



ANNUAL REPORT 2023





ACCELERATING FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION THROUGH AGROECOLOGY

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A year ago, the Agroecology Coalition Secretariat became fully operational. Right after signing up for the job, the Secretariat team rolled up their sleeves and ventured into the scene and engaged with a wide range of actors to raise the agroecology flag, all that while developing our strategic orientation for the coming years. Thanks to the support of our donor partners, the commitment of our members, the efforts of the various working groups and guidance of our Steering Committee, we have achieved collectively more than we could have hoped for. Of course, there are many things that need to be done and challenges to face along the way, but I am hopeful and optimistic of what we can do together as a collective.

Have a look at our very first annual report. May this inspire you to join us in our collective journey towards the future of the food systems that we all want to see.

Oliver Oliveros - Agroecology Coalition Coordinator

OUTPUTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

The Agroecology Coalition has **five working groups**, gathering members from different organizations and representatives of countries. These are spaces of connection and exchange, and where new collaborations kickstart.



01

Research, Innovation and Education Working Group

- **Development of a Tracking Tool** for the Committee on World Food Security's Policy Recommendations on Agroecology (pilot phase in 2023).
- **Organization of a series of high-level science-policy events** to advocate for transdisciplinary and transformative agroecological research, including but not limited to key sessions at:
 - the VIII Wallace Conference in Costa Rica.
 - the 4th Global Conference of the Sustainable Food System Programme in Vietnam.
 - the 1st Eastern Africa Agroecology Conference in Nairobi.
- **Repository of educational programs** focusing on agroecology being developed under the Taskforce on Education (available in 2024).
 - the UNGA 78 Science Summit in New York City.

02



Policies Working Group

Agroecology Dialogues Series on:

- The interface between agroecological and territorial approaches for food systems transformations.
- Beyond the farm: Exploring the synergies between agroecology and conservation communities.
- Agroecology as a response to agri-input scarcity.

Advocacy to promote agroecology in international arenas through events such as:

- Bonn Climate Change Conference.
- UN Food Systems Summit.
- Committee on World Food Security.

- UN Climate Change Conference (COP 28).

Representation of Agroecology Coalition in regional conferences such as:

- Transitioning towards Regenerative Agriculture through Agroecology (TARASA), Cambodia.
- Agroecology Europe Forum 2023, Hungary.
- One Health and Agroecology, The Bahamas.
- Brazilian Congress on Agroecology.
- International Congress on Agroecology, Mexico.

