



AE4EU Newsletter

7th—and last—Agroecology for Europe (AE4EU) newsletter: January 2024

Dear Friends of AE4EU,

The Agroecology for Europe Project closed but this is not the end! **The second and third volumes of the mapping book are published soon, so stay in touch with us through our [Twitter/X](#) and [website](#)!**

The work lives on! You can find the whole body of knowledge produced during the three years of the project on the [website](#) and all the deliverables in our [Zenodo community](#).

Please find our highlights from the last few months, including a dedicated AE4EU session at the 2023 Agroecology Europe Forum, network impacts outliving the project, and the latest policy briefs.

Until next time,
AE4EU Project Team

[GO TO ZENODO](#)

Event highlights



Agroecology Europe Forum 2023 Converging movements for resilient food systems

16-18 November 2023, Gyöngyös, Hungary

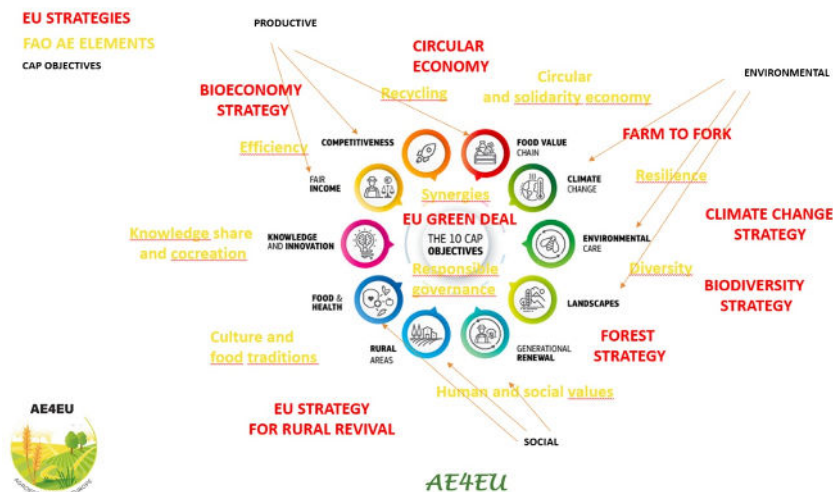
The 2023 European Agroecology Forum, [Converging movements for resilient food systems](#), organized by Agroecology Europe and the Hungarian Agroecology Network Association, took place on 16-18 November 2023 in Gyöngyös, Hungary. Agroecology for Europe was involved directly in the organization of the Forum and different sessions, including the ambassadors meeting through different partners.

The Forum gathered international stakeholders during three days with 13 workshops, 9 sessions, plenaries, 4 field visits, and more than 75 speakers and 260 attendees. It was a unique opportunity to network and promote exchange among agroecological initiatives and stakeholders involved in the European agroecology community.

[Sessions 4a and b](#) at the Forum featured [AE4EU ambassadors](#): representatives of agroecology initiatives across Europe to present their work and bring [posters](#), which attracted 195 registrants! AE4EU partners also played a facilitating role in a number of sessions and presented their posters at the Forum.

The AEEU Forum was a great opportunity to raise awareness about the [European Network for Agroecological Food Systems \(ENAF\)](#) and draw attention to its potential. It is the subject of attention in two sessions: in Session 5 “Strategic alliances: the role of networks in agroecology” and in a dedicated work meeting for ENAF members. As ENAF has been initiated by AE4EU, it lives on as the legacy of the project supporting international and European networks on agroecology and food sovereignty.

[See the agenda and presentations](#)



Agroecology Strategy Policy Workshop

19 December 2023, University of Santiago de Compostela, University of Coventry

AE4EU lead partners of the policy work package hosted a policy workshop to share the results from a policy analysis conducted as part of the AE4EU Project to better understand how agroecology could be promoted across the EU through the CAP. Over 60 people were registered to attend the workshop from 17 countries representing the European Commission, Member State agricultural representatives, universities, and NGOs.

Results: The workshop acknowledged the connection between CAP and FAO agroecological elements and the alignment with the EU strategies. The results of agroecology promotion within the conditionality (GAEC) and social conditionality, the eco-schemes and the rural development interventions associated with the agroecosystem and social agroecological definitions were also discussed. Most of the CAP payments were associated with the biodiversity use at plot level, with few connections to the interlinkage of land uses that should be promoted to have an overall circular economy and bioeconomy perspective. The future CAP should be more linked to the analysis of the food system level from a transformational perspective.



Agroecology Living Labs and Research Infrastructures in Europe—Experiences from ALL-Ready and AE4EU

European Committee of the Regions, Brussels
27 September, 2023

The European Committee of the Regions hosted the joint final conference of the two EU-funded projects ALL-Ready and AE4EU in Brussels on 27 September 2023. The one-day conference shed light on how the two projects paved the way for a European Network of Agroecology Living Labs and Research Infrastructures. Both projects featured stories from the field, pilot network, and local stakeholders. Experiences from involved Living Labs and Research Infrastructures gave practical insights on the agroecology transition in Europe.

