

Agroecology Knowledge Hub Digest

June 2025



© FAO/Pierre Ferrand

The FAO **Agroecology Digest** presents a collection of news, research publications, stories from the field, multimedia materials (and much more) from around the world.

Browse the [database](#) for up-to-date resources and share additional resources and feedback by writing to **agroecology@fao.org**

This digest is made possible thanks to the kind financial support of the

MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION



In Focus

Navigating the Energy-Food Nexus

Report “Fuel To Fork: What will it take to get fossil fuels out of our food systems?”

This report exposes the false solutions peddled by powerful corporations – from ‘blue’ ammonia to high-tech digital farming – and maps out real pathways toward more sustainable, low-emission food production models.

Energy input and food output: The energy imbalance across regional agrifood systems

Agrifood systems relying on external energy pose a food security risk, an economic issue for agricultural producers, and an environmental issue for all

Power Shift: Why we need to wean industrial food systems off fossil fuels

This brief is a call to action for all stakeholders in the food and energy sectors to work together to transition away from fossil fuels and toward a sustainable future.

Fossil Fuels and Food Systems - A Policy Discussion for COP29

This webinar explored the policy side of the critical intersection of fossil fuels and food systems, exploring the policy implications and pathways for reducing fossil fuel dependence throughout the food value chain.

Fuel to Fork: a podcast exposing the fossil fuels in our food

This podcast series uncovers the hidden fossil fuel footprint in our food system—and what it means for the climate and our future.

Germinate!

An exclusive column featuring the perspective, insights & innovations of leading agroecology & food systems experts & practitioners



Op-Ed “Farmer research networks as an approach to inclusive knowledge co-creation”

Farmer research networks are not a panacea. They are an evolving approach that aims to include a greater diversity of farmers in knowledge co-creation processes with other stakeholders, in ways that are equitable, participatory and support farmer agency. Learning to collaborate in this way is a process for all those involved, and it requires humility, openness, and an effort to dismantle oppressive systems, such as colonialism and its effects. Each FRN has challenges to face and learning to do. But we believe that the pathway to a resilient, inclusive and sustainable food system for all requires this sort of knowledge dialogue as well as a steadfast respect for the power and agency of farmers and those who work with them. In the context of multiple environmental and socio-economic crises, we need to see agroecology and other truly regenerative approaches scaling across the food system.

FRNs are a rich and valuable contribution to knowledge creation for agroecology transitions. They are diverse and adapted to their contexts, and they are dynamic. This means that they are able to tackle new research problems as they evolve, and that they can also move towards business development, or projects that take up socio-economic issues such as rural outmigration or youth unemployment. It seems very likely that FRNs will continue to evolve, developing new ways of working and involving different types of actors over time.



Authors: Mary Richardson, Ric Coe, Frank Tchuwa, Daimon Kambewa, Kate Wellard Dyer, Sara Namirembe, Carolyn Phiri

Voice from the ground



Experiencias de transformación Agroecológica

Descubre cómo cinco comunidades alrededor del mundo transformaron sus sistemas alimentarios mediante la agroecología, impulsadas por crisis, acción colectiva y soluciones sostenibles e innovadoras.

Indramayu Food Sovereignty Area

This article expands on the Agroecology Fund's Asia Learning Exchange on Agroecology Economies using a symbolic rice harvest in Sukamulya village.

SPI's Agroecology Training Center in Bogor

Serikat Petani Indonesia bamboo-built Agroecology Training Center in Bogor is empowering smallholder farmers across Asia—through hands-on ecosystem farming, peer-led seed exchanges, and market-readiness training—to spark a regional agroecological revolution

Découvrir les secrets de l'arbre miracle *Faidherbia albida*

Découvrez comment *Faidherbia albida*, cet 'arbre miracle' qui puise l'eau en profondeur, demeure vert en saison sèche, booste les rendements de mil par 3 sans concurrencer les cultures, et devient une véritable arme contre la désertification au Sahel"

Through their eyes: a photo exhibition showcasing African women's knowledge, innovation and local food across five countries

Celebrating the ingenuity of 30 African women farmers across Burkina Faso, Senegal, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe through a powerful virtual photo-exhibition that amplifies their agroecological wisdom, elevates seed sovereignty, and transforms them from unseen food-producing voices into confident leaders.

Participatory Action Research: Deepening Community Learning to Create Climate-Resilient Food Systems

This story spotlights how grassroots alliances, backed by \$16 million in global funding, are using participatory action research to transform food systems and build climate resilience from the ground up.



© FAO/Pierre Ferrand

In the News



Agroecology for Food Safety: Reducing Risks from Farm to Fork

There is an urgent need for governments to take action and adopt agroecological principles to ensure safe, healthy, and sustainable diets.

Top 10 agribusiness giants: corporate concentration in food & farming in 2025

Six mega-corporations are quietly taking over the global food chain—controlling everything from seeds to farm data, deepening the climate crisis while locking farmers into dependence.

Africa's worsening food crisis – it's time for an agricultural revolution

Africa's hunger emergency—driven by conflict, climate chaos and a failing post-colonial, input-heavy farming model—demands a bold agroecological revolution that de-colonises food systems by combining indigenous wisdom with modern science to rebuild soil, empower smallholders and secure Africa's future.

Notes From Brasilia

This article captures key insights from the Overcoming Barriers to Food Systems Transformation conference—from tackling 'triple monotony' in agrifood chains to harnessing public procurement and grassroots action against hunger.

Op-Ed | From Tools and Frameworks to Action, True Cost Accounting Has Come a Long Way

True Cost Accounting is not just about crunching numbers—it's about reshaping food systems to value health, equity, and sustainability.