Policy flyer on Boost NBSAPs through Agroecology

03



Finance and Investments Working Group

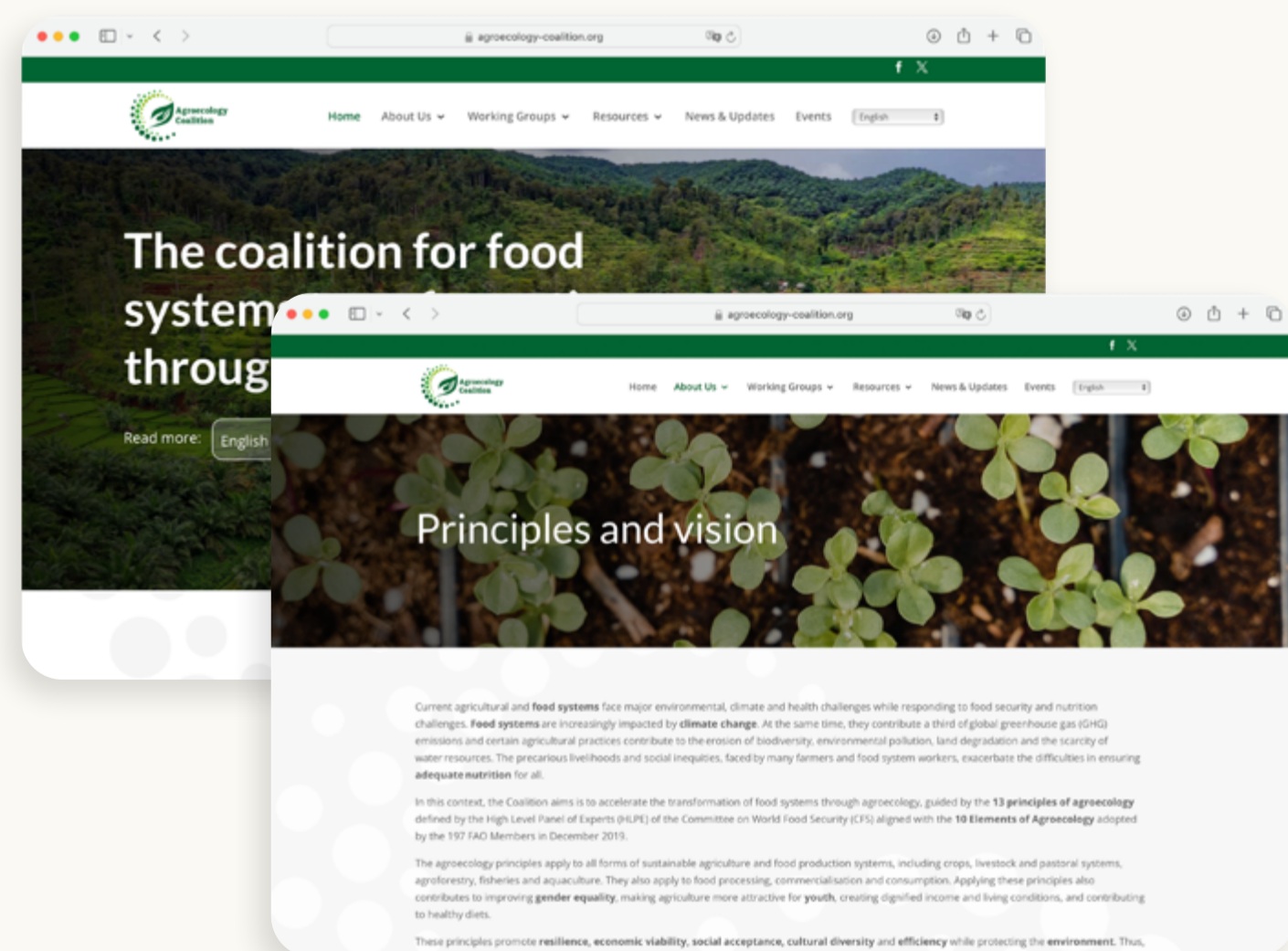
- **Agroecology Finance Tracking Tool** based on a framework developed by a community of practice on tracking agroecology finance flows. Anchored on the 13 principles of agroecology, this online tool can be used to assess project portfolios and to measure progress in finance towards agroecology. It also serves as a guide in elaborating agroecology projects. It was launched in October 2023 and can be accessed [here](#).
- **Agroecology Donor Convening which brought together 70 donors and investors** (Rome, 20-21 October 2023).
 - A report of the gathering is available [here](#).
 - The executive summary is available [here](#).

04



Communications Working Group

- Development of **new tools and assets** (e.g., website, social media, brochures) to communicate agroecology and the work of the Coalition and its members.
- **Top line messages** to talk about agroecology with different stakeholders.
- **Events and convening organization** and visibility.
- Long-term **communications strategy** for the Coalition.



05



Implementation Working Group

Repository of case studies and initiatives implementing agroecology, analyzing their successes and challenges. See the section [Agroecology case studies](#) of our website.



Resilience building through agroecology in Nepal
(Himalayan Permaculture Center)



Never Ending Food Permaculture in Malawi

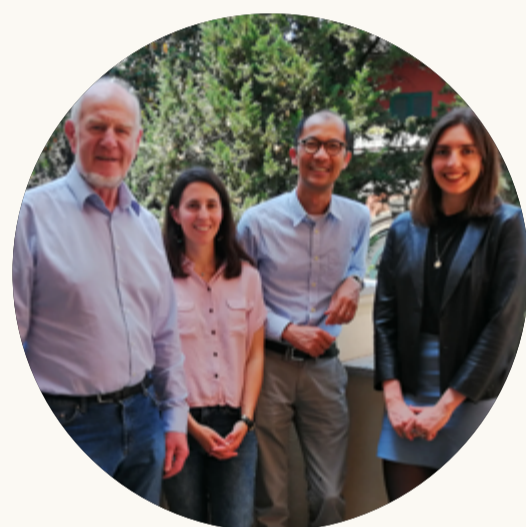


The VITAL project in Ivory Coast
(UIREC)



Consumption of Resilient Orphan Crops & Products for Healthier Diets (CROPS4HD): Agrobiodiversity on the Plate, in Chad, Tanzania, Niger and India (SwissAid).

