

Agroecological practices in an indigenous territory: case study of an Aymaran community in Bolivia

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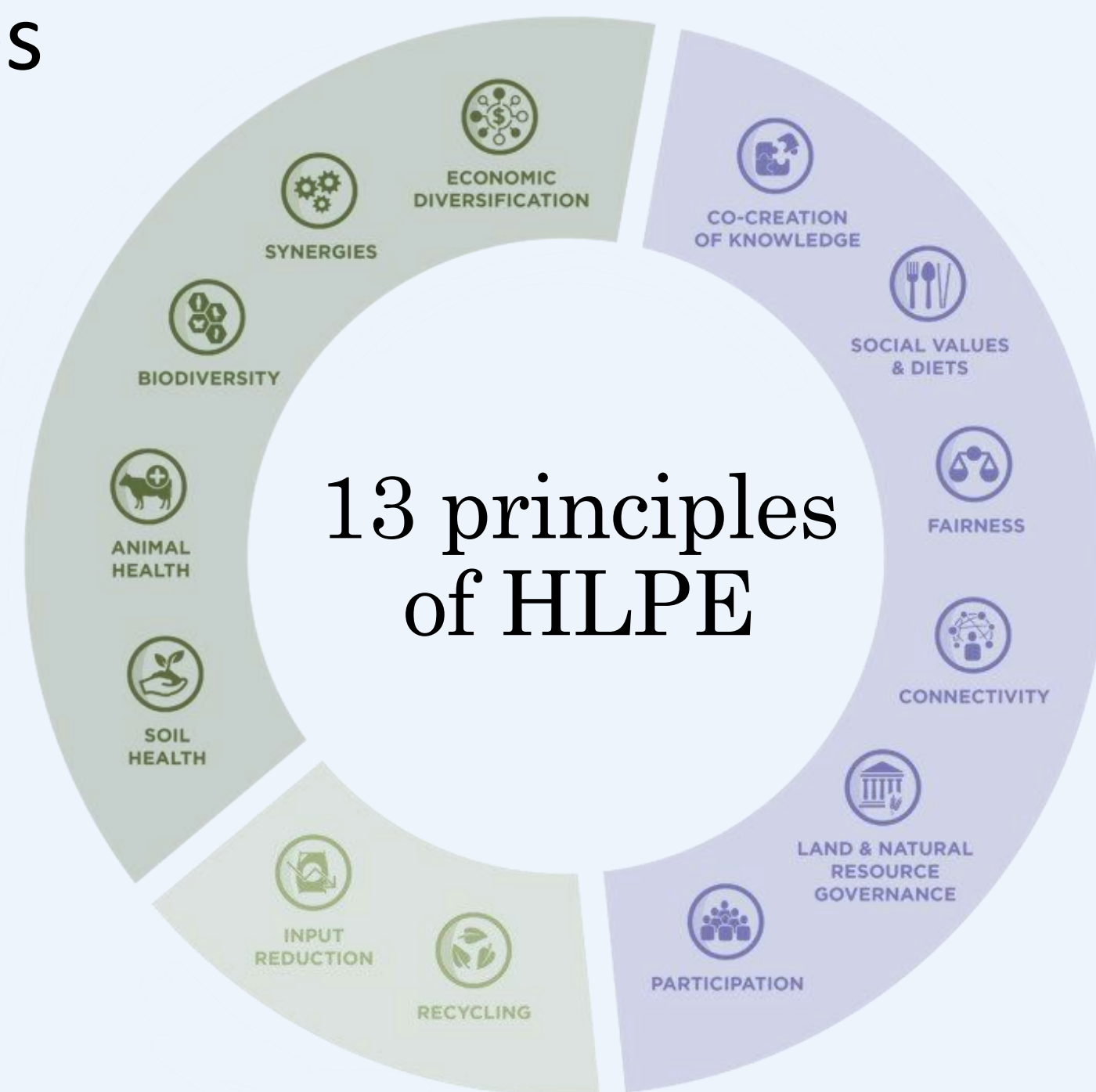
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Introduction

Agroecology integrates sustainable agriculture with ecological principles to achieve resilient food systems and might as well offer a solution for traditional food systems. The goal of this study is to characterise the food system and its changes in the community of Antakahua, Bolivia and assess its alignment with the 13 agroecological principles (HLPE, 2019).

