

## *AgroEcology Fund Announces \$1,130,000 in Grants*

The AgroEcology Fund is pleased to announce its most recent grants to advance agroecological solutions around the world. \$1,130,000 was awarded to 8 lead organizations working in collaboration with another 60 grassroots organizations, from Ecuador and South Korea to East and West Africa. The AgroEcology Fund supports viable food systems, the economic well-being of small farmers and their communities, and mitigates climate change through low input agriculture featuring sustainable land and water use. Because the Fund received many excellent proposals, more grants were awarded than planned, at somewhat reduced levels than requested. This gives funders an opportunity to bridge the gap with direct funding for the remarkable work that is now underway.

Please contact [daniel@agroecologyfund.org](mailto:daniel@agroecologyfund.org) for information about these collaborations and the AgroEcology Fund.

Organization	Award Amount and Grant Period	Name and location of collaborating organizations	Project Summary
Oakland Institute	\$85,000 for 18 months	CICODEV Africa (based in Senegal), CNOP (Mali), Green Scenery (Sierra Leone), Ekta Parishad (India), Solidarity Movement for a New Ethiopia, INSAF (India), Global days-of-action in three to seven cities (DC, Nairobi and Bangalore are confirmed; talking to groups in Mexico City, New York, Jakarta and Rio.	This project funds the second phase of a campaign to stop the World Bank's Benchmarking the Business of Agriculture (BBA). The rankings encourage opening of agricultural sectors in developing countries to foreign corporations for monocultural plantations. Phase II involves: Global days of Teach-Ins with over a dozen partner organizations, social media communication campaigns, country fact sheets on the impact of land grabbing and industrial agriculture and a research report. A strong communications strategy will ensure high visibility of the issues in international media and products will be used by partner organizations to develop advocacy at the local/national level. The campaign is linked with the the Civil Society Mobilization Against the G-8 Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition.
Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience	\$145,000 for two years	7 European partners and 4 partners from the global South: Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience (CAWR), the Consortium for Agroecology and Food Sovereignty (CAFS), Fondazione Italiana per la Ricerca in Agricoltura Biologica e Biodinamica (FIRAB), Italy; Bio-diversite; Bibliotheque d' Echange Diffusion d'Experiences (BEDE), France; Agronauten, Germany; GRAIN, Spain; European Coordination of Via Campesina (ECVC), Belgium; The Land Workers Alliance, Representatives from the 4 regions: Andean, Altiplano, South Asia, West Asia, and West Africa.	This project will create and spread agroecological knowledge for sustainable food systems in Europe, including in European overseas aid projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America. This project will strengthen and federate a collaborative community of agroecology proponents among scientists, wo/men farmers, small medium enterprises and other citizens through workshops, scientific seminars, social media and web portals, farm visits, and farmer-scientist dialogues.
Alliance for Food Sovereignty Africa (AFSA)	\$200,000 over two years	African Biodiversity Network (ABN), Coalition for the Protection of African Genetic Heritage (COPAGEN), Comparing and Supporting Endogenous Development (COMPAS), Friends of the Earth (AFSA) Africa, Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee (IPACC), Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM) Association, Eastern and Southern African Small Scale Farmers Forum (ESSAFF), La Via Campesina Africa, FAHAMU, World Neighbours, Network of Farmers' and Agricultural Producers' Organizations of West Africa (ROPPA), Community Knowledge Systems (CKS) and Plate forme Sous Regionale des Organisations Paysannes d'Afrique Centrale (PROPAC).	This project will make an evidence-based case for agro-ecology as the long-term solution for farming in Africa. Collaborating organizations in this pan-African network will educate and mobilize African civil society to influence decision makers both regionally and locally through case study collection and analysis, creation of an African advocacy platform on agroecology and dissemination of researched evidence to decision makers in alliance with acclaimed universities.