OUR 2023 MILESTONES



FEBRUARY

Secretariat

Establishment of the Agroecology Coalition permanent secretariat in Rome hosted by Bioversity International.



Social Media

Opening of the Coalition's social media accounts ([Facebook](#), [X](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#)).

APRIL



UNFSS Stock-take Moment

Participation at the UN Food Systems Summit Stock-take Moment UNFSS STM) in Rome and co-hosting of side events.

JULY



JUNE

UNFCCC Bonn Climate change conference

Participation at the UNFCCC Bonn Climate Change conference (SB58) with the event: [Rio synergies: how agroecology and restoration contribute to climate, biodiversity and land targets.](#)

Strategic development

Launch of the Coalition's strategic planning process to set its orientation for the next 5 years.



SEPTEMBER

Science Summit at UNGA78

Presence in the Science Summit at the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA78) and co-organization of [Agroecology Theme Day](#).



Website

Launch of the Coalition's [new website](#), including new features such as case studies and resources.

Committee on World Food Security

Participation at Committee on World Food Security organised in Rome and launch of the Agroecology [Finance Assessment Tool](#).

OCTOBER



DECEMBER

COP 28

Presence in COP28 in Dubai with [several side events](#).

MEMBERSHIP

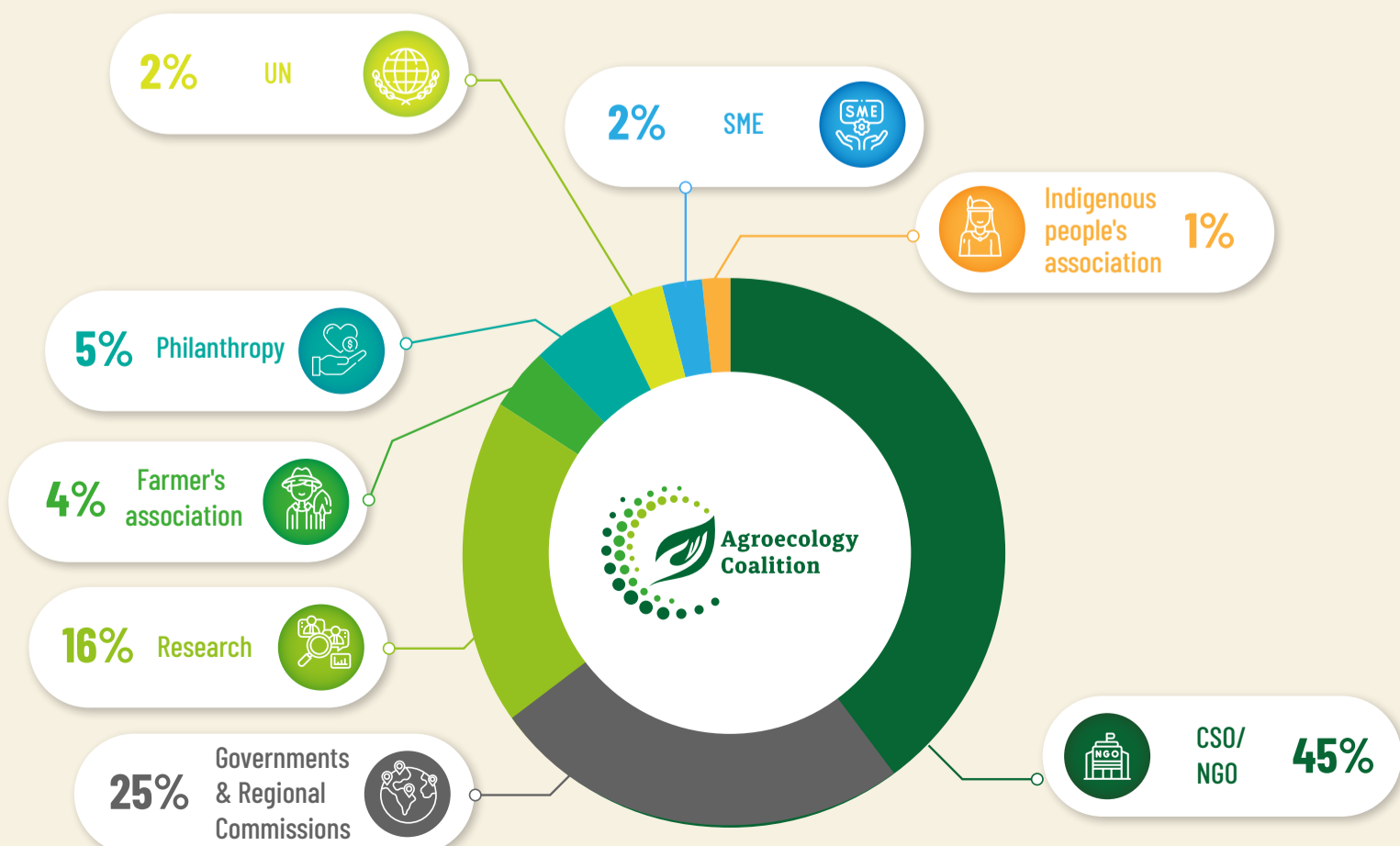


The membership of the Agroecology Coalition has increased significantly. It **reached 215 members**, including 48 governments and 1 regional administration, 3 regional commissions and 163 organizations.

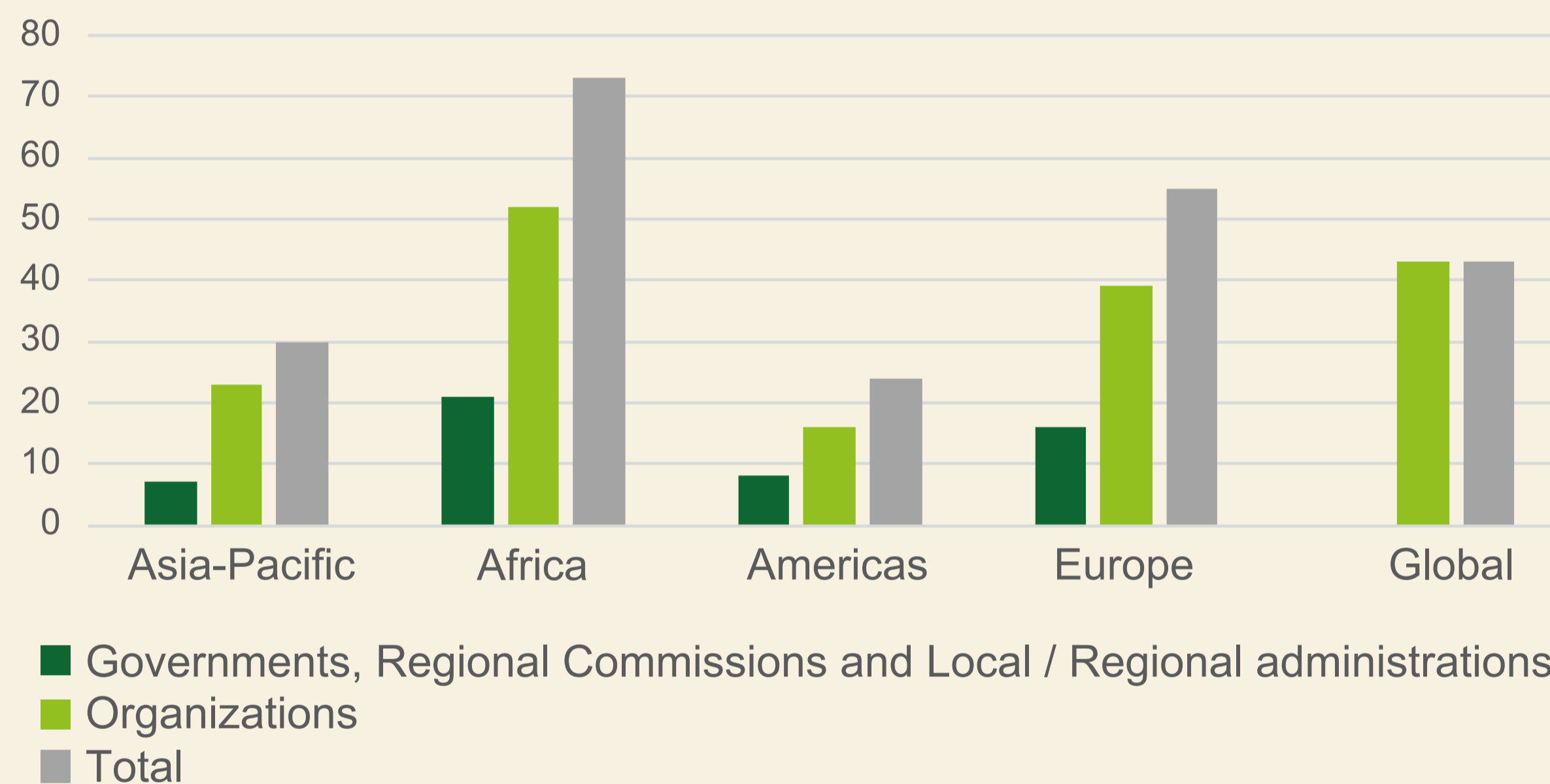
As of 1st January 2023, the Agroecology Coalition was composed of **133 members including 42 governments, 3 regional commissions and 87 organizations.**

