



# Report form 14 multi-stakeholder policy workshops for the co-design of mixed farming and agroforestry policies

Deliverable 6.3 v6

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<b>Deliverable 6.3</b>	<b>Report form 14 multi-stakeholder policy workshops for the co-design of mixed farming and agroforestry policies</b>
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# 1 Executive Summary

## Background and introduction

The agricultural sector is fully exposed to the diverse effects of climate change, while it is also accountable for a significant share of green house gas (GHG) emissions: the agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU) sector is responsible for 22% of global net anthropogenic GHG emissions (IPCC, 2023). Impacts of climate change often take form in extreme weather events – droughts, heatwaves, floods, storms and outbreaks of climate-related pests and diseases, which in turn have negative effects on crop yields and increase the competition in land use between food systems. These effects are contributing to impaired food supply, decreased quality, quantity and reduced marketability of agricultural products. Hazards also often occur along the agricultural value chain, disrupting not only production but also food storage, transport and food supply (IPCC, 2022).

Agroforestry systems have the potential to support climate change mitigation and adaptation. Agroforestry (AF) contributes to the creation of favourable microclimates and rehabilitation of degraded lands, supports biodiversity, water management, soil quality and carbon sequestration (Mohan et al, 2021), while enabling farmers to increase adaptive capacity and decrease vulnerability (Quandt et al, 2023).

Recognition the benefits of agroforestry practices is increasing in the policy landscape, with growing support found within the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), state and regional policies and major EU legislations as the Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 - a Farm to Fork Strategy as part of the European Green Deal. However, the majority of dedicated budgets to support implementation agroforestry practices were underspent over the last two programming periods. As part of the policy co-development work package (WP6) within the AGROMIX project, 14 multi-stakeholder policy workshops aim to identify gaps and barriers to agroforestry in partner countries, and to set out policy recommendations to contribute to its increased uptake.

## Purpose of the report

This report aims to provide an overview and summary of results of the multi-stakeholder policy workshops. Building on previous project deliverables of the policy co-development work package – D6.1: global inventory report of current policy instruments; and D6.2: policy scenarios in the EU, Eastern EU member states and four national states, two series of workshops were organised by seven partner organisations involved in the policy co-development work package (WP6). The workshops were organised with the involvement of farmers, decision-makers, consultants and researchers. The aim was to identify barriers to uptake and incentives that would support the transition towards more sustainable farming practices and allow the widespread adoption of agroforestry and mixed farming systems. An attempt was made to start the process of co-designing policies with stakeholders.

The policy workshops aimed to provide an overview and disseminate results and knowledge generated in previous deliverables of the work package, to understand approaches and perceptions of stakeholders regarding mixed farming and agroforestry practices, also to collect feedback from participants and to provide inputs for EU-level policy development and an AGROMIX policy white paper.



This report introduces the main outcomes of the 14 multi-stakeholder policy workshops and provides a synthesis of its results as the ‘Synthesised Policy Recommendations’ to give an overview of identified challenges, barriers, and needs that need to be addressed to make AF more widely applicable.

### Conclusions and key recommendations

As a result of the workshops, development opportunities have been summarised in 7 categories. Several areas were identified where partner countries are facing similar challenges, highlighting **overlapping needs** for improvement. The importance of further education and awareness-raising activities to emphasise the benefits of agroforestry is unambiguous, including the need for exchange on lessons learnt and good practice of AF implementation, which is just as important as the need for further research on the benefits of AF. Additionally, bureaucratic hurdles and administrative procedures need to be simplified to support the implementation of AF practices, while the demand for further funding mechanisms was also expressed. Furthermore, policies should be simplified while used terms and definitions should be harmonised and accepted by all stakeholders. To increase market share of AF products, appropriate supply chains should be established to create economic opportunities.

The 7 categories of the policy recommendations are:

1. Recognition of the diversity of beneficiaries and tangible/intangible benefits of AF.
2. Education, awareness raising and dissemination of information.
3. Prioritisation of approaches which are regional, long term and may incorporate traditional systems.
4. Addressing challenges around land use and access, particularly for young and tenant farmers.
5. Simplification of the CAP payments, which are consistently criticised as overly complicated and require paperwork which farmers see as a major hurdle to accessing AF support.
6. Improving AF value chains.
7. Increasing eco scheme payments.



## 2 Expected impact of the Workshops

### About the project

Coordinated by Coventry University, UK, the Horizon 2020-funded AGROMIX project aims to deliver participatory research on mixed farming and agroforestry systems to support the transition towards resilient farming, efficient land use and sustainable agricultural value chains in Europe. By doing so, the AGROMIX project increases understanding of how mixed farming and agroforestry (MF / AF) systems work by collecting information from previous projects, from ongoing trial sites that measure agroecosystem resilience and pilot projects that develop and test MF and AF systems. Within the project, the analysis of current agricultural value chains and obstacles will identify solutions for transitions towards more sustainable land use and ways forward for agricultural production. The main ambitions of the project are to increase knowledge on agroforestry, to create new business models that improve income stability for farmers and to develop recommendations to support the integration of agroecological practices into existing policy frameworks.

### Work package and deliverable

The policy co-development work package (WP6) aims to support the uptake of agroforestry methods by addressing current bottlenecks of the existing policy background and to identify gaps, barriers and incentives to the implementation of agroecological practices.

Within deliverable D6.3, 14 multi-stakeholder workshops were organised to support the co-development of MF/AF policies, the 7 partners of the WP organised two rounds of policy workshops to explore opportunities for policy development to support uptake of agroforestry practices. Participants comprised actors involved in decision-making, consultation, research and farming. The present report outlines the background of each workshop and presents the outcomes and key findings.

Deliverable 6.3 is strongly connected to the previous tasks of the work package. The results of deliverable D6.1 – the global *Inventory of current MF/AF policy instruments* and deliverable D6.2 - *Policy scenarios in the EU, Eastern EU member states and four national states* were used and disseminated in the policy workshops organised as part of D6.3, providing the background and deeper understanding of the policy framework. During D6.3, feedback was collected from various stakeholders with regards to barriers and incentives for the implementation of agroforestry practices. The results are described in and providing the basis for ‘Synthesised Policy Recommendations’ section of this report which will be channelled into the AGROMIX policy whitepaper as part of the subsequent deliverable D6.4 – EU level policy development, MF/AF white paper and ‘AGROMIX summit’.

### Contribution to the objectives of WP6 and expected impact

The workshops were organised with the involvement of a variety of stakeholders, aiming to ensure that all relevant actors were given the opportunity to contribute to the policy recommendations. Partners organised thematic workshops to reflect their countries’ most pressing challenges and needs, to guide participants’ approaches and to jointly discover benefits that MF and AF systems are able to deliver. Additionally, the workshops provided a platform for discussions and knowledge exchange between stakeholders, while these were also an opportunity to disseminate the outcomes of already available results and deliverables of AGROMIX. As a result of the workshops, WP6’s partner organisations gained insights into the challenges and barriers which might hinder the widespread adoption of agroforestry methods, as well as into incentives that



might prompt the uptake of agroforestry practices. The workshops offered a great opportunity to gather direct feedback from participants, allowing partners to draw conclusions upon which the policy recommendations are based. Along with the previous deliverables (D6.1 & D6.2), the multi-stakeholder policy workshops enabled partners to identify bottlenecks and opportunities for policy development, which later will also provide inputs for the AGROMIX policy white paper.

The expected impacts of the task 6.3 are mainly attributed to the workshops and the impact they made on participants who comprised different areas and actors of the agricultural system. Stakeholders, especially farmers and consultants were given an opportunity to gain insights of the AGROMIX project results, to expand their knowledge on agroforestry solutions, and to discuss everyday challenges they are facing. During the workshops, decision-makers were given the chance to connect with farmers, to gather feedback, to establish cooperation and to promote their agendas regarding agroforestry. As for this report, the expected impact lies in its influence on policy improvement, ultimately creating better circumstances and backgrounds for the adoption of agroecological practices and to allow for the increased uptake of agroforestry solutions.



### 3 Introduction

The policy landscape for agroforestry (AF) has been growing, with support found within the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), state and regional policies, as well as within major EU legislations such as the Biodiversity and Farm to Fork Strategies of the European Green Deal. However, the majority of the budgets devoted to AF, especially within the CAP, were underspent in the last two programming periods. Consequently, AF needs to be scaled up in order to achieve major EU legislations such as the Green Deal and EU Forestry Strategy, as well as to reduce net emissions of greenhouse gases by at least 55% by 2030. This requires evaluating policy options and scenarios for a transition to AF, and the co-creation of policies that work for all stakeholders involved, which is the aim of WP6.3 of the AGROMIX project.

Two series of AGROMIX policy workshops took place during 2023, with the seven partner organisations facilitating their own in-person or online workshops. The multi-stakeholder workshop series aimed to assess existing EU policies and their role in the implementation of AF; identify strategies for policy improvement; identify new and improved policy design and implementation options; and to collate a catalogue of AGROMIX-adapted best practices. Further, the second round of policy workshops aimed to build upon lessons learnt - both policy and organisational - from the initial workshop series. The recommendations from both workshops are synthesised here, to be used in debate and advocacy in the Europe-wide AGROMIX Summit that will take place in spring 2024.

AGROMIX policy workshop outputs are directly relevant to the outputs of AGROMIX WP6 deliverables 6.1 and 6.2. The output of WP6.1 was a global inventory of current policy contexts, instruments and operational means for the support of MF/AF systems, as well as an assessment and evaluation of ecosystem services from MF and AF systems. To this extent, policy workshops conducted as part of 6.3 link current policies - particularly the new CAP green architecture - to the lived **experiences of multiple stakeholders** interacting with said policies. For example, a common theme in the first series of policy workshops was the need for harmonisation of the policy and funding mechanisms which were identified through AGROMIX WP6.1.

AGROMIX WP6.2 further aims to model future policy scenarios with regard to MF/AF systems across the EU, Eastern EU member states and four national states; models derived from 6.2 were presented as an introduction for further discussion in the Task 6.3 policy workshops. Through providing an outline of - and access to - the deliverables of WP6.1 and WP6.2, participants were able to gain a **solid understanding** of the current and future scenarios for transitions to MF/AF systems within the CEE region.

The result of the first series of policy workshops are further relevant to the EU-funded STARGATE project, which aims to identify vulnerabilities in current farming systems and develop breakthrough climate-smart agricultural methodologies. In particular, outputs from the AGROMIX policy workshops show a number of synergies with WP6 of STARGATE, which aims to demonstrate the utility of STARGATE methods and concepts in an interactive multi-actor community framework, using participatory processes. **Key synergies between AGROMIX and STARGATE recommendations**, including the need for **cross-sector discussions and multi-actor participation**, was emphasised in both AGROMIX and STARGATE workshops, with informed and effective decision-making processes resulting from collaboration between farmers, researchers and other stakeholders. The importance of **education and skills development** across stakeholders was further emphasised through both project workshops, with training and informational sessions all being identified as suitable ways to share knowledge. Finally, organisational skills and lessons learnt from AGROMIX and STARGATE can be used for further workshops, with both projects utilising a multi-stakeholder participatory approach.





## 4 Workshop Contents

This section provides an outline of the content of both series of workshop reports as delivered by each of the seven partners. A wide range of discussions and event formats were held in order to achieve the goals of WP6.3, resulting in a number of outputs (discussed in ‘Workshop Outputs’).

### EU and Belgium

**Agroecology Europe’s** first workshop was held in-person at the Coventry University Hub in Brussels, followed by a field trip to DeZwalow Organic Farm. The main aim of the workshop was to discuss various policy options and scenarios for the transition to agroecological practices. To achieve this, the current state of AF policy was outlined, followed by AF farmer testimonies and a discussion of AGROMIX policy recommendations. The second workshop was also held at the CU hub, followed by a field trip to the agroforestry berry farm Bensen Bos in Gent. Building on the first workshop, this one aimed to discuss the risks and opportunities of carbon farming for agroforestry in order to determine various policy options and whether carbon farming would effectively deliver climate and agricultural objectives.

### France

**ACTA** first undertook an online visio-conference to establish the current status of political agroforestry measures in France, including an identification of successful and unsuccessful measures, and opportunities for improvement. Workshop participants also discussed the motivations and issues for the implementation of AF by farmers, and how to improve uptake. A second online workshop was organised to follow-up on the results of the first workshop. The aim of the second occasion was to jointly develop propositions for support measures for hedges, intraparcellar (alley cropping) trees and breeder-arborist cooperation in terms of knowledge needs, economic valuation and policies. To establish the basics, presentations were given to introduce the state of agroforestry in Europe and current funding measures for AF, while the initial elements of the French Pact in favour of hedges and trees were explained. The presentations were followed by a Klaxoon-themed workshop to discuss present AG systems in France.

### England (devolved state inside UK)

**Coventry University** facilitated an in-person first workshop at Cranfield University, with the aim of incentivising major land-owning institutions in England to uptake agroforestry methods. To achieve this, participants heard about the new Environmental Land Management Scheme (subsidy programme to replace CAP) Agroforestry Test and Trial; discussed current barriers facing the transition to AF; and were introduced to computational models of AF transition. Key landowning institutions were targeted to participate in the workshop due to the highly concentrated nature of UK land ownership. A second in-person workshop was held at Abbey Home Farm, Gloucestershire, discussing the three key topics highlighted in the first workshop: how to engage landlords, facilitate tenant farmers and better integrate agroforestry products in the supply chain in the context of the new Environmental Land Management schemes (ELMs) and Sustainable Farming Incentives (SFIs).



### Rhineland-Palatinate and Brandenburg (federal states inside Germany)

**IfaS's** first workshop was an in-person excursion in Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany. This workshop aimed to create a common understanding of the opportunities of AF across stakeholders, as well as challenges in the implementation of AF from the personal experience of three pioneer farms, which could be directed to key decision makers. The farms visited covered very different approaches – ranging from energy production (Ingweilerhof) to agroforestry on arable land and vegetables (Hof Lebensberg), and grassland and fruit farming (Bannmühle), representing the diversity of AF users. The second workshop was held in-person in Mainz, discussing current developments, identifying administrative hurdles and determining perspectives for an improved legal framework for agroforestry. This was achieved through a series of working groups discussing the use, concept and registration for AF within the new CAP green architecture; planning transitions to AF within farms; multifunctional land use concepts; and final recommendations to improve the legal-administrative framework for AF in Germany.

**ZALF's** first workshop took place in Brandenburg, Germany aimed at identifying problems concerning current agroforestry policy regulations, including value chains and the added value of agroforestry practices. After problems were identified, participants proposed solutions to help facilitate the transition to AF. The second workshop also took place in Brandenburg and was combined with an AF farm tour. The aim of the second workshop was to identify priorities for improvements in AF policy suggested in the first workshop, using a matrix ranking system.

### Switzerland

In case of Switzerland, workshops were facilitated by **ZHAW** and **Agroscope**. First, ZHAW organised a “tour de table” of agroforestry stakeholders in Bern, followed by presentations of current AF projects and a brainstorming session for addressing the challenges faced during the transition to AF. Agroscope organised the second workshop as part of the Swiss Agroforestry Panel, including presentations on agricultural trees and hedges, and discussions on opportunities and challenges of agroforestry in Switzerland. A field trip was also organised to the Adlerzart farm to showcase fodder hedges and tree strips with an emphasis on benefits for animals, people and landscape.

### Hungary

**CEEweb** initially facilitated an in-person workshop in Zebegény, Hungary, followed by a field trip to the sweet chestnut plantations and alluvial fruit orchards of Nagymaros. The workshop introduced the AGROMIX project and raised awareness of agroforestry mechanisms and available funding to a wide range of stakeholders. To achieve this, presentations were made on available funding in the new CAP green architecture by Ministry of Agriculture representatives, followed by practical and solution-oriented aspects of agroecology. The second workshop was held online for English-speaking stakeholders across the CEE region, aiming to introduce the AGROMIX project and AF/MF policies to a wider range of stakeholders. This was achieved through a series of presentations, including on the utility of AF in climate mitigation and adaptation; available funding; and an outline of 2 AGROMIX case studies. The presentations were followed by an interactive session discussing possibilities for agroecological transition. The policy workshop was followed by an in-person field trip on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August to Sárvár, providing both examples of effective agroforestry practices and a platform for discussion between a variety of stakeholders.



## 4.1 Summary of Workshop Content

A brief summary of the workshops is outlined below. The partner organisations took a variety of approaches to achieve the aim of WP6.3, with all multi-stakeholder workshops resulting in a number of policy recommendations (see “Workshop Outputs”).

### 4.1.1 First Series of Workshops

	Agroecology Europe EU and Belgium	ACTA France	Coventry University England	IfaS Rhineland-Palatinate Germany	ZALF Brandenburg Germany	ZHAW Switzerland	CEEweb Hungary
<b>Date</b>	07/02/2023	15/03/2023	30/01/2023	09/02/2023	28/02/2023	28/04/2022 23/05/2022 06/07/2022	28/04/2023
<b>Location</b>	Coventry University Hub, Brussels	Visio-conference	Cranfield University	Rhineland Palatinate	Leibniz-Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research	Bern	Zebegény & Nagymaros, Hungary
<b>Type</b>	In person	Online (due to transport strike)	In person	In person	In person	In person	In person
<b>Field trip</b>	“DeZwalow” Organic farm		Workshop	Rhineland Palatinate		Field visit	Field visit

### 4.1.2 Second Series of Workshops

	Agroecology Europe EU and Belgium	ACTA France	Coventry University England	IfaS Rhineland-Palatinate Germany	ZALF Brandenburg Germany	ZHAW Switzerland	CEEweb Hungary
<b>Date</b>	07/05/2023	31/08/2023	09/06/2023	28/02/2023	06/07/2023	09/21/2023	27/07/2023 (Online) 09/08/2023 (In person)
<b>Location</b>	Coventry University Hub, Brussels	Visio-conference	Abbey Home Farm, Gloucestershire	Rhineland Palatinate	Peickwitz, Brandenburg	Chamau, Canton Zug	Online and Sárvár, Hungary
<b>Type</b>	In person	Online	In person	In person	In person	In person	Online and in person
<b>Field trip</b>	Benzen Bos, Gent		Abbey Home Organic Farm	Workshop	Thomas Domin farm, Peickwitz	Adlerzart farm in Oberrüti	Sárvár: Bajti Experimental Nursery and hornbeam-oak forest



## 4.2 Workshop Outputs

Within this section, the main outcomes of the multi-stakeholder policy workshops are explained in detail. These results are channelled into and providing the basis for the following chapter (“*Synthesised Policy Recommendations*”).

**Agroecology Europe** identified a need for **increased discussions within and across AF sectors**, with a stronger focus needed on the distribution of outcomes from AF projects and the integration of farmers as equal partners within projects. To achieve this, participants suggested **introducing agroecological expertise** into agricultural colleges and training programmes; creating farmer-to-farmer knowledge exchanges and field schools; and further supporting research-practitioner partnerships. Secondly, there is a need to **better integrate, communicate and educate auditors and inspectors**. This is needed so that they do not penalise practices which align with EU goals and are beneficial for the environment. Agroecology Europe participants also suggested specific **policy recommendations**. This included creating legislation which **adhered to a common food systems approach**, making agroecological practices a requirement for receiving EU funding, and supporting traditional and long-term oriented systems. Participants also highlighted the need for **simple, clear policies** which consider the **diversity** of farms that can utilise AF, and a focus on **long-term, region-specific policies**.

Furthermore, **Agroecology Europe** participants discussed **the utility of carbon farming** as a mechanism for European agroforestry. Carbon farming is a promising solution to reduce net emissions and reach carbon neutrality and is a great opportunity for the expansion of agroforestry, while it also presents risks and disadvantages. Participants noted carbon farming represents **deep risks** which many agricultural stakeholders are not willing to take without sufficient safeguards. Concerns were raised about the financialization of nature, and **whether approaches which pay for ecosystem services continue to move Europe away from a holistic, stewardship-based model of biodiversity and climate action**. Further, the **current payment models** suggested for carbon may exacerbate challenges around land access, particularly for young and first-time farmers. Several **policy recommendations** arose with regard to the utilisation of carbon farming as a means to incentivise agroforestry and agroecological transitions across Europe. These include **increasing access to independent, climate-focused advisory services** including those specific to young farmers, and that carbon farming is enacted alongside **strong legislation** such as safeguards against land concentration/grabbing and the channelling of **public money into public goods**. Further, carbon farming and offsetting as a whole must not detract from the responsibility of public and private entities to deliver **rapid decarbonisation**. Other recommendations included the remuneration of farmers and land managers for their stewardship, including restoration of climate, biodiversity and resilience on the land (versus a solely ecosystem service remuneration approach), and for carbon legislation to follow the goals of other European legislations, including the European Green Deal. Further, carbon farming certification mechanisms should be individually governed to ensure transparency in monitoring, evaluation and reporting; and to involve a full range of stakeholders.

**ACTA participants** identified a need for **homogenisation** of French political measures across regions; **simplification** of aid schemes and the **introduction of minimum self-financing for investment** (by farmers); and the need for **continuous funding** versus set time measures. ACTA also identified several ways to **increase the uptake of AF by farmers**, namely integrating the notion of agroforestry in educational, technological, and



economic spheres to **raise awareness** of the importance of agroforestry, as well as **building supply chains** through developing economic opportunities for timber valorisation. Following up on the results of the first workshop, **ACTA's second workshop** was aimed at developing support measures for AF. The discussion was based on the structure of France's '*Pact in favour of hedges and trees*' in relation to 3 thematic fields - knowledge needs, economic valuation and policies. Within the **knowledge needs**, importance of **knowledge and information exchange** was highlighted. **Sharing practical experiences and lessons learnt** are useful to identify and analyse barriers, incentives and success factors. **Research needs** were identified to explore **technical-economic impacts** on crop yields and planting, and on **ecological impacts**, such as impact on biodiversity, water management and microclimatic modification. Further, the need for the **structurisation of value chains** was expressed, underlining the importance of **shorter local chains, diversification of agroforestry products and technical-economic investments** to increase the workforce. Additionally, the creation of **product labels** and increased **communication activities** were suggested to promote opportunities for **AF product valorisation**. Moreover, ecological services should be further recognised to protect and promote soils. Regarding **regulations and policies**, the main findings for France include the need for **harmonisation and simplification**, clarification and the **creation of common understandings of terms and definitions**, enhanced **financial support and subsidies** to support **planting** and follow-up activities, and **compensations** for yield losses .

**Coventry University workshop** participants produced recommendations based upon the 3 key themes of **engaging landowners, facilitating tenant farmers, and integrating AF products into the supply chain**. These included **raising the current ambition/targets of Environmental Land Management schemes (ELMs)** and committing budget increases and funding for agroforestry research, knowledge dissemination and promotion of agroforestry supply chain products. Further, there was a need to **scale up education and training across farming, forestry and agronomy sectors**, with a focus on both the **tangible and intangible benefits of agroforestry**, system design and valuation, facilitated by an increased number of advisors with agroforestry experience. Opportunities to **see agroforestry in practice should also be increased**, and support for initiatives such as the Agroforestry Open Weekends should be encouraged, with payments made to farmers for providing farm walks and sharing insights. In order to **facilitate tenant farmers**, policies should be more supportive and address landlord concern over valuation; this could involve the creation of **new models for tenancy agreements**, such as joint ventures or sub-tenancies supported with examples and templates. Furthermore, whilst tenant farmers can seek to engage landlords with the benefits, landowning institutions must come to the table and actively engage and see the benefits of AF - again, requiring education. With regard to integrating agroforestry products into the local supply chain, support should be encouraged for **regional food hubs, with local affordable products endorsed**. An emphasis must be made on the broad benefits of AF processing for employment in rural areas and eco-tourism. Finally, investment is needed in both infrastructure (e.g., for local / regional processing) and the creation of farmer co-operatives for sharing equipment and routes to market.

**IfaS's** outputs from the first workshop included the success of new CAP regulations for AF in Germany to **reduce bureaucratic hurdles**, with participants noting that **increasing the simplicity of AF rules** is important due to the diversity of AF. However, participants also identified a lack/insufficiency within incentives to implement AF, with political decision makers blocking the support of AF as an agri-environmental scheme. As an example, the subsidies within eco-scheme 3 (ES3) were increased greatly by the German government, however, the regulations and administrative processes are still hampering the broad use of ES3 subsidies. Consequently, **it is of key importance to communicate and explain the multifunctionality of AF to political**



**decision makers.** Further, IfaS first workshop participants identified that new regulations are **not properly harmonised with organic farming subsidies**, meaning farmers face conflicts between AF and (often higher) organic farming funding schemes; coherence between policies is therefore critical.

**IfaS policy recommendations** from the second workshop were split into 3 themes. Firstly, regarding the **need for adaptation of the legal framework**, participants recommended: CAP EAFRD/investment support for AF with public benefits; the removal of the controversial species of black locust from the “negative list” tree species; enabling cumulative funding in CAP payments; and the creation of AF funding schemes at a state level. Furthermore, the **utilisation concept is too obstructive**, containing unnecessary administrative systems, and **ES3 must be aligned with the general definition of AF** or be abolished altogether. The current CAP was identified as containing excessive regulations, which must be **simplified** in order to promote innovation in agriculture. A further recommendation was the establishment of funding schemes for cross-field level AF, combining the use of arable, grassland and permaculture. Secondly, **improvements in knowledge transfer and communication** were identified, including the need to strengthen the flow of information about the legal basis of AF across sectors. Participants suggested the **creation of a central point of contact at the state level** to facilitate communication and advice, as well as **state funding of AF consulting services**. Furthermore, the **diversity of beneficiaries** of agroforestry must be better communicated. **Research funding** on AF is also needed to **generate and disseminate more knowledge on the benefits of AF**, including through the launching of funded pilot projects and establishment of an AF network. The importance of cooperation between agricultural and nature conservation authorities was highlighted. Finally, to better utilise the current legal and administrative framework for AF, participants recommended expanding marketing for AF products, establishing technology networks; expanding cooperative collaboration; and communicating AF research results in a practical way.

