The AgroEcology Fund is honored to support 12 new collaborative projects in the 2018 (round four) funding to advance agroecological solutions around the world. $1.2 million was awarded to 12 lead organizations working in collaboration with 54 grassroots partners across the globe, from West Africa to the Philippines to the Andes. The AgroEcology Fund supports viable food systems, the economic well-being and human rights of small farmers and their communities, and mitigates climate change through low input agriculture featuring sustainable land and water use. Because we received so many excellent proposals, we extended support broadly and did not meet full budget requests. We welcome your participation to bridge the funding gap and/or fund finalists who did not receive funding. Please contact daniel@agroecologyfund.org for information about these collaborations and the AgroEcology Fund.

1) **Name of collaborative:** Indigenous Partnership for Agrobiodiversity and Food Sovereignty  
**Lead Organization:** Indigenous Partnership for Agrobiodiversity and Food Sovereignty  
**Partner Organizations:** Pgakenyaw Association for Sustainable Development in Thailand and North East Slow Food & Agrobiodiversity Society in India.  
**Location(s):** Northeast IndiaThailand  
**Award:** 110,000 USD over 12 months  
**Summary:** The Indigenous Partnership for Agrobiodiversity and Food Sovereignty (TIP) works with indigenous organizations to revitalize locally controlled, biodiverse rich food systems. TIP seeks to facilitate indigenous communities’ leadership role in agrobiodiversity dialogues around the globe. TIP's strategy for connecting people and expanding its networks has been principally through Food Festivals. These have been held in Mongolia, Northern Thailand, North East India and Northern Kenya. In 2015 TIP organized Indigenous Terra Madre (ITM) with the Slow Food Terra Madre movement - its biggest collaboration with global and local partners. Since ITM, in Southeast Asia, there has been an increase in agroecological practices like improved soil health, participatory organic certification and initiatives that link nutrition with women's empowerment. Next steps include setting up an Indigenous Food Communities Alliance in Southeast Asia, based on agroecology principles, and coordinating research, training, marketing and social activism including strategies for public policies to support sustainable food systems.

2) **Name of collaborative:** Collaboration to Advance Agroecology for Rural Food Security and Agrarian Reform in the Philippines  
**Lead Organization:** Sibolng Agham at Teknolohiya (SIBAT), Inc.  
**Partner Organizations:** Magsasaka at Siyentipiko para sa Pag-unlad ng Agrikultura (MASIPAG) or Farmer-Scientist Partnership for Development, Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP)  
**Location(s):** Philippines  
**Award:** 95,000 USD over 24 months  
**Summary:** The purpose of the collaborative is to combine the strengths of agroecology practitioners and advocates in the Philippines. The partners share a common farmer-led framework to fight rural hunger and promote food security - with agroecology as the effective and ecological means. The partnership promotes the leadership of small and marginalized farmers who advocate for agrarian rights and struggle to survive in resource-scarce conditions where poverty is high. The collaborative will coordinate initiatives and pool capabilities among three organizations to effectively establish agroecology in two regions, Central Luzon and Western Visayas. These experiences can serve as the basis of agroecology development in other parts of the country.

3) **Name of collaborative:** Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa  
**Lead Organization:** Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa  
**Partner Organizations:** AFSA is a network of 30 national and regional networks.  
**Location(s):** Across Africa  
**Award:** 120,000 USD over 24 months  
**Summary:** Launched in 2011, AFSA is a broad alliance of civil society networks active in more that 50 African countries that struggle for food sovereignty and agroecology in Africa. The core purpose of AFSA is to influence policies and to promote African solutions for food sovereignty. Through this grant, AFSA will
galvanize the agroecology movement in Africa; support and protect farmer-managed seed systems; provide a strong voice on land rights, and inform and influence policy outcomes on seed, food sovereignty, land, and the transition to agroecology.

4) Name of collaborative: Scaling Up Agroecology Through Public Policy, Youth, and Farmers Movements
   Lead Organization: Amrita Bhoomi
   Partner Organizations: La Via Campesina South Asia, Zero Budget Natural Farming Movement
   Location(s): India and youth training in Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pakistan
   Award: 85,000 USD over 24 months
   Summary: Amrita Bhoomi is a peasant agroecology school launched by the Karnataka State Farmers Movement (KRRS for its initials in Kannada language) in 2013. It serves as La Via Campesina’s agroecology school in South Asia and is a member of the Zero Budget Natural Farming movement – an agroecology method practiced by millions of farmers in South Asia which aims to drastically cut production costs and stop farmer suicides that are often motivated by high debt. This collaborative has a two-pronged strategy. On one hand, they will initiate a campaign for supportive public policies in Karnataka to support agroecology. The government of the neighboring state of Andhra Pradesh has recently launched a multi-million-dollar program on Zero Budget Natural Farming to convert production practices of 500,000 farmers in that state. Amrita Bhoomi and KRRS will educate policy makers, government officials, politicians, and social movement representatives from their state about such effective public policies and programs, by taking them on field visits to Andhra and facilitating interactions with government officials and farmers there. At the same time, they will scale up agroecology practices by training rural peasant youth, Dalit youth, and women at their training center.