By 31 December 2023, 5 governments, 1 regional administration and 72 organizations joined, representing an increase of 61% in the overall membership.

Most of the members are non-governmental organizations and civil society organizations (45%), followed by regions/countries/regional commissions (25%) and research organizations (16%). Other members include United Nations and other international organizations, farmers associations, Indigenous Peoples' associations, philanthropy and donors, and small and medium enterprises.



Members per region



The Coalition attracted new member countries. Hopefully, this will lead to **increased visibility of agroecology in all continents** and will foster commitments from decision-makers at national, regional and international levels. We also expect that this increase will

attract other countries to join the Coalition and to enhance the visibility of agroecology in regional policy arenas (i.e. IICA, EU, ASEAN). The Secretariat is **establishing closer links** with the members to ensure their active participation and to promote greater ownership.

FINANCE AND TRANSPARENCY

In addition to the incredible efforts of its individual members, the work of the Agroecology Coalition is also made possible thanks to the support provided by our donor partners: Biovision Foundation, German Cooperation, IFAD-EU, McKnight Foundation and the Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture.



I am committed to work with the Agroecology Coalition as I am convinced that agroecology is the key lever to transform our food system. We need to join forces, learn from each and speak in one voice in order to transform our food systems using the 13 agroecology principles.

Stefanie Pondini, Biovision Foundation, Steering Committee Member representing CSOs/NGOs.



Some lessons learned

- The Coalition comprises an **incredible wealth of members and organizations**. Their work and unique perspectives and experiences should be elevated and shared as much as possible, both inside and outside the network.
- International fora, such as the COPs, are important spaces for the Coalition to engage in as it allows wider outreach and advocacy as well as to **strengthen connections** with members and allies.
- **Collaborating with other Coalitions** (such as Coalition of Action 4 Soil Health, the Coalition of Action on Healthy Diets from Sustainable Food Systems for Children and all, Indigenous Peoples Food Systems Coalition, and others) is important to foster synergy in tackling food systems transformation.
- The Coalition needs to be, as much as possible, a **multilingual space** to allow members from different regions to engage.
- Whereas agroecology is gaining more traction, we should not forget that this is still a foreign concept for many; we should keep **unpacking and explaining** it to our audiences.

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF

Agroecology Coalition's Permanent Secretariat

Since the creation of the Agroecology Coalition in 2021, an Interim Secretariat hosted at CIFOR-ICRAF in Nairobi kicked-off the work. **As of February 2023**, the Permanent Secretariat of the Agroecology Coalition was established and is **hosted by Bioversity International in Rome, Italy**. The Secretariat team is composed of:



Oliver Oliveros
Coordinator



Valentina Pavarotti
Communications
Officer



Emile Frison
Senior Advisor
(former Interim
Coordinator)



Amélie Steu
Associate
Coordinator



We look forward to continued passion and growing commitment of members to scale up agroecology, facilitating partnerships with small scale women, men and young farmers to make agroecology happen on the ground, in the farmers' fields and farmers' communities!

Esther Penunia, Asian Farmers Association (AFA), Steering Committee Member representing Farmers' Associations.



The Steering Committee (SC)

The Agroecology Coalition's Steering Committee has **10 seats**:

- one government representative per continent (Asia, Africa, Americas, Europe).
- one representative per stakeholder category (NGOs/CSOs, research organizations, United Nations agencies, farmers' associations, Indigenous Peoples' associations, philanthropy).

