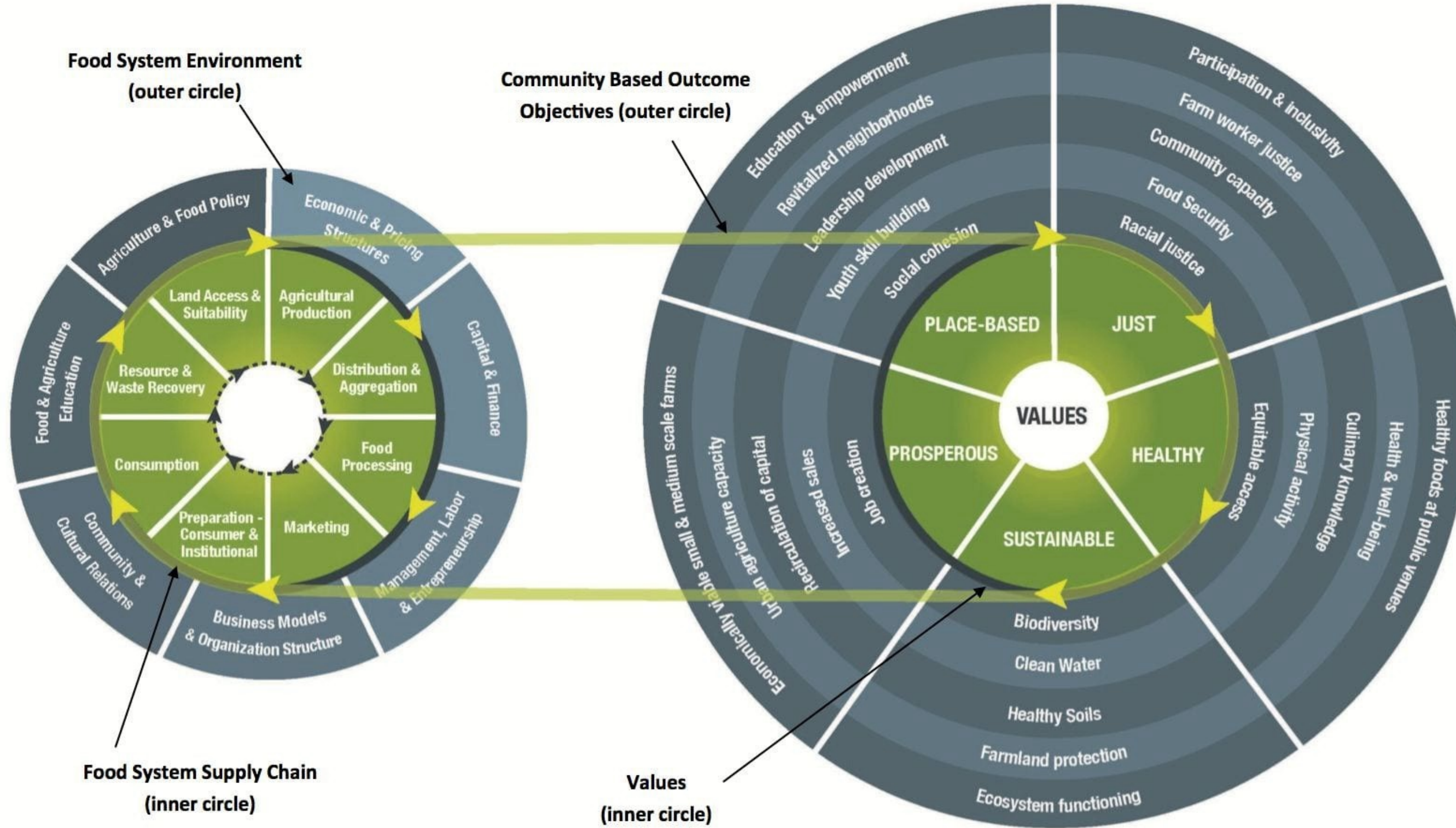
# Why planning for agrifood?

- Steer growth
- Reduce regulatory barriers
- Encourage infrastructure development
- Address sustainability

Planning for agrifood is a policy process to help ensure a future for food in a given place over a specified time period. It establishes a public policy framework to protect and conserve land for current and future generations and to support agrifood economic development.

But planning for agrifood also can help turn threats into opportunities. Examples include support for diversification to value-added agriculture and investments in infrastructure like cold storage, packing and processing plants. Enacting policies that allow on-farm processing, promote local procurements and farm to institution sales and/or provide opportunities for agritourism also counter the threat of development by keeping communities economically viable.

# Community and Regional Food Systems Framework



Adapted from the Community and Regional Food Systems (CRFS) Project, based at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The framework illustrates how components of the *food system supply chain* (inner circle, left) are related to the *food system environment* (outer circle, left). Activities within the food system supply chain are driven by *values* (inner circle, right). Values are related to *community based outcome objectives* (outer circle right).



# Best practise considerations

1. Community Agricultural Commissions and Advisory Boards
2. Agricultural "Ombud"/Agricultural Support Staff (currently ITI)
3. Agricultural Districts
4. Livestock and Poultry Ordinances
5. Right to Farm
6. Tax Exemptions
7. Farm Building and Other Exemptions
8. Leasing Development Rights
9. Property Tax Relief
10. Zoning
11. Farm Labour Housing
12. Setbacks and Buffers

**Planning  
for  
agriculture  
is  
important**



**Value to food  
systems and  
local economies**

**Environment and  
quality of life**



**Community level  
adaptation to  
market forces  
and climate  
change**





**How do we support our food future?**

**The TAA can help with...**

- **'Is your community food friendly' checklist.**
- **Local food procurement policy suggestions.**
- **Regional connections.**
- **Communication and regional connections.**
- **Why plan for food and agriculture report.**
- **Planning support.**
- **Communication tools.**
- **Innovation models.**
- **Opportunity profiles.**



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