5) Name of collaborative: Federación Nacional Sindical Unitaria Agropecuaria (FENSUAGRO)
   Lead Organization: FENSUAGRO
   Partner Organizations: La Coordinadora Latinoamericana de Organizaciones del Campo (CLOC- Vía Campesina)
   Location(s): Colombia, CLOC is a coalition of peasant organizations in South America
   Award: 95,000 USD over 24 months
   Summary: This collaborative will strengthen the work of the peasant agroecology school “Maria Cano” established by FENSUAGRO- a Colombian peasant movement which is a member of networks like La Via Campesina and CLOC (Latin American Coordination of Peasant Organizations). The Instituto Agroecológico Latinoamericano (IALA) Maria Cano has played an important role in advancing the farmer-to-farmer peer learning methodology based on sharing of peasant knowledge. The IALA is one of several run by peasant movements in Latin America. The IALA engages young people from peasant organizations in Colombia and across South America to become successful agroecological farmers and community organizers, thus diminishing rural out-migration. Students develop their practical and theoretical understanding of agroecology and rural issues, spread their knowledge to surrounding communities and become integrated in social movement processes that aim to scale up agroecology.

6) Name of collaborative: Bionatur
   Lead Organization: Bionatur
   Partner Organizations: Bionatur, Coonaterra
   Location(s): Brazil
   Award: 90,000 over 24 months
   Summary: Coonaterra / Bionatur is an organization of farming families, beneficiaries of agrarian reform, and producers of seeds. It is connected to the Movimento Sem Terra (the Landless Workers Movement or MST) in Brazil. Coonaterra created the Bionatur seed network in 2011 to gather and spread new varieties of vegetable seeds due to growing demand from farm families in many regions of Brazil. Bionatur is a pioneering seed cooperative and markets its seeds with its own trade mark. Currently, the cooperative has 210 families producing seeds in Rio Grande do Sul and Minas Gerais. This project seeks to increase the capacity of seed-producing farmers, expand the network, and improve access by farming families to diversified seeds in a sector which is highly concentrated in the hands of a few seed companies. Public purchasing programs are in turmoil; Bionatur will advocate for supportive public policies and seek new markets for the farmers’ agroecological seeds.
7) **Name of collaborative:** Local–Global Strategies to Defend and Amplify Peasant-Led Agroecology: A Partnership of La Via Campesina-GRAIN-ETC Group  
**Lead Organization:** La Via Campesina  
**Partner Organizations:** GRAIN, ETC Group  
**Location(s):** Global  
**Award:** 140,000 USD over 18 months  
**Summary:** The collaborative will defend and amplify the peasant-led agroecology and seeds agendas, globally and in farmers’ fields, by strengthening the capacities and strategies of farmers’ movements and their allies. It will also analyze, influence, and hold accountable relevant policies and practices of governments, agencies and the private sector through information and advocacy work. The collaborative will build upon substantial achievements over the past five years, and further broaden and deepen its impact.

8) **Name of collaborative:** Indigenous Peoples Alliance for Traditional Knowledge, Food Sovereignty and Climate Change  
**Lead Organization:** International Indian Treaty Council (IITC)  
**Partner Organizations:** Confederacion de Nacionalidades Indigenas del Ecuador, Arctic Athabaskan Council, Poutini Waiora, He Punu Marama Trust (The Spring of Understanding), Te Kopu Pacific Indigenous & Local Knowledge Centre, The Sicangu Treaty Council, The Guna (Kuna) General Congress  
**Location(s):** USA, Ecuador, New Zealand, Panama  
**Award:** 110,000 USD for 15 months  
**Summary:** The International Indian Treaty Council (IITC), founded in 1974, represents 93 Indigenous affiliates from 5 regions and is this collaborative's lead organization. Food Sovereignty is one of their core program areas. The collaborative works to restore, revitalize, protect and strengthen local food systems through sharing seeds, knowledge, practices and methods among Indigenous food producers. It organizes food sovereignty gatherings in Indigenous communities and promotes knowledge exchanges, networking and movement building. Alliance members are Indigenous governments, networks, communities, organizations and food producers (farmers, herders, gatherers, hunters, fishers), whose ways of life are critically impacted by the causes and effects of climate change. Primary goals of this collaborative are to: 1) Strengthen community-based solutions to threats that are diminishing bio-diversity and resiliency of local food systems; 2) Engage traditional food producers, knowledge holders and practitioners in developing policies and actions for climate mitigation and adaptation 3) Build and strengthen trade, information exchange and advocacy networks among traditional food producers to share strategies, promote sustainable approaches and address common concerns.

