



EAA Sister Community Questionnaire

Join hands with a community in another country to share your food story

Gather in a church or community group to answer the questionnaire below. Once completed, share your food story with your sister community via email, Skype or other means that seem best to you. Photos are a great way to reinforce your messages so we invite you to upload your food story photo on Facebook.

Availability – Food availability relates to the supply of food through production, distribution, and exchange.

1. How much of your food do you purchase?
 - All of my food
 - More than 2/3rds
 - 1/3rd to 2/3rds
 - Less than 1/3rd
 - None
2. How much of your household income is spent on food? _____
3. What is the best thing about the food available to you? _____
4. What is the worst thing? _____

Access - Food access refers to the affordability and allocation of food, as well as preferences and cultural appropriateness of the food.

1. When and what do you typically eat in one day?
2. What is/are your main staple food(s)?
3. What foods are unique to your region?

4. Are traditional food items accessible and affordable?
5. What protein sources are available in your region? Do you have access to sufficient protein for yourself/family?
6. Do you have access to fresh fruits and/or vegetables? If so, please elaborate_____
7. Does your soil, climate and weather allow you to grow enough food year-round for a nutritious diet?
8. What kinds of spices do you season your food with?
9. What are your major concerns around food – for yourself, for your family, for your larger community, for your country?

Utilization - Once food is obtained by a household, many things affect the quantity and quality of food that reaches members of the household.

1. How do you keep your food from spoiling?
2. How do you cook your food? For example, open fire? Wood stove? Propane stove? Gas/electric stove and oven? Microwave?

Stability - Food stability refers to the ability to obtain food over time.

1. Do you have access to affordable food all year long?
2. Do you conserve (freeze/dry/salt/can) your excess food?
3. How much food is thrown away? (None or almost none, a little, a lot, way too much)

General

1. What is your favorite thing to grow?
2. What is your favorite meal?
3. How might our communities deepen our understanding of each other? How can you imagine we might be able to support each other?
4. Are there critical local, national and/or international policies that need to be changed that would improve your food and farming situation?

Theological reflection

To deepen our understanding of these issues in our faith, please consider the following biblical passages in your church or community group. Listen to the reflections of your sister community, shared via email, Skype or other means, and share your own:

- **1 Kings 21 New International Version (NIV):** This misuse of power featured prominently in Naboth's Vineyard bears a strong resemblance to the land grabbing that is currently taking place in across the world.
- **Leviticus 25 New International Version (NIV), The Sabbath Year and The Year of Jubilee:** Be inspired by this passage to think deeper about the land, soil health, wider use of crop varieties and local breeds, land reforms and the true owners of our land. *"The land is mine and you reside in my land as foreigners and strangers. Throughout the land that you hold as a possession, you must provide for the redemption of the land."*
- **Genesis 41:53-42:7:** Contemplate the sacrifices that we make for food and how a scarcity of food puts people in a vulnerable position, referencing how people were willing to become slaves for food in Genesis 41:53
- **Genesis 1:11-12:** Consider seed diversity and genetically modified (GM) crops and their impact on peoples and on nature, land, water, seeds, and economies, especially those of the Global South. *Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds. And it was so. The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good."*
- **James 5:7:** Study what growing food will look like in a changing climate. By 2020, areas for rain-fed agriculture - the most important areas for poor farmers in some countries in Africa - could be reduced by up to 50%. How will these shifts affect small-scale farmers, those with the least amount of resources for adaptation. *"See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains."*

We welcome you to share your reflections with the wider EAA community by sending your responses to Christine Campeau, EAA Food Campaign Coordinator, at campeau@e-alliance.ch and on Facebook at the Food Week of Action/World Food Day event at http://bit.ly/join_foodweek.