Sowing the Future: How Cover Crops Can Save Cambodian Agriculture

Cover crops are proving to be a simple yet powerful solution to regenerate Cambodia's depleted soils, cut chemical use, and shield farmers from the rising unpredictability of the climate



From the Research World

Opportunities for expansion of push-pull technology as an agroecological and sustainable intensification approach in Africa

This review aims to appraise the push-pull technology used in eastern Africa, synthesize evidence for its ecological and economic benefits, and identify barriers to its adoption and opportunities for its expansion to other crops and farming systems in sub-Saharan Africa.

What good is agroecology? Predominant narratives about agroecology in Africa

This paper documents stories about agroecology as told by key actors in the food system: farmers, pastoralists, NGO workers, extension officers, government officials, and researchers.

Agroecological strategies for innovation and sustainability of agriculture production in the climate change context: a comparative analysis between California and Italy

This mini-review explores climate change impacts on agriculture through an innovative approach that seeks to compare possible response strategies in two distant regions, California and Italy, which share similar climate conditions and crops.

Navigating the policy landscape in Uganda: problem representations and silences towards transitioning to Agroecology as a business

This paper explores the application of ecological principles to enhance sustainability and resilience in agricultural systems and conclude that it is crucial to take a comprehensive approach to policy planning and implementation that promotes agroecology

From the Research World

Building bridges in agroecological knowledge : exploratory review of lessons learned from Latin American practice of agroecology relevant to strengthening food systems

This study highlights how agroecological practices, especially those rooted in local knowledge, can contribute to more sustainable, resilient, and equitable food systems.

Agroecological Living Labs as entry points for transition towards sustainable food systems: a novel framework for the evaluation of living labs at different scales

This study introduces the ME4ALL framework - a structured tool designed to help agroecology living labs assess their activities and impacts, align their efforts with the 13 principles of agroecology.

Challenging Agroecology—Promise and Pitfalls for Agrarian Studies

Different visions of agroecology exist in terms of both agricultural practices and their surrounding social relations—while a plurality of visions within the field is often celebrated, this conceptual flexibility can make analysis of what works, why, where, and for whom more challenging.

Transboundary impacts of pesticide use in food production

This review summarizes the pathways causing transboundary environmental and human health impacts of pesticide use in food production, and explore strategies to reduce reliance on pesticides



Policy Brief & Report

Cultivating an enabling business environment for the organic Inputs sector in Kenya

Unlocking Kenya's organic input sector could transform agriculture—boosting soil health, food security, and sustainability—if policy, pricing, and red tape barriers are finally cleared.

Evidence in Ecosystem Restoration: Insights and Recommendations.

Restoration must go beyond planting trees—it requires inclusive governance, local knowledge, and long-term commitment to truly revive ecosystems and sustain livelihood

Advancing on the global goal adaptation through agriculture and food system transformation: policy guidance for addressing needs in agriculture and food systems

There is an urgent need for agriculture and food systems to adapt to the changing climate to ensure accessible and affordable healthy food for all.

“Adaptation, Resilience and Mitigation through Agroecology – A Policy Brief for Enhancing Climate Adaptation and Resilience through Agroecology as a Holistic Approach.”

The brief advocates for the full recognition and integration of agroecology as a people-centered solution for climate adaptation, resilience building, and mitigation in Africa.

Multimedia



Podcast | “Deforestation Declines, Solutions for Diet-Related Illnesses in Kenya, and a Conversation with Daniel Moss on Putting Trust – and Funds – in Agroecology”

This podcast discusses what it means to build a model of trust-based philanthropy, the benefits that agroecology offers to women and youth, and the flexibility that allows for the experimentation inherent in agriculture.

Food systems podcast “E15: Dr. Million Belay “Food is Not ...”

This compelling episode of the podcast outlines a bold vision for African food sovereignty, showing how agroecology boosts farmer incomes, honors traditional ecological knowledge, and reclaims culture and local control in food systems.

Youtube video | “Monitoring agroecological transition – from theory to practice”

This conversational video delves into monitoring agroecological transitions, featuring insights from Anne van Doorn on developing adaptable monitoring frameworks across diverse contexts, and Alfred Grand's practical examples highlighting the importance of earthworms in soil health and sustainable farming practices.

Webinar recording | “Silent agroecology-examples from Bolivia and Europe”

This article invites readers to reflect on the often-overlooked dimensions of agroecology, urging a deeper conversation about its silent aspects and their implications for sustainable agricultural practices

Video | Rice-duck farming

This video explains how, with the right planning and dedication, and the help from the ducks, farms can become healthier, more sustainable, and more productive.

Agroécologie et économie communautaire : quels leviers pour un avenir durable en Tunisie ?

La transition agroécologique s’invite au centre des réflexions pour un avenir durable en Tunisie.



Behind the Scenes

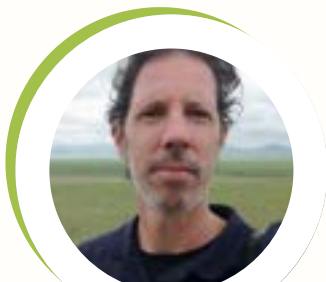
Key contributors of this issue of the AK Digest

Mary Richardson, Ric Coe, Frank Tchuwa, Daimon Kambewa, Kate Wellard Dyer, Sara Namirembe, Carolyn Phiri, McKnight

Pierre Ferrand, Agriculture Officer (Agroecology and Ecosystem services), FAO

Mayokun Akeremale, Specialist on Agroecology, FAO

Ludovico Fedon, Intern, FAO



Pierre



Mayokun



Ludovico