

CONSUMERS BEHAVIOUR AS REFLECTION OF FOOD SECURITY AT REGIONAL LEVEL IN HONDURAS

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Citation: Tolmáči, A., & Tolmáči L. (2018). CONSUMERS BEHAVIOUR AS REFLECTION OF FOOD SECURITY AT REGIONAL LEVEL IN HONDURAS. *GeoJournal of Tourism and Geosites*. 22(2), 359–372. <https://doi.org/10.30892/gtg.22207-294>

Abstract: The primary driver of food security or insecurity is the food system which creates a framework of approach to study and also solving this issue in region. The case study is analyzing the availability and accessibility of food in settlements Sangrelaya and Cocalito in Honduras. The local food system and its functioning are characterized on the base of research and analysis of food consumption practices and the food situation perception. The research results show that the inhabitants of villages Sangrelaya and Cocalito suffer from food insecurity mostly due to the threat of spatial and economic insufficient access to food.

Key words: local food, food security, food system, consumption, Honduras

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INTRODUCTION

Food security is a pressing issue in the global as well as regional life (Atkins & Bowler, 2001; Lawrence et al, 2010; Gibson, 2012; FAO; Reid, 2012). When studying food security, it seems as most comprehensive to apply a system approach. Food system is considered as a major actor of food security, respectively food security is a main outcome of food system. (Sobal et al., 1998; Ericksen, 2008; Rutten et al., 2011; Hammond & Dubé, 2012; Fonte, 2002). The model of conceptualized food system could explain in the best way the structure, relationships and functioning of food systems (Sobal et al., 1998). Food system according to our conception includes production, processing, distribution, sale and consumption of food (Kneen, 1989; Hartog, 1995; Sobal et al., 1998; Atkins & Bowler, 2001; Bentay, 2005; Ericksen, 2008; etc.). Individual activities are interconnected as chain-, circle or as network- relationships (Lang et al., 2012; Sobal et al., 1998). It is clearly not a closed system, it imports and exports food all the time (Lang et al., 2012). The level of food security is directly related to functioning of various

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