**ZALF’s** first workshop participants noted that current regulations and support for AF are not sufficiently practice-oriented, are overly complicated and do not incentivise farmers to adopt AF. Consequently, **concrete demands were given**, including increasing eco-scheme payments, reducing the stipulations on tree species, removing the use-concept requirements in funding applications (where trees must be deemed ‘productive’ to ascertain funding), and revising/simplifying the distance regulations between field strips and/or wood edges. Again, **double funding with organic farming** presents a problem for organic and AF farmers. **Regarding AF value chains and added value**, participants identified the lack of value chains and marketing opportunities aside from wood-chips as a limitation for widespread AF adoption. Participants proposed several solutions to these issues, including the creation of an AF label, improved PR for AF products, establishment of direct marketing opportunities, long-term management contracts and payment for ecosystem services. However, there was a general consensus among participants, that **without adequate policy support, AF products will not exist to be marketed**. Finally, the importance of clear **examples of successful AF sites** was emphasised. During the second workshop, ZALF participants used a matrix ranking exercise to identify the most pressing challenges and solutions with regards to current agroforestry policies. Participants identified **establishing state-subsidised extension services** for AF as the most pressing improvement needed for AF policy, as well as providing guidance and advise to stakeholders. Further, **easy paperwork and application processes** were seen as more important than or could be seen as necessary pre-conditions for farmers to engage in AF, even if sufficient financial incentives exist. However, the low number of participants taking part in the workshop meant that matrix ranking results could not be seen as fully representative.

**ZHAW** identified a number of key takeaways from the workshop, Firstly, participants pointed to the need to foster a **common understanding** of AF, particularly through **educational efforts**, addressing the current



perceptions of AF and existing open questions (such as legality and flexibility for implementing AF). A common understanding will require educating stakeholders of the **overall picture of potential benefits** (economic, climate, nature conservation, psychological benefits associated with diverse landscapes), as well as **how to integrate agroforestry measures practically and flexibly into existing funding instruments**. Overall, **communication** will be central to fostering common understanding and integrating AF into agricultural planning in a participatory way, using **research** and **understanding uncertainties** related to implementation. The second workshop was organised by **Agroscope** as part of the Swiss Agroforestry Panel. To express the need for action and the importance of financial support for AF, the Agroforestry Interest Group presented a declaration as an aftermath of the first meeting in 2022, which was later signed by 15 associations. As the declaration states, support for AF needs to be recognised in Swiss agricultural policy, suggested direct measures include the need for **recognition of agroforestry as biodiversity promotion areas (BFF)** for the minimum share of 3.5% in arable farming, provision of annual **maintenance support for AF** for climate and resource protection, **one-off and start-up funding for AF**, and AF **consulting to take account of site-specific features**. As an outcome, simplification of the funding system was recognised by representatives of federal-level administration, and an annual meeting of the Swiss Agroforestry Panel was also planned.

CEEweb's outcomes of the first policy workshop included the importance of **awareness raising** to enhance the uptake of AF practices. Awareness raising can occur from both a bottom-up approach (from the farm level), as well as top-down (via decision makers such as the Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture) approaches. Participants also stated an interest in **further practical agroforestry solutions and good examples** from a national and regional level, stating that this would incentivise uptake of AF and develop an understanding of potential benefits, practicalities, and economic advantages of AF. Finally, **further discussions are needed between decision-makers and farmers**, as the perspectives and approaches of decision makers and other stakeholders may not correlate.

The online part of the second policy workshop was representing a regional focus aiming to cover countries of the CEE region, contrary to CEEweb's other events, which were focusing more on the national aspects of agroforestry in Hungary. Outputs from the online workshop included the **importance of dissemination, awareness raising and education**, as well as **economic viability** and **emotional attachment** of stakeholders to AF transitions. In particular, case studies and data which display the financial feasibility of AF transitions, and the need for establishment of self-sustaining infrastructure was highlighted, contrary to the development of expensive and unsustainable infrastructure. Further feedback from an online form highlighted the importance of **reducing bureaucratic hurdles**, increasing the **value of support payments**, and legalising forest grazing in CEE regions. **Key outputs from the field trip** included concerns about **damage to crops by rare species or game** that are attracted by newly introduced shelterbelts, with the importance of compensation by the relevant sector presented as a solution. As a barrier, it was raised that **farmers' main concerns regarding the implementation of agroforestry measures are associated with the assumed limitations of the machinery and infrastructure** currently available to farmers, prompting a discussion on the wider need for **education and awareness raising** across potential agroforestry practitioners. It was not well understood that modern AF are often able to accommodate large pieces of existing machinery and may not require specialisation. Further, issues of high rates of land renting was discussed. In Hungary, small and medium-sized farms are more open to the uptake of AF compared to large farms. It would be essential to find appropriate solutions, i.e., to **target non-renting and small/medium farmers in the first instance**, while **land-owners should also be incentivised to prioritise long-term strategic planning** over short-term economic results in the owner-tenant relationship. Finally, the post-workshop feedback form highlighted a number of important recommendations. These included **providing clarity** with regard to legislations and



available subsidies relevant to agroforestry, and adapting **land use, land registry and land evaluation** to enable the uptake of AF.

This section has introduced the main outcomes of the multi-stakeholder policy workshops from each country and partner organisations. Within the workshop results, overlapping issues can be identified which outline the similar obstacles countries are facing with which may hinder the transition to agroecological practices and the uptake of agroforestry. The **need for further education and awareness-raising** of agroforestry is unambiguous in most of the countries. Stakeholders such as consultants, decision-makers, auditors, and practitioners must be made aware of the benefits gained from AF. Educational activities may take form in several ways, such as the development of university curricula, accessible and open pilot sites to showcase applicability of AF, dissemination of success stories of implementation of AF or establishment of contact points and consultancy services. Another recurring issue was the importance of **simplifying administrative processes and the reduction of bureaucratic hurdles**. Policies and procedures need to be simplified, used terms and definitions should be brought to common grounds and be accepted by all stakeholders, while the harmonisation of subsidies is deemed necessary to avoid conflicts and competition of different funding mechanisms. Additionally, the establishment of appropriate **supply chains**, and/or integration of agroforestry into current ones, developing marketing routes and opportunities would support the creation of economic opportunities for agroforestry products.





## 5 Synthesised Policy Recommendations

The main results and outputs of the multi-stakeholder MF/AF policy workshops provide the basis for the following recommendations directed to improve AF systems and integrate mixed farming into AF.

**(1) Recognition of the diversity of beneficiaries and tangible/intangible benefits of AF** - this needs to be conveyed to a wide range of stakeholders, particularly political decision makers. Benefits can be economic, climatic, nature-related, psychological etc.

- Knowledge on diversity and benefits must be further disseminated via education, awareness raising and cross sector collaboration.

**(2) Education, awareness raising and dissemination of information.**

- Enhancement of cross sector collaboration is needed, including the dissemination of best practices, case studies and evidence for the benefits of AF. An understanding of AF should be harmonised for all stakeholders, including the terms and definitions used.
- Establishment of national contact points for communication and advice.
- Need for training of auditors and inspectors; moving away from penalising farmers to helping facilitate transitions.
- Provision of public funded independent consultants, and training experts to have the agroecological expertise. In addition, case studies of AF with best practices, dissemination of pilot action research for potential AF practitioners.
- Funding and further dissemination of research - such as establishing an AF network of funded pilot projects - with financial incentives provided for farmers sharing insights e.g., for farm walks.

**(3) Prioritising approaches which are regional, long term and may incorporate traditional systems.**

- Prioritise continuous funding versus set time measures.
- Provision of AF funding schemes at state and regional levels.

**(4) Addressing challenges around land use, particularly for young and tenant farmers.**

- Incentivise land-owning institutions to support the uptake of agroforestry. Tenant farmers - land owning institutions have a responsibility to facilitate the transition to AF, be more supportive, have different ways of land registry and land evaluation to enable the uptake of AF e.g. joint ventures and sub-tenancies. May require targeting non-renting farmers initially.
- Young farmers: support through the provision of AF consultants, case studies etc.

**(5) Simplification of the CAP payments, which are consistently criticised as overly complicated and require paperwork which farmers see as a major hurdle to accessing AF support.**

- Policies must be clear and simple to recognise the diversity of AF farms and allow for innovation. The new CAP goes some of the way but not enough. Awareness of the multifunctionality of AF to decision-makers should be further strengthened.
- Reduction of bureaucratic hurdles is therefore needed: obligatory utilisation concepts are obstructive, administrative obligations are limiting the use of funds and takes the CAP further away from a holistic stewardship-based model of environmental protection versus the financial incentives for very specific ecosystem services.
- Harmonisation with farming subsidies, with double funding (e.g., conflicting subsidies with organic funding schemes) currently presenting a risk, instead should enable cumulative funding in CAP payments.
- In France, homogenisation of political AF measures is required.

**(6) Improving AF value chains:**

- AF can potentially be utilised as a carbon farming mechanism but should be considered with caution/very strong safeguards against misuse and cannot detract responsibilities of public and private entities from rapid decarbonisation.
- Developing economic opportunities for timber valorisation.
- Incentivise the establishment of regional food hubs with local food (e.g., on-farm botanical drinks), offers jobs and ecotourism - requires investments of infrastructure and creation of farmer co-ops.
- Direct marketing of AF products and certification (creation of an AF label), improved PR for AF products, long-term management contracts.
- However, without adequate support for an AF transition and upkeep, AF products will not exist to be sold.

**(7) Increasing eco scheme payments**

- Establishing state-subsidised extension services.

## 6 References

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## 7 Partners' reports and lead organisers

### EU and Belgium policy (AEEU, CU)

- Jessica Donham (AEEU): European Agroforestry - Co-creating policies for transforming food systems - First workshop report - 07/02/2023
- Jessica Donham (AEEU): Carbon Farming – The opportunities and risk for European Agroforestry and Agroecology - Second workshop report – 07/06/2023

### Germany (IfaS, ZALF)

- Jörg Böhmer (IfaS): Legal & administrative framework conditions for agroforestry in Rhineland-Palatinate & Saarland (Germany) - First workshop report - 09/02/2023
- Jörg Böhmer, Elena Gruber (IfaS) & Frank Wagener, Felix Gräven, Holger Pabst (IfaS): Legal & administrative framework conditions for agroforestry in Rhineland-Palatinate & Saarland (Germany) – Second workshop report – 02/08/2023
- Alma Thiesmeier (ZALF): Agroforestry as a sustainable land use system to future-proof agricultural production – Policy instruments and agricultural reality - First workshop report - 28/02/2023
- Alma Thiesmeier (ZALF): Creating practice oriented and future-proof Agroforestry Policy - Joint prioritization of improvements in agroforestry policy - Second workshop report – 06/07/2023

### Hungary (CEEweb)

- Charlotte Maddinson, Ádám Varga (CEEweb) AGROMIX information day and policy workshop - Mixed farming and agroforestry models for more resilient agriculture - First workshop report - 28/04/2023
- Charlotte Maddinson (CEEweb) - AGROMIX policy workshop: Solutions for the CEE region - Second workshop report – 27/07/2023 (online conference) & 09/08/2023 (field trip)

### France (ACTA)

- Sonia Ramonteu (ACTA): Policies and support measures for Agroforestry - First workshop report - 15/03/2023
- Sonia Ramonteu (ACTA): Agroforestry in France - Policies and support measures for agroforestry - Second workshop report – 31/08/2023

### England (CU, CRAN, ORC)

- Rosemary Venn (CU): Agroforestry in England: policies, land ownership and a just transition - First workshop report - 30/01/2023
- Rosemary Venn (CU): Agroforestry in England - Policies, land ownership and a just transition - Second workshop report – 09/06/2023

### Switzerland (ZHAW & Agroscope)

- Sonja Kay (Agroscope) and Mareike Jager (Zhaw): Swiss Agroforestry Panel, Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG) and Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) - First workshop report - 28/04/2022 - 23/05/2022 - 06/07/2022
- Christina den Hond-Vaccaro (Agroscope) & Sonja Kay (Agroscope): Second Swiss Agroforestry Panel Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG) and Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) – Second workshop report - 21/09/2023



## 8 Annexes

- 8.1** Visual and audio documentation – WP6 Policy Workshop Portfolio - Jacob Threadgould, Dariana Guevara (REVOLVE)
- 8.2** Partner reports on D6.3 - multi-stakeholder policy workshops
- 8.3** Summary report on links of STARGATE project deliverables WP5 and WP6 with AGROMIX WP6.3 – Florent Demelezi, Linda Magyar (CEEweb)




# Annex 8.1

## WP6 Policy Workshop Portfolio

Jacob Threadgould & Dariana Guevara (REVOLVE)  
2023. September



 This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 862993.



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# 1<sup>ST</sup> Round





# Agroecology

## European Agroforestry – Co-creating policies for transforming food systems



1.



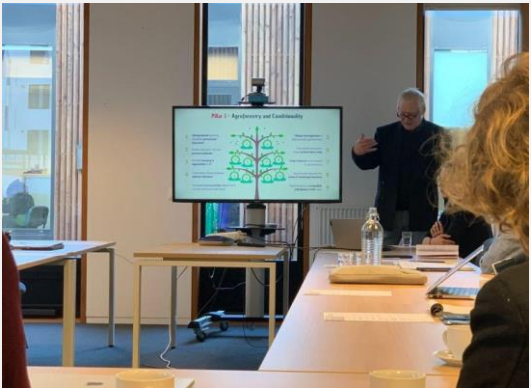
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6.

Fig.1: Agroecology workshop in progress  
Fig.2: Agroecology workshop in progress  
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Fig.4: Agroecology workshop in progress  
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Fig.6: Agroecology workshop in progress

# ACTA Workshop – Policies and support measures for agroforestry

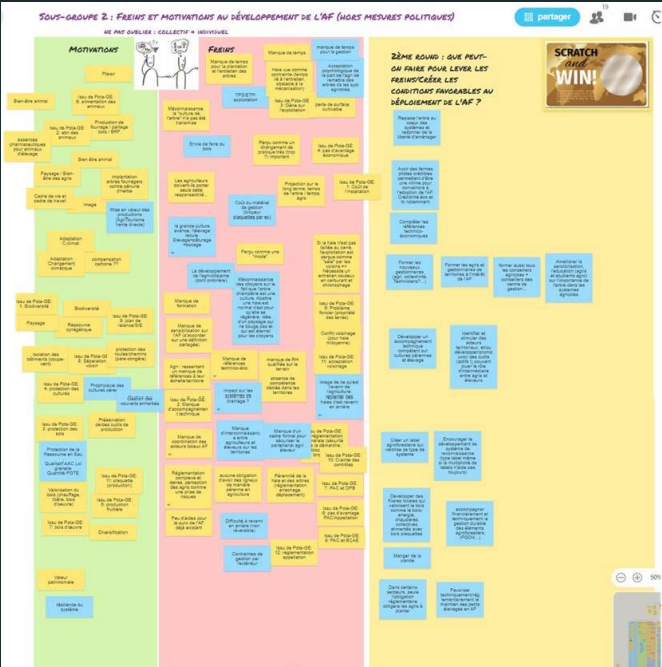


Fig.7: Screen capture of breakout sessions 1 and 3

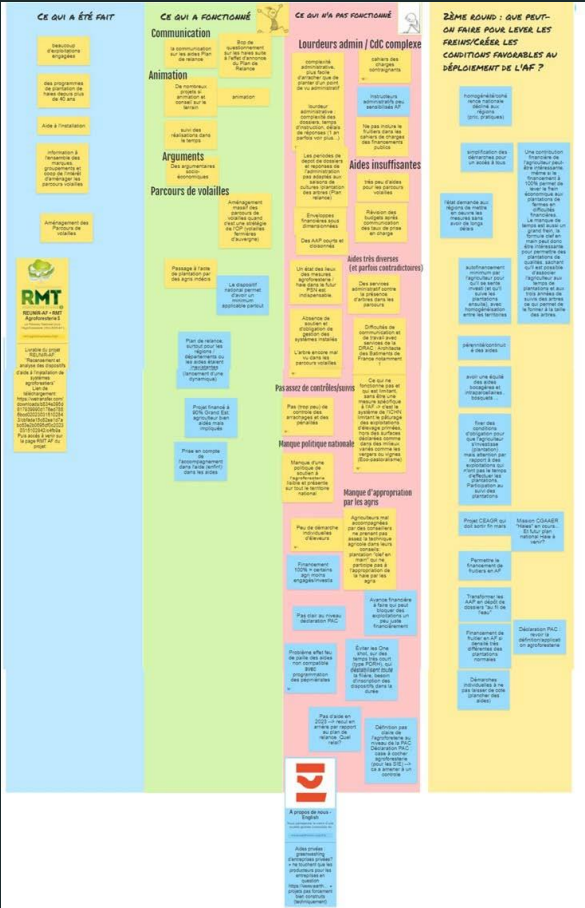


Fig.8: Screen capture of breakout sessions 2 and 4

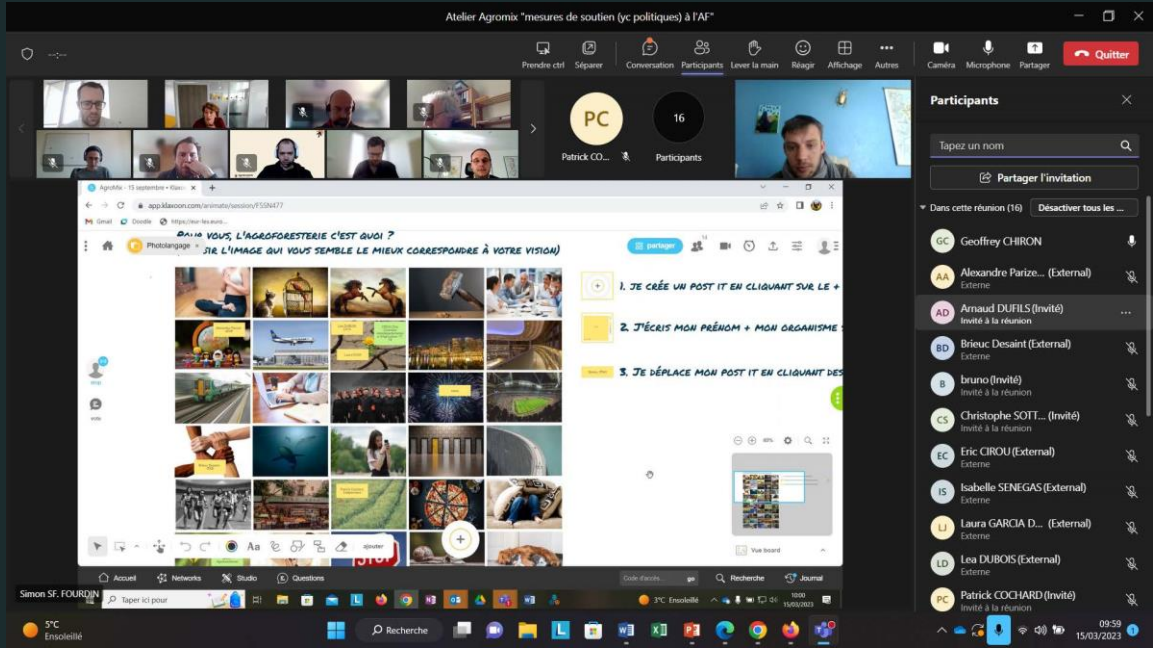


Fig.9: Screen grab of the online ACTA workshop

# Coventry University – Agroforestry in England, policies, land ownership and just transitions

Fig.10: Coventry University workshop in progress

Fig.11: Dr Paul Burgess, Cranfield University

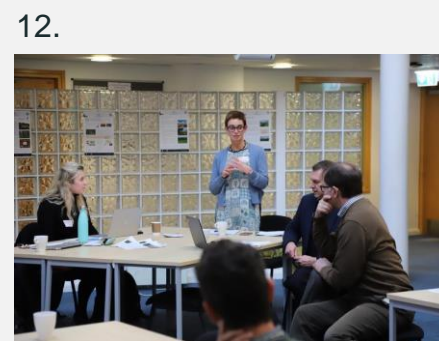
Fig.12: Helen Cheshire, Woodland Trust

Fig.13: Rosemary Venn, Coventry University

Fig.14: Andrew Barbour, Sustainable Food Trust

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Fig.16: Colin Tosh, Organic Research Centre



**Fig. 17: Coventry University –**  
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WATCH VIDEO



# Ifas – Policy Workshop on Agroforestry in Rhineland-Palatinate and Saarland (in German)



Fig.17: Hans Pfeffer speaks during the field visit



Fig.18: Alex Schönbeck speaks during the field visit



Fig. 19: Janine Raab speaks during the field visit

**Fig.21: Ifas** – Policy Workshop on Agroforestry in Rhineland-Palatinate and Saarland

WATCH VIDEO



# ZALF

Agroforestry as a sustainable land use system to future-proof agricultural production – Policy instruments and agricultural reality



Fig.20: Participants of ZALF's first policy workshop

# ZHAW – First Policy Workshop - Swiss Agroforestry Panel, Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG) and Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN)



Fig.21: Biohof La Prisette, Bonvillars Switzerland.  
Source. S.Kay



Fig.22: Biohof La Prisette, Bonvillars, Switzerland, Source-  
S.Kay



Fig.23: Biohof La Prisette, Bonvillars, Switzerland, Source-  
S.Kay



# CEEweb

AGROMIX information day and policy workshop  
- Mixed farming and agroforestry models for more resilient agriculture



Fig.24: A CEEweb Workshop in progress – Zebegény, Hungary



Fig.25: Field visit – alluvial fruit orchards in Nagymaros



Fig.26: A CEEweb workshop in progress – Zebegény, Hungary

**Fig. 28: CEEweb –**  
AGROMIX information day  
and policy workshop  
(video)

WATCH VIDEO



For most farmers every penny counts. If there isn't enough financial background for the essentials and maintenance, they will not likely to look into new challenging opportunities.

# 2<sup>ND</sup> Round



# Agroecology Europe

## Carbon Farming - The opportunities and risks for European agroforestry and agroecology



Fig.27: AEEU's workshop in progress – Brussels, Belgium



Fig.28: AEEU's workshop in progress – Brussels, Belgium



Fig.29: AEEU's workshop in progress – Brussels, Belgium

# ACTA – Agroforestry in France: Policies and support measures for agroforestry



Fig. 30: ACTA's second AGROMIX policy workshop underway

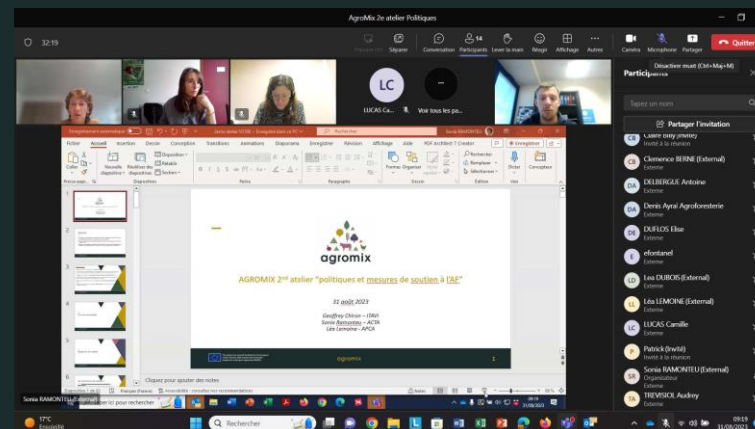


Fig. 31: ACTA's second AGROMIX policy workshop underway (1)

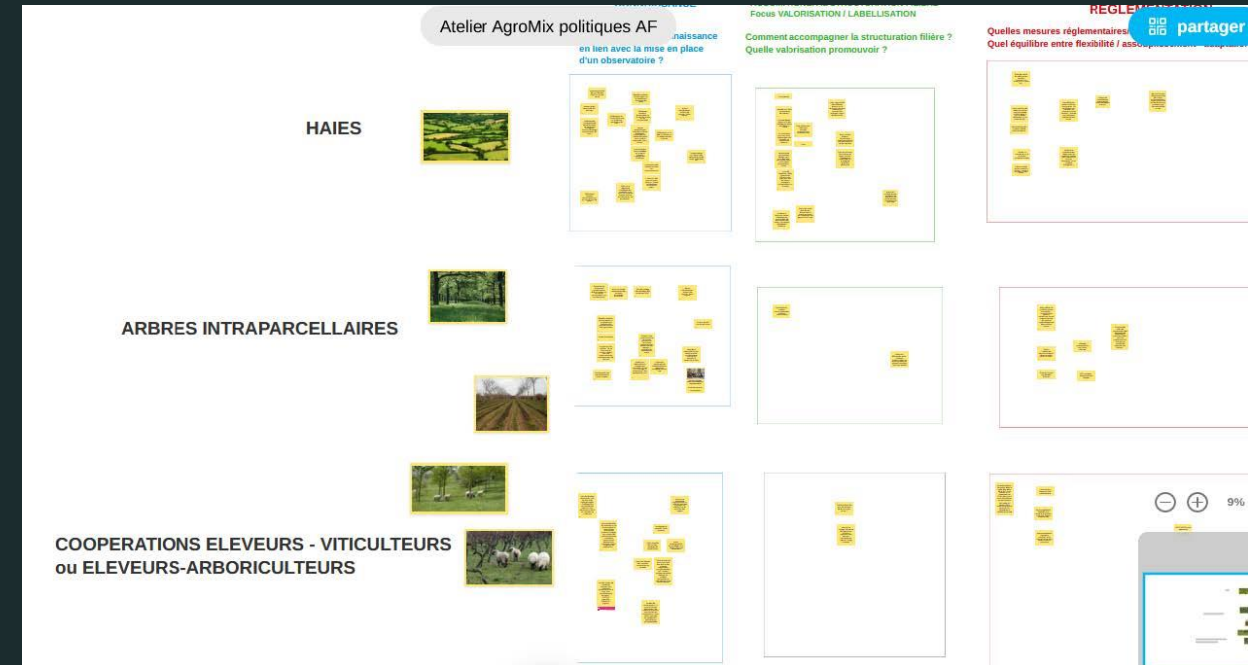


Fig.32: A screenshot from ACTA's second AGROMIX policy workshop

# Coventry University – Agroforestry in England, policies, land ownership and just transition

Fig.33: A view of the Coventry University second workshop

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Fig.34: Andy Gibben gives a field tour

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Fig.35: Andy Gray discussing AF practices at Elston Farm

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Fig.36: Andy Dibben gives a field tour

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# Ifas – Legal & administrative framework conditions for agroforestry in Rhineland Palatinate & Saarland (Germany)



Fig.37: Images from the first and second policy workshop by IfaS

# ZALF – Creating practice oriented and future-proof Agroforestry Policy



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Fig.39: Field visit to Thomas Domin's farm, Peickwitz.



