

## **Towards vegan societies?**

### **From the deepest roots of environmental degradations to future landscapes.**

Nicolas Maestriperi<sup>1</sup> – Julie Celnik<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>PhD - University of Toulouse 2. France. [nicolas.maestriperi@gmail.com](mailto:nicolas.maestriperi@gmail.com)

<sup>2</sup>Cemotev, University of Versailles Saint-Quentin en Yvelines. France. [julie.celnik@ens.uvsq.fr](mailto:julie.celnik@ens.uvsq.fr)

As the global population increases (9 billion by 2050), the result will be an increase in demand for food from agriculture and intensive farming. The State of Food and Agriculture report (FAO, 2014) clearly shows the limits of the intensive agricultural system for its impact on land degradation, water resources and atmosphere. On the socio-economic level, the intensification of production caused the capitalization and concentration of land on a global scale. Traditional agricultural practices are also affected, affecting nearly 500 million families in the world. According to Allievi et al. (2015) “*different regions of the world are undergoing a transition to a convergence of meat consumption. [...] This trend might be reversed or at least stabilized if Western regions would take the lead in moving towards more sustainable food choices [...], including the one related to animal ethics*”. If so, the capacity of societies - especially of farmers - to cope with a change in dietary habits will generate multiple uncertainties.

“What may happen if society will turn vegan?”

“How can a specific target (vegan society) be reached?”

Scenario-building methods have been generalized across the world in order to confront complex and uncertain phenomena. The future is a policy “space”, exploratory or normative, built by and for individuals (or groups of individuals), and we need to simulate and localize the processes involved. Therefore spatially explicit modeling and forecasting offer societies a means to organize and cope with complex and dynamic environments thanks to the projection and exploration of alternative future scenarios (Mas et al., 2011).

### **References**

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