

# Agroecology for European policies and practice

Agroecology Europe (AEEU)

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# Who is Agroecology Europe

Agroecology Europe is the European association promoting the transition towards agroecology-based sustainable farming and food systems as a set of practices, a science and a movement across Europe and throughout the world, by facilitating knowledge sharing and action.

More than 300  
members from 15  
countries

established in 2016 to  
support the agroecological  
transition in Europe



aims to analyse, design, develop  
and promote the transition towards  
agroecology-based farming and  
food systems

NGOs, Universities, Scientists,  
Students, PHD students, farmers,  
social movements, etc.

Intends to place agroecology  
high on the EU agenda

Foster interactions between  
actors in science, practice  
and social movements



# The 13 principles of Agroecology (HLPE, 2019)

## TRANSFORMATIONAL

### LEVEL 5

Build a new global food system based on participation, localness, fairness and justice

### LEVEL 4

Reconnect consumers and producers through the development of alternative food networks

### LEVEL 3

Redesign agroecosystems

## INCREMENTAL

### LEVEL 2

Substitute conventional inputs and practices with agroecological alternatives

### LEVEL 1

Increase efficiency of input use and reduce use of costly, scarce or environmentally damaging inputs

## FOOD SYSTEM

## AGROECOSYSTEM



THE FIVE LEVELS OF TRANSITION TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS AND THE RELATED 13 PRINCIPLES OF AGROECOLOGY

SOURCE: GLIESSMAN (2007) AND HLPE (2019)

# CAP 10 OBJECTIVES



**ENSURE  
FAIR INCOME**



**INCREASE  
COMPETITIVENESS**



**REBALANCE  
POWER IN  
FOOD CHAIN**



**CLIMATE CHANGE  
ACTION**



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
CARE**



**PRESERVE  
LANDSCAPES &  
BIODIVERSITY**



**SUPPORT  
GENERATIONAL  
RENEWAL**



**VIBRANT  
RURAL AREAS**



**PROTECT  
FOOD & HEALTH  
QUALITY**



**10 FAIRNESS**



**7 ECONOMIC  
DIVERSIFICATION**



**8 CO-CREATION  
OF KNOWLEDGE**



**6 SYNERGY**



**3 SOIL HEALTH**



**1 RECYCLING**



**2 INPUT REDUCTION**



**5 BIODIVERSITY**



**11 CONNECTIVITY**



**12 LAND AND NATURAL  
RESOURCE GOVERNANCE**



**13 PARTICIPATION**



**9 SOCIAL VALUES  
AND DIETS**



**4 ANIMAL HEALTH**

# **AEU proposals for an agroecological CAP and a long-term vision for rural areas**

- **If basic subsidies are maintained, they should be paid on a full-time equivalent worker (FTE) basis and not on a hectare (or livestock head) basis anymore.**  
Insuring income security to the remaining farmers' population, creating new jobs, opening new perspectives for European agriculture, new entrants and young farmers
- **Developing efficient Farm Advisory Services supporting farmers during their transition towards agroecological systems.** This could include the implementation of a training network with well-trained advisers and a network of innovative farms that could be used as “lighthouses” from which principles may radiate out to local communities.
- **Creating “Land banks” at European scale and in all Member States for facilitating young farmers and newcomers to buy or rent land on the basis of a project that is relevant and consistent with the goals of the ‘Green Deal’ and the future ‘Farm to Fork’ programme.**

# AEEU proposals for an agroecological CAP



- The main part of taxpayer's money spent within the CAP should be allocated to the production of public goods, i.e. the provision of ecosystem services such as:
  - ◆ Sequestration of carbon in agricultural soils
  - ◆ The restoration of rural biodiversity
  - ◆ The development of the ecological network that structures the landscapes
- payment for result-oriented agro-environment and climate measures