Fig.40: Field visit to Thomas Domin's farm, Peickwitz.



Fig.41: A visit to Thomas Domin's farm, Peickwitz



Fig.42: A Field visit to Thomas Domin's farm, Peickwitz.



# Agroscope – Second Swiss Agroforestry Panel



Fig.43: Agroscope's second AGROMIX workshop underway. Photo by LeGoffUlysse

Fig.44: Agroscope's second AGROMIX policy workshop underway. Photo byChristina den Hond-Vaccaro

Fig.45: Agroscope's second AGROMIX policy workshop underway. Photo by Sonja Kay

Fig.46: Agroscope's second AGROMIX policy workshop underway. Photo by LeGoffUlysse

Fig.47: Agroscope's second AGROMIX policy workshop underway. Photo by Felix Herzog

Fig.48: Agroscope's second AGROMIX policy workshop underway. Photo by Felix Herzog (1)

Fig.49: Agroscope's second AGROMIX policy workshop underway. Photo by Christina den Hond-Vaccaro

Fig.50: A photo of Agroscope's second AGROMIX policy workshop underway. Photo byChristina den Hond-Vaccaro

Fig.51: A general view of Agroscope's second AGROMIX policy workshop. Photo LeGoffUlysee

# CEEweb –Agromix Policy Workshop: Agroforestry Solutions for the CEE region



Fig.52: Presentation by Attila Borovics PhD

Fig.53: Field site demonstration by Attila Borovics PhD on the agroforestry practices of Bajti Experimental Nursery.



Figure 53.



Figure 54.

A photograph of a cow in a field at sunset. The cow is in the foreground, looking to the right. The background is a bright, hazy sunset over a field. The top right corner of the image is decorated with three overlapping triangles: a yellow one, a purple one, and a dark blue one. A small yellow horizontal line is positioned above the text.

—  
Thank you!



# Annex 8.1 A

## Partners' First workshop report

WP6 D6.3





# Policy workshop

Biohof La Prisette, Bonvillars, Switzerland, Source: S.Kay

[agromixproject.eu](http://agromixproject.eu)



## *Swiss Agroforestry Panel*

Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG) and Federal Office  
for the Environment (FOEN)

28/04/2022, 23/05/2022, 06/07/2022

FOAG and FOEN

Agroscope and ZHAW

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# First workshop report

WP 6.3

*01/06/2023*



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## General outline of the event

The Swiss Agroforestry panel brought together different actors of agroforestry from practice, extension and research. Its aim was to initiate a dialogue, exchange information on the state of scientific and practical knowledge and to reflect on possible future collaborations. The actors of the agricultural knowledge system (research and extension) met in three face-to-face meetings for exchange (presentations, networking) in Bern as well as field visits. The participants included representatives from the Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG), the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN), the Swiss agricultural extension centre for cantonal extension services (AGRIDEA), the Research Institute for Organic Agriculture (FiBL), the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL), the ETH, the Swiss farmers association, the Swiss organic farmers association, NGOs and several representatives from practice (farmers, environmental offices).

The panel was held in three sessions with presentations, group discussions and field visits. The main outputs were the importance of creating a common basis for representatives of agroforestry and making farmer's voices heard.

## Introduction

In January 2021, the FOEN contacted the FOAG to set up a panel in the field of agroforestry. Since then, Jean-Laurent Pfund of the FOEN (forest services and forest maintenance) and Aurelia Passaseo of the FOAG (direct payment programmes) have discussed the topic and organised the rough programme in a Trello Panel. The objectives of this panel were identified as follows:

- development of a coordinated multisectoral partnership
- dialogue and knowledge transfer
- development of guidelines and recommendations
- search for innovations

The aim of the Swiss Agroforestry panel was, thus, to bring together the different actors in the agroforestry knowledge system from practice, extension and research to initiate a dialogue, sharing and exchanging information on the state of scientific and practical knowledge, as well as on innovations in agroforestry and the need for research. Another objective was to reflect on possible future collaborations and exchanges related to agroforestry, with the aim of promoting its economic potential, especially in relation to climate change, and the many other services that AF systems can provide.





## Location and time of the workshop

The workshops with presentations (Day 1 – 28/04/2022 and Day 2 – 23/05/2022) took place at the Federal Office for Agriculture FOAG at Schwarzenburgstrasse 165 in Bern. The farm visits (Day 3 – 6/07/2022) took place in the cantons Bern and Fribourg. Two farms were visited.

## Presenters and agenda

Day 1 28/04/2022			
Nr.	Full name	Presentation topic	Organisation
1	Bernard Belk, Paul Steffen	Welcome / Introduction to the topic	FOAG, FOEN
	Valerie Cavin	<i>“Speed-dating of participants”</i>	Agridea
2	Mareike Jäger, Sonja Kay	Current status and future prospects of agroforestry in Switzerland	ZHAW, Agroscope
3	Johanna Schoop	Resource project 77a Agro4esterie	Agridea
6	Sonja Kay, Mareike Jäger	Environmental services and spatial distribution of agroforestry	Agroscope, ZHAW
7	Andreas Bernasconi	Tree values and ecosystem services	PAN
	Valerie Cavin	<i>Discussions on impulse questions</i>	Agridea
8	Alexandre Butler	Research on wooded pastures	EPFL
9	Godi François	Direct seeding for the adaptation of forest tree species	GG Consulting
10	Aurelia Passaseo	Future production system contribution for agroforestry in agricultural policy	BLW
11	Sonja Kay	Agroforestry in the new CAP / EU	Agroscope
	Valerie Cavin	<i>Plenary discussion</i>	Agridea
	Aurelia Passaseo, J.L. Pfund	<i>Next steps and closing</i>	FOAG, FOEN
Day 2 23/05/2022			
1	Aurelia Passaseo, J.L. Pfund	Welcome / Introduction	FOAG, FOEN
2	Julien Duc, Steiner Walter	Implementation of agroforestry: presentations by Julien Duc (FR): Nut orchard, fruit trees, arable farming, direct marketing; Steiner Walter (VD): Chestnut orchard, poultry, arable farming, direct marketing	
3	Trottmann Niklaus, Müller Claudio	Overview of current climate projects / AFS of the cantons	Canton AR, Maschinenring GR
4	Ian Rothwell	Myclimate	Foundation Myclimate
5	Alice Dind, Johanna Schoop, Lisa Nilles	Challenges in technical and administrative terms	FiBL, Agridea



6	Ulysse le Goff	Profitability of agroforestry and economic perspectives for farms	ETH
	Valerie Cavin	<i>Plenary discussion</i>	Agridea
7	Sonja Kay, Felix Herzog, Mareike Jäger	Current research and climate projects	Agroscope, ZHAW
8	Johanna Schoop, Lisa Nilles, Alice Dind	Agroforestry advisory services, need for further training of advisory staff + training on agroforestry at agricultural schools	Agridea, FiBL
	Groups	<i>Brainstorming:</i> <i>Group 1: Implementation + Research + Innovation: Crop Production</i> <i>Group 2: Implementation + research + innovation: livestock farming</i>	
	Valerie Cavin	<i>Worldcafé: Summary of the results and conclusion</i>	Agridea
<b>Day 3 6/07/2022</b>			
Field visits to two farms in the proximity of Bern led by Lisa Nilles (Agridea)			

## Workshop topic

The first workshop day corresponded to a "tour de table" of agroforestry stakeholders in Switzerland: All important representatives presented their current projects in lectures. Discussions in plenary with all participants as well as in smaller groups took place mainly at the end of the morning as well as in the afternoon. The moderation was provided by the FOAG (Aurelia Passaseo).

The second day of the workshop was dedicated to research and implementation and was divided into a morning of presentations from farmers' practice and from research and extension. In the afternoon, brainstorming groups worked on solutions to research and implementation issues. Agridea (Valerie Cavin) provided the moderation.

## Discussions for the project

The closing discussion highlighted several priority elements that had emerged from the workshop's discussions and presentations. It pointed out the importance of fostering a common understanding of the topic. To achieve this, the "emotional" aspects will be crucial to consider. An educational effort would first be based on a good understanding of the different perceptions associated with this new concept (with the challenge of making traditional and more modern approaches complementary) and would need to clarify



some open questions (in particular the legal aspects of planting and its implications for the farmer's freedom to change his system in the future).

This common understanding will require, on the one hand, that an overall picture of all potential benefits (economy, climate, nature conservation, etc.) can be presented. The landscape benefits of agroforestry associated with emotionality are currently recognised and financially supported and could be used to promote them. On the other hand, however, the diversity of possible ecosystem services should be simplified when it comes to practically and flexibly integrating agroforestry measures into existing funding instruments. Communication will be central to finding the best ways to integrate agroforestry systems into agricultural planning in a participatory way. From a general perspective, there are many uncertainties in the current period and planning is delicate, especially in the long term. A need for research is identified, e.g. on the question of the water balance of soils or on value chains for certain products or services from agroforestry.

## Workshop outputs

The three main outputs of the workshops were (1) to create a common basis for representatives of agroforestry, (2) to make farmer's voices heard and (3) to combine lectures, group discussions and field visits to ensure a good workshop mix.

## Feedback from participants

The feedback from the participants was positive. The networking and the coming together of the different representatives of the agroforestry scene in Switzerland was approved. Potential for improvement was identified in several fields.

As joint outcome was the declaration for agroforestry "Call for rapid introduction of agroforestry systems into national policy regulations" was written. This document is a summary of all discussed points and highlights the need for action. A bundle of participants signed the document.



## Annexes

### Field visits Gremium Agroforst – 6th of July 2022

08.30 Uhr	Abfahrt Bus / Bahnhof Biel Seite Nord <i>Départ en bus à la gare de Bienne sortie Nord</i>
08.45 Uhr	Ankunft Betrieb Gassnerguet / <i>Arrivée à l'exploitation Gassnerguet</i> Ueli Gassner Mattenweg 7 2563 Ipsach BE <a href="https://gassnerguet.ch/">https://gassnerguet.ch/</a>
10.00-10.15 Uhr	Abfahrt Betrieb Gassner / <i>Départ de l'exploitation Gassner</i>
11.00-11.15 Uhr	Ankunft Betrieb La Prisette / <i>Arrivée à l'exploitation La Prisette</i> Joschua Schelb Route de Fontanezier 6 1427 Bonvillars VD <a href="https://laprisette.ch/">https://laprisette.ch/</a>
12.30 Uhr	Abfahrt Betrieb Schelb zum Mittagessen <i>Départ de l'exploitation Schelb pour le repas</i>
12.50 Uhr	Ankunft Restaurant Café de la Promenade <i>Arrivée au restaurant Café de la Promenade</i> Rue des Jordils 23 1400 Yverdon-les-bains
14.30 Uhr	Ende der Veranstaltung / Fin du programme

## Links

1. Agroscope research on agroforestry as a new land-use form". Available at: <https://www.agroscope.admin.ch/agroscope/en/home/topics/environment-resources/biodiversity-landscape/landscape/agroforestry.html>
2. Agroforestry Podcast from ZHAW and Agridea. Available at: <https://www.zhaw.ch/de/lsfm/ueber-uns/aktuell-medien/news/detailansicht/event-news/neue-podcast-serie-zu-agroforst/>
3. FOEN project on trees outside the forest – urban forestry and agroforestry. Available at: <https://www.bafu.admin.ch/bafu/de/home/themen/wald/fachinformationen/waldbewirtschaftung/urbane-forstwirtschaft-agroforstwirtschaft.html>
4. Agroforestry: opportunities and risks. Fact sheet of the Swiss Ornithological Institute. Available at: <https://www.vogelwarte.ch/de/vogelwarte/news/avinews/dezember-2021/agroforst-chancen-und-risiken>



# Policy workshop



Cranfield University, Workshop 1



[agromixproject.eu](http://agromixproject.eu)

## ***Agroforestry in England: policies, land ownership and a just transition***

Date – January 30<sup>th</sup> 2023

Time – 10.30 – 16.30

Hosting Institution – Cranfield University

Contact info: Rosemary Venn

[Rosemary.venn@coventry.ac.uk](mailto:Rosemary.venn@coventry.ac.uk)

Coventry University



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 862993.



# First workshop report

WP 6.3

*23/05/23*





## Workshop Report

# “Agroforestry in England: policies, land ownership and a just transition”

23/05/2023



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## General outline of the event

On 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023, 28 representatives from civil society, land owning institutions, farmers and academia met at Cranfield University, UK, to discuss the future of agroforestry in England with respect to on-going policy developments, challenges and opportunities. Participants heard from the Organic Research Centre on a progress update of the government's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) Environmental Land Management Scheme Agroforestry Test and Trial. In subsequent discussion, payment and tenancy issues emerged as the main concerns for the group. Two computational modelling approaches were then presented as possible means to simulate and study complex agroforestry systems: the first an economic model developed by Cumulus Ltd. for the Soil Association and the second an agent-based, behavioural change model from Coventry University.

The group agreed that current targets for woodland and agroforestry cover are not ambitious enough and that there is appetite among farmers and landowners to increase these targets. They identified a clear need for: defined payments for establishment and maintenance costs; improved tenancy agreements to allow for agroforestry; an agroforestry implementation tool; and an increase in trained and trusted advisors.

The two modelling approaches were seen as potentially helpful at a macro level and complimented each other. Both models could benefit from being more 'user friendly', with the provision of more baseline knowledge in order to better interpret them. Both models were also felt to be lacking relevant specificities such as dietary change or types of livestock grazing. Neither model accounted for the time-lag inherent in agroforestry systems, which was highlighted as an issue, as was how to include the timespans of models in relation to tenancy agreements, rotations and market adjustments.

## Introduction

Currently, agroforestry makes up only 3.3% of the UK's land-use cover. In England, this is only 1.61%. The UK Government recently announced new environmental targets as part of its Environmental Improvement Plan and Environment Act, which includes increasing tree and woodland cover to 16%. This would take the UK from 1.3 million ha (10%) to 2.1 million ha, an additional 800,000 ha and not an over-ambitious target.

As land ownership in the UK is concentrated in the hands of a relatively small number of people, any significant change in land use requires their engagement (Shrubsole, 2019). As such, key landowning institutions were targeted to participate in the workshop, alongside farmers and civil society actors, to better understand how to incentivise the cultivation of more trees on farms.



## Location and time of the workshop

The meeting was an all day workshop at Cranfield University, Bedfordshire, England, on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

## Speakers and presenters

Time	Full name	Presentation topic	Organisation
10.15-11.00	Rosemary Venn and Ulrich Schmutz	Welcome and introductions	Coventry University
11.10-11.30	Colin Tosh	Update on DEFRA Agroforestry ELM Test project and support	Organic Research Centre
12.00-12.30	Clive Thomas	Introduction to Soil Association economic model for agroforestry	Soil Association
12.30-13.00	Marco Van de Wiel	Introduction to Coventry University's agent based model for agroforestry and land use	Coventry University

**Rosemary Venn and Ulrich Schmutz:** Lead researchers for the policy work package 6.0. Rosemary and Ulrich introduced the AGROMIX project and situated the workshop within current agroforestry debate in the UK.

**Colin Tosh:** Lead researcher within the DEFRA consortium looking at the proposed ELMs support for agroforestry. Colin gave participants an up-to-date insight into DEFRA's proposals for agroforestry.

**Clive Thomas:** Head Researcher for agroforestry at the Soil Association and involved in an economic modelling report. Clive explored how their economic model can help persuade policy makers and landowners to engage with agroforestry as a land use.

**Marco Van de Wiel:** Developer of a novel agent-based model. Marco presented how behavioural models can be used when considering policies for different stakeholders who have distinct priorities for land use.

## Workshop topic

Participants heard from the Organic Research Centre on a progress update of the DEFRA Environmental Land Management Scheme Agroforestry Test and Trial. Two computational modelling approaches were presented as possible means to simulate and study complex agroforestry systems: the first an economic model developed by Cumulus Ltd. for the Soil Association and the second an agent-based, behavioural change model from Coventry University.



As part of Deliverable 6.2, Coventry University had developed a novel agent-based model to better understand the effects of current and future policies on the decisions farmers and landowners make over land use. The modelling covers a wide set of dynamics including land use change, farmer behaviour and climate change. It is an explorative model to provide support for policy decision making.

## Discussions for the project

The key topics that emerged for discussion were whether the DEFRA ELMs scheme would be sufficient, and to what extent the two models can help in facilitating greater uptake of agroforestry systems in England.

The group agreed **that current targets for woodland and agroforestry cover are not ambitious enough** and that there is appetite among farmers and landowners to increase these targets. They identified a clear need for: defined payments for establishment and maintenance costs; improved tenancy agreements to allow for agroforestry; an agroforestry implementation tool; and an increase in trained and trusted advisors.

**The appropriateness of decision-based modelling:** The models were seen as potentially helpful at a macro level and complimented each other. Both models could benefit from being more 'user friendly', with the provision of more baseline knowledge in order to better interpret them. Both models were felt to be lacking relevant specificities such as dietary change or types of livestock grazing. Neither model accounted for the time-lag inherent in agroforestry systems, which was highlighted as an issue, as was how to include the timespans of models in relation to tenancy agreements, rotations and market adjustments.

**Further modelling options:** A model to analyse funding for agroforestry was also discussed, one that could incorporate carbon offsetting and biodiversity gains. This could draw from the Woodland Carbon Code, a quality assurance standard for woodland creation projects in the UK (<https://woodlandcarboncode.org.uk>), to be expanded for agroforestry. The on-going work around developing an agroforestry carbon code was also highlighted as an important next step - <https://www.soilassociation.org/farmers-growers/farming-news/2022/august/15/exploring-opportunities-for-an-agroforestry-carbon-code/>



## Workshop outputs

### Recommended policy priorities from the workshop discussions:

- Raise the current ambition/targets of ELMs and commit budget increases and funding for agroforestry research, in particular around economics and supply chains.
- Prioritise advisory and training services on agroforestry.
- Implement the new Land-use Framework of the Food Farming and Countryside Commission (FFCC).
- Prioritise financial incentives and supply chain and market development.
- The legal frameworks around tenanted land should be considered, enabling farmers to plan over the long term around above- and below-ground carbon payments and including rights to timber.
- Leverage finance in the food supply chain to facilitate the uptake of regenerative and agroecological practices such as agroforestry, and combine with certification standards.

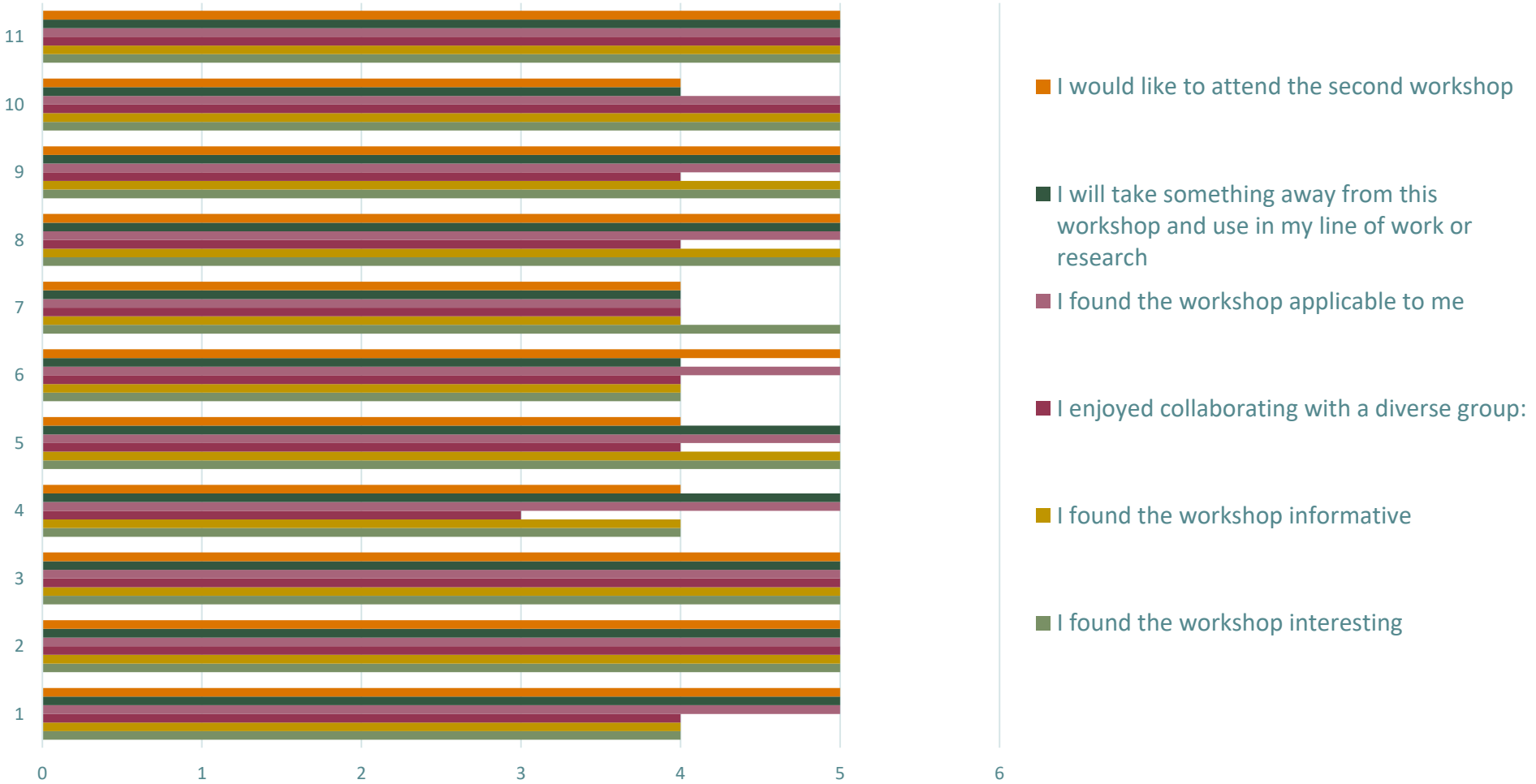
The outputs from this first workshop will form the starting point for a second one scheduled for June of this year (2023). Specifically, the emergent concerns around tenancy agreements and payments will be the focus of participatory and discursive activities in order to provide valuable insights and recommendations to DEFRA and other relevant policy-makers around the most effective ways to support increased agroforestry practice and area in England.

The recommendations from both workshops will be disseminated through a co-authored policy brief. AGROMIX aims to continue building this connection between landowners, policy makers and farmers to find solutions that work for all.



# Feedback from participants

Voluntary feedback from 11 participants



## Annexes

### 1. Agenda



Co-designing policies

Addressing challenges for more resilient agricultural models

### Agenda

Time	Title	Speaker
10.00	Arrival and registration	
10.15 – 11.00	Welcome and introductions	Rosemary Venn, Ulrich Schmutz (Coventry University) and all
11.10 – 11.30	Update on DEFRA Agroforestry ELM Test Project	Colin Tosh (Organic Research Centre)
11.30 – 12.00	Coffee break	
12.00 – 12.30	Introduction to Soil Association agroforestry model	Clive Thomas (Soil Association)
12.30 – 13.00	Introduction to AGROMIX's agent-based model	Marco Van De Wiel (Coventry University)
13.00	Lunch break	
14.00 – 15.00	Group activity: policy model discussion	Moderators
15.00 – 15.20	Coffee break	
15.20 – 15.50	Feedback, discussion and closing remarks	All



## 2. Participant list

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Stakeholder group</b>
Robert Barbour	Sustainable Food Trust	Civil society
Helen Chesshire	Woodland Trust	Civil society
Colin Tosh	Organic Research Centre	Research
Katharina Dehnen-Schmutz	Coventry University	Research
Mike Giannopolis	Cranfield University	Research
Laura Cumplido-Marin	Cranfield University	Research
Feadora Morris	/	Farmer
Jim Oneill	Forestry Commission	Civil society
Nick Rowles	Shropshire Council	Government
George Shortman	Duchy of Cornwall	Landowner
Paul Burgess	Cranfield University	Research
Marco vdWiel	Coventry University	Research
Nicholas Davison	Reading University	Research
Ahsan Ahmad Awan	REVOLVE	Research
Clive Thomas	Soil Association	Civil society
Zara Gower	Church Commissioners	Landowner
Nathan Einbinder	Schumacher College	Researcher
Rosemary Venn	Coventry University	Research
Jon Haines	Soil Association	Civil society
Janet Jones	/	Farmer
Tom Staton	Reading University	Research
Ulrich Schmutz	Coventry University	Research
Julia Wright	Coventry University	Research
Katy Wiltshire	Cranfield University	Research
Stephen Hobbs	/	Farmer

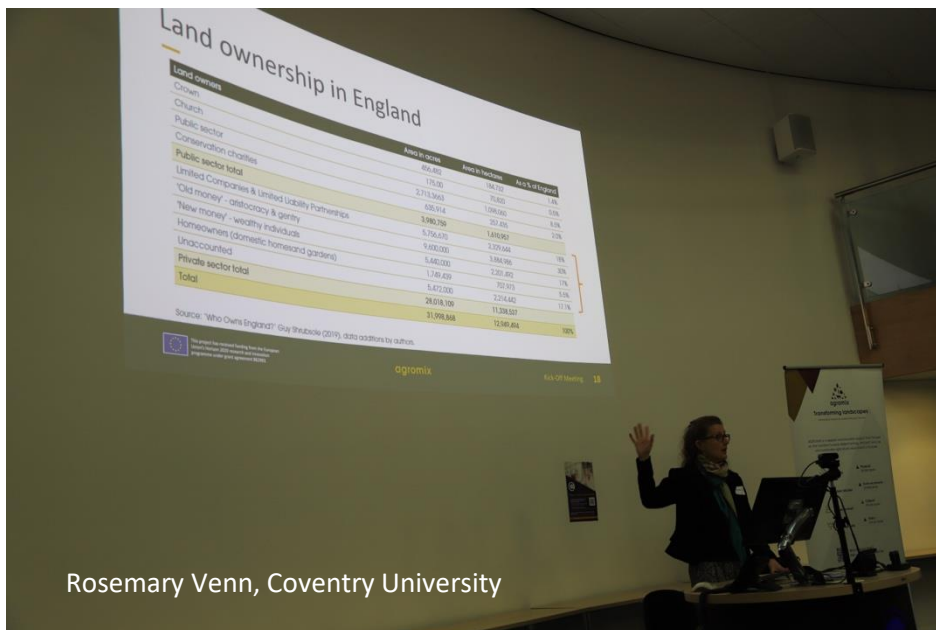
# agromix First Workshop Report - Agroforestry in England: policies, land ownership and a just transition

## 3. Photos





# agromix First Workshop Report - Agroforestry in England: policies, land ownership and a just transition



Rosemary Venn, Coventry University



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# Policy excursion

Hof Lebensberg, Obermoschel, IfaS/F. Gräven 2023

## ***Legal & administrative framework conditions for agroforestry in Rhineland- Palatinate & Saarland (Germany)***

Feb 9<sup>th</sup> 2023  
9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Hosted by: IfaS, HS Trier  
Contact info: Jörg Böhmer  
[j.boehmer@umwelt-campus.de](mailto:j.boehmer@umwelt-campus.de)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 862993.



