

>> SYNTHESIZE MOUNTAINS OF KNOWLEDGE <<

Submitted Abstract

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Abstract

Within the project “Exploring values-based modes of production and consumption in the corporate food regime”, a Young Independent Research Group project financed by the Austrian Science Fund, we explore the food regime in Switzerland. As one case study, we investigate the mountain foodscape Val Poschiavo (Grisons, Switzerland) as a values-based food supply chain that opposed to phenomenon such as climate change, outmigration and difficulties of market integration for small-scale value chains. Interestingly, the very peripheral valley is by nearly 90 % farmed organically. This characteristic is institutionalised in the initiative of 100 % (bio) Val Poschiavo that transformed into an official regional development project. This project aims to optimize and professionalize the agricultural organic value chains and ensured that the added value remains in the valley. Actors, such as retailer and consumers, in this food system are located outside the region in Swiss urban areas and constitute rural-urban linkages.

This input aims to understand how this realization of a values-based food supply chain became the guiding philosophy of the region and highlights, how this regional development approach contributes to enhance sustainable and just mountain foodscape.