The Steering Committee provides overall guidance regarding the functioning of the Coalition, including the strategy development process.

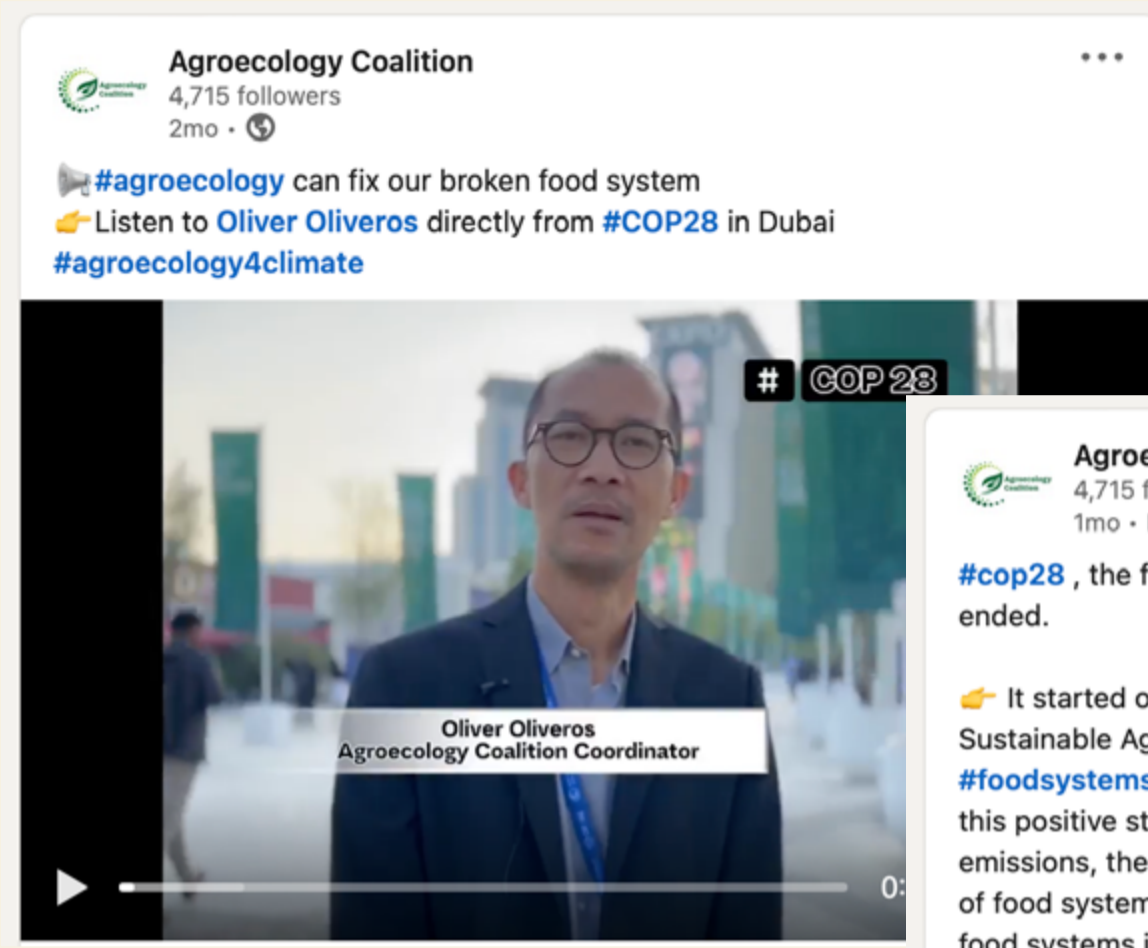


From left to right: **Santiago Jose Arguello Campos** - Mexico, **Madeleine Kaufmann** - Switzerland, **Esther Penunia** - Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA), **Saruth Chan** - Cambodia, **Ronnie Brathwaite** - FAO, **Fergus Sinclair**- CIFOR-ICRAF and Agroecology TPP, **Amadou Oury Diallo** - Senegal, **Lauren Baker** - Global Alliance for the Future of Food, **Monicah Yator** - Indigenous Women and Girls Initiative, **Stefanie Pondini** - Biovision Foundation.

OUTREACH

In 2023 we launched our social media accounts (LinkedIn, Facebook, X). Here are some of our posts.