Organization	Amount	Collaborating organizations	Project Summary
Asociacion de Trabajadores del Campo	\$165,000 for two years	The Latin American Institute of Agroecology (IALA) CLOC and La Via Campesina (LVC), with ongoing experiences in Brazil, Colombia, Paraguay, and Venezuela. In Honduras, the National Rural Workers' Center (CNTC) and (Codincah). In El Salvador, the National Association of Farm Workers (ANCA) and (Fecoracen). In Guatemala, the National Indigenous and Peasant Coordination (Conic), the National Coordination of Guatemalan Widows (Conavigua) and the (CUC). In Nicaragua, the Nicaraguan Resistance Association (ARNIC).	The Latin American Institute of Agroecology (IALA) is a long-term, strategic project of the Via Campesina's Latin American regional (ATC) affiliate, the CLOC. This project includes university-level education in agroecology for Central American youth (with hands-on practicums in home countries) and spreading farmer knowledge through peer learning, such as <i>campesino-a-campesino</i> or peasant-to-peasant methodologies. IALA Mesoamerica is a geographically decentralized program coordinated by the ATC, with local campuses in Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua.
Indigenous Partnership for Agrobiodiversity and Food Sovereignty	\$145,000 for one year	Collaborative activities in Northeast India and the Pacific, field studies with Khasis in India and the Karen in Thailand. Slow Food International (SFI), Bioversity International, Centre for Indigenous Nutrition and Environment (CINE), McGill University, North East Slow Food and Agrobiodiversity Society (NESFAS), Vanuatu Cultural Centre, IKAP and IMPECT.	This project will conduct collaborative research, knowledge sharing and network building on the agroecology of matriarchal societies with a focus on shifting cultivation and nutrition. There will be a study on the nutrition and agroecological practices of two matriarchal societies – the Khasis in India and the Karen in Thailand – to improve policy on their food, livelihood and nutritional security. The project will create a forum on the nutrition and agricultural practices of matriarchal societies, while building awareness of their contribution to sustainable agriculture. It will establish an indigenous matriarchal network to connect indigenous peoples and scale up local efforts around the world.
Colectivo Nacional Agroecológico	\$50,000 for one year	ECAOL (Federation of Farmer's Organizations of the Coast), RGS (Seed Savers Network), Movimiento Utopia, Association of Biological Producers of Ecuador PROBIO, Latin American School of Agroecology (ELA), Latin American Scientific Society of Agroecology (SOCLA), the National Consumer Commission for Food Sovereignty, Department of Commercial Networks of the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Latin American Fair Trade Network.	In Ecuador, this project will: 1) create a web platform and electronic bulletins as part of an "Agroecological Information Agency", publish the Agroecological Directory of Ecuador", a "Guide to Agroecological Crops and National Agricultural Biodiversity" and "Historical Development of Agroecology in Ecuador"; 2) launch the Investment Fund for innovative agro-ecological projects, 3) coordinate among local rural agroecological schools, 3) establish stores, community baskets and agro-ecological fairs as well as certification seals; and 4) structure a national agroecological commercialization system and conduct at least one national promotion campaign for consumers.
Korean Women's Peasant Network (KWPA)	\$85,000 for 18 months	Via Campesina globally and especially in Asia.	This project will: 1) document and share successful cases of agroecology, traditional farming, and native seeds in Korea; 2) organize national tours of researchers and agroecological peasants; 3) train women; 4) create a local practice center/school; 5) build a coalition of peasants, progressive movements, civil society, trade unions and the women' movements for agroecology and food sovereignty. The project seeks to put agroecology into local and national public policies to safeguard the rights of peasants practicing agroecology and support measures that complement the Act on the Management and Support of Environment-Friendly Agriculture and Fisheries and Organic Foods.
Via Campesina	\$255,000 for two years	ETC (Canada), GRAIN (Spain)	This is a collaboration with global reach of the world's largest peasant movement, La Via Campesina, and two prominent research and advocacy organizations. Activities include research and dissemination of publications, technical support for increased plant breeding and seed storage, facilitated policy discussions and convening the first Roman Forum on Food Sovereignty. This project will provide evidence that agroecology and small holder producers are the foundation for food sovereignty, biodiversity conservation, and climate change.