



## JAFSCD CALL FOR PAPERS

## Community-Based Circular Food Systems

Meeting current and future food needs through  
local and regional food system development

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Submission deadline: June 12, 2024

## Special Issue Editorial Team

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- **Ñawi K. Flores**, Founder of Kinray Hub & K'allam'p, Indigenous-led Klimate Research & Resilient Development, Citizen of Apya Yala and Turtle Island, Tawantinsuyu, Kutakachi Kichwa First Nation, Chichupampa Llakta Ñawi, and Ph.D. student at the University of Arizona.
- **Dr. Michael Kotutwa Johnson**, Hopi tribal member and traditional dryland farmer, Assistant Specialist, Indigenous Resiliency Center, University of Arizona, USA.
- **María Alonso Martínez**, Sustainable food systems researcher (Spain), Circular Food Systems Junior Officer, Circular Development, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, Germany.
- **Dr. Jacob Park**, Associate Professor, College of Business, Vermont State University, Castleton Campus, USA; and Visiting Professor of the Faculty of Business & Economics, University of Johannesburg, South Africa.
- **Dr. Sarah Rocker**, National Program Leader, Division of Family & Consumer Sciences, National Institute for Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA NIFA).

Meeting current and future food needs through local, regional, and global food system development will continue to be difficult in a VUCA world — a world that is increasingly volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous (Persis et al., 2021). Climate change, war, pandemics, industrialization and consolidation, land-grabbing, environmental degradation, and growing inequality present both immediate and long-term challenges. As noted in the recent COP28 climate change conference, food systems and agricultural issues are assuming international importance as sources of global climate and environmental change — as well as parts of the solution (Cooper, 2023). Better outcomes may result from pursuing opportunities inspired by a dramatic re-envisioning, both locally and across political boundaries.



Image: Ellen MacArthur Foundation

To this end, the *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development* announces a call for papers related to **community-based circular food systems (C-B CFS)**. We define C-B CFS as local and regional food systems that emphasize a community's health and well-being while minimizing waste and protecting shared natural resources. As argued recently by van Zanten et al. (2023), we believe that any

meaningful progress toward the wide range of UN Sustainable Development Goals will require a transformative change in the food system, including in production, processing, distribution, retailing, consumption, and the utilization of waste, while promoting human and planetary well-being.

Moreover, increasing the sustainability of agrifood systems will be critical to averting climate-driven social and ecological disasters in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Scenario analyses for Europe conducted by Sandström and Kummu (2023) suggest how changes in food production and consumption toward circularity could save natural resources without compromising the nutrient needs of regional populations. Work like Sandström and Kummu's reinforces the importance of expanding knowledge about C-B CFS by showcasing scholarly and practitioner perspectives that place community-level circularity in the aggregate at the front and center, as opposed to focusing on circularity at the individual enterprise level.

We are especially (although not exclusively) interested in work that highlights how C-B CFS knowledge can be integrated with Indigenous, diverse, and inclusive knowledge sources in contributing to the building of equitable and sustainable food systems (Antonelli, 2023). Local knowledge from Black, Indigenous, and other communities of color can offer a deep reservoir of practical and resilient information that can inform food system research, policy, and practice.

***The editorial team welcomes manuscripts from original applied research, literature reviews, historical analyses, projections, public policy analyses, case studies, feasibility studies, reflective essays, life-cycle analyses, and other works that reveal the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats related to current and emerging C-B CFS models. Post-mortem analyses of failed initiatives can also be informative. Research of interest may drill deeply into one component of a C-B CFS (see list below) or focus broadly across production-to-consumption stakeholder groups or value-chain components, including waste. However, JAFSCD's focus requires that community embeddedness be front and center. Commentaries from grassroots organizations that inform C-B CFS research, policy, and practice are also welcomed.***

Common components of C-B CFS (or entities or operations working within C-B CFS):

- Have a clearly defined geographic, demographic, or cultural focus.
- Eliminate silos and functions by fostering a network of diverse stakeholders and co-creating applied research and practice.
- Embrace diversity and bridge cultural divides.
- Involve grassroots and community groups and nonprofit organizations.
- Emphasize sustainable food production, sustainable food processing and distribution, and sustainable food consumption and waste utilization.
- Uplift non-industrial farmers and laborers across the value chain and address the mental health and well-being of these critical stakeholders.
- Integrate Indigenous People and Local Community (IPLC)/Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) knowledge systems through ethical practices (e.g., research governances, data sovereignty).
- Encompass social and economic objectives along with environmental objectives.
- Embrace non-economic transactions, including sharing, reciprocity, and charity, that elevate the dignity of recipients.
- Consider preproduction impacts (such as resource extraction or equipment manufacturing).
- Have established evidence-informed objectives.
- Thwart greenwashing and virtue signaling.
- Incentivize circularity through public policy and through public and private philanthropy.
- Emphasize regionality by bridging urban and rural community interests.
- Engage youth, as they will be impacted by whatever actions we take now.

**For more information:**

- Learn more about JAFSCD at <https://foodsystemsjournal.org>
- Submit a query about a manuscript using the form at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/jafscd-query>
- Contact JAFSCD editor-in-chief Duncan Hilchey at [duncan@lysoncenter.org](mailto:duncan@lysoncenter.org)

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<https://doi.org/10.1038/s43016-023-00734-9>

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The *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development* (JAFSCD) is the world's only peer-reviewed, transdisciplinary journal focused on the community development aspects of food and farming. JAFSCD is fully open access. JAFSCD emphasizes best practices and tools related to the planning, community economic development, and ecological protection of local and regional agriculture and food systems, and works to bridge the interests of practitioners and academics. JAFSCD's expert reviewers include researchers, scholars, and food systems practitioners in the field. JAFSCD is published by the Thomas A. Lyson Center for Civic Agriculture and Food Systems, a project of the [Center for Transformative Action](https://foodsystemsjournal.org) (a nonprofit affiliate of Cornell University). Learn more at <https://foodsystemsjournal.org>



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