Fig. 1: Adapted from:
<https://www.agroecology-pool.org/13aeprinciples/>,
Retrieved: 20/12/2024

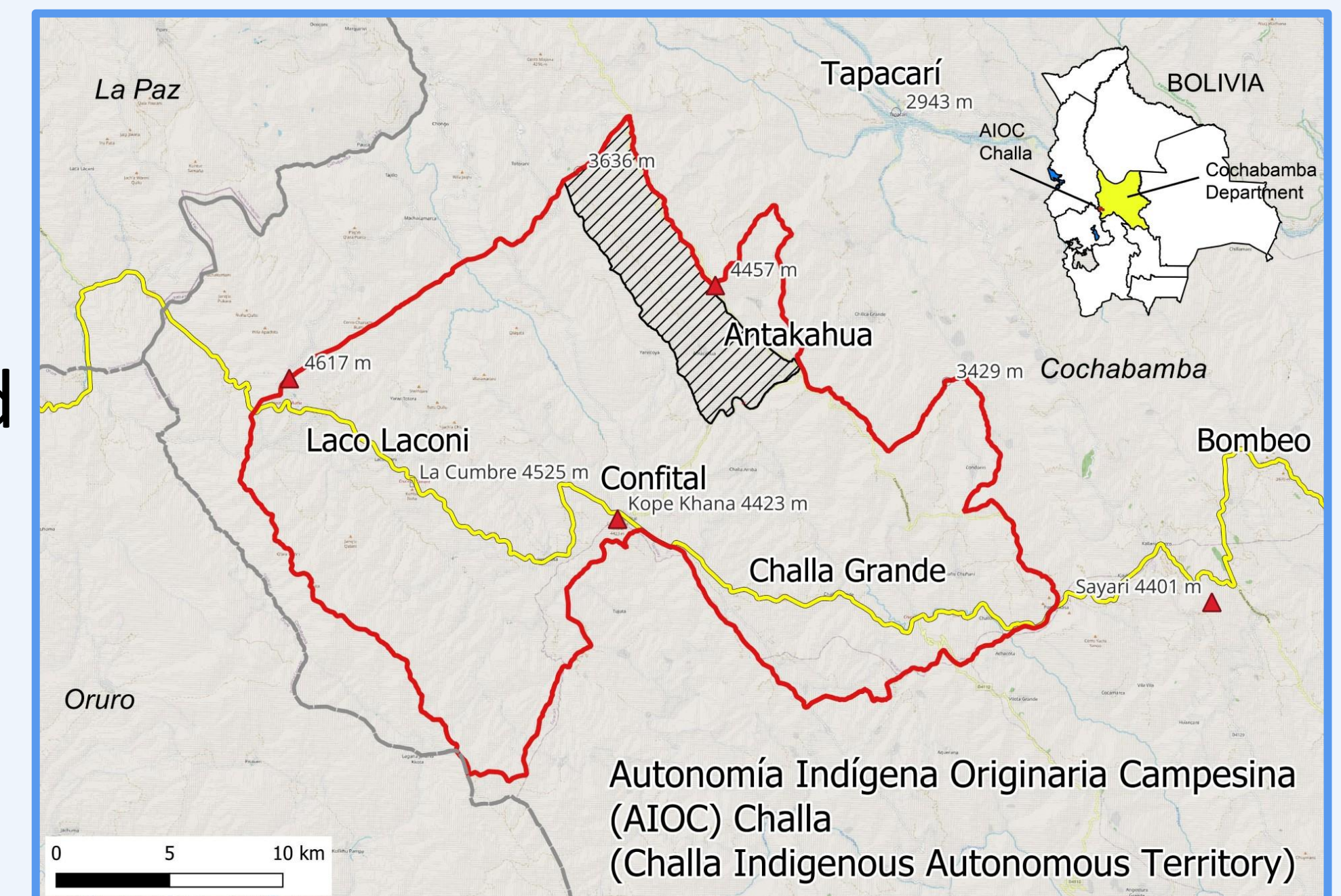


Methods

- Participant observation, informal dialogues and agricultural calendars
- Semi-structured interviews with community members (N=15) and experts (N=5)

The collected data has been analysed with a qualitative content analysis and MAXQDA.

