



UCM-EEA Abel Extraordinary Chair  
Individual Mobility of Researchers  
NILS Science and Sustainability (ES07)

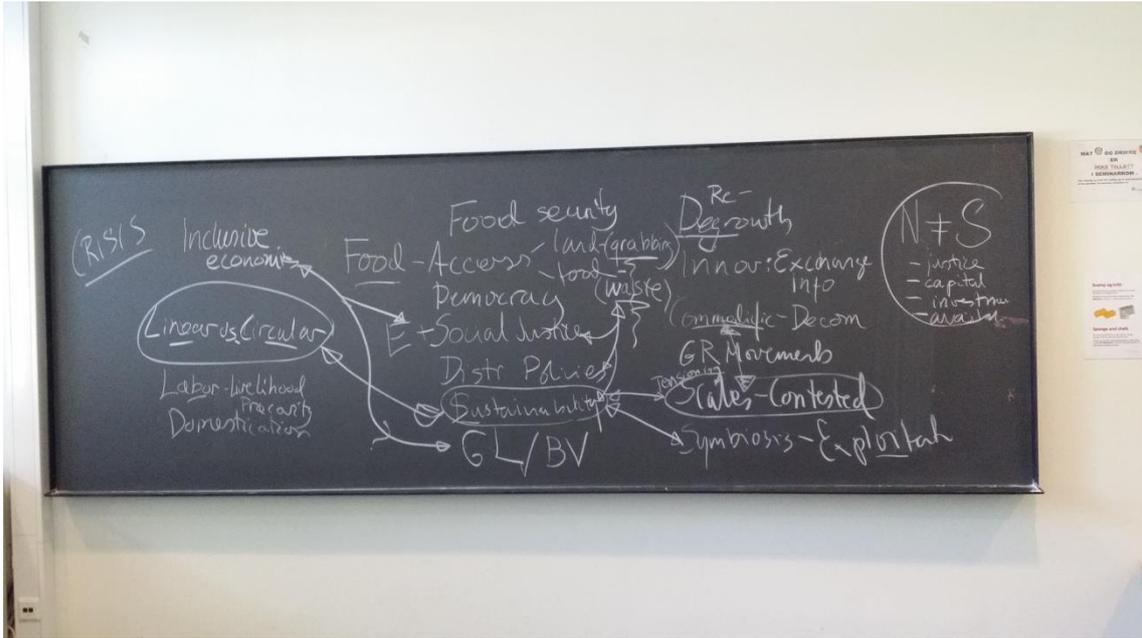
In June 2015, **Dra. Sílvia Gómez Mestres** was awarded with an EEA grant “Individual Mobility of Researchers” within the program NILS Science and Sustainability. The purpose of the project is to establish a shared platform between the research groups of the awarded scientist (EGOLAB-GRAFO) and the scientist of the host institution, **Dra. Marianne Lien**, and their research group (SAI) and associated research groups (SIFO, SUM) from Oslo University. Taking the environmental and economic crisis as a framework, the main goal of this research platform is to address from a renewed theoretical and methodological approach the new relationships that emerge between society and the environment through new economic practices that look for a more a sustainable model.

The common topics of interest are: food and sustainability as they unfold primarily as local responses to global challenges, at the “interface” of production - distribution - consumption, or perhaps as efforts to overcome such distinctions in order to achieve social and environmental justice. This include small-scale organic food production, small-scale fisheries, urban gardening, alternative food distribution networks, sustainability and other environmental or food initiatives that respond to current crisis (financial, climate change, animal welfare, social injustice), or aim to reshape the food system towards a more inclusive one.

A key approach is comparison between related initiatives in Northern and Southern Europe. This is an unexplored field, and while we have a lot of commonalities in relation to capitalism more generally, there are important differences in relation to EU-membership, relations to state, trust, and currently also in relation to the lived experience of the aftermath of the financial crisis. At the same time current initiatives express a transnational (trans European) need for a societal transformation to achieve well-being/“good life”/“buen vivir” or the “circular economy” and these notions are shared across differential socio-economic positions and across regions.

**Actions of the shared platform at the Oslo University:**

- Public lecture: “*Decommodification for a just and a “sustainable” economy: food values in self-managed organic food supply chains in Catalonia*” by Sílvia Gómez in the frame of the Overheating ERC-project seminar series (Directed by Dr. Thomas Hylland Eriksen).
- Meeting with invited participants: Arne Dulsrud (SIFO - National Institute for Consumer Research), Sidsel Roaldkvam (SUM-Center for Development and Environment), Thomas Hylland Eriksen (Overheating-SAI).
- A publication of the first results it is expected by july-october, 2016



The brainstorming (Meeting with invited participants, Oslo University)