**Abstract:**
- Manabí: an Ecuadorian province named after the people who inhabit and identify with the land, primarily eat from mangroves.
- Mangrove ecosystems: one of the world's most productive ecosystems. 
  - Protect biodiversity, reduce climate change impacts, and fulfill social functions for Manabí people who fish and gather from the mangroves.
- More than 80% of mangrove habitats have been destroyed by the shrimp industry due to global legal, social, and economic influences.
- Deteriorated and uprooted the living conditions of the families who relied on the ecosystems.

**Food Sovereignty:**
- Food sovereignty: those who produce, distribute, and consume the food are given control over mechanisms and policies of food production, rather than corporations and market institutions.
- This language is ignored/survival is seen as contingent on Neoliberal methods: mass consumption, convenience, and cost-efficiency.

**Globalization, Capitalism, and Colonization:**
- The only acknowledged solution for hunger after the 2008 financial, food, energy, and environmental crisis:
  - Privatization of land in the Global South to create food security.
  - Poor, rural communities lost all access to land and those with pre-existing access were faced with hostile attempts to force "development".

**Governmental Missteps:**
- Control: governmental missteps reporting occupied land as empty.
- Relationship between people and land is ignored.
- Relationship of inhabitants and corporations one of power and control by hand of the corporations.
- No consideration of policies/practices for people not seen as present.

**Depesantization:**
- Fear of not having enough lead to transformation of agriculture to an international institution and Manabí are forced out into suburban favelas.
- Subjected to higher food prices, marginal agricultural activities and therefore even more vulnerable to hunger.
- Stripped of economics, ancient way of life, culture/social grasp on identity.
- Forced to consume agrochemicals used in global agriculture.

**Conclusion:**
- One of the countless examples of Western food regimes and ideologies forcing reconstruction of simple, sustainable, cultural life upon being burned to ashes by neoliberal, global thinking through colonization's destructive forces.

**Lack of Legal Recognition:**
- Laws in Ecuador and Western legal system do not reflect indigenous ideologies or identity-based land ownership.
- No acknowledgement of the personal and spiritual ownership created by Manabí people with their land.
- Exiled: authorities must adhere to laws prescribed to them.
  - Lands taken and privatized by corporations.
  - Labelled trespassers and homes torn to the ground.

**Ecophilosophy:**
- Eco-philosophy: food systems that are cultivated, taken care of, harvested, prepared, preserved, shared and traded based on the values of interdependency, respect, reciprocity, and responsibility.
- In order to maintain a dignified relationship with the land.
- Manabí people live by this philosophy but have been forced to start over and take their way of life elsewhere.

**Agrochemical Use in Global Farming:**
- Agrochemicals create monocultures not found in peasant farming.
  - Problems for public health, ecosystem integrity, food quality, and disruption of traditional livelihood.
- Peasant farming: performed by the Manabí people.
  - Conserves ecological integrity, biodiversity, food security, and leads to lesser decline in yields.
- Agroecology: does not rely on high chemical and energy inputs but on its own soil fertility, productivity, and crop protection.

**En Virago: Food, Land and Culture**

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ENVS 4011: Food, Land and Culture

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