

The AgroEcology Fund's Round Three Grantees

Spring 2016

The **AgroEcology Fund** is honored to support ten new collaborative projects in the 2016 (round three) funding to advance agroecological solutions around the world. \$700,000 was awarded to 10 lead organizations working in collaboration with 36 grassroots organizations and more than a dozen other partners across the globe, from West Africa to Kyrgyzstan, India, Melanesia, the Americas, and Europe. 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. We welcome your participation to bridge the gap with direct funding. Please contact daniel@agroecologyfund.org for information about these collaborations and the AgroEcology Fund.

1. Lead Organization: International Indian Treaty Council

Initiative Title: Indigenous Peoples Alliance for Traditional Knowledge, Food Sovereignty and Climate Change

Project Summary: *The project focuses on the exchange and transmission of traditional knowledge, native foods, seeds and methods within and between Indigenous Peoples as a foundation for resiliency and to counter impacts of climate change. The initiative will bring Indigenous leaders to international policy discussions on these topics. The project will advocate for the Food Sovereignty of Indigenous Peoples, including rights to land, water, resources, consent, traditional knowledge and practices, language, cultural rights and heritage, and self-determination. It is particularly focused on resiliency and the capacity for adaptation to and mitigation of climate change.*

Region: Multi-regional **Award Amount and Grant Period:** \$100,000 March 2016-February 2017

Names and Locations of Collaborating Organizations: Centro de Proyecto de Desarrollo Integral Indígena (CEPRODI, Tecpan, Guatemala), Unidad de la Fuerza Indígena y Campesina (UFIC), found of the Indigenous Network for Food Sovereignty RISA (Mexico), Farming Restoration Committee (Shiprock Chapter, Navajo Nation), Aloha First (Hawaii)

Additional alliances: Chickaloon Native Village (Alaska, USA), Intertribal Buffalo Council (60 US Tribes), Traditional Native American Farmers Association (Tesuque Pueblo, NM, USA), Yoemem Tekia Foundation (Arizona, USA), UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (international), Jittoa Bat Naika Weria (Sonora, Mexico), United Confederation of Taino People (Caribbean)

2. Lead Organization: Fahamu Africa

Initiative Title: We Are the Solution (WAS)--Building a Rural Women's Movement for Food Sovereignty, Agroecology, and Gender Justice in West Africa

Project Summary: *This project strengthens the rural women's movement through building a widespread base of leaders and members to organize across five West African countries. The collaboration will promote learning exchanges to share lessons about how to expand a growing agroecology among rural women's organizations in the region and advocate for government policies that will improve the environment, family farming and women's status across the region.*

Region: West Africa (Guinea, Mali, Burkina Faso, Ghana, based in Senegal) **Award Amount and Grant Period:** \$100,000 July 2016-July 2017

Names and Locations of Collaborating Organizations: Réseau d'appui à la citoyenneté des femmes rurales d'Afrique de l'ouest et du Tchad - RESACIFROAT (Burkina Faso), Federation Nationale des Organisations Paysannes - FENOP (Burkina Faso), Guinean Association for Security and Food Sovereignty - AGUISSA (Guinea), Association Guinéenne pour l'Allègement des Charges Féminines AGACFEM (Guinea), Rural Woman Farmers Association of Ghana - RUWFAG sponsored by Centre for Indigenous Knowledge and Organizational Development- CIKOD (Ghana), Abono Organic Farming Projects ABOFAP (Ghana), Women's Group AKESE, part of the Ecumenical Association for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development ECASARD (Ghana)

3. Lead Organization Desarrollo Económico y Social de Los Mexicanos Indígenas/

The Social and Economic Development of Indigenous Mexicans (DESMI)

Initiative Title: Buen Vivir in the Americas: Peasant and Indigenous Women-Led and Family-based Agroecology in the Americas

Project Summary: *This project supports the growth of agroecology food systems among indigenous and peasant family farmers; trains and develops leadership among women, youth, and indigenous people in the promotion of agroecology practices, food sovereignty, climate justice, land and territory rights; and strengthens links between grassroots movements for agroecology and buen vivir (or well-being, an alternative approach to development) in the Americas. This project will address policies that impact the practice and expansion of agroecology both positively and negatively, especially concerning genetically modified seeds.*

Region: Latin America and Caribbean (Haiti, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Peru, Brazil)

Award Amount and Grant Period: \$75,000 February 2016-August 2017

Names and Locations of Collaborating Organizations: Grassroots International (GRI- USA), International Development Exchange (IDEX- USA)

4. Lead Organization: The United National Federation of Agricultural Unions of Colombia (FENSUAGRO)

Initiative Title: Instituto Latinoamericano de Agroecología - María Cano (María Cano Latin American Agroecology Institute)

Project Summary: *This project involves building a new campus of the Instituto Latinoamericano de Agroecología/ Latin American Agroecology Institute (IALA) to provide technical college education in agroecology and community organizing to the children of peasant families who are members of organizations of peasants, farm workers, indigenous people and Afrodescendants in Colombia and the countries of the Andean Region. The project will promote agricultural policy reform and encourage young farmers to advocate for political change and defend indigenous territories and seeds.*

Region: Andes **Award Amount and Grant Period:** \$75,000 February 2016-August 2017

Names and Locations of Collaborating Organizations: Coordinadora Latinoamericana de Organizaciones del Campo/ Latin American Coordination of Rural Organizations (CLOC) Andean region, La Via Campesina (regional Latin America).