[Watch the recordings of the final conference!](#)

[Read the media release](#)

Publications



Policy Briefs

[#8 Policy Brief: Establishing an effective European network of Agroecology Living Labs: Entry points from a farmland biodiversity perspective](#)

[#7 Policy Brief: European Network for Agroecological Food Systems \(ENAF\)](#)

[#6 Policy Brief: Enhancing opportunities for agroecological transformations of farming and food systems in Europe—addressing missing links](#)

#5 Policy Brief - How to Value and Fund Agroecological Transformation

#4 Policy Brief - Eco-Schemes in EU Member States Could Benefit from More Agroecology

#3 Policy Brief - Fostering the transformative role of agroecological research in Europe

#2 Policy Brief - 10 Steps to Achieve the European Green Deal

Read all policy briefs

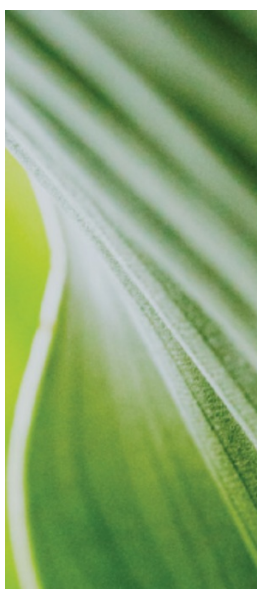


Living Labs

AE4EU is proud to have facilitated and collaborated with three Living Labs in three countries, in Italy, in the Netherlands, and in the UK, to develop context-based and site-specific solutions to the central question “Which mechanisms will strengthen the agroecological research and innovation ecosystems in Europe?”.

Learn more about the Living Lab approach and discover each Living Lab and their posters [on this page!](#)

Read success stories



Book launch

Mapping the development of **AGROECOLOGY IN EUROPE**

Country report series
Volume 1



Mapping

To scale up agroecology, it is critical to document and analyse its development in different contexts as a necessary step to attain larger insights about the state of the art of agroecology, as well as to support its expansion and use at the policymaker level.

Through the “mapping of agroecology in Europe” we aim to provide an overview of the situation that shows the reality of agroecology in different European countries. This mapping is not foreseen to be completely exhaustive, but rather illustrative, synthesizing and providing key information on the road to building a common understanding of agroecology, as well as its development at the European level.

For a comprehensive understanding of the activities and initiatives involved in the mapping, the initial volume of the country report book series “[Mapping the Development of Agroecology in Europe](#)” is already available!

[Explore the mapping](#)



Agroecology for Europe Hub & Map

The Agroecology for Europe Hub developed within the Horizon2020 project AE4EU is a **virtual space to connect** all actors interested or involved in agroecology. The **hub's vision** is to **develop** a European network on agroecology. Encouraging networking and exchange of information, the finalities of the Hub are to connect digitally with colleagues and experts, share knowledge, insights and best practice, learn from experiences, and inspire innovation and new ways of working in agroecology.

In the Hub, users can share **content and information** illustrating **Living Labs**, farming practices, but also funding opportunities and policy strategies. Everything can be easily **published** and **found online** to create European agroecological connections.

The Agroecology for Europe Hub is finally connected to the [Agroecology Map](#) enriched with a copious number of initiatives in Europe extracted from the mapping book of AE4EU! Now, you can discover the agroecological initiatives carried out in your area and interact with the actors involved. The initiatives on the map are categorized according to the agroecological pillar they represent (science, practice, movement, education, Living Lab).

Join the network!

Create your profile page on the Hub with the indication of your initiative's address and website or social media to be visible on the map, and start sharing your valuable content on agroecology!

The Hub was developed by the University of Gastronomic Sciences, Pollenzo (UNISG) and from 2024 will be managed by Agroecology Europe (AEEU).

[Join the Agroecology Europe Hub!](#)

Our favorite moment of the year



AE4EU project meeting

The final AE4EU project meeting took place in May 2023, hosted by the University of Gastronomic Sciences (UNISG) in beautiful Pollenzo, Italy. Coming together was a great opportunity for all partners to take stock of our progress, soundboard ideas, and prioritise for the last months to work for our common mission: promoting agroecology across Europe.

We visited amazing agroecological living labs in the Valle Varaita: La Milpa, an open garden collective; Antagonisti a youth-led enterprise; local herbalists and CSAs; and Reis, a nature-based restaurant with breathtaking mountain views. [Watch the video recap!](#)

With these warm memories and valuable connections in mind, we look forward to our next agroecological adventures!

[Read the communication](#)



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