# First workshop report

WP 6.3

*February 9<sup>th</sup> 2023*





## Workshop Report

# ***“Legal & administrative framework conditions for agroforestry in Rhineland- Palatinate & Saarland (Germany)”***

February 9th 2023



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## General outline of the event

The first policy workshop on “Legal & administrative framework conditions for agroforestry in Rhineland-Palatinate & Saarland (Germany)” was conducted as excursion. The intention behind this was to give actors from the administrative and legislative level the opportunity to get to know agroforestry directly in practice. Furthermore the involved pioneer farmers had the opportunity to direct their personal experiences and requirements for the legal framework directly to the decision-makers. Three farms with very different agroforestry systems were visited during the all-day event. 30 people from agriculture, municipalities, science, consultancy, foundations, administration and politics took part. As a result, various fields of action were identified for the further development of the framework conditions for AF, including: 1. the dissolution of conflicting legal regulations in the fields of agriculture, nature conservation and water law, 2. harmonisation of agricultural support, especially between the promotion of organic farming and agroforestry, as well as 3. the need to develop more flexibility for the integration of agroforestry as compensation measure within the respective environmental legislation of the federal states in Germany.

## Introduction

The central topic of the excursion was deliberately broad – all legal-administrative hurdles for different forms of agroforestry on grassland, arable land and in interaction with protected areas were to be addressed according to practice. An important background for the meeting was the first time introduction of a clear regulation for agroforestry within the framework of the CAP in Germany from January 2023. This led to considerable interest both from the practice and from the authorities and ministries (in total, apart from Rhineland-Palatinate and Saarland, a representative of the Hessian Ministry also took part). The number of interested farms for the implementation of modern AF systems in Germany has increased significantly while authorities have only little or sometimes no experience with the administrative handling of such new forms of land use.

## Location and time of the workshop

The program of the excursion started at 09:15 a.m. at Ingweilerhof, proceeded with a visit to Hof Lebensberg and ended around 04:00 p.m. at Bannmühle. Details can be found in the under the point “agenda” below.

Ingweilerhof is a conventional part-time farm that produces energy wood from short rotation plantations and agroforestry systems as its mainstay. The wood produced is used as fuel for a wood chip heating system and the thermal energy is sold to heat a retirement home. A special feature on the farm is an agroforestry area along a watercourse: this is designed as a riparian strip that also serves as a retention area for floods. The poplars grown are flood-tolerant, benefit from a good water supply and replace other crops that would be affected or destroyed by flooding. On the other hand, this semi-natural retention space replaces a large



concrete basin, as they are currently being built in many areas at risk from heavy rain and flooding. The presented approach of nature-based climate adaptation (including a climate-friendly, regenerative heat supply on site) is a unique example in Germany, which inspires imitation, but remains unique in Germany due to complex legal requirements yet. Legal barriers for a broader implementation were discussed by the participants.

The second place of the excursion, Hof Lebensberg, is a visionary practice scale experimental farm for regenerative farming approaches. The farm team started to convert abandoned farmland and buildings with regenerative methods towards a fertile, highly diverse and resilient landscape in 2020. Market gardening, a nursery for edible trees and shrubs and production oriented agroforestry system with a focus on fruits, nuts and rare edible plants were installed. Trying to build up and demonstrate cutting edge methods in farming, Hof Lebensberg is an outstanding example for sustainable food production.

The third goal of the excursion was Bannmühle at Odernheim am Glan. Hans Pfeffer, the farmer of Bannmühle, has been managing traditional agroforestry systems such as fruit meadow orchards since taking over the farm many years ago. The farm is specialized in cattle and fruit farming (mainly juice production). In 2020 Hans Pfeffer started with the implementation of modern agroforestry systems, combining meadows for his suckler cow herd with the production of nuts, chestnuts and other fruits. In order to improve the preservation of biodiversity, animal welfare, water management and carbon sequestration other elements such as a fodder hedge, keyline design and the construction of ponds have been added. Thus, Bannmühle is a highly complex example for the agroecological optimization of grassland based cattle and fruit farming.

In total, the farms visited covered very different approaches – ranging from energy production (Ingweilerhof) over agroforestry on arable land and vegetables (Hof Lebensberg) till grassland and fruit farming (Bannmühle).

## Speakers and presenters

Within the excursion the following introductions and presentations were held:

Time	Full name	Presentation topic	Organisation
09:15 a.m.	Jörg Böhmer	Welcome & introduction to the program	IfaS
09:30 a.m.	Axel Schönbeck	Visit to the Agroforestry Systems at Ingweilerhof	Ingweilerhof
11:30 a.m.	Janine Raabe	Visit to the Agroforestry Systems at Hof Lebensberg	Hof Lebensberg
02:30 p.m.	Hans Pfeffer	Visit to the Agroforestry Systems at Bannmühle	Bannmühle
04:00 p.m.	Felix Gräven	Conclusions & Feedback	IfaS





All involved farmers contributed with long-standing experience in their respective farming systems. J. Böhmer and Felix Gräven of IfaS moderated the discussion at the visited farms, framed the respective approaches in the context of current agricultural practices in Germany and in the EU and addressed the relevant topics regarding the legal-administrative framework conditions for AF in the context of the discussion.

## Agenda

### Program for the excursion on Feb. 9th 2023

- 09:15 Uhr**      **Meeting point at Ingweilerhof**  
**Welcome & introduction to the program**  
*Jörg Böhmer, IfaS*
- 09:30 Uhr**      **Visit to the Agroforestry Systems at Ingweilerhof**  
*Axel Schönbeck, Ingweilerhof*
- 11:00 Uhr**      **Departure to Hof Lebensberg**
- 11:30 Uhr**      **Meeting at Hof Lebensberg**  
**Visit to the Agroforestry Systems at Hof Lebensberg**  
*Janine & Paul Raabe, Hof Lebensberg*
- 13:00 Uhr**      **Lunch together**
- 14:00 Uhr**      **Departure to Bannmühle**
- 14:30 Uhr**      **Meeting in the Agroforestry fields of Bannmühle**  
**Visit to the Agroforestry Systems at Bannmühle**  
*Hans Pfeffer, Bannmühle*
- 16:00 Uhr**      **Conclusions & Feedback**  
*Jörg Böhmer & Frank Wagener, IfaS*
- 16:30 Uhr**      **End of the excursion**

## Workshop topic

The overall aim of the workshop was to bring together farmers, people from the administration and policy makers.

In a second step – about 4 weeks later – a workshop with (more or less) the same people was conducted, to work on the specific legal and administrative barriers and elaborate solutions from an improved framework.



For the AGROMIX project and the EU commission concrete recommendations for the further development of the framework conditions, both at the state level and at the federal and EU levels, emerged from the two events. Details on this can be found in the result section of the second (workshop) event.

## Discussions for the project & workshop outputs

The more general discussion at the farms already showed that the framework conditions are not yet satisfying from a farmers point of view. On the one hand, with the new CAP since January 2023 some legal barriers for the implementation of AF have been removed for the first time. In the other hand, new funding schemes for AF are considered more or less useless because of regulatory details. Two of the featured farms have even developed their own “work arounds” to get at least some additional funding. As all of these points were discussed further in the subsequent workshop, more details can be found in the second report.

## Feedback from participants

Many participants explicitly rated the excursion as very exciting, inspiring and useful. New insights were gained, contacts were made and topics for the further development of the framework conditions were identified. Following this excursion, two further excursions have already been planned with state governments of the participating federal states in order to implement the identified recommendations for action. Specifically, an excursion with the State Secretary for the Environment from Saarland was carried out on 21 June 2023 and an excursion with the Minister for the Environment from Rhineland-Palatinate is planned for 17 July 2023.



## Annexes



*Figure 1: Excursion group at Ingweilerhof – Axel Schönbeck explaining the riparian buffer and retention spaces designed with poplar plantations for energy wood production.*



*Figure 2: Excursion group at Hof Lebensberg – Janine Raabe explaining the key-line and planting design of the silvo-arable systems.*





Figure 3: Excursion group at Bannmühle – Hans Pfeffer showing the state of development of his walnut trees, means of tree protection against animals, water management and biodiversity in the silvo-pastoral system.

## Links

1. <https://munter.stoffstrom.org/>, Link to a previous project involving Ingweilerhof and Bannmühle
2. <https://www.keyline-agroforst.de/>, Link to a current project involving Bannmühle
3. <https://www.bannmuehle.de/>, Webpage of Bannmühle
4. <https://hoflebensberg.de/>, Webpage of Hof Lebensberg

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# Policy workshop



[agromixproject.eu](http://agromixproject.eu)

## *European Agroforestry*

Co-creating policies for transforming food systems

February 7, 2023  
9:00 – 17:30  
Agroecology Europe

Jesse Donham  
[Jessica.donham@agroecology-europe.org](mailto:Jessica.donham@agroecology-europe.org)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 862993.



# First workshop report

WP 6.3

*February 7, 2023*





## Workshop Report

# European Agroforestry: Co-creating policies for transforming food systems



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## General outline of the event

The workshop aimed to discuss various policy options and scenarios for transition, and to co-create policies that work for all and create true, meaningful and lasting change. Agroecology Europe presented the key policy recommendations created within AGROMIX for European policy which was followed by discussions on which policies are seen as the most promising based on the needs of various stakeholders. The workshop was attended by stakeholders that included: EURAF, EEB, ILVO, DG AGRI, DG ENV, DG Clima, Boerenforum, Department of Agriculture Flanders Belgium, Voedsel Anders, Women Engage for a Common Future, European Landowners' Organisation and AEEU.

## Introduction

While the policy landscape for agroforestry (AF) has been growing, with support found within the Common Agricultural Policy, state and regional policies, as well as within major EU legislations such as the Biodiversity and Farm to Fork Strategies of the European Green Deal, the majority of the budgets devoted to agroforestry, especially within the CAP, were not spent in the last two programming periods.

When looking at the strength of a country's agroforestry policy landscape, the most beneficial policies are ones that support traditional systems, the implementation of new systems and the yearly support and management of those systems. However, it is rarely the case that policies include all three of these elements, which often creates hesitation and fear amongst farmers, and becomes the key barrier to farmers implementing agroforestry. This is compounded by the ever changing policy landscapes and the administrative burdens that come from long and complicated application processes for funding opportunities.

Therefore, while policies do exist and are contributing towards slowly expanding agroforestry, they have had only a limited impact on the adoption of agroforestry by EU farmers.

Agroforestry needs to be scaled up in order to achieve major EU legislations such as the Green Deal and EU Forest Strategy, as well as to reduce net emissions of greenhouse gases by at least 55% by 2030, but in order to do so adequate training, financing and policies need to be in place.

This policy workshop aimed to discuss various policy options and scenarios for transition, and to co-create policies that work for all and create true, meaningful and lasting change.



## Location and time of the workshop

The workshop took place at the Coventry University Hub in Brussels on Tuesday 7 February, 2023 from 9:00-13:00. The event was followed by a field trip to an agroforestry tree and livestock farm called De Zwaluw.

## Speakers and presenters

List down in the table the list of speakers and presenters

Time	Full name	Presentation topic	Organisation
9:00 – 9:15	Paola Migliorini	Welcome Address	Agroecology Europe
9:15 – 9:30	Gerry Lawson	Current State of Agroforestry Policy	EURAF
9:30 – 9:45	Elize Van Broeckhoven	Farmer Testimony	Plukboerderij Grondig, Flanders
9:45 – 10:00	Jacopo Goracci	AGROMIX Case Study	Tenuta di Paganico
11:00 – 11:15	Jesse Donham	AGROMIX Policy Recommendations	Agroecology Europe

Each speaker was invited to give a different perspective to the agroforestry policy conversation. Gerry Lawson gave an overview of the current landscape of EU agroforestry policy, Elize and Jacopo gave farmer testimonies from very different landscapes and climates, while Jesse Donham presented the possible recommendations for how the agroforestry landscape could be more successful in expanding agroforestry in a way that is inclusive to all.

## Agenda

Time	Activity	Presenter / Mentor
8:30 – 9:00	Check in	
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome	Paola Migliorini
9:15 – 9:30	Current State of AF Policy	Gerry Lawson
9:30 – 10:00	Farmer Perspective	Elize Van Broeckhoven and Jacopo Goracci
10:00 – 10:45	Group Activity: Determining Needs	Jesse Donham
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00 – 11:15	AGROMIX Policy Recommendations	Jesse Donham

11:15 – 12:00	Group Activity: Policy Recommendations	Kira Miskulnig
12:00 – 12:15	Discussion	Jesse Donham
12:15 – 12:30	Closing Words	Paola Migliorini
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch	
13:30 – 17:30	Field Trip	Nils Mouton

## Workshop topic

We chose to discuss agroforestry policy in relation to the various needs of different stakeholders coming from the perspective that although the policy landscape for agroforestry is expanding and support can be found, it hasn't been expanding agroforestry at the needed scale. Therefore, we asked what can be altered within the legislation to create a space where all stakeholders and their needs are provided for.

## Discussions for the project

Gerry Lawson, Policy Analyst for [EURAF](#), gave a very detailed and comprehensive presentation on the policy landscape for agroforestry in the EU CAP Strategic Plans for the past two programming years, and the present one. He explained all of the ways support exists within the legislation, as well as the many factors that are holding back the further expansion of agroforestry by Member States, such as the lack of: definitions for such systems in the Strategic Plans of Member States, agroforestry support in the Eco-schemes (although it was included as a recommended practice by the Commission), and Pillar I support.

Elise Van Broeckhoven, a farmer at [Plukboerderij GRONDIG](#), shared with us her experience on running a self-harvest CSA in Flanders. The farm has been successfully running for the past 10 years and includes the synchronous management of berries, vegetables, eggs, meat and nuts. She also related her experience with subsidies and regulatory bodies, expressing that administrative work is a significant component of the workload for farmers, therefore, any added administration is very demanding which means that subsidy applications need to be simplified and user-friendly.

As a young farmer, Elise also highlighted that creating land access to new entrants is a key policy priority to support the adoption of agroforestry practices. Further, she mentioned that many new entrants are already convinced of the need to integrate trees in their farming system but that land tenure schemes limit their ability to plant trees and implement long-term landscape assets on the farm. She ended her presentation with the reflection that beauty is a great motivator for the uptake of agroforestry and that this factor needs to be taken much more in consideration.



Jacopo Goracci, a farmer at [Tenuta di Paganico](#), presented his work with agroforestry in Tuscany, Italy, within an agroforestry system where pigs and cows forage through forest landscapes. He explained the difficulty of farming with increasing bureaucracy and legislation, with the expectation to always improve without being given the tools and knowledge on how to do so. He also expressed his concern about the need for farmers to constantly demonstrate their innocence and the validity of their practices, and the lack of understanding of farmers' realities by regulating bodies and policy makers. He ended his presentation asking the group to ponder the fact that as a society, we are reflecting on how to improve animal and environmental welfare, but who takes care of the welfare of the farmer?

Jesse Buratti-Donham, a researcher from Agroecology Europe, explained her work within AGROMIX to create scenarios for an agroecological Europe and the policy recommendations suggested to create large-scale changes for agroforestry and agroecology.

The policies recommendations developed within the Horizon 2020 project are as follows:

1. Review all current and planned legislations to amend them towards a common food systems approach (creating complementing strategies in agriculture, rural development, fisheries, food safety, international trade, transport, energy, environment, health and humanitarian assistance) instead of different departments focusing on single issues individually, with fragmented objectives and varied perspectives which often contradict one another.
2. Create regional supply chains for agroforestry and agroecological products that value and support all agroecological farms and enterprises (including those under 1 ha in size).
3. Create an enabling environment for agroforestry and agroecology at all entry-points, including with intelligent and responsive funding mechanisms.
4. Increase all agroecological practices at the farm level through making them requirements to receiving EU funding (including diversifying types/number of crops grown on a single farm; leguminous crops; nitrogen transfers from livestock; long and diverse crop rotations; intercropping; constant soil cover and catch crops, including between trees and other permanent crops; genetic diversity in livestock; diversify habitats, including high-diversity landscape features; organic farming; organic matter in soil).
5. Create incentives to extensively manage livestock through agroforestry and mixed farming systems, such incentives should integrate long-term thinking in them, and support traditional systems, the implementation of new systems and the yearly support for the management of those new systems.
6. Increase research on best practices at the local and regional scale for all aspects of the food system including for climate, soil, land management, and crop and animal diversity.
7. Integrate long-term thinking into funding strategies and allow transformative results over time, including the continuation of successful projects after reassessment and amendments.
8. Increase the understanding and capacity of agroecology by supporting participatory agroecological research and researcher-practitioner partnerships; building agroecological capacity of public advisors



and advisory services; introducing agroecological expertise into agricultural colleges and training programmes; and create farmer-to-farmer knowledge exchanges and field schools.

9. Empower local governments and municipalities to dispense funds to local initiatives. Minimum requirements should be set at the EU level but then flexibility should be given to such governments.
10. Promote participatory and multi-stakeholder approaches in knowledge generation (including gender equity, cultural representation and racial justice).

## Workshop outputs

The group discussions that occurred throughout the day were very fruitful and led to some very interesting reflections. While many things were discussed, some of the key topics focused on the need for better dissemination of information, training of auditors and inspectors, and the inclusion of local governments. Throughout the day the importance of sectors working together instead of separately was highlighted (Policy Recommendation 1).

The discussion around the need for better support for the dissemination of information gathered by farmers with promising results with other farmers, but also with universities and policy makers. A stronger focus should be put on the distribution of outcomes and their integration also within projects and universities, requiring more long-term projects and more flexibility in adapting objectives and approaches during the project duration. The integration of farmers as equal partners is seen as paramount, with an inclusion from the beginning of the project in order for equal involvement in the decision making and remuneration.

A strong emphasis during the rounds of discussion was put on the need to better integrate, communicate and educate auditors and inspectors. Periodic training which includes knowledge on EU policies and strategies could help align goals with what is happening on the grounds, avoiding the penalisation of practices that are beneficial for the environment. Better communication between the auditors and farmers, including an approach of support rather than control, could help to reestablish trust and the link between policies and practices. A farmer stated that he would like to see a system where inspections are based on asking “How can we support you?” rather than how can we take away what was already promised to you.

A regional approach should be considered for the implementation of training for auditors and inspections, but also for local governments. By sharing knowledge on the importance of agroecology and agroforestry a better implementation of related practices could be reached not only by farmers but also on land managed and owned by local authorities.

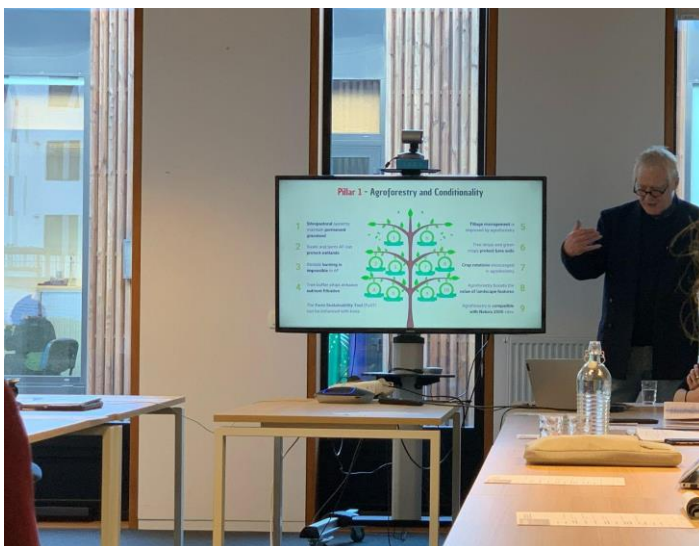
A important role was also attributed towards consumers, with an emphasis on tackling greenwashing and misleading product labelling, such as banning packaging that shows a biodiverse system for products that are coming from industrial agriculture. Lastly, the importance of creating policy documents, such as the CAP, that relay information in a clearer way that is easily understood by all in order to democratise this information.



Annexes







First Name	Last Name
Elena	Ambühl
Marina	Brakalova
Lucia	Causey-Hugecova
Judit	Csikvari
Anna	De Boeck
Tim	De Roeck
Jessica	Donham



Jacopo	Goracci
Manoj kumar	Jana
Antanas	Karbauskas
Annabel	Kennedy
Marlinde	Koopmans
Nana	Larsen
Gerry	Lawson
Thomas	Maréchal
Paola	Migliorini
Kira	Miskulnig
wim	moyaert
Constantin	Muraru
Célia	Nyssens-James
Bert	Reubens
Ulrich	Schmutz
Alessandro	Silvello
Tamas	Szedlak
Mart	Vanhee
Edita	Vysna
Felix	Wackers
Gunther	Wolff

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# Policy workshop

Landwirtschaftsbetrieb Domin, Peickwitz bei Senftenberg, Source: <https://www.landwirt-domin.de/agroforst>



[agromixproject.eu](https://agromixproject.eu)

## Agroforestry as a sustainable land use system to future-proof agricultural production

Policy instruments and agricultural reality

Date 28.0.2023  
Time 9:30 – 16:30h  
Hosting Institution name ZALF e.V.

Contact info:  
First and last name Alma Thiesmeier  
Email address [alma.thiesmeier@zalf.de](mailto:alma.thiesmeier@zalf.de)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 862993.



# First workshop report

WP 6.3

*28<sup>th</sup> February 2023*





## Workshop Report

“Agroforestry as a sustainable land use system to future-  
proof agricultural production  
Policy instruments and agricultural reality”

28<sup>th</sup> February 2023



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## General outline of the event

During this workshop we discussed and identified problems within policy conditions and value creation for agroforestry and their products as well as possible solution to solve those issues. This work was done with stakeholders from agriculture, extension, research, the private sector and public administration. Together we identified a catalogue of problems and possible solutions where especially for the policy context very concrete improvements were demanded. These included the abolishment of the so-called use-concept which breaks down how each tree species will be used within the agroforestry systems as well as re-evaluating the distance regulation especially of tree strip to the field edge. Additionally, the amount of policy payment was criticized as too low and the list of banned tree species as too restrictive. Within the value-chain part of the workshop several interlinked issues were identified. Here, no clear demands emerged. Instead, the interplay between policy framework conditions, marketing opportunities and producer-side innovation and marketing was discussed. Possible solutions included public outreach, education, closer cooperation with industry partners and innovation.

## Introduction

Agroforestry is a land use system that can contribute to the mitigation and adaption to climate change. In the current CAP programming period Germany offers policy payments for the first time within the context of eco-schemes. These payments are subject to many regulations and the payable premium is at 60 EUR/ha. Both the framework regulations as well as the policy premium have been criticized. Therefore, we invited stakeholders from agriculture, extension, research, the private sector and public administration to discuss and identify problems that hinder agroforestry uptake within current policy regulations. However, policy support is not the only way to incentivise agroforestry uptake. Value chains and marketing opportunities for agroforestry products are just as relevant. Consequently, we also discussed and identified problems within value creation for agroforestry products. Together with the participants we then identified possible solutions to address the previously identified problems.

## Location and time of the workshop

The workshop was held on February 28<sup>th</sup> 2023 on the ZALF e.V. campus in Müncheberg which is located within the federal state of Brandenburg. The registration opened at 9:30 a.m. with some light refreshment and the workshop officially started at 10. Including a one hour lunch break at noon the workshop ended at 4.30 p.m.



## Speakers and presenters

Time	Full name	Presentation topic	Organisation
10:15	Martin Unger	Policy support for agroforestry in the new CAP	Brandenburg Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Climate Protection
10:45	Thomas Domin	Agroforestry in Practice	Domin Farm
11:10	Michael Weitz	Agroforestry with pioneering tree species: potential, cultivation, and use options	Lignovis GmbH
11:40	Alma Thiesmeier	Economic Assessment of Agroforestry Systems using the AgroForstRechner	ZALF e.V.

Since the workshop looked at both policy and value-chains and their problems that inhibit the uptake of agroforestry speakers from different backgrounds were invited. First, an employee from the Ministry spoke on the policy regulations that apply to agroforestry in the new programming period. This was especially insightful since up to the date of the workshop no information had been published yet on the details of the new policy. Participants asked many questions and discussion was animated. The following speaker provided some insights into his farm which has been practicing agroforestry for some years. This provided a helpful reference of how these systems can look like in practice as well as the opportunities and issues the farmer had encountered. The next presenter was from the private sector (service provider for the harvesting and planting for agroforestry systems with fast-growing trees (e.g. poplar)) who could provide information on how poplar in particular can be cultivated and used. Here, information on processing, value chain and value-adding was included.

## Agenda

Time	Date	Activity	Presenter / Mentor
10:00 – 10:15	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Welcome Address	Peter Zander
10:15 – 12:00	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Input presentations	M. Unger, T. Domin, M. Weitz, A. Thiesmeier
12:00 – 13:00	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Lunch Break	
13:00 – 14:45	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Group Discussion: Problems and Solutions in Policy	Luisse Meißner, Alma Thiesmeier
14:45 – 15:00	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Coffee Break	
15:00 – 16:15	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Group Discussion: Problems and solution in value-adding and -chains	Luisse Meißner, Alma Thiesmeier
16:15 – 16:30	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Closing remarks and End of Workshop	Peter Zander



## Workshop topic

The workshop aimed to provide information about agroforestry systems themselves, their policy framework as well as information on how the output from those systems can be processed, marketed and used. Based on this information participants were asked to identify problems that hinder the adoption of agroforestry in both the policy and value-chain/marketing context.