Keep interacting with us!



Agroecology Coalition
4,715 followers
2mo · Edited · 🌐

#cop28, the first COP with food and agriculture taking ended.

👉 It started off with a very positive move: The Emirates Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate #foodsystems at the heart of climate action for the first this positive step and the fact that food systems are responsible emissions, the negotiated Global Stock Tackling final text of food systems in mitigating climate change. Nonetheless food systems in adaptation to future climates.

👉 Another noteworthy event was the presentation of Framework intended to guide countries in achieving SDG2 without threshold. It is hoped that the next steps will involve broader have lacked so far, including farmers and food system workers build on the potential of agroecological transformations and ambition.

As **Agroecology Coalition**, we are grateful to the many people we teamed up with to raise the agroecology flag diverse voices and figures, we collectively showed that solution for #climatechange mitigation and adaptation. do this amidst a disproportionate amount of agribusiness maintain the status quo.

Agroecology Coalition
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Never Ending Food is a #permaculture demonstration site located in Chitedze, Malawi.

This family home and community-based project showcases a range of low-input, high impact ecological technologies for #organicagriculture, water and sanitation, food and seed multiplication, processing, storage, and sharing, as well as sustainable energy solutions.

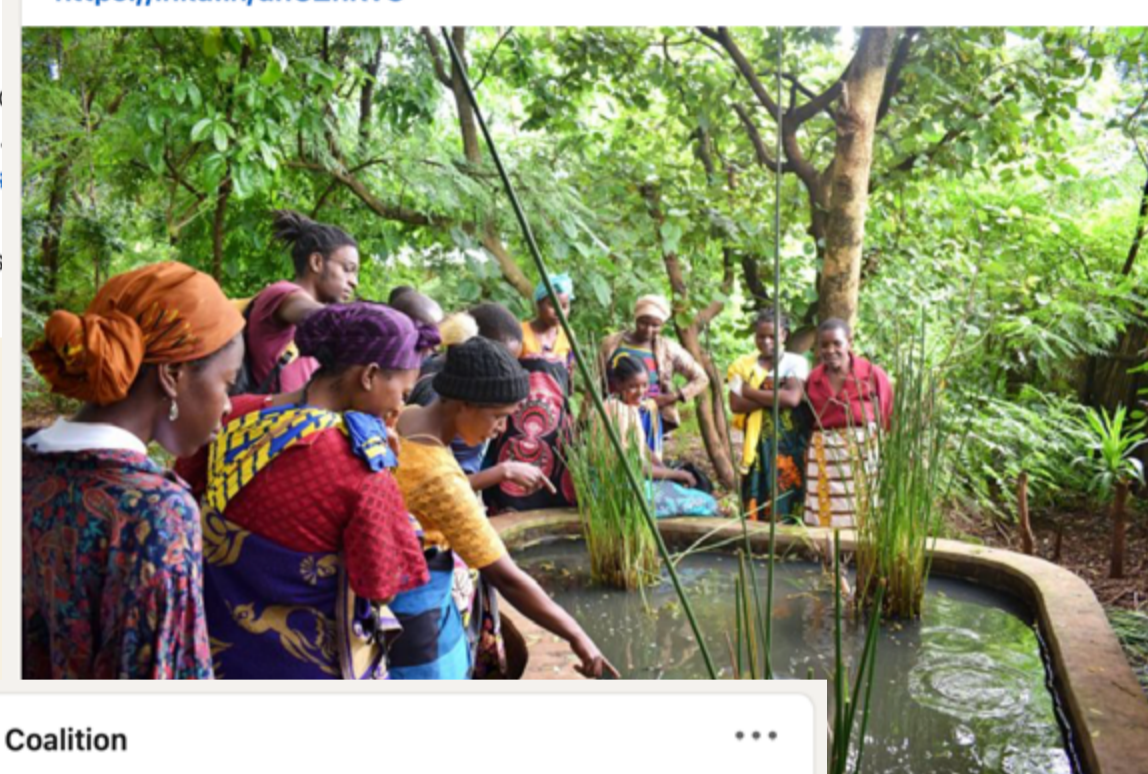
The project attracts thousands of visitors from surrounding villages and various local and international organizations. They also offer an internship program to certify individuals in permaculture and collaborate with universities to provide student attachments and online sessions. Additionally, they are actively involved in multiple organizations that focus on spreading solutions addressing the underlying causes of problems.