5. Lead Organization: Save PNG Inc

Initiative Title: Food is Life Melanesia: Sharing Agroecology Knowledge through Media Education in the Pacific Region

Project Summary: *This woman-led project encourages sustainable agroecology practices and promote indigenous knowledge and innovations for local communities to become more self-reliant in addressing food and nutrition security, climate disaster and cultural disintegration in Melanesia. This project will encourage dialogue between governmental bodies, community groups, civil society, schools and churches in Melanesia.*

Region: Asia – Melanesia (Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Vanuatu and New Caledonia)

Award Amount and Grant Period: \$75,000 March 2016-September 2017

Names and Locations of Collaborating Organizations: The Centre for Social and Creative Media (University of Goroka, PNG), Kastom Gaden Association (Solomon Islands), The Vanuatu Cultural Center (Vanuatu), The Social Empowerment & Education Program – SEEP (Fiji)

6. Lead Organization: Association Federation of Organic Movement «Bio-KG»

Initiative Title: Farmers in Development, Federation of Organic Development «Bio-KG»

Project Summary: *This project develops a national network of organic aymaks (groups of farmers) to develop a system of self-assessment for organic farm production quality, productivity and income and it will create certification and production assessment systems. The collaboration joins local farmers who operate on an individual or collective basis in all seven regions of Kyrgyzstan.*

Region: Asia (national) Kyrgyzstan **Award Amount and Grant Period:** \$75,000 February 2016-January 2016

Names and Locations of Collaborating Organizations: Federation of Organic Development «Bio-KG» is national umbrella member organization, which promotes organic agriculture in Kyrgyz Republic.

7. Lead Organization Asociación Nacional De Empresas Comercializadoras de Productores Del Campo (ANEC)

Initiative Title: Expanding the Model of Integrated Knowledge in Peasant Farmer Agroecology and Building the Mexican Agroecological Movement

Project Summary: *This project strengthens peasant and small farmer organizations in Mexico by promoting farmer-to-farmer agroecology training of leaders, producers, and community technicians, in collaboration with universities and research institutions. The project aims to create a national Mexican Agroecology Movement (MEM), as a multi-sectorial network of people committed to building a sustainable food system based on agroecology. This project will work to change public policies to promote agroecology practices nationwide.*

Region: Mexico **Award Amount and Grant Period:** \$50,000 February 2016-December 2017

Names and Locations of Collaborating Organizations: Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (USA); Department of Agroecology of the Universidad Autónoma Chapingo (Mexico); Mexican Agricultural Movement – MEM (Mexico)

8. Lead Organization Practical Action Southern Africa--Zimbabwe Seed Sovereignty Program (ZSSP)

Initiative Title: Capacity Building of the Zimbabwe Seed Sovereignty Program

Project Summary: *This project links seven NGOs that work with smallholder farmers across Zimbabwe. The project will strengthen community-based seed growers, raise national understanding of seed-related laws, policies and practices, put farmers at the forefront of advocacy work towards changing policies and laws that protect seed sovereignty, and contribute to research on diverse genetic materials and best practices in local, biodiverse seed systems.*

Region: Africa (national) Zimbabwe **Award Amount and Grant Period:** \$50,000 May 2016 – November 2017

Names and Locations of Collaborating Organizations: Practical Action (multi-regional), Participatory Ecological Land Use Management- PELUM (Zimbabwe), Chikukwa Ecological Land Use Community Trust CELUCT (Zimbabwe), Towards Sustainable Use of Resources Organisation TSURO (Zimbabwe), Fambidzanai Permaculture Centre – FPC (Zimbabwe), The Farmers' Association of Community Self-Help Investment Groups – FACHIG (Zimbabwe)

9. Lead Organization Tripura Agroecology Partnership

Initiative Title: Linking Nutritional Security with Selective Agroecological Diversification for Resilient Rural Communities

Project Summary: *This project uses participatory research and agroecological diversification to address the high levels of malnutrition (especially among women and children), declining crop and non-crop biodiversity, and deteriorating soil quality in the State of Tripura, India. It will help build resilient rural communities in the region by linking nutritional security with agroecological diversification, and working through state government agencies to mainstream and promote agroecological approaches in state policy.*

Region: Asia (India) **Award Amount and Grant Period:** \$50,000 July 2016-December 2017

10. Lead Organization All Party Parliamentary Group on Agroecology for Sustainable Food and Farming (APPG)

Initiative Title: Agroecology, the UK Parliament and the Global South: A Collaborative Approach to Policy Change

Project Summary: *This project works to shift thinking at the highest levels of both the UK and Global South governments to influence policy to support agroecological solutions. It will help inform policy decision-making and strengthen grassroots movements to counter the expansion and consolidation of present unsustainable agricultural practices that exacerbate the impacts of climate change.*

Region: Europe (UK) **Award Amount and Grant Period:** \$50,000 June 2017-December 2017

Names and Locations of Collaborating Organizations: The Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience at Coventry University (UK), War on Want (UK)

For more information about how to support these collaboratives, contact Daniel Moss at the AgroEcology Fund, daniel@agroecologyfund.org.