Fig. 2: Localisation of the research area in Bolivia (Boillat, 2025)



Results

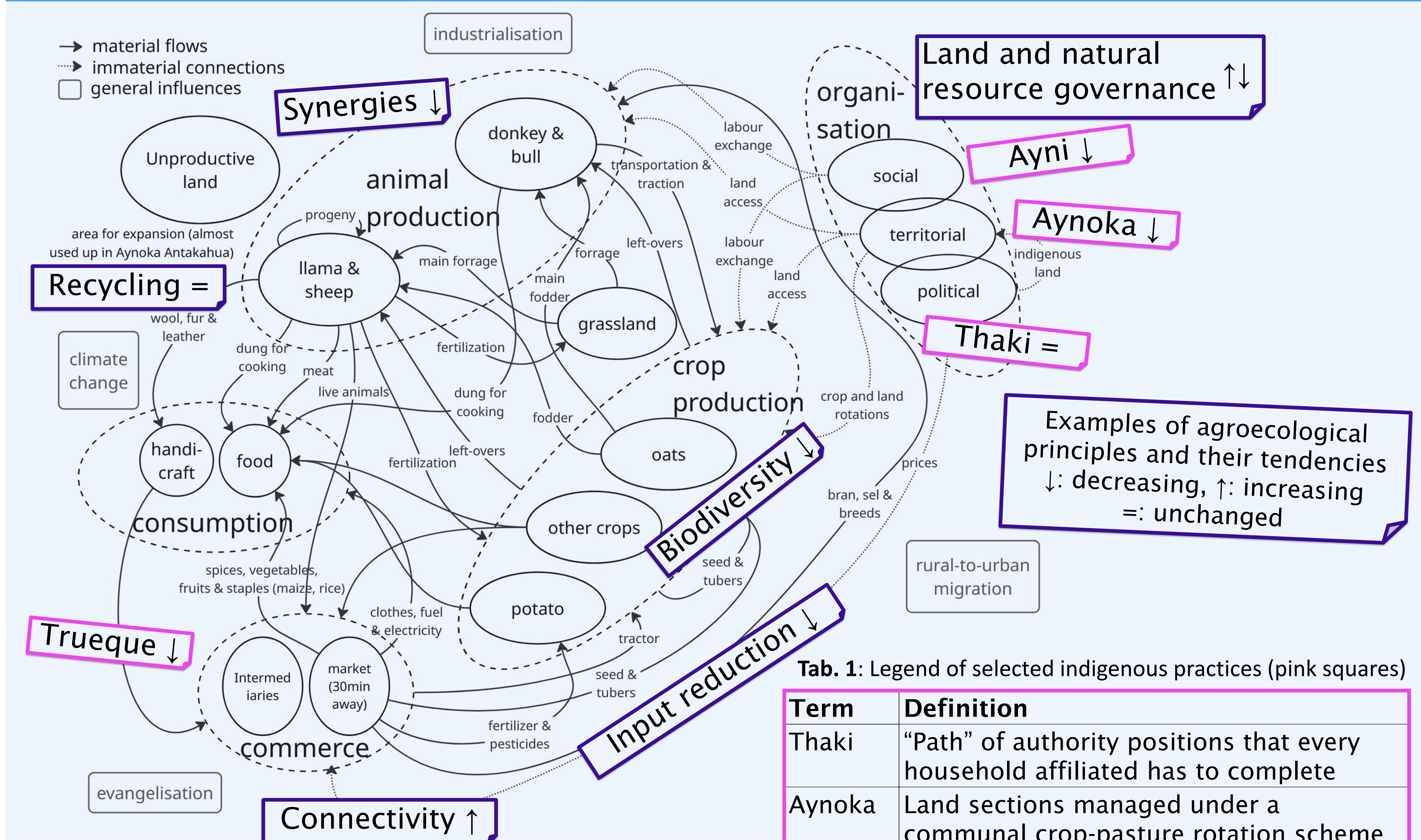


Fig. 3: Most important aspects of the food system in the community of Antakahua (own elaboration, based on data from 2024)

Conclusion

The traditional food system of the Antakahua community shows strong affinities with agroecological principles. As example, globalization, rural-to-urban migration, and development projects have led to the adoption of high-input crops, synthetic fertilizers, and pesticides. Such changes rather tend to counter agroecological principles.