🔗 Discover more about this inspiring initiative in our website section dedicated to case studies!

🙌 Thank you **Stacia Nordin, RD** for sharing your amazing story.

#agroecology #agroecologyworks

<https://lnkd.in/dhCZhRvG>



Agroecology Coalition
28 novembre 2023 · 🌐

Interest in practical applications of agroecology?

Take a couple of minutes to read about the **VITAL Project**, which brings together farmers' organizations, research institutions, and businesses to leverage the sustainable benefits of hashtag#agroecology.

🔴 The project is specifically focused on the San Pedro region in Ivory Coast, which is known for having the largest cocoa port in the world.

From 2019 to 2022, the VITAL project has empowered small-scale cocoa and market garden producers to implement agroecological and agroforestry practices.

The core principles and elements of agroecology that are at the center of this project include the reduction of synthetic inputs (principle 2), promoting soil health (principle 3), fostering economic diversity (principle 7), and the collaborative creation of knowledge (principle 10).

Visit the case studies section of our website to find out more!

🙌 With many thanks to Sédric Armel Konan from UIREC for this article!

🇫🇷 Cette étude de cas a été initialement publiée en français sur <https://buff.ly/46yHd8c>

Agroecology Coalition
25 octobre 2023 · 🌐

🔴 Today during #CFS51 we launched the Agroecology assessment framework! The new tool aims to assess to what extent particular projects or initiatives contribute towards the agroecological transformation of food systems, based on the 13 principles of agroecology. A manual accessible to everyone, complements the tool and describes the framework as a guide for the design of agroecological projects or proposals by giving concrete examples of actions that contribute to implementing each of the 13 principles.

Find out more: <https://lnkd.in/d9-8AQj>



Agroecology Coalition
4,715 followers
2mo · 🌐

🔴 From #COP28 **Patty Fong** from our **Global Alliance For the Future of Food** denounces the amount of lobbyists heavily invested in conventional agriculture as fertilizers and chemicals, whereas not the ground are present here.

🔴 Those farmers in the frontline have more demonstrating that shifts to agroecological adaptation, resilience from the impacts of climate change.

🔴 To deepen this important topic you can read this article quoted in the interview: <https://lnkd.in/d9-8AQj>

#agroecology #agroecology4climate



Agroecology Coalition
@AgroecologyGoal

🔴 Save the date! Side event at the #BonnClimateConference

👉 Great line-up of speakers to discuss how #foodsystem transformation and land restoration are key to harmonizing action between the Rio conventions

🔗 Register now: forms.office.com/e/HrJ4kPZ6L

Traduire le post



Agroecology Coalition
@AgroecologyGoal

Yesterday +180 people participated in-person & online to our "Towards healthy and #SustainableFoodSystems: #agroecology and #healthy diets" organised at #UNFSS2023 with @ca4shg, #Food Is Never Waste Coalition & Healthy #Diets Coalition! Full report: <https://lnkd.in/d9-8AQj>

Traduire le post



LOOKING AHEAD

Some of things we have in the pipeline in 2024:

- Finalizing the **Agroecology Coalition Strategy**.
- Participating in the **Conferences of Parties (COPs)** on climate, biodiversity and desertification to further and advance agroecology as a cross-cutting approach that allows to reach the objectives of the three Rio Conventions.
- **Supporting members' activities** and fostering their engagement within the Agroecology Coalition.
- Continuing to **increase awareness** of decision-makers, stakeholders and general public of the 13 agroecology principles and the 10 elements of agroecology via side-events, key messages, and the repository of key messages, and the case studies.
- Assessing the **first results** of the data compiled through the **Agroecology Financing Assessment Tool**.

“

In the face of this new reality that the world is experiencing Mexico is committed to inclusive agri-food systems, with social justice and, above all, more responsible with soil, water and agrobiodiversity resources; that allow us to optimize production costs to make food affordable for the entire population without any distinction, while improving the income of producing families. We firmly believe that regenerative and agroecological agriculture, based on science and peasant ancestral knowledge, is the correct way to achieve those goals and the well-being of the population.

Santiago Arguello, Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development of Mexico, Steering Committee Member representing Latin American countries

”





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Hosted by Bioversity International

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