9) **Name of collaborative:** Down-South Afroecology Training School (DATS)  
**Lead Organization:** Southeastern African American Farmers Organic Network (SAAFON)  
**Partner Organizations:** Mississippi Association of Cooperatives, The Black Dirt Farm Collective  
**Location(s):** USA  
**Award:** 95,000 USD over 12 months  
**Summary:** The Down-South AfroEcology Training School (DATS) is designed to strengthen the agroecology movement within the United States through the engagement and education of Black farmers in the Southeast region who are either currently farming organically, seeking to transition to organic practices, or are not currently farming. DATS uses the term Afro Ecology instead of agroecology to better reflect their focus on incorporating culturally relevant delivery methods. The program also targets and engages other allied individuals and organizations critical to the advancement of the movement. The three primary goals are: 1) to increase the knowledge and use of agroecology production practices among Black farmers in the South-eastern United States; 2) to identify and strengthen policy work that supports the adoption of agroecology in the South-eastern U.S.; and 3) to strengthen a local and global movement for a just and sustainable planetary ecosystem. DATS will marry technical training in agroecological practices and philosophy with culturally relevant delivery teaching and learning in order to foster a “dialogue of knowledges” among rural and urban farmers, researchers, and organizers.
10) Name of collaborative: Altan Shagai (Golden Knucklebone)
Lead Organization: Peace Building Center
Partner Organizations: Baikal Buryat Center for Indigenous Cultures (Non-Government Organization), Family farm “Bashuutan”, Family farm “Khuty”, Dornod Buryat Community “Bayan-Uul” (Community-Based Organization)
Location(s): Mongolia and Russia
Award: 90,000 over 24 months
Summary: Through a unique collaboration between farmers and scientists, the goal of the project is to enhance genetic diversity of livestock and promote agro-ecological solutions through revival and re-introduction of autochthonous breeds of cattle (specifically, the Buryat cow) to native landscapes in Russia and Mongolia. The Peace Building Center’s mission is to conserve animal genetic resources in an agro-ecological way and revive the sacred link between natural landscapes and traditional culture of indigenous people of Pamir, Tien-Shan and Sayan-Altai in their bio-cultural regions. The collaboration seeks to restore and improve their natural environments, and to promote sustainable food systems, healthy lifestyles and indigenous rural economies.

11) Name of collaborative: Promoting traditional rice varieties and women’s access to markets in West Africa
Lead Organization: FAHAMU
Partner Organizations: Nous Sommes La Solution (We are the Solution or WAS), The University of Ziguinchor, The Institute of Environment and Agricultural Research (INERA)
Location(s): West Africa
Award: 95,000 USD over 12 months
Summary: Fahamu Africa is a Pan-African organization established in 2007 in West Africa. It will collaborate with We Are the Solution (WAS), a women-led campaign in West Africa to promote traditional knowledge, food sovereignty, peasant seeds, and agroecology. Rice production in West Africa is low. Local and traditional varieties appear very little in the scientific literature, in spite of innumerable virtues that local populations grant them. The purpose of this project is research (agronomy, crop management, nutritional) on some of these varieties and bringing production and marketing to a higher level. Fahamu and WAS will promote local rice varieties on farms and in markets via participatory action research coordinated by the the University of Ziguinchor and the Institute of Environment and Agricultural Research. The results of the research will be published for the general public and the political authorities in particular. The results will be useful for producers seeking to adopt agroecological practices in rice farming. Marketing opportunities, especially for parboiled rice, will be investigated.

12) Name of collaborative: ReSCOPE Programme
Lead Organization: ReSCOPE Programme
Partner Organizations: SCOPE branches in five African countries
Location(s): Kenya, Uganda, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Award: 95,000 USD over 24 months
Summary: The RESCOPE Program will establish smallholder farmer led seed banks in ten communities across East and Southern Africa to enhance food sovereignty, nutrition security, sustainable livelihoods and resilience. They will implement an innovative strategy of using schools as centers of agroecology demonstrations and community seed banks. They will groom young farmer seed champions who will learn and exchange knowledge with the older generation in their communities. To counter new national seed laws favoring genetically modified seeds. RESCOPE promotes community seed systems as a critical response, and a way to build resilience in the face of climate change. It sees community owned seeds as a cornerstone of nutrition and food sovereignty. The collaborative will train and create groups of farmers and youth on seed issues and supportive agro-ecological practices. Each farmer seed group will save and multiply local seeds and establish community seed banks which will culminate in a network of household seed banks.

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