Both policy and value chains of agroforestry are topics covered within AGROMIX. The workshop provides insight in how these issues are seen by stakeholders. Lastly, the presentation from ZALF e.V. also allowed us to collect feedback on the policy scenario that were used for the economic modelling of agroforestry systems in Brandenburg.

## Discussions for the project

Together we identified a catalogue of problems and possible solutions where especially for the policy context very concrete improvements were demanded. These included the abolishment of the so-called use-concept which breaks down how each tree species will be used within the agroforestry systems as well as re-evaluating the distance regulation especially of tree strip to the field edge. Additionally, the amount of policy payment was criticized as too low and the list of banned tree species as too restrictive. Within the value-chain part of the workshop several interlinked issues were identified. Here, no clear demands emerged. Instead, the interplay between policy framework conditions, marketing opportunities and producer-side innovation and marketing was discussed. Possible solutions included public outreach, education, closer cooperation with industry partners and innovation.

## Workshop outputs - Problems and solutions in policy

Regarding policies in connection to AFS, the following problem areas were identified:

- The distance regulations in the new funding regulations are nonsensical
- Funding level of ES3 too low
- Time frame for investment funding is not in line with practice (application deadlines and planting periods are not well coordinated)
- Double funding with organic farming is problematic
  - AF strips cannot be considered as organic farming, and the area therefore receives less funding
  - Simultaneous funding of organic farming and agroforestry on the same plot would lead to double funding and is therefore unlawful.
- The regulations for agroforestry on grassland remain unclear





- Use concept for agroforestry areas - use is already included in the definition of agroforestry systems, and a separate use concept, which then has to be processed and approved, is considered redundant, time-consuming, and senseless
  - Furthermore, the use concept leads to increased complexity of the application for CAP funding, which will discourage farmers from engaging with ES3
  - Processing and validation of the use concepts leads to unnecessary bureaucracy
- List of prohibited trees excludes species without there being a real problem so far - is the precautionary principle counterproductive here?
- Slow bureaucracy or implementation by the administration and unclear responsibilities
- Competence of the monitoring authority (inspectors from the administration)
- Implementation of AFS with regard to nature conservation - how can AFS be grown in Natura 2000 protected areas?
- No financial compensation of social welfare enhancing attributes and services of AF
- AF as a cultural break for farmers - trees were cleared in the past, and now they are to be planted again

Given these uncertainties and misdirection in the current funding period, participants feared that hardly any farmers will apply for and use the ES3, which in turn could lead to the ES3 being completely removed instead of adjusted because of little to no demand from farmers. To address these issues, the following solutions were developed:

- Removal of the use concept (less bureaucracy, less application effort, higher planning security for farmers)
- Increase funding amount (minimum of €500/ha wooded area)
- Increase funding through means other than ES3 - rewarding CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration, public welfare payments, price compensation payments
- Revise and simplify distance regulations (e.g. remove distance regulation to field edges)
- Improve compatibility of different funding schemes (see organic farming and agroforestry)
- Clarify and better communicate responsibilities (in the administration)
- Take photovoltaics as an example - here, farmers are not compensated for loss of earnings, but receive significant financial incentives
  - Make AFS so attractive for farmers through financial incentives that they are "forced" to establish these systems
- Establish positive AF examples in the region
- Establishment of state demonstration and research areas
- Make the negative list less restrictive and gradually add tree species if actual nature conservation problems arise in practice

Participants criticized the high bureaucratic effort, the low funding amount, the distance regulations, and the necessity of a use concept for AFS. Because of these problems, they were sceptical whether ES3 would actually achieve the targeted 200,000 ha of AF which are already accounted for in the climate protection achievements of the German strategic plan.



## Workshop outputs – Problems and solutions in value chains

In the context creating added value in AFS the following problems were identified by participants:

- Lack of (regional) markets and marketing channels
  - Especially for products other than wood chips
  - Low sales volumes
  - Agroforestry products are niche products
- No or unclear demand from consumers
- No financial rewards for or value creation through ecosystem services
- Entrepreneurial risk due to characteristics inherent to AFS
  - Yield risk
  - Long pre-financing period
  - High investment costs
  - Late cash flow
- Availability of specialized machinery
- Negative discussion surrounding wood energy

The missing established markets pose a significant challenge for agroforestry products beyond wood chips, particularly for nuts and fruits. While there are established sales markets and channels for some agroforestry products (e.g., EnergyCrops GmbH in Brandenburg), the low sales volumes of nuts and fruits often make wholesale marketing difficult. Moreover, certain tree species, such as the cornelian cherry, are well-suited for agroforestry systems but face marketing difficulties due to consumers' lack of knowledge about these products and a shortage of processors in the region. These unique products present a challenge for farmers. Fortunately, the situation in Brandenburg is generally favourable due to its proximity to Berlin. Nonetheless, the question remains whether demand needs to arise first or whether it should be actively generated through marketing and supply.

Further suggestions for solutions regarding value chains and added-value were discussed:

- Creation of markets through marketing
  - Agroforestry label
  - Emotionalise agroforestry products -> generate customer loyalty and demand through emotional branding of the products
  - Investment certificates (private individuals invest a certain amount in the establishment of a farm shop and can then pick up goods for the investment amount until the value of the goods corresponds to the value of the investment)
  - Direct marketing
  - Farmers' markets, not only in Berlin
- Public relations, education, and informing consumers on the topic of agroforestry
- Cross-sectoral networks for marketing and processing, partners could be
  - Nature conservation promoted by, for example, NABU



- Ecosia
- Timber industry (high-value and building materials from short-rotation wood)
- Research on value-added products from short-rotation wood (plastic substitutes?)
- Mitigation of entrepreneurial risk through
- Specialized service providers for the establishment, maintenance, marketing, and removal of agroforestry areas (agroforestry as a service)
- Regional networks for machinery
- Long-term management contracts with local power and heat suppliers /networks
- Payments for ecosystem services (e.g. CO2 certificates, diversification support)

When it comes to value creation, market-based solutions and state funding are both relevant. Some suggested solutions could be implemented through state funding (e.g. rewarding environmental services), while others are outside the scope of state funding (e.g. networking of actors). However, it must be noted that many suggested solutions regarding value creation depend on more innovation taking place. This cannot be achieved without framework conditions that enable it. The burden of transformation should not fall solely on individual consumers and/or producers.

## Feedback from participants

Participant feedback was positive throughout and most were happy with the selection of speakers. Unfortunately the speaker from the Ministry had to leave at the beginning of the lunch break. Many participants said this was a pity since he would have been a very interesting addition with a specific viewpoint during the group discussions.

**End of document**

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# Policy workshop



[agromixproject.eu](http://agromixproject.eu)

## *Workshop "policies and support measures for agroforestry"*

France

Date : 15/03/2023

Time : 9h45

Hosting Institution name : ACTA

Contact info:

Sonia Ramonteu

[sonia.ramonteu@acta.asso.fr](mailto:sonia.ramonteu@acta.asso.fr)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 862993.



# First workshop report

WP 6.3

*Date*



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 862993.



## Workshop Report

### “Policies and support measures for agroforestry”

15/03/2023



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## General outline of the event

The first workshop took place the 15th of march 2023 by visioconference (due to transport strike). The main focus was to establish with experts in agroforestry (advisors and researchers) (1) the motivations and issues for the implementation of agroforestry systems by farmers and what could be improved to motivate them; and (2) the politic measures in favour of agroforestry in France that worked, those that were less successful and what could be improved for future measures. The workshop consisted in a first hour of presentation of the context (Agromix project, deliverables 6.1 and 6.2), four breakout sessions, recommendations for the second workshop and an evaluation.

The main outputs consisted in recommendations:

- Concerning the motivations for farmers: improvement needed of the notion of agroforestry in education and for advisors, to provide additional technical and economical references to show the benefits of Agroforestry systems, to develop economic opportunities for timber valorisation and to finance counsel over time instead of just during the implementation
- Concerning political measures: a need to homogenize politic measures in the different French regions, to simplify the aid schemes, to have a minimum of self-financing by the farmer in order for him to be invested and a need for continuation of funding (instead of time set measures)

## Introduction

Following the inventory of past and current policy instruments and measures to support Agroforestry (deliverables 6.1 and 6.2) in France, an analysis of political scenarios on agroecological transition is to be done. The workshop aimed to identify the factors of success, failure and locks (brakes and levers) for the development of these systems, with a view to propose policy measures and recommendations. The first workshop was on the subject of the obstacles and levers to the development of agroforestry in France (at the scale of the farmer, the socio-technical system and the political-regulatory framework). Mainly experts on agroforestry systems (agroforestry or animal production advisors, researchers) were invited.

## Location and time of the workshop

Initially, the workshop was to take place physically in Paris the 15/03/2023 from 9:45 to 13:00 with a lunch afterwards. However, due to transport strikes in France the week the workshop was planned, it was decided to shift to a videoconference format instead to have as much participants as possible. The workshop took place the 15/03/2023 on Teams from 9:45 to 13:00. The tool © Klaxoon was used to facilitate the discussions. 3 persons were present to facilitate the workshop and 14 people attended the workshop.





## Speakers and presenters

Time	Full name	Presentation topic	Organisation
10h	Sonia Ramonteu	Presentation of agromix project	ACTA
10h10	Brieuc Desaint	Agromix French pilot farm	ITAB
10h20	Sonia Ramonteu	The different types of agroforestry	ACTA
10h30	Geoffrey Chiron	Existing policy measures in favour of Agroforestry systems	ITAVI

Sonia Ramonteu, Brieuc Desaint and Geoffrey Chiron are all part of Agromix project. The presentations made was to set up the context of the workshop and present the work done in the WP6. Agromix project and the french pilot farm were presented and examples of policy measures were given (see references at the end of the report). This enabled to launch successfully the breakout sessions.

## Agenda

Time	Date	Activity	Presenter / Mentor
9:45 – 10:00	15/03/2023	Introduction of organisers and participants, ice-breaker	Simon Fourdin
10:00 – 10:20	15/03/2023	Presentation of Agromix project and the French pilot farm	Sonia Ramonteu and Brieuc Desaint
10:20 – 10h45	15/03/2023	Context : different types of Agroforestry systems and existing policy measures in favour of Agroforestry	Sonia Ramonteu and Geoffrey chiron
10:45 – 11:30	15/03/2023	Break-out session 1: Motivations and issues for the development of Agroforestry systems	Sonia Ramonteu
10:45 – 11:30	15/03/2023	Break-out session 2 : success and failures of politic measures in favour of Agroforestry	Simon Fourdin and Geoffrey Chiron
11:30- 11:45	15/03/2023	Break	
11:45 – 12:30	15/03/2023	Break-out session 3 : improvements to be made to boost motivations for the development of Agroforestry systems	Sonia Ramonteu
11:45 – 12:30	15/03/2023	Break-out session 4 : adjustments to be made to improve success of policy measures	Simon Fourdin and Geoffrey Chiron
12:30- 12:40	15/03/2023	Conclusions of breakout sessions	Simon Fourdin, Geoffrey Chiron and Sonia Ramonteu
12:40- 12:50	15/03/2023	Comparison of break-out session conclusions by what had already been produced by AgroMix	Geoffrey Chiron
12:50- 13:00	15/03/2023	Evaluation and Recommendations by participants : “What points would you like to address during the next workshop in June?”	Simon Fourdin



## Workshop topic

The main focus was to establish with experts in agroforestry (advisors and researchers) (1) the motivations and issues for the implementation of agroforestry systems by farmers and what could be improved to motivate them; and (2) the politic measures in favour of agroforestry in France that worked, those that were less successful and what could be improved for future measures.

The first hour of the workshop was to set the context:

- Sonia Ramonteu (ACTA) and Briec Desaint (ITAB) presented the Agromix project, WP6 and the example of the French pilot farm
- Sonia Ramonteu (ACTA) and Geoffrey Chiron (ITAVI) described the different types of agroforestry and gave examples of existing policy measures in favour of Agroforestry systems. These presentations were made to insure all participants agreed on the terms

The second part of the workshop consisted in four **breakout** sessions with an objective to propose recommendations and improvements for policy measures:

- Motivations and issues for the development of Agroforestry systems
- Success and failures of politic measures in favour of Agroforestry
- Improvements to be made to boost motivations for the development of Agroforestry systems
- Adjustments to be made to improve success of policy measures

For these breakout sessions, participants were to write comments on different questions asked and explain orally their proposals. Simon Fourdin, Sonia Ramonteu and Geoffrey Chiron facilitated these break-out sessions.

Finally, the last part of the workshop was the evaluation and recommendations for the second workshop and an evaluation.

## Discussions for the project

During the first breakout session "Motivations and issues for the development of Agroforestry systems ":

- Motivations: animal welfare, carbon storage, diversification, landscape aestheticism and image of the production, climate change adaptation (resilience), biodiversity maintenance, soil protection, heritage value, better work environment
- Issues: lack of technical competence in certain territories, costly and time consuming maintenance, lack of coordination of local actors, lack of time, lack of awareness of benefits of AF systems, lack of references, trees are perceived as useless and AF as an out of date agricultural model or as passing fad, land tenure questions.



During the second breakout session "Success and failures of politic measures in favour of Agroforestry", the discussions were the following:

- What worked well: the national plan of the "Plan the reliance" (hedgerows recovery plan) allowing high rate subsidies everywhere in France (before, not all territories were covered) including technical advice. This boosted the implementation of AF systems, including for hesitating farmers;
- What was difficult: administrative complexity, farmers not sensitized enough with the benefits of AF systems, absence of continuity in funding programs, inconsistency with Cap declarations, no funding for the follow-ups after implementation, AF systems in free range poultry production poorly looked upon, lack of appropriation of the AF systems by the farmers.

The breakout sessions 3 and 4 are detailed in the outputs.

## Workshop outputs

The main outputs consisted in recommendations that were defined during the last two breakout sessions:

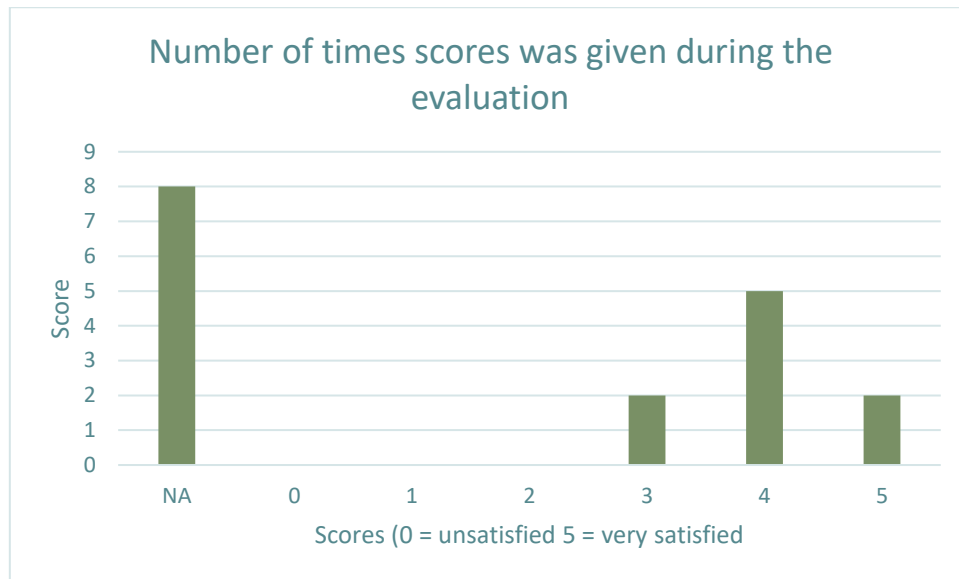
- Concerning breakout session 3 "Improvements to be made to boost motivations for the development of Agroforestry systems": improvement needed of the notion of agroforestry in education and for advisors, to provide additional technical and economical references to show the benefits of Agroforestry systems and demonstrated on farms, to valorise the products of AF (via label or any recognition forms), to develop economic opportunities for timber valorisation and to finance counsel over time instead of just during the implementation
- Concerning breakout session 4 "Adjustments to be made to improve success of policy measures": a need to homogenize politic measures in the different French regions, to simplify the aid schemes, to have a minimum of self-financing by the farmer in order for him to be invested and a need for continuation of funding (instead of time set measures), continuity and sustainability of aids systems, transforming calls in continuous applications

These conclusions were similar and consistent to the work done in previous WP6 tasks (6.1 and 6.2).

## Feedback from participants

The evaluation by participants of the workshop was on a scale from 0 = unsatisfied to 5 = very satisfied. The mean score was 4 showing the participants were pleased with the workshop. However, some participants had to leave early meaning only 9 out of 17 votes were given.





With the score given, participants could also add comments. These included:

- Good feedback on the facilitation given the last minute changes in visioconference
- Regrets that the event could not be hold physically
- A need to detail more Agroforestry systems that include a collaboration between actors
- The different types of agroforestry seemed a bit too generalist
- To capitalise the work done in REUNIR AF and in "Plan de développement de l'Agroforesterie 2015-2020"

Recommendations were also given for the second workshop potential content. These included:

- Current state of AF in the EU and policy measures
- The ideal politic measure
- Impact over time of policy measures: current state of AF systems implemented a few years ago
- Go further in the discussions: what actions to set up concretely?
- Workshop to agree on definitions and precise recommendations

## Annexes

### 1. Attendance list

First name	Surame	Structure	Participant or organiser
Simon	Fourdin	ITAVI	Organiser
Geoffrey	Chiron	ITAVI	Organiser
Sonia	Ramonteu	ACTA	Organiser
Alexandre	Parizel	AFAF	Participant
Briec	Desaint	ITAB	Participant
Eric	Cirou	CIA 17-79	Participant
Laura	Garcia	CDA34	Participant
Christophe	Sotteau	AGROECO - AFAC	Participant
Patrick	Cochard	Independant AF advisor	Participant
Arnaud	Dufils	INRAE	Participant
Thomas	Lacroix	CDA88 - CRAGE	Participant
Léa	Dubois	CDA15	Participant
Bruno	Sirven	AP32	Participant
Stéphane	Sachet	Agrofo & Conseil	Participant
Léa	Lemoine	CdAF	Participant
Jean-Charles	Vicet	CRAPDL	Participant
Isabelle	Senegas	CRAB	Participant

### 2. Printscreens of the breakout sessions



Break-out sessions 1 and 3

SOUS-GROUPE 2 : FREINS ET MOTIVATIONS AU DÉVELOPPEMENT DE L'AF (HORS MESURES POLITIQUES)

partager 19

NE PAS OUBLIER : COLLECTIF + INDIVIDUEL

**MOTIVATIONS**

- Plaisir
- Bien-être animal
- Issu de Pota-GE 0: alimentation des animaux
- Production de fourrage / pâtillage bois / BRP
- essences pharmaceutiques pour animaux d'élevage
- Bien être animal
- Paysage / Bien-être des agris
- implantation arbres fourragers comme pérenne d'herbe
- Cadre de vie et cadre de travail
- Image
- Mise en valeur des productions (Agré/tourisme verte/directe)
- Adaptation Climat
- compensation carbone ??
- Adaptation Changement climatique
- Issu de Pota-GE 1: Biodiversité
- Biodiversité
- Paysage
- Ressource cynégétique
- Issu de Pota-GE 9: plan de relation SIE
- Isolation des bâtiments (couverts)
- protection des routes/chemins (stare-compière)
- Issu de Pota-GE 8: Séparation voisin
- Prophylaxie des cultures périer
- Gestion des couverts enherbés
- Issu de Pota-GE 4: protection des cultures
- Préservation de/les outils de production
- Issu de Pota-GE 3: protection des sols
- Protection de la Ressource en Eau
- Qualitatif AAC Loi Grenelle
- Quantitatif POTE
- Valorisation du bois (chauffage, liège, bois d'œuvre)
- Issu de Pota-GE 11: plaquette (production)
- Issu de Pota-GE 5: production fruitière
- Issu de Pota-GE 7: bois d'œuvre
- Diversification
- Valeur patrimoniale
- Résilience du système

**FREINS**

- Manque de temps pour la plantation et l'entretien des arbres
- Manque de temps
- Haie vue comme contrainte (temps lié à l'entretien, obstacle à la mécanisation)
- Acceptation psychologique de la part de l'agri de remettre des arbres ds les syst agricoles
- manque de temps pour la gestion
- TPS/ETP exploitation
- Issu de Pota-GE 3: Génie sur l'exploitation
- perte de surface cultivable
- Méconnaissance, la "culture de l'arbre" n'a pas été transmise
- Envis de faire du bois
- Perçu comme un changement de pratique très (trop ?) important
- Issu de Pota-GE 4: pas d'avantage économique
- Les agriculteurs doivent-ils porter seuls cette responsabilité...
- Coût du matériel de gestion ( broyeur /plaquelettes par ex)
- Projection sur le long terme, temps de l'arbre / temps agro
- Issu de Pota-GE 11: Coût de l'installation
- la grande culture avance, l'élevage recule
- Elevage/boisurage =boilage
- Perçu comme une "mode"
- Si la haie n'est pas taillée au carré, l'exploitation est perçue comme "sale" par les voisins => Nécessite un entretien coûteux en carburant et en chronophage
- Le développement de l'agritourisme (dont omnibus)
- Méconnaissance des citoyens sur le fait que l'arbre champêtre est une culture. Abstrait une haie est normale c'est pour ça qu'elle se régénère, idée d'un paysage qui ne bouge pas et qui est éternel pour les citoyens
- Issu de Pota-GE 6: Problème foncier (propriété des terres)
- Manque de formation
- Manque de références technico-éco
- manque de RH qualifiée sur le terrain
- Confit voisinage (pour haie moyenne)
- Issu de Pota-GE 11: acceptation voisinage
- Manque de sensibilisation sur l'AF (s'accorder sur une définition partagée)
- Impact sur les systèmes de drainage ?
- absence de compétence dédiée dans les territoires
- Image de ce qu'est l'avenir de l'agriculture. Rôles des haies c'est revenir en arrière
- Manque de coordination des acteurs locaux AF
- Manque d'interconnaissance entre agriculteurs et éleveurs sur les territoires
- Manque d'un cadre formel pour sécuriser le partenariat agri/éleveur
- Issu de Pota-GE 10: Crante des contrôles
- Réglementation complexe et dense, perception des agris comme une prise de risque
- aucune obligation d'avoir des igneus de manière pérenne en agriculture
- Pérennité de la haie et des arbres (réglementation arrachage, déplacement)
- Issu de Pota-GE 7: PAC et DPS
- Peu d'aides pour le suivi de l'AF déjà existant
- Difficulté à revenir en arrière (non réversible)
- Issu de Pota-GE 9: PAC et BSAE
- Contraintes de gestion par l'extérieur
- Issu de Pota-GE 12: réglementation appellation

**2ÈME ROUND : QUE PEUT-ON FAIRE POUR LEVER LES FREINS/CRÉER LES CONDITIONS FAVORABLES AU DÉPLOIEMENT DE L'AF ?**

- Relance l'arbre au coeur des systèmes et redonne de la liberté d'aménager
- Avoir des fermes pilotes crédibles permettant d'être une vitrine pour convaincre à l'adoption de l'AF
- Credibilité éco et le notariement
- Compléter les références technico-économiques
- Former les agris et gestionnaires de territoires à l'outil de l'AF
- former aussi tous les conseillers agricoles = conseillers des centres de gestion...
- Améliorer la sensibilisation, l'éducation (agris et étudiants agri) sur l'importance de l'arbre dans les systèmes agricoles
- Identifier et stimuler des acteurs territoriaux, et/ou développer/promouvoir des outils (actifs ?) pouvant jouer le rôle d'intermédiaire entre agris et éleveurs
- Développer un accompagnement technique complet sur cultures pérennes et élevage
- Créer un label agroforestier qui valorise ce type de système
- Encourager le développement de système de reconnaissance type label même si la multiplicité de labels n'aide pas toujours)
- Développer des filières locales qui valorisent le bois comme le bois-énergie, chaufferies collectives alimentés avec bois plaquettes
- accompagner financièrement et techniquement la gestion durable des éléments agroforestiers (POOH...)
- Manger de la viande
- Dans certains secteurs, seule l'obligation réglementaire oblige les agris à planter
- Favoriser techniquement/ingéniérielement le maintien des pechs élevages en AF

SCRATCH and WIN!

Break-out sessions 2 and 4

### CE QUI A ÉTÉ FAIT

- beaucoup d'exploitations engagées
- des programmes de plantation de haies depuis plus de 40 ans
- Aide à l'installation
- information à l'ensemble des marques, groupements et coop de l'intérêt d'aménager les parcours volailles
- Aménagement des Parcours de volailles

### CE QUI A FONCTIONNÉ

**Communication**

- la communication sur les aides Plan de relance
- Eco de questionnaire sur les haies suite à l'effet d'annonce du Plan de Relance

**Animation**

- De nombreux projets si animation et conseil sur le terrain
- animation
- suivi des réalisations dans le temps

**Arguments**

- Des argumentaires socio-économiques

**Parcours de volailles**

- Aménagement massif des parcours de volailles quand c'est une stratégie de l'OP (volailles fermières d'auvergne)

### CE QUI N'A PAS FONCTIONNÉ

**Lourdeurs admin / CdC complexe**

- complexité administrative, plus facile d'arracher que de planter d'un point de vu administratif
- cahiers des charges contraignants
- Instructeurs administratifs peu sensibilisés AF
- Ne pas inclure le fruitiers dans les cahiers de charges des financements publics

**Aides insuffisantes**

- très peu d'aides pour les parcours volailles
- Révision des budgets après communication des taux de prise en charge

**Aides très diverses (et parfois contradictoires)**

- Des services administratifs contre la présence d'arbres dans les parcours
- Difficultés de communication et de travail avec services de la DRAC, Architecte des Bâtiments de France notamment

**Pas assez de contrôles/suivis**

- Un état des lieux des mesures agroforestière / haie dans le futur PSN est indispensable.
- Absence de soutien et d'obligation de gestion des systèmes installés
- L'arbre encore mal vu dans les parcours volailles

**Manque politique nationale**

- Manque d'une politique de soutien à l'agroforesterie lisible et présente sur tout le territoire national.

