



Revisiting Nunavik’s Food System Through Gardening Projects

Food is a basic necessity of life and a human right: everybody should have access to a sufficient quantity of nutritious and culturally appropriate food. Food sovereignty is the right and the power of a community to determine where its food comes from and how it is produced by taking into account its own tastes and traditions. At the heart of food sovereignty, we find the values of community and livelihoods reinforcement as well as the social and environmental sustainability of production, consumption and distribution activities.

Over the last decades in Nunavik, the sharing and consumption of country food has somewhat diminished. This has created space for increased sharing and consumption of store-bought food. However, Nunavik residents have no control over the production of this type of food. Food sovereignty has therefore lost some ground and an action-research project was launched in 2015 to explore potential solutions to rebuild it by increasing food production at a local scale.

This research project has two main goals. Firstly, it aims to contribute to the development of alternative food procurement strategies in Kuujjuaq and Kangiqsujaq by supporting and accompanying the implementation of gardening projects to improve the supply and availability of fresh local food. Secondly, several scientific objectives are being pursued. In Kuujjuaq, where two community greenhouses are already active, these objectives are:



Students at Arsaniq School in Kangiqsujaq are building six gardening boxes (cold frames) for the 2018 growing season (September 2017).



All the gardening equipment has arrived in Kangiqsujaq for a new project with Arsaniq School (August 2017)



Community greenhouses in Kuujjuaq (August 2017)

