

Main Points

- Remind the reason why the RAI principles were not supported by the CSIPM almost ten years ago. The RAI principles are not strongly anchored in Human Rights framework. Ten years ago the CSIPM thought that the principles would not help small-scale food producers and workers overcome the economic, environmental and political constraints that hamper their capacities, and they will not assist people who are struggling to defend their land, seeds and territories. Civil society was concerned that the weakness and incoherence in the Principles will be used to legitimise irresponsible investments.
- The RAI principles should be monitored in a participatory way and the monitoring should use indicators that look at the impact on human rights. The indicators used in the monitoring did not take into account the centrality of human rights for peasant, fisherfolks, family famers, women producers etc.
- After 10 years, we can say that our concerns were right. Our experience is that Agricultural Investments continue to ignore peasants and their human rights. Instead, they incentivize large scale agricultural investments, land grabbing and land concentration.
- The testimony from the Popular Consultation carried out by the CSIPM shows this clearly. The monitoring exercise that we have made has shown that land grabbing and land concentration is still a major problem globally and in Africa. Public investments do not favor and incentivize peasant, small-scale, family farming agriculture.
- Saying that we need Investments is not sufficient. If we don't specify on what we invest and who benefits from the investments, then we will fail to have responsible agricultural investments. We will continue to always talk about peasant but without respecting the principles of small-scale agriculture.
- The [Declaration](#) : Grassroots impacts of COVID-19, conflicts, and crises on the right to food and food sovereignty in Africa shows our point of view. In the current context of crises, investments keep benefitting large scale agriculture. It is business as usual.