**Manque d'appropriation par les agris**

- Agriculteurs mal accompagnés par des conseillers ne prenant pas assez la technique agricole dans leurs conseils: plantation "claf en main" qui ne participe pas à l'appropriation de la haie par les agris
- Financement 100% = certains agris moins engagés/investis
- Pas clair au niveau déclaration PAC
- Avance financière à faire qui peut bloquer des exploitations un peu juste financièrement
- Problème effet feu de paille des aides non compatible avec programmation des pépiniéristes
- Éviter les One shot, sur des temps très court (type PORH), qui déstabilisent toute la filière, besoin d'inscription des dispositifs dans la durée
- Pas d'aide en 2023 → recul en arrière par rapport au plan de relance. Quel relais?
- Définition pas claire de l'agroforesterie au niveau de la PAC

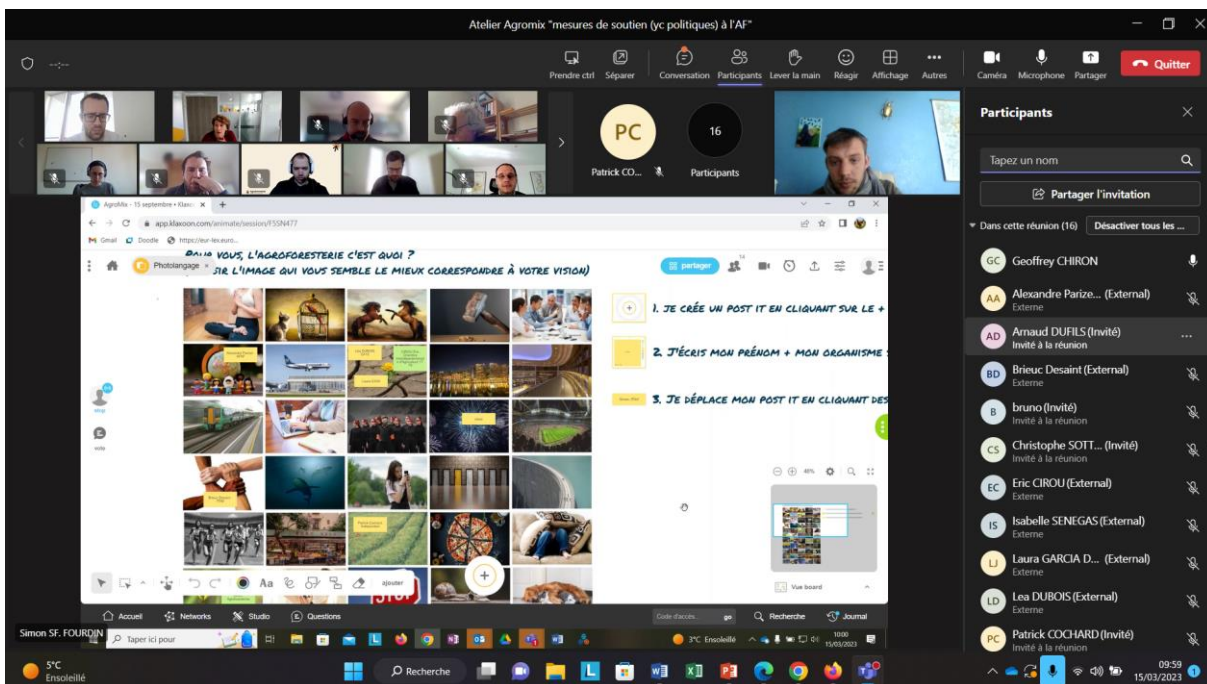
### 2ÈME ROUND : QUE PEUT-ON FAIRE POUR LEVER LES FREINS/CRÉER LES CONDITIONS FAVORABLES AU DÉPLOIEMENT DE L'AF ?

- homogénéité/cohérence nationale déclinée aux régions (proj. pratiques)
- simplification des démarches pour un accès à tous
- Une contribution financière de l'agriculteur peut-être intéressante, même si le financement à 100% permet de lever le frein économique aux plantations de fermes en difficultés financières. Le manque de temps est aussi un grand frein, la formule clef en main peut donc être intéressante pour permettre des plantations de qualité, sachant qu'il est possible d'associer l'agriculteur aux temps de plantations et aux trois années de suivis des arbres de qui permet de le former à la taille des arbres.
- l'état demande aux régions de mettre en oeuvre les mesures sans avoir de longs délais
- autofinancement minimum par l'agriculteur pour qu'il se sente investi (et qu'il suive les plantations ensuite), avec homogénéisation entre les territoires
- pérennité/conduité des aides
- avoir une équité des aides bocagères et intraparcoursières, bosquets ...
- fixer des conditions d'obligation pour que l'agriculteur s'investisse (plantation) mais attention par rapport à des exploitations qui n'ont pas le temps d'effectuer les plantations. Participation au suivi des plantations
- Projet CEAGR qui doit sortir fin mars
- Mission CGAER "Haies" en cours... Et futur plan national haie à venir?
- Permettre le financement de fruitiers en AF
- Transformer les AAP en dépôt de dossiers "au fil de l'eau"
- Financement de fruitier en AF si densité très différentes des plantations normales
- Déclaration PAC : revoir la définition/applicati on agroforesterie
- Démarches individuelles à ne pas laisser de côté (plancher des aides)



A propos de nous - English

## 3. Printscreen of the visioconference



## References

1. La PAC 2015-2022 en un coup d'œil (no date). Available at: <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/la-pac-2015-2022-en-un-coup-doeil>.
2. Picot, C. (2021) Plan de relance | Se mobiliser pour la mesure "Plantons des haies." Available at: <https://afac-agroforesteries.fr/plan-de-relance-mesure-haies/>
3. Regionait-Sidhoum (2023) Appel à projets trame verte et bleue 2023 - Plateforme pour la Biodiversité du Grand Est. Available at: <https://biodiversite.grandest.fr/appele-a-projets-trame-verte-et-bleue-engagez-vous/>.
4. Nouvelle programmation FEADER 2023-2027 (no date). Available at: <https://www.auvergnerhonealpes.fr/actualites/nouvelle-programmation-feader-2023-2027>.

## Links

1. <https://afac-agroforesteries.fr/politiques-de-larbre/>
2. <https://afac-agroforesteries.fr/reunir-af-reseau-national-agroforesterie/>

End of document







# Policy workshop

## *Agromix information day and policy workshop, Hungary*

Mixed farming and agroforestry models for more resilient agriculture

Nagymaros Farm, Source: CEEweb



Date: 28<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Time: 9:00-16:00

Hosting Institution name: CEEweb

Contact info: Varga Ádám, CEEweb

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Email address: [avarga@ceeweb.org](mailto:avarga@ceeweb.org)

[agromixproject.eu](http://agromixproject.eu)



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# First workshop report

WP 6.3

*28/04/2023*



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## General outline of the event

The first workshop took place in person on the 28<sup>th</sup> April, with presentations and a discussion occurring during the morning in Zebegény, followed by a field trip in the afternoon to Nagymaros. This national workshop aimed to introduce the Agromix project and to raise awareness on agroforestry solutions to multiple stakeholders including farmers, decision makers and researchers. Morning sessions were split into two parts: firstly, the Agromix project was introduced, followed by presentations on available funding mechanisms by the representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture. The second half of the morning was focused on more practical and solution-oriented aspects of agroecology, such as agroforestry's role in climate change mitigation and adaptation, forest gardening and orchard management. In the afternoon, participants went on a field trip to Nagymaros, giving insights into the history and current practices of local sweet chestnut and alluvial fruit orchards.

The event proved to be a successful mechanism to raise awareness of the benefits of agroforestry and mixed farming practices to a broader audience in Hungary. The main output of the workshops was that further discussions are required between stakeholders in order to unlock the potential of sustainable farming practices. The second round of policy workshops will take place in late July and aims to involve a variety of stakeholders across the CEE region.

## Introduction

There have been many traditional methods of agroforestry and mixed farming in Hungary as well as Europe, although legal identification and embedding of agroforestry practices within policy have been unstable. Agroforestry has direct subsidies within national CAPs (common agricultural policies) since 2004, but implementation of CAP targeted subsidies have so far been weak; further, mixed farming management is non-existent within Hungarian agricultural legislation. Conversely, 4 million ha of land in Hungary is currently used for arable farming, mostly in monoculture and on large fields. As such, this workshop aimed to raise awareness of the benefits of agroforestry and mixed farming practices to a broader audience in Hungary, including available funding and agroforestry's role in climate mitigation and adaptation.

## Location and time of the workshop

In person workshop on the 28<sup>th</sup> April 2023 in Zebegény, followed by a field trip to Nagymaros.



## Speakers and presenters

Time	Full name	Presentation topic	Organisation
9.00-9.20	Linda Magyar, Ádám Varga	Opening, presentation of the Agromix project	CEEweb
9.20-9.50	István Madarász	Agroecological aspects and available funding from the CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027	Ministry of Agriculture
9.50-10.20	Gyenes Adrienn	Non-productive agricultural practices	National Chamber of Agriculture
10.45-11.15	Attila Borovics PhD	Climate protection and adaptation in agroforestry	University of Sopron - Forestry Institute
11.15-11.45	Balázs Zsolnai and Veronika Szabó PhD	Forest gardens and their use	Forest to Garden
11.45-12.15 13.30-16.00	Zoltán Zeller	Sweet chestnuts as an ancient agroforestry method, with field trip	MATE – Institute of Horticulture, Fruit Growing Research centre

**Linda Magyar** is the CEEweb project coordinator for the AGROMIX Project, and **Ádám Varga** is the project officer. **István Madarász** is a representative from the *Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture* and outlined the new CAP green architecture framework. **Gyenes Adrienn** is a Policy Expert within the *Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture*, providing expertise on available funding mechanisms for agro-ecological investments of Hungary's new CAP. **Attila Borovics PhD** is the director of the Forest Research Institute at the *University of Sopron*, researching the role of trees in the transition to more sustainable agricultural practices. **Balázs Zsolnai** and **Veronika Szabó PhD** from *Forest to Garden* provided insights into forest gardening as a agroforestry system. **Zoltán Zeller** is an agricultural engineer from the Institute of Horticultural Sciences, Fruit Growing Research Centre of the *Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences*, and expert on the alluvial and sweet chestnut orchards in Nagymaros, leading an afternoon field trip raising awareness of the benefits of agroforestry and mixed farming practices via a case study. All presentations helped to raise awareness of the benefits of agroforestry and mixed farming practices and introduced the Agromix project to a broader audience in Hungary.



## Agenda

<i>Time</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Presenter / Mentor</i>
8.30-9.00	28/04/2023	Registration	
9.00-9.20	28/04/2023	Opening, presentation of the Agromix project	Linda Magyar, Ádám Varga
9.20-9.50	28/04/2023	Agroecological aspects and available funding from the CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027	István Madarász
9.50-10.20	28/04/2023	Non-productive agricultural practices	Gyenes Adrienn
10.20-10.35	28/04/2023	Q & A	
10.35-10.45	28/04/2023	Coffee Break	
10.45-11.15	28/04/2023	Climate protection and adaptation in agroforestry	Dr. Attila Borovics
11.15-11.45	28/04/2023	Forest gardens and their use	Balázs Zsolnai and Dr. Veronika Szabó
11.45-12.15	28/04/2023	Sweet chestnuts as an ancient agroforestry method	Zoltán Zeller
12.15-12.30	28/04/2023	Q & A	
12.30-13.30	28/04/2023	Lunch	
13.30-16.00	28/04/2023	Field presentation, Nagymaros	Zoltán Zeller

## Workshop topic

Linda Magyar and Ádám Varga (CEEweb) opened the event, outlining the Agromix project's main goals, available results, and definitions of agroforestry and mixed farming. Next, István Madarász outlined available funding mechanisms for the new CAP for Hungary (2023-2027) on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture, with a focus on the agroecological aspects of the new CAP's green architecture framework. This presentation emphasised the CAP's increased focus on ecological provisioning and increased scope of territorial subsidies to acknowledge the importance of wetlands and peatlands, non-productive lands and shelterbelts. Further, the Agro-ecological Programme was introduced, which aims to motivate farmers to implement ecological measures beyond minimum requirements via subsidies (such as for green investments).



Following Mr. Madarász's presentation, Adrienn Gyenes, Policy expert of the Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture elaborated on the available funding mechanisms for green investments and introduced the available agroecological subsidies through the example of a non-productive agricultural practice, the no-till farming. The presentations were followed by a constructive Q&A session between decision-makers and practitioners, mainly touching upon the issue of the different understandings of legal terms and definitions. The differences in the understanding of terms and definitions were underlined: approach and perspectives of the decision makers and other stakeholders often differ, therefore further discussions between decision-makers and practitioners would be essential to deepen the understanding of available subsidies and funding of the new CAP's green architecture framework.

In the second session, the role of agroforestry in climate change mitigation and adaptation was introduced by Attila Borovics PhD, director of the Forest Research Institute at the University of Sopron. Following this, Veronika Szabó PhD and Balázs Zsolnai provided an insight into forest gardens as a low-maintenance agroforestry system that contribute to carbon sequestration, climate resilience and increased biodiversity. In preparation for the afternoon field trip, Zoltán Zeller provided an insight into the history and present challenges of the sweet chestnut orchards of Nagymaros. The field trip was continued with a visit to a local farmer's alluvial fruit orchard. The retired village farmer, László Verres introduced his land, old trees and traditional varieties. The orchard is maintained in an ecological way, no chemicals are involved in the production processes. The crop is dominated by apple varieties, of which mostly apple juice is produced. The maintenance of the orchard is dependent on subsidies, investments (machinery, equipment and tools) are financed from external funds and programmes. The field trip provided a hands-on experience of agroforestry, including the socioeconomic benefits and challenges.

Overall, the workshop was an effective way to introduce the AGROMIX project, available funding and different agroecological practices to a wide range of stakeholders.

## Discussions for the project

### Workshop outputs

The workshop produced several outputs. One such output was that **awareness raising** is key to enhance agroforestry, with understanding limiting the ability of farmers to enact agroecological practices. Both bottom up (from farm level) and top-down (from Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture) approaches are needed to raise awareness.

Secondly, the introduction on **available funding mechanisms** were welcomed, but the limited number of farmers at the workshop meant the majority of participants did not plan to take advantage of the available subsidies. Increased farmer participation is required for further workshops.

Further, participants would have welcomed further practical agroforestry solutions and case studies, particularly at the national and regional level. Stakeholders noted that this would motivate participants in the implementation of agroforestry practices and raise awareness of agroforestry benefits. So further workshops should focus on the practical side of the subject.



Finally, **discussion is needed between decision makers and farmers**, as perspectives may not correlate. Further discussion will facilitate a deeper understanding of available subsidies within CAP green architecture, and shape policy recommendations to find solutions that work for all.

On one hand, **the aim of the event was to raise awareness on the Agromix project and its goals**, to support the transition to more sustainable agricultural practices and land use, **this goal was partly achieved**. While CEEweb successfully disseminated the Agromix project and agroecological practices, there is a need for deeper understanding of these solutions. Further activities should focus on elaborating the benefits, practicalities, economic advantages and the supportive role of agroecology in adapting to the diverse effects of climate change. Moreover, the event successfully provided a platform for stakeholders to engage in meaningful discussions and gain valuable insights into the new funding mechanisms of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) for implementing agroecological measures.

The outputs from this first workshop will form the starting point for a second one scheduled for July of this year (2023), and the recommendations from both workshops will subsequently be disseminated through a co-authored policy brief.

## Feedback from participants

A feedback form for was circulated among participants and was also shared with in an online form after the event. Several lessons we learned from organisation of the first workshop:

- **Too many presentations** were made over the morning session, and more room is needed for **discussions** between stakeholders, which enable knowledge exchange and develop policy recommendations.
- **Tight scheduling led to lateness and decreased audience engagement**. Although the location was excellent, delays to access the venue led to the workshop ending much later than planned.
- **Underrepresentation of farmers** within the workshop. Increased engagement of farmers, practitioners and consultants should be achieved in the next workshop.



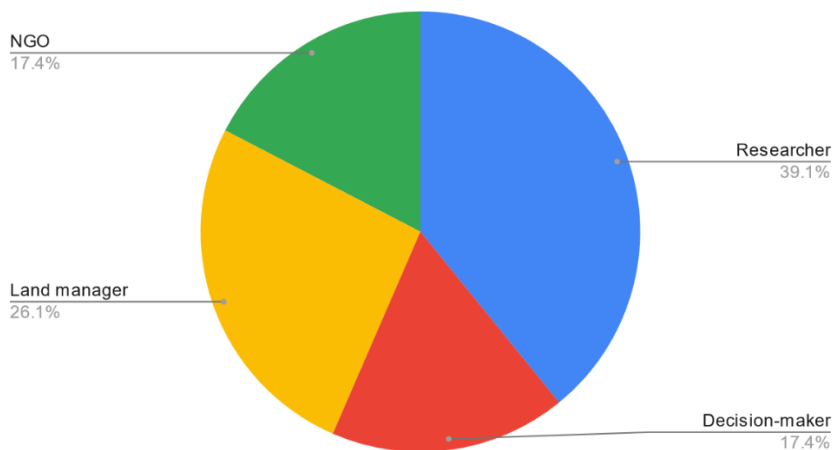


## Annexes

### Participant list

Stakeholders from all sectors were invited to the workshop. The distribution of the workshop invitation was partly done within CEEweb’s existing network, while the event was also promoted on the main social media sites, agricultural news sites and in agricultural forums. Most of the sectors were represented, however the turnout of farmers were lower than other stakeholders – the number of farmers are included among the “Land manager” sector. The academic sector had the largest representation among the participants, with the majority of researchers, followed by the Land managers (farmers, practitioners, national parks), while the the third highest proportion of participants consisted of consultants. Overall, most of the sectors were involved, discussions evolved among participants which provided valuable inputs for the further implementation of the project.

Agromix participants by sector



1. Figure: Breakdown of participants

End of report

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## Annex 8.1 B

# Partners' Second workshop report

WP6 D6.3





# Policy workshop

Workshop Session, Mainz, IfaS/F. Gräven 2023

## ***Legal & administrative framework conditions for agroforestry in Rhineland-Palatinate & Saarland (Germany)***

Feb 28<sup>th</sup> 2023  
9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Hosted by: IfaS, HS Trier  
Contact info: Jörg Böhmer  
[j.boehmer@umwelt-campus.de](mailto:j.boehmer@umwelt-campus.de)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 862993.



# Second Workshop Report

by

Jörg Böhmer<sup>1</sup>, Elena Gruber<sup>1</sup>, Frank Wagener<sup>1</sup> & Felix Gräven<sup>1</sup>, Holger Pabst<sup>2</sup>

1: Institut für angewandtes Stoffstrommanagement (IfaS), 2: Institut für ländliches Strukturforchung (ifls)

WP 6.3

*August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023*





## Workshop Report

# ***“Legal & administrative framework conditions for agroforestry in Rhineland-Palatinate & Saarland (Germany)”***

by

Jörg Böhmer<sup>1</sup>, Elena Gruber<sup>1</sup>, Frank Wagener<sup>1</sup> & Felix Gräven<sup>1</sup>, Holger Pabst<sup>2</sup>

1: Institut für angewandtes Stoffstrommanagement (IfaS), 2: Institut für ländliches Strukturforchung (ifls)

August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023



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## General outline of the event

The second policy workshop on “Legal & administrative framework conditions for agroforestry in Rhineland-Palatinate & Saarland (Germany)” took place on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2023. The workshop built on the experiences and results of the excursion from the 9<sup>th</sup> of February 2023. Again – same as in the excursion – experienced farmers, newly interested farmers, people from different administrative bodies and policy makers were brought together to elaborate recommendations for an improved legal framework for agroforestry.

### Introduction

Agroforestry offers numerous opportunities for linking productive agricultural land use with other objectives such as climate protection, protection against climate change impacts (drought and floods), and the preservation of biodiversity. With the advancing climatic changes, which have culminated in several summers of drought and a flood disaster in our region in recent years, the need for solutions is also increasing in Rhineland-Palatinate and Saarland.

Agricultural enterprises that have pioneered agroforestry concepts in recent years have been confronted with various administrative hurdles. With the new funding period of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), clear framework conditions for the use of direct payments for agroforestry areas were created for the first time. Nevertheless, there are legal details when applying the new rules of the CAP that still need to be further specified. There are also opportunities to use agroforestry as a tool to realize various ecosystem services through adaptation of other legal areas (water law, nature conservation law, support programmes). With the excursion on February 9<sup>th</sup> of 2023 a common understanding of the opportunities of agroforestry, models for our region and the challenges of its implementation from the perspective of three pioneer farms was created. Based on this, the current political-legal framework was discussed in a joint workshop on February 28<sup>th</sup> in Mainz. The workshop was addressed to representatives of agriculture, agricultural and environmental ministries, advisory institutions and administration, nature conservation and research in Rhineland-Palatinate and Saarland. The workshop served to discuss current developments, identify administrative hurdles, and work out perspectives for an improved legal framework.

### Location and time of the workshop

The program of the workshop started at 09:30 a.m. and ended around 04:00 p.m. Details can be found in the under the point “agenda” below. As location Mainz, the capital of the federal state of Rhineland-Palatinate was chosen. The intention of choosing this central place for the workshop was to facilitate the participation of the ministries and other public administrative bodies.



## Agenda, speakers & presenters

### Programm Workshop am 28. Februar 2023:

09:30 a.m.	check-in & welcome coffee
09:45 a.m.	<b>Plenary session</b> <b>Welcome, Introduction to AGROMIX &amp; short overview over the day</b> <i>Jörg Böhmer, IfaS</i> <b>Keynote: Potentials &amp; Framework conditions for Agroforestry in Rhineland-Palatinate and Saarland</b> <i>Frank Wagener, IfaS</i> <b>Wrap-up of the excursion from Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>: Challenges from the farmers perspective</b> <i>Jörg Böhmer, IfaS</i>
10:30 Uhr	Working groups, part 1 <b>The „utilization concept“ – registration of Agroforestry for direct payments in the CAP</b>
11:00 Uhr	short coffee break
11:15 Uhr	Working groups, part 2 <b>Planning of Agroforestry in the farm context, with the given legal-administrative framework and site conditions</b>
12:15 Uhr	<b>Presentation of the results from part 1 and 2</b>
13:00 Uhr	lunch
14:00 Uhr	Working groups, part 3 <b>Multifunctional land use concepts – planning from a regional/holistic perspective</b>
15:00 Uhr	<b>Plenary session: Presentation of the results from part 3</b>
15:30 Uhr	coffee break
15:45 Uhr	<b>Plenary session: Conclusions &amp; feedback</b> <b>1. Recommendations to improve the legal-administrative framework for agroforestry, 2. open questions 3. Further activities in practice &amp; networking</b>
16:30 Uhr	End of the workshop

## Workshop topic

**Working Groups Part 1: The “utilization concept” – registration of agroforestry systems for Direct Payments within the CAP.**

**Working Groups Part 2: Planning new agroforestry systems in the context of farmers objectives, legal-administrative framework and site conditions.**

Subject of part 1 of the working groups was the completion of an "Application for the examination of an agroforestry utilization concept according to §4 para. 2 of the GAPDZV" using the example of existing agroforestry systems on two pioneer farms, which are to be subsequently recognized within the framework





of the farms' CAP application for direct payments. For this purpose, the participants used maps of the agroforestry systems and the application documents of the state of Rhineland-Palatinate.

In the second part of the group work, the participants each planned an agroforestry area on a real example farm. The aim was to plan the areas taking into account the production goals of the respective farm, the site conditions and the applicable CAP rules.

In both sub-steps, the participants discussed the challenges and legal-administrative hurdles that arose in each case and collected open questions that arose in the context of the task.

### **Working Groups Part 3: Multifunctional land-use concepts – planning from a holistic/regional perspective**

In part 3 of the working groups, the participants dealt with various fields of application for agroforestry as a component of multifunctional land use. The benefits and added value of agroforestry, relevant actors, target-oriented solutions as well as legal-administrative hurdles (and solutions to them) were collected.

Group A discussed design options for a waterbody restoration project that result from the integration of utilized woody vegetation (agroforestry systems as riparian buffer) in the near-stream area.

Group B discussed the potential of agroforestry for protection against extreme rainfall events and associated soil erosion and flooding.

Group C addressed the question of what contribution agroforestry systems can make to supplying a village with its own energy.

Group D focused on the extent to which agroforestry systems can serve as production-integrated measures to compensate for interventions in nature and the landscape or to generate eco-points in advance.

## **Discussion of the project & workshop outputs**

### **Key findings and need for action**

The following points were mentioned by the participants of the workshop as the most important requirements for the further development of the legal-administrative framework for agroforestry. The requirements are addressed to I. the respective responsible legislative bodies (EU, federal government, states) and II. the respective responsible authorities and administrative bodies. III. summarizes the scope for practical action to make better use of the existing framework conditions.

All mentioned points originate from the working groups and the plenary discussion at the workshop as well as the discussion at the excursion conducted in advance.

The following overview summarizes the need for action accordingly:

- I. Need for adaptation of the legal framework (laws / regulations)**
  - CAP EAFRD/Investment support (for agroforestry systems with public benefits).
  - Remove black locust from the "negative list"
  - Allow cumulative funding (EAGF & EAFRD)
  - Create AF funding scheme e.g. as agri-environmental scheme at state level.



- Utilization concept is obstructive (too detailed) → "unnecessary administrative specifications".
- Align eco-scheme 3 with the general definition of agroforestry systems or abolish it altogether and offer AUKM at federal state level.

**II. Knowledge transfer and communication**

- Strengthening the flow of information (regarding the legal basis)
  - o between administrative level, consulting, agriculture, (vocational) schools
  - o Public Relations
  - o Creation of a central point of contact at the state level (advisor position, competence center, agroforestry working group), state funding of agroforestry consulting services
- Simplification of the eligibility criteria in the CAP / Promote innovation in agriculture: "Let farms do their thing" (no excessive regulations and thus allow more local farm decisions)
- Better represent diversity of use/users (beneficiaries) of agroforestry (→ information flow & public relations).
- launch funded pilot projects - establish agroforestry network
- Intensify research funding on agroforestry: generate more knowledge.
- Enable funding schemes for cross-field level AF (combined land use of arable, grassland & permanent crops) → Utilization concept
- Improve cooperation between agricultural & nature conservation authorities.

**III. Better use of the given framework conditions in practice**

- Expand marketing
- Establish (cultivation) technology networks
- Expand cooperative collaboration
- Communicating research results in a practical way

**Working group part 1: The utilization concept - registration of already implemented agroforestry areas in the GAP area application.**

**Working Group Part 2: Planning new agroforestry areas in the context of farmers objectives, legal-administrative framework, and site conditions.**

Challenges / legal-administrative hurdles	Solutions for this
Two different definitions of AF are given in the CAP rules (§4 GAPDZV vs. Annex 5 (Eco Schemes)), which unnecessarily complicates completion.	The different definitions should be clearly presented at the beginning of the forms, the question on recognition under the Eco Scheme 3 should be deleted.
There are problems with the recognition of existing systems that were created before January 1, 2022 and may contain tree species on the negative list.	Legal clarity must be created on the part of the state in order to avoid uncertainties in the administration at the district level.
The division of plots & registration of all parcels means a considerable effort for the farms in small-structured areas.	The registration and demarcation of agricultural fields according to § 3 of the German InVeKoSV should be based on fields (instead of parcels), in

	the best case a uniform federal regulation should be made for this.
The procedure for specifying the percentage of area of the respective tree species is unclear for mixed plantings (as well as for plantings with companion/supporting plants). Are the area proportions relevant at the time of planting or in the target state of planting? The purpose of specifying the area is not recognizable from a practical point of view.	Since only the total share of woody plants in the area is relevant for the examination of the utilization concept, this information should be omitted. Alternatively, information could be provided only for the "main species" of a system. Companion plantings, etc., could be mentioned, but these should not require % information, information on use, or harvest interval.
It is not yet possible to combine arable and grassland areas in an agroforestry system in neighbouring fields. When applying for an AFS with arable land and grassland, does arable land lose its arable status? In this context, the application is also not clear how "main land use" is to be understood. A main soil use also implies a "secondary soil use".	-
The exact localization as well as the calculation of the area shares of the woody plants means a considerable effort for the farms.	The creation (possibly promotion) of GIS mapping services can support agricultural businesses in this regard.
With regard to the maximum woody plant proportion of 40% of the area, there is a great deal of uncertainty in practice about how this is measured by the administrative authorities. In particular, the dynamics of the trees, which take up more space as they grow, pose an additional challenge here.	With regard to the regulations as well as their application by the control authorities, more clarity must be created on the part of the countries.
The legal basis, the requirements in the application in detail and lack of transparency or uncertainties in practice are a significant hurdle for the large-scale introduction of agroforestry systems.	These challenges can be met by offering advice to farmers as early as the planning stage, or by creating an information center or competence center for this purpose.
How do leasing/ownership rights affect the establishment of agroforestry systems? Who is the final applicant for the utilization concept and funding?	

<b>Open questions</b>
How will future changes to the utilization concept for an agroforestry system be handled? Or rather, at what point is a change necessary / what changes in the system are possible under the concept?

What is the purpose of the 20 m distance regulation from the edge within eco-scheme 3? Since already valid legal regulations exist regarding distances from neighbouring fields, this regulation can be dispensed with. Overall, in part 2, the Eco Scheme was increasingly seen as "obstructive" and not practical!

Why are there two quite different specifications on agroforestry systems in the GAPDZV?  
 The definition according to §4 would be conceivable, which could lead to the payment of the Eco Scheme without problems when a utilization concept is submitted and approved. The compensation payments for disadvantaged areas are similar and also just another payment without being bound to certain specifications (except the area)...

**Working groups Part 3: Multi-use concepts - planning from a regional perspective**

**Group A: Watercourse restoration / implementation of the EU WFD**

<b>Benefit / added value</b>
Agroforestry systems as a utilized system can help to preserve agricultural land within the implementation of restoration projects, attract farmers to these measures and thus decisively increase land availability for such projects.
Buffer strips of utilized woody plants along watercourses can reduce risks for the input of pesticides and nutrients.
Woody structures along water bodies can serve as corridors for biotope connectivity and as guiding structures for wildlife species.
Wood potentials from the utilization of these stands can help to secure the supply of wood as a raw material for the wood-processing industry and the energy supply in rural areas, and thus create more independence from future potential supply gaps caused by climate change, the associated forest dieback and the necessary forest conversion.

<b>Actors</b>	<b>Goals / Function</b>
Water Administration	Supports the cooperative involvement of agriculture in renaturation concepts according to the EU-WFD and understands this service as a systemic part of the renaturation measure
Municipalities / villages as project promoters	Municipalities can combine renaturation with the provision of public services through the build up of local heating networks.
Agriculture	Implements water-smart land management through agroforestry, preserving its productive land resources (keep up of direct payments) and providing bioenergy for the village

Nature Conservation	Supports the introduction of production-integrated compensation (PIK) at the watercourse for the implementation of a local biotope network
---------------------	--

<b>Suitable agroforestry systems</b>
Various agroforestry systems and tree species (mainly flood-tolerant species such as poplar, willow, alder) with different planting densities and rotation periods can be used along the watercourse. In addition to performance oriented species and cultivars, native woody plants are also planted, which are based on the potential natural vegetation. The system thus achieves a high structural diversity (ecotones) and provides space for migrating wild species (also migration corridors).
Wood from agroforestry can contribute (among other things, via bioenergy use) to regional added value creation from renaturation measures on water bodies. Utilization is not understood here as intervention, but serves the maintenance and valuable use of biomass.

<b>Legal and administrative hurdles</b>	<b>Solutions for this</b>
Linking of water and agricultural funding legislation, e.g. via suitable interdisciplinary funding frameworks.	Establishment of the benefits of the agroforestry system for the watercourse as a basis for investment funding (EAFRD) - Coordination of funding legislation and clear interfaces (e.g. up to 50 m from the top of the embankment on the left and right of the watercourse).
Recognition of Agroforestry for production integrated compensation measures (PIK)	Clearly defined minimum requirements for PIK measures on the watercourse by the nature conservation administration (state & nature conservation associations).
Differentiated land use with different cycles of use and development potential of crops.	Link the utilization concept to the renaturation planning and use it as a basis for the "simplified utilization concept" - again linking water-agriculture-nature conservation there.

**Group B: Heavy rainfall / flooding / erosion**

<b>Benefit / added value</b>
Agroforestry systems can shorten erosive slope length, slowing water flowing downslope during heavy rainfall events and contributing to its infiltration, thus reducing soil erosion.
At the same time, agroforestry systems can increase edge richness (ecotone density and thus habitat quality) in open, low-structured parts of the landscape and contribute to biotope connectivity.
In urban areas, suitable agroforestry systems can also function as elements of an "Edible City".

Actors	Goals / Function
Machinery (cooperative) rings	Support / bundling of management activities (establishment, maintenance, harvesting) for AF as a service provider.
Climate Protection Managers	Development of AF projects as combined measures for climate adaptation & mitigation.
Municipal utilities, private operators of heating systems, municipal companies, energy cooperatives	Customers for biomass from agroforestry areas
Farmers	Involvement necessary from the start

Solutions / Suitable agroforestry systems
Establishment of pilot projects necessary to make flood protection more visible
Systematic integration of agroforestry into heavy rainfall prevention concepts required.
Use of agroforestry in conjunction with ditches and/or keyline design.
Establishment of agroforestry structures along farm roads (without additional distance from field borders!)
Implementation conceivable within the framework of production-integrated compensation measures

Legal and administrative hurdles	Solutions for this
So far, it has only been possible to implement short rotation coppice on arable land – on grassland, this leads to compensation obligation.	-
Agroforestry strips in retention areas in floodplain not as effective	It must be possible to implement wide-area woody vegetation (including grassland) in the floodplain in order to develop retention areas that can be used in the future.
No promotion of multifunctionality so far	Remuneration system for social services must be created / improved.

**Group C: Bioenergy village**

Benefit / added value
Wood from agroforestry can make a central contribution to the heat supply of a village via a local heating network, for example in combination with solar thermal energy.
At the same time, the cultivation of wood can or should always provide an additional service for the village, e.g. erosion and flood protection, biotope network, microclimatic improvements, aesthetic enhancement of the landscape - multi-use concepts!



Actors	Goals / Function
Farmers	Diversification and stabilization of agricultural income, social recognition, improvement of CO <sub>2</sub> balance, increase of soil quality
Citizen, village / municipality	Increased sense of community, security of supply & price stability.
Landowner / lessor	Different objectives, but important to integrate!

Solutions / Suitable agroforestry systems
Agroforestry systems for energy wood production (can also be combined with systems for food production!)
“left over” wood (e.g. wood from landscape conservation) can - if the heating system is suitable for it - also be used.
Thermo- or pyrolysis plants can generate more output than just heat
Cooperation models between farmers and citizens (instead of competition)

Legal and administrative hurdles	Solutions for this
Complicated ownership structures (small plots, many owners / communities of heirs, reservations of individual owners) often make it difficult to establish agroforestry systems over large areas.	Land consolidation procedures are costly, but they can provide a long-term basis for agroforestry if this approach (like biotope networks and path networks) is included in the procedures.

**Group D: Production-integrated compensation measures (PIK)**

Benefit / added value
In principle, agroforestry systems can contribute to various protected goods (air, climate, water, soil, species & habitats) – in detail, it depends on the site conditions and the details of the respective measures. Through regional adaptation targeted solutions for the biotope network can be obtained.
Conversely, PIK also offers a special opportunity for the establishment of agroforestry, since the coverage of investment costs and management costs including an incentive component are possible and the payments as well as measures must be guaranteed over a longer period of time (25-30 years and beyond).

Actors	Goals / Function
Planning agencies	Usually, agencies specialized in nature conservation are entrusted with the planning of compensatory measures (incl. PIK), whereby the agricultural expertise is often lacking.
Conservation Foundations	Often familiar with implementation of measures, experience with PIK available
UNBs/county administrations, nature conservation associations	Support in the procedure
Farmers	Of central importance for the implementation
Ministries	Support pilot activities, further development of the legal framework.
<p>→ It is important to involve all stakeholders early and intensively in the planning process.</p> <p>→ Especially the administration (UNBs, district administrations and ministries) but also associations (nature conservation associations) have to be motivated for the implementation of new approaches.</p>	

Solutions / Suitable agroforestry systems
Strengthening the expertise for agriculture of all stakeholders, but especially at the level of planning agencies.
Use approaches from other countries and/or existing structures (e.g. Dutch model, MoKo project in RLP) & plan measures more on landscape level instead of single(/island) measures.

Legal and administrative hurdles	Solutions for this
Time requirements during the planning phase: there is usually time pressure from clients, while the long-term nature of the measures and the agroforestry systems themselves require thorough planning.	AF (compared to other PIK measures) more suitable for stockpiling measures (via eco-accounts).
Long-term security and financing of the measures (especially after the first 25-30 years) must be ensured, whereby (even) longer-term contracts can be problematic from an agricultural perspective (keyword: farm succession, demography).	Financing models with capital stock necessary, must be calculated resiliently.
Economic aspects of agroforestry systems (as PIK) often not yet known (especially looking ahead to a period of 25-30 years), can therefore hardly be priced in.	Any profit generated from agroforestry systems should be considered a "bonus" to the farmers and not offset against PIK payments.



PIK can be combined with agricultural support only in the context of basic income support.	Emphasis must be placed on ensuring that all payments that may be lost are compensated by PIK.
Problems can occur with reference situation/area and measure target. How are the (ecological) contributions of the PIK factorized? Ususally, an intensively used field is used as a reference area, since an improvement of the ecological status can easily be achieved here; however, an improvement of this could certainly also be achieved on a field with organic agriculture. → Focus on "intensive areas" possibly to be considered critically.	

## Feedback from participants & follow up activities

The feedback from the participants after the workshop was consistently positive. After the event, numerous further contacts and discussions took place. These also resulted in practical starting points for the implementation of individual results from the working groups and practical pilot projects. Specifically,

- another pilot site for AF is currently being planned on an experimental farm in the state of Rhineland-Palatinate.
- One district has expressed interest in implementing an AF strategy.
- Two further excursions were held with
  - the State Secretary Sebastian Thul from the Saarland Ministry of the Environment (on June 21<sup>st</sup> 2023) and
  - the Rhineland-Palatinate Minister for Climate and the Environment Katrin Eder (on July 17<sup>th</sup> 2023).
- A follow-up meeting with the working level in the MUKMAV has been coordinated for Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> 2023.



## Annexes



## Links

1. DeFAF statement: Open letter to the federal and state governments: Broad alliance calls for more support for agroforestry. <https://agroforst-info.de/2023-05-24/>
2. Agroforestry support via the CAP: No interest in eco-scheme 3? <https://agroforst-info.de/2023-06-08/>
3. DeFAF statement: Integrate agroforestry systems as a central design element and effective solution building block in the National Biodiversity Strategy (NBS 2030), <https://agroforst-info.de/2023-07-11/>
4. Investment support for agroforestry systems in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, <https://agroforst-info.de/2023-08-02-foerderung-agroforstsysteme-mv/>



# Policy workshop

Farm name, location, Source:



[agromixproject.eu](http://agromixproject.eu)

## ***Carbon Farming***

*THE OPPORTUNITIES AND RISKS FOR EUROPEAN  
AGROFORESTRY AND AGROECOLOGY*

June 7, 2023  
9:00 – 17:30  
Agroecology Europe

Jesse Donham  
[Jessica.donham@agroecology-europe.org](mailto:Jessica.donham@agroecology-europe.org)



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# Second workshop report

WP 6.3

*June 7, 2023*





## Workshop Report

# CARBON FARMING: THE OPPORTUNITIES AND RISKS FOR EUROPEAN AGROFORESTRY AND AGROECOLOGY



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## General outline of the event

The workshop aimed to discuss the risks and opportunities carbon farming presents for agroforestry, and the environment and farming in general. Most of the workshop was a heated discussion amongst various stakeholders including the European Parliament; European Commission DG Agriculture and Rural Development and DG Environment; Department of Agriculture, Flanders Belgium; EPP Group, FIAN, Voedsel Anders, IFOAM Organics Europe, Green Group European Parliament, Carbon Market Watch, BirdLife, Solidagro and CEJA Young Farmers.

## Introduction

Carbon farming is being championed as one of the most promising solutions to drop the net emissions of Europe and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. It is also seen by many as a great opportunity for agroforestry since growing trees on agricultural land has a great range of benefits.

A focus on agroforestry could return trees to agricultural landscapes, increase the diversity of habitats, diversify the types and numbers of species grown on a single farm, enhance animal health and extensively managed livestock, increase mixed crop-livestock systems, decrease inputs, and store carbon, all deeply agroecological solutions.

On the other hand, many risks arise from the carbon market including its volatility which represents unclear payment schemes for farmers, does not guarantee long-term sequestration, and risks to dampen mandated efforts and genuine climate action, amongst others.

This policy workshop aimed to facilitate an exchange between various actors on the opportunities and risk of carbon farming for agroforestry in order to determine various policy options and scenarios that benefit all those involved in the food system, as well as to determine whether carbon farming can truly deliver on climate objectives and how agroecological carbon farming would look like.

## Location and time of the workshop

The workshop took place at the Coventry University Hub in Brussels on Wednesday 7 June, 2023 from 9:00-13:00. The event was followed by a field trip to an agroforestry berry farm called 't BezenBos in Gent.

## Speakers and presenters

List down in the table the list of speakers and presenters



Time	Full name	Presentation topic	Organisation
9:30-9:45	Paola Migliorini	Welcome Address	Agroecology Europe
9:45-10:00	Vitor Rodrigues	Perspectives from peasant farmers	European Coordination of Via Campesina
10:00-10:15	Patrick Worms	Opportunities for Agroforestry	European Agroforestry Federation
10:15-10:30	Jurij Krajcic	Land and Climate Risks and Opportunities	European Environmental Bureau
10:45-11:45	Jesse Donham	Group Activity Moderation	Agroecology Europe

Vitor Rodrigues is a small-scale farmer that also works for Via Campesina. His contribution was to give the risks attached to carbon farming from the lens of peasant, agroecological farmers who are at the forefront of providing ecosystem services already but are not rewarded for doing so. He was there to also give a voice to farmers who, because of the time of the year, were mostly absent from the workshop.

Patrick Worms represented the biggest European agroforestry association and therefore was there to give a very pointed reflection on the importance of carbon farming for the expansion of agroforestry. He represented the opportunities of carbon farming within an agroforestry lens.

Jurij Krajcic works for the European Environmental Bureau which has done deep analysis on carbon farming and all of its risks and opportunities for the environment and farming in general. Therefore, his role was to give a broader lens, with a depth of knowledge on European carbon policy and carbon farming that the others did not have.

## Agenda

<i>Time</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Presenter / Mentor</i>
9:00 – 9:30	Check in	
9:30 – 9:45	Welcome	Paola Migliorini
9:45 – 10:00	Farmer Perspective	Vitor Rodrigues
10:00 – 10:15	Opportunities for AF	Patrick Worms
10:15 – 10:30	Land and Climate Risks and Opportunities	Jurij Krajcic
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee Break	
10:45 – 11:45	Group Activity: Risks and Opportunities	Jesse Donham
11:45 – 12:00	Closing Words	Paola Migliorini





12:00 – 13:00	Lunch	
13:00 – 17:30	Field Trip	

## Workshop topic

We chose carbon farming because it presents a huge opportunity for the expansion of agroforestry but it also presents a lot of risks for the environment, climate emission reduction, agriculture and farmers. Therefore, we thought it would be a great opportunity to take part in the discussion that is happening within the European Union's governance structures by inviting a variety of stakeholders including Parliament members, the Commission, local governance, civil society, farmers, scientists and academics to discuss the risks and opportunities of the upcoming legislations on carbon farming. The aim of the workshop was to facilitate an exchange in order to determine various policy options and scenarios that benefit all those involved in the food system, as well as to determine whether carbon farming can truly deliver on climate objectives and how agroecological carbon farming would look like.

Vitor Rodrigues:

Vitor Rodrigues, a Portuguese farmer from the European Coordination of Via Campesina, began his presentation by asking, this is a new business model, but for whom? This represents one of the biggest risks according to him. Will carbon farming be for farmers, especially peasant, agroecological farmers or will it be for industry and corporations? The rest of his presentation went into the risks of carbon farming and the importance of small, agroecological and peasant farming which is responsible for a majority of the food that is eaten globally.

Patrick Worms:

Patrick Worms primarily discussed various statistics on climate change and how agroforestry can aid in mitigating its effects. He also discussed how agroforestry on its own will not be able to take enough carbon out of the atmosphere to stop climate change, it is one important tool that combined with others will have immense impact.

Jurij Krajcic:

Jurij discussed the risks attached to carbon farming and stated that what we need to focus on is ecosystem restoration and integrity through land-based solutions such as agroforestry, who sequesters carbon, creates resilience, retains water, and mitigates local climates in periods of extreme weather; rewetting drained wetlands and peatlands; close-to-nature forest management that allows trees of different ages and species

to cohabitate (along with all of the various cycles including retaining dead wood); and reforestation, including in urban spaces.

## Discussions for the project

Policy Recommendations:

1. Develop and increase access to independent, climate and environmentally focused advisory services, including specific to young farmers.
2. Implement protections for access to land and ensure that carbon farming does not negatively impact land tenure, or create land concentration and land grabbing.
3. Channel public money into public goods.
4. Focus of all future environmental policies on emission reduction. Carbon removals should only be paired with emission reductions, thus, offsetting must never be an option for private or public entities.
5. Renumerate farmers and land managers for their stewardship, including restoration of climate, biodiversity and resilience on the land, not just with a narrow focus for carbon.
6. Only allow carbon farming practices that have proven long-term removals as many forms of farming presented as potential carbon farming are susceptible to reversibility.<sup>1</sup>
7. Any carbon legislation should not act in a silo and should follow other European legislations and their goals, including the European Green Deal.
8. Any certification mechanism needs to be individually governed to ensure transparency in monitoring, evaluation and reporting.<sup>2</sup>
9. Any carbon policy—and farming policy—must leave no one behind, therefore local communities, foresters, small-scale farmers and other relevant stakeholders should be consulted before any project is implemented.

## Workshop outputs

The key takeaway messages were that while carbon farming is not dismissed entirely by most of the stakeholders present, in its role to expand agroforestry and ecosystem services, it represents deep risks that most are not willing to take without deep safety measures.

During the open discussion, two possible strategies shaped up in reaction to the CRCF proposal: either refusing the European Commission's proposal and wait for a better one, or work at making the legislation as ambitious as possible. The political uncertainty of the future would speak for the latter, taking advantage of a window of opportunity in the current political climate. The European Commission sees this document as

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<sup>1</sup> Certification of Carbon Removals. EEB Policy Recommendations. <https://eeb.org/library/certification-of-carbon-removals-eeb-policy-recommendations/>

<sup>2</sup> Certification of Carbon Removals. EEB Policy Recommendations. <https://eeb.org/library/certification-of-carbon-removals-eeb-policy-recommendations/>



an opportunity to create a common framework that protects farmers. A DG AGRI representative contended that the document is kept deliberately vague at this stage to maintain political support from Member States. However, if the legislation remains too vague, it cannot be implemented to have real impact.

One key concern of stakeholders was around the consultation process occurring within the carbon farming expert group, which primarily includes advisors from the industry which are now using this space to lobby for their own interests. There is a pressing need for a solution that allows collaboration among public mandates and public goods, civil society and private entities. As of now, these parties often work in opposition, unable to find a common ground within such opposing interests.

The financialization of nature was another key point of discussion, and whether paying for ecosystem services continues to move Europe further away from the holistic vision needed for a healthy landscape or if compensating farmers for their stewardship is something vitally important, as they should be rewarded with public money for maintaining public goods. Many believed that the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) needs to be revisited. Instead of giving money for a hedge, a tree or a flower, money needs to go to people who work the land, preserve its biodiversity and mitigate climate change in a holistically managed system. The current payment model suggested for carbon exacerbates challenges around land access, especially for young and first-time farmers. Large companies can buy huge tracks of land, speculating on EU subsidies that will be devoted to carbon farming. Enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem integrity should be prerequisite to land-based activities.

Lastly, a strong emphasis was put on the role of farming advisory services, auditors and inspectors. Currently, most advisors advising services are run by individuals that were trained within industrial farming, which gives them, for example, only tools to manage pests with chemicals. No advisory services are easily available to most farmers who would like to foster the goals of the Biodiversity and Farm to Fork Strategies, and manage the land regeneratively. Further, auditors and inspectors are trained to scrutinise farmers and enforce overly complicated bureaucratic criteria. They often end up taking away promised support and penalising the very practices that would help bring forward stated Green Deal commitments, instead of engaging in the cooperative exchange that farmers need. Farmers should be rewarded for being farmers and supported, not treated with suspicion. Further, when it comes to carbon farming, new advisory services are often financed by industrial corporations that are focused on increasing profit without a holistic view of the environment. This creates a lack of not only professional advice on sustainability but also independent advice.

## Annexes

Participant List:

Elena	Ambuhl
Tys	Boelens
Boglarka	Bozsogi
Kristel	Cuvelier
Jean Marc	Desfilhes



Marilda	Dhaskali
Nicola	Di Virgilio
Brigitte	Gloire
Dalton	June
Jurij	Krajcic
Paola	Migliorini
Ingrid	Pauwels
Emmanuel	Petel
Aalt	Van Middendorp
Mieke	Verbeeck
Henrike	Von der Decken
Hanna	Winkler
Patrick	Worms

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# Policy workshop #2

Participants introducing themselves in the workshop at Abbey Home Farm, Gloucestershire, UK



[agromixproject.eu](http://agromixproject.eu)

## ***Agroforestry in England***

Policies, land ownership and a just transition

Report of Second Workshop WP6.3

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Time: 10.00 – 17.00

Hosting Institution name: Coventry University

Workshop Venue: Abbey Home Farm,  
Gloucestershire, UK

Contact info: Rosemary Venn  
[Rosemary.venn@coventry.ac.uk](mailto:Rosemary.venn@coventry.ac.uk)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 862993.



# Second workshop report

WP 6.3

*09/06/23*





## Workshop Report

“Agroforestry in England: policies, land ownership and a  
just transition”

09/06/23



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## General outline of the event

On 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023, 23 representatives from civil society, land owning institutions, farmers and academia met at Abbey Home Farm, England, to continue discussion on the future of agroforestry in England. The meeting agenda followed participant feedback from the **first workshop** (January 2023, Cranfield University) that focused around the new DEFRA Environmental Land Management schemes: tenancies, access to land, financing and the broader integration of trees in the whole farm enterprise. Participants heard from two Devonshire farmers already practicing agroforestry, Marina O’Connell of Huxhams Cross Farm, and Andy Gray of Elston Farm, as well as Nicholas Millard from Henley Business School on the finer details of tenancy in England. The day rounded off with a tour of tree planting within a vegetable-based horticulture system at Abbey Home Farm by head grower, Andy Dibben.

The three key topics covered were how to engage landlords, facilitate tenant farmers and better integrate agroforestry products in the supply chain. Key points are captured below, with a number of policy recommendations as the principal results from the workshop.

## Location and time of the workshop

The workshop took place on 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 at Abbey Home Farm, Gloucestershire, UK. It was an all-day event 10-5pm.

## Speakers and presenters

Time	Full name	Presentation topic	Organisation
10.15-11.00	Julia Wright and Ulrich Schmutz	Welcome and introductions	Coventry University
11.10-12.00	Nicholas Millard	Room for trees? The tenanted dimension	Henley Business School, University of Reading
12.00-12.30	Marina O’Connell	Experiences of a tenant farmer	Huxom Cross Farm
12.30-13.00	Andy Gray	Commercial opportunities in silvopasture	Elston Farm
16.00-17.00	Andy Dibben	Farm tour, agroforestry and horticulture	Abbey Home Farm



**Ulrich Schmutz and Julia Wright:** Project Lead and Work-package Lead respectively, these speakers introduced the project, situated the workshop within the wider context of AGROMIX, gave highlights from other policy workshops across EU and asserted the narrative of more trees on farms.

**Nicholas Millard:** As a former land agent (including a Managing Agent for the Crown Estate) and researcher and lecturer in land tenure and valuation, this speaker gave an overview of the finer details of tenure in England and how we may look at incorporating trees into agreements between landlords and tenants.

**Marina O'Connell:** As a tenant farmer for multiple landlords with different appetites for agroforestry, this speaker gave an account of her experiences of planting and working with trees on land that is not owned and explored innovative tenancy agreements.

**Andy Gray:** As a mixed farmer and head of a family business in butchery, this speaker explored the many opportunities of incorporating different products into supply chains, particularly agroforestry and mixed farming products.

**Andy Dibben:** As Head Grower at Abbey Home Farm, Andy gave a detailed and thorough tour and explanation of how and why trees are incorporated into their horticultural system and the benefits the trees provide.

## Workshop topic

The workshop topic arose from feedback from the first policy workshop: primarily the need to readdress issues of tenancy, land ownership and engaging landowners. This is situated within the agroecological understanding of natural resource management and distribution, encouraging fair access to land.

As the UK Government finalises plans for the new ELMs, with recent announcements on the Sustainable Farming Incentives (SFIs), the topic of how best to support farmers and landowners who want to incorporate more trees on farms is ever-relevant.

## Discussions for the project

**Engaging landowners:** The group agreed on the need for a joined-up approach to demonstrate the breadth of what agroforestry can be in practice and how it can be valued. This value comprises both non-monetary (micro-climate, shade, biodiversity etc.) as well as monetary from agroforestry crops (fruit, nuts, botanicals, woodchips, timber, carbon sequestration). The need for more examples on farms is key, with suggestions for pioneering farmers to be paid to share their knowledge. The difference between tangible and intangible benefits of trees on farms needs to be communicated, and more advisors with agroforestry experience need to be in place in England. Tenants can play a role in engaging with landowners and land agents on the benefits of agroforestry but support is needed from civil society and government.



**Facilitating tenant farmers:** Participants identified removing barriers for tenant farmers as critical if we are to see an increased uptake of agroforestry systems in England. Policy needs to be more supportive and landlord concerns over valuation need to be addressed. New models for tenancy agreements should be considered, such as joint ventures. Whilst tenant farmers can seek to engage landlords with the benefits, landowning institutions must come to the table and actively engage and see the benefits of trees. For this to happen, the long-term diverse values of agroforestry systems need to be better understood for it to be promoted as a valid land use change on a large scale.

**Integration of agroforestry products into the supply chain:** Participants emphasised the need for farms to link with businesses (and vice versa) in order to further the integration of agroforestry products into the supply chain. The importance of integrated land use and a land use framework was again highlighted. Investment is needed in infrastructure (e.g., for local / regional processing), and farmer co-operatives need to share equipment and routes to market. Agroforestry processing, including *on-farm* (e.g., for botanical drinks) has broader benefits for employment in rural areas and fits well within eco-tourism agendas.

## Workshop outputs

### Recommended policy priorities:

- Raise the current ambition/targets of ELMs and commit budget increases and funding for agroforestry research, knowledge dissemination and promotion of agroforestry supply chain products
- Scale up education and training across farming, forestry and agronomy sectors, with a focus on both the tangible and intangible benefits of agroforestry, system design and valuation
- Increase opportunities to see agroforestry in practice. Support for initiatives such as the Agroforestry Open Weekends should be encouraged, with payments made to farmers for providing farm walks and sharing insights
- Re-address tenancy agreements with alternative models such as joint ventures or sub-tenancies supported with examples and templates
- Encourage support for regional food hubs, with local affordable products endorsed

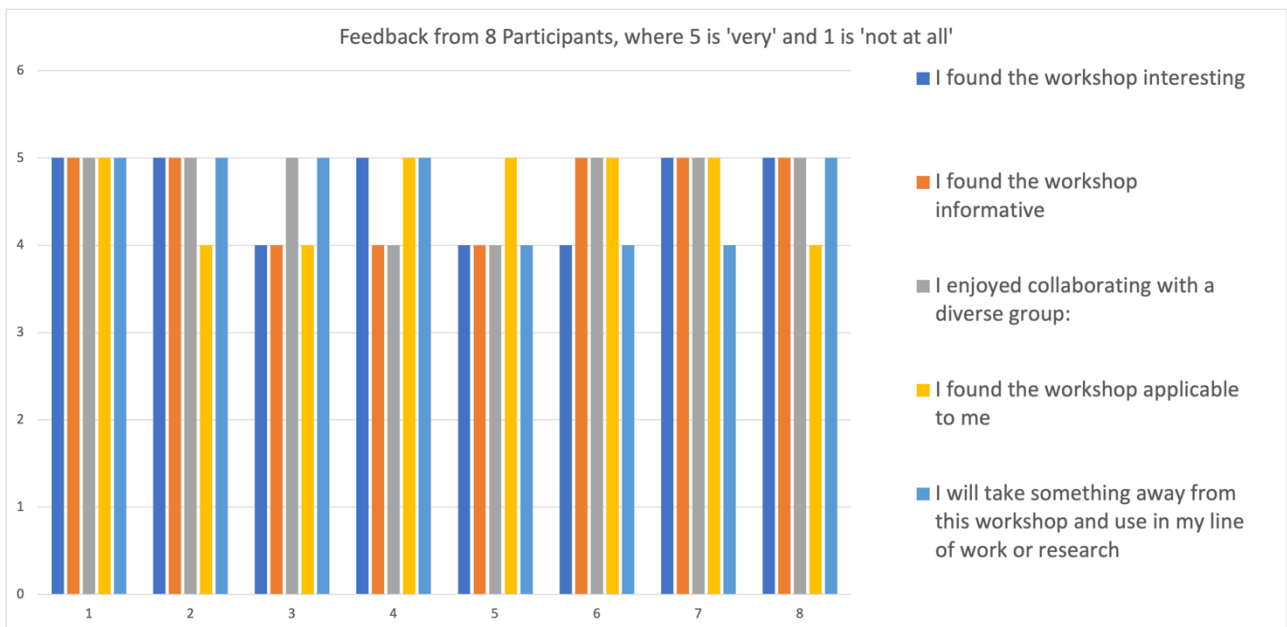
### Next steps:

The outputs from this workshop will form part of an Advisory Brief to be used in debate and advocacy at the Europe-wide AGROMIX Summit in spring 2024. This Summit is aimed at all policy maker levels, including the European Commission. The key points from both the England workshops will be combined with recommendations from 12 additional workshops that have been taking place across Europe in 2023 and will add to the knowledge base for agroforestry practitioners, land agents and policy makers.



Domestically, conclusions from the workshops will be disseminated across several platforms, including at the Agroforestry Show (6-7 September 2023, Eastbrook Farm Wiltshire) and will form part of a co-authored Policy Brief, led by the Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience. This Policy Brief will be used to continue the conversation between landowning institutions and their tenants, as well as the broader discussions around a land use framework for England and Scotland, and possibly Wales. AGROMIX aims to continue building this connection between landowners, policy makers and farmers to find solutions that work for all.

## Feedback from participants



## Annexes

### 1. Agenda:

#### Agenda

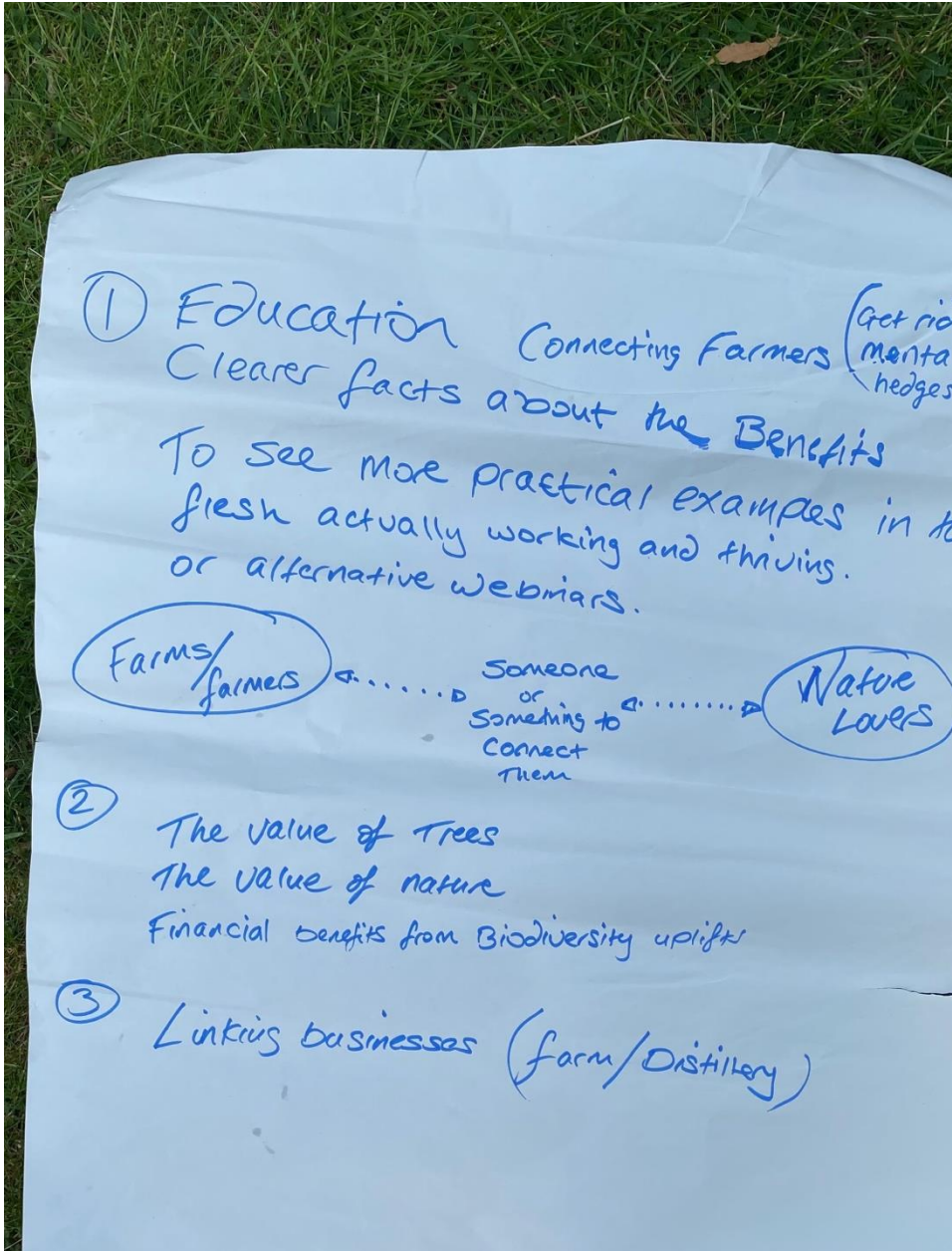
Time	Title	Speaker
10.00	Arrival and registration	
10.15 - 11.00	Welcome and introductions	Rosemary Venn, Ulrich Schmutz - Coventry University
11.10 - 11.30	Room for trees? The tenanted dimension	Nicholas Millard - Henley Business School University of Reading
11.30 - 12.00	Coffee break	
12.00 - 12.30	Experiences of a tenant farmer	Marina O'Connell – Apricot Centre
12.30 - 13.00	Commercial opportunities in silvopasture	Andy Gray – Elston Farm
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch	
14.00 - 15.00	Break out group discussions	Moderators
15.00 - 15.30	Coffee break	
15.30 - 16.00	Feedback, discussion and closing remarks	All
16.00 - 17.00	Farm tour	Andy Dibben – Abbey Home Farm

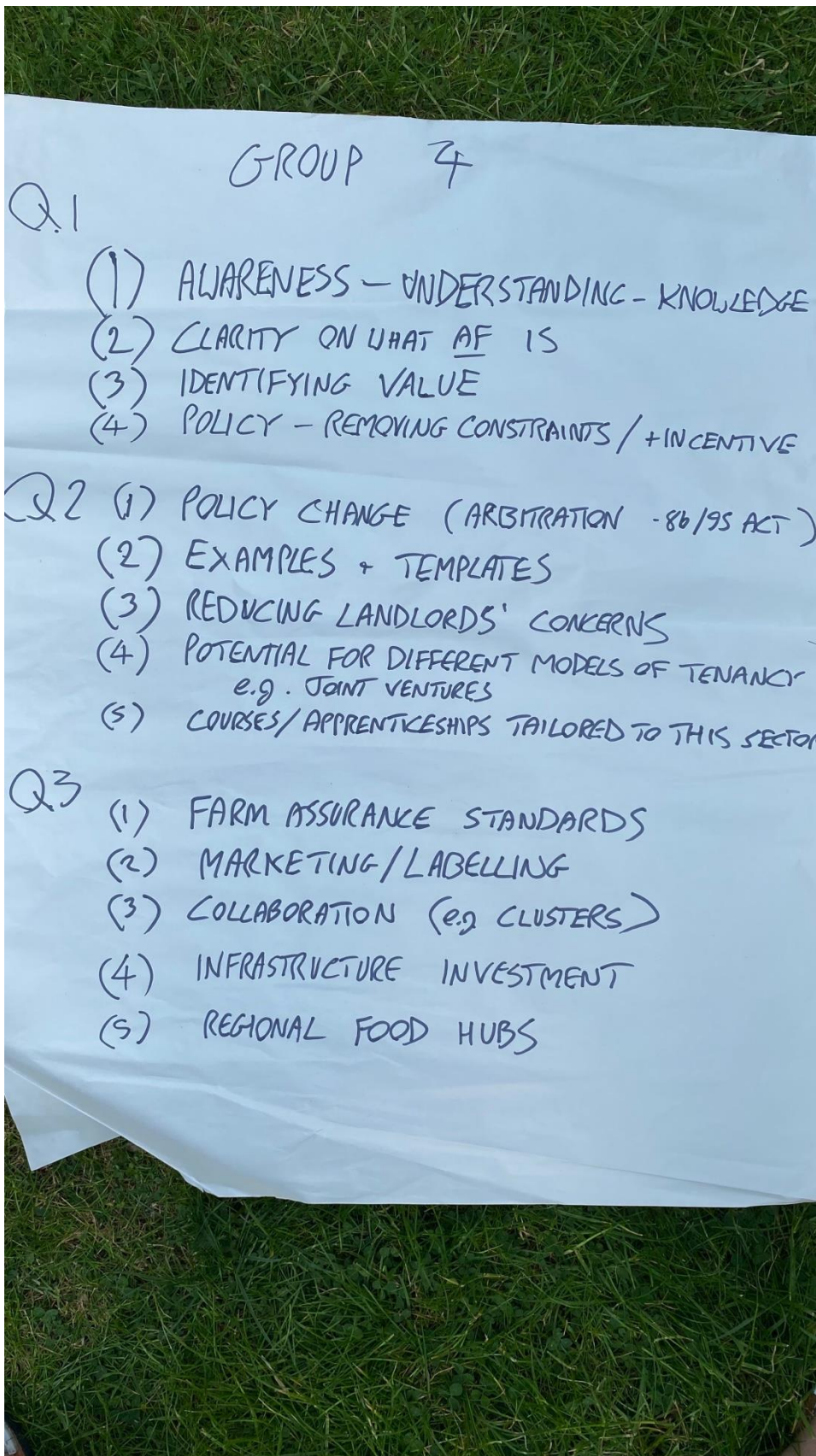


## 2. Participant List:

Name	Organisation	Stakeholder group
Helen Chesshire	Woodland Trust	Civil society
Katharina Dehnen-Schmutz	Coventry University	Research
Jon Haines	Soil Association	Civil society
Ulrich Schmutz	Coventry University	Research
Julia Wright	Coventry University	Research
Stephen Hobbs	/	Farmer
Alexa Varah	National History Museum	Civil society
Andy Gray	/	Farmer
Debra Willoughby	/	Farmer
Fred Bonestroo	/	Farmer
Heather Webb	Duchy of Cornwall	Landowner
James Ramskir Gardner	Forestry Commission	Civil society
Ken Wooding	/	Farmer
Matt Stanway	National Trust	Landowner
Nick Millard	Henley Business School	Research
Rob Brett	Church Commissioners	Landowner
Sarah Poppy	Historic England	Landowner
Will Simonson	Organic Research Centre	Civil society

3. Discussion notes







Qu 1. More examples on farms  
 More advisors with AF expertise

Funding for the transition  
 More joined-up thinking amongst farm advisory bodies  
 Pay farmers to talk/show farms  
 Government input/campaigns to create 'increase markets'  
 More agroforestry taught in ag colleges/unis. + apprenticeships.

Qu 2. Govt support for rural housing/accom for farm labour as ↑ labour needs in AF  
 Access to land for potential new entrant  
 Longer term tenancies.  
 Educate land agents & land owners.  
 Model based on cluster farms to help develop plans for AF land use/creative ways of dealing with constraints.  
 AF dating app 😊

Qu 3. Public procurement - eg schools, hospitals  
 Educate consumers about soil health/biodiv/AF  
 Govt support to create clusters/regional groups collect products & then distribute/market

*Long-term funding that also supports tree establishment & care*

*regional hubs*

Qu 3 cont...

Shared processing plants  
 How can we incentivise people to shop locally?  
 ↳ can govt provide rent-free spaces?  
 remove admin/legislative barriers?  
 local food maps - where you can go to get local food  
 How to encourage PYO?  
 Link farming to carbon & biodiversity markets.  
 Educate the media about AF.  
 AF farming games!! to brainwash kids 😊

① Group 9-June-2023

- ① - soil - improving
- ② - soft advice church commissions
- tenant led
- 2025 carbon footprint entry point
- 2010 protein-crops
- grass - precision grazing
- carbon sequestration
- agroforestry
- are we adding them want they want?
- realistic about benefits tangible + intangible benefits

McDonalds

blocker + barriers

not understanding future income?

- lot of information out there, but scattered
- unscale + sell AE, having a major focal point
- forestry commission - get in front of them
- 40% of woodland not managed
- saying landscape perception
- business resilience main factor (they are additional environmental benefits)
- sharing aspect of business win-win situation
- government funding can take out risk (de-risking is important)
- agroforestry education for forestry + farming

improve tenants, pe-letting environmental assessment made speed of change

③ Supp

- UKS
- Pig-
- 'cultural
- cider
- Walnut
- perfect
- oak
- no integrat
- Walleym
- mental

③ supply chain

- UK spirit industry botanicals + Ginn
- grains
- Rosinberry - by-product use timber
- scale - Blackberry
- leaf
- elohs
- contract growing + shared equipment use with farm co-operative model
- Pig- iberico local produce
- 'cultural identity' missing like in France or Italy
- Cider + Perry - 20% sunlight needed for duckens, ducks max egg
- Walnut + nuts
- perfect broadleaf growing condition?
- oak
- no integrated land use, hence more timber needed, in heavily populated country
- Walleym + Eco tourism 60 volunteers on farm
- mental health issues as other income

Sh wood chip + quality timber

-> quivels?

- box clever sheeps wool

- non-plastic tree protection

- 'cloud-forest' exchange of ideas

critical mass needed

idea exchange



4. Photos



caption: Participants in the venue at Abbey Home Farm



Caption: Andy Gray discussing agroforestry practice at Elston Farm



Caption: Andy Dibben guiding the field tour



Caption: Andy Dibben expounding the merits of agroforestry

End of document



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# Policy workshop



## ***Creating practice oriented and future-proof Agroforestry Policy***

*Joint prioritization of improvements in agroforestry policy*

Date 06.07.2023  
Time 9:30-15:30  
Hosting Institution name ZALF e.V.

Contact info:

First and last name Alma Thiesmeier  
Email address [alma.thiesmeier@zalf.de](mailto:alma.thiesmeier@zalf.de)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 862993.



# Second workshop report

WP 6.3

*11.07.2023*





## Workshop Report

# “Creating practice oriented and future-proof Agroforestry Policy”

11.07.2023



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# General outline of the event

## Introduction

Agroforestry systems can contribute to sustainable land use by combining high land productivity with the provisioning of ecosystem services. In the current funding period of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), Germany has established funding under the eco-schemes with 60 €/ha of wooded area for agroforestry systems. Additionally, investment aid is planned for the establishment of agroforestry systems. However, this funding is still under development and will become available from 2024 onwards until the end of the current funding period in 2027. In its strategic plan, Germany has stated the goal of having established 200'000ha of wooded area within agroforestry systems. For this to be realised an annual average of 25'000ha would need to be established every year. As of July 2023 however, the first year has seen a total of 51ha of wooded area registered under the agroforestry eco-scheme for the first year of the 4 year funding period. Given this massive underutilisation of the agroforestry eco-scheme there must be severe weaknesses in the policy framework for agroforestry. In a first workshop in February 2023, some of these problems as well as possible solutions were discussed and identified with stakeholders from agriculture, extension and private companies. These solutions were then condensed into a set of demands that were used to structure the discussion and matrix ranking undertaken in the second workshop. This way, we were able to prioritise improvements within agroforestry policy together with stakeholders from politics, administration, and agriculture.

## Location and time of the workshop

The workshop was held on the farm of Thomas Domin in Peickwitz, southern Brandenburg. Thomas Domin is a founding member of the German Agroforestry Association DeFAF e.V. and has practiced agroforestry for many years. His farm is located in a particularly dry and sandy region in Brandenburg with therefore poor yield potential for crops. Therefore, in a collaboration with Christian Böhm, also a founding member of DeFAF e.V., he started planting short rotation tree rows with poplar and black locust and continuously introduced a wider variety of long-standing trees to his systems. His farm was chosen to showcase an agroforestry pioneer in Brandenburg and give participants an insight into how agroforestry functions in practice. The date was selected to be shortly before the parliamentary summer break and in between the barley and rye harvest to enable the attendance of farmers and politicians.

## Speakers and presenters

During the workshop we included a presentation of project internal results, both from the previous workshop in February as well as modelling results. This way, we were able to combine quantitative and qualitative evidence that lend argument to adjustments in the agroforestry policy. Afterwards, Thomas Domin gave a tour of his farm, especially the agroforestry plots.



Time	Full name	Presentation topic	Organisation
9:30	Alma Thiesmeier	Problem identification in the current agroforestry policy - Economic evaluation and workshop results.	ZALF e.V.
10:30	Thomas Domin	Farm tour	DeFAF e.V.

## Agenda

The event was split into two parts. In the morning, we had a presentation and tour over the farm of Thomas Domin, followed by a collaborative exercise in the afternoon.

<i>Time</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Presenter / Mentor</i>
9:30 – 10:30	06.07.2023	Welcome and Presentation of results from previous workshop	Alma Thiesmeier
10:30 – 12:30	06.07.2023	Touring the agroforestry field of farmer Thomas Domin	Thomas Domin
13:30 – 15:30	06.07.2023	Matrix Ranking for prioritisation of demands for improving agroforestry policy, taken from the first policy workshop	Alma Thiesmeier

## Workshop topic

The workshop primarily focused on improvements in agroforestry policy due to the discrepancy between stated goal in the strategic plan and the actually achieved wooded area in agroforestry systems. To try and get as close to the stated goal within the current funding period, improvements are necessary. To facilitate these improvements as well as an exchange between farmers, politics and administration we decided to discuss different improvement options as well as prioritising them together.

The prioritisation was done using the method of matrix ranking. A set of demands were taken from the first workshop in February, discussed in regards to their appropriateness and then ranked. The method has the following steps:

1. Discuss demands and adjust, delete and add demands as necessary (stated by the participants)
2. Discuss all positive and negative aspects of each demand
3. Condense these aspects into assessment categories
4. Draw up a table with the demands on the top and the assessment categories on the side (in our case six demands and 4 assessment categories)
5. Hand out a predetermined amount of points (in our case 4) for each assessment category
6. All participants distribute their points as they see fit – meaning they give points to those demands that best fulfil/ fit the assessment criteria in their opinion
7. Summing up all points within one demand column
8. The column with the most points has the highest priority
9. Ranking the assessment categories to see which one is considered most important by participants.

After completing the matrix ranking with the agricultural stakeholders, we discussed the opportunities and hurdles most prioritised demand faces in an administrative and political context.

## Discussions for the project

### Matrix Ranking

For the Matrix ranking, the following demands were presented to participants:

- Getting rid of the use-concept
- Increasing Eco-scheme payments to 850/ha wooded area
- Establishing investment aid that covers 100% of investment costs incurred by the farmer
- Getting rid of the minimum distance regulations between the field edge and the tree rows
- Increasing the maximum distance regulations to above 100m

During the initial discussion with the participants the demands were adjusted and partly replaced. The positive and negative attributes of those demands was then collected and condensed and can be found in the below table, together with the points given by participants. It became clear that participants prioritised extension services that are subsidised by the state. Participants stressed the importance of guidance and advice for farmers to establish and plan successful systems. The issue with the second most points was the improvements on the use concept. Currently, this use concept has to be handed in by farmers before being able to receive payments under eco-scheme 3 (AF). This use concept as well as its name was criticised by an attending farmer because while it is in effect not much additional work, the name is associated with a lot of paperwork and does not make it an easy access point for farmers, more on an emotional than rational level. Additionally, the paperwork is separate from the regular paperwork which can be filled online in one single graphical user interface. Here, adjustments could be made in graphical user interface as well as considering to change the name. After prioritising the six demands the participants also ranked the assessment criteria regarding their importance. Each participant had three points available. Most points had “Easy starting



conditions”, followed by “sufficient financial incentive” and “flexible design of AFS” on second place. Least important was considered “Immediate Implementation possible”.

Demands	Making the use concept easier to fill out	Increase eco-scheme payments to 60€/ha agroforestry system instead of per ha wooded are	100% investment cost coverage	Getting rid of minimum distance regulations	Adjusting list of excluded tree species	Establishing subsidised extension services for AFS
Assessment criteria						
Flexible design of AFS	5	2	2	5	3	3
Immediate implementation possible	5	0	3	1	4	6
Easy starting conditions	5	0	2	4	3	6
Sufficient financial incentive	2	5	8	0	0	5
Sum of points	17	7	15	10	10	20

The demand with the highest priority also had the most point in the most highly ranked assessment criteria, making it a good fit. Second highest priority demand has he most points in the second highest ranked assessment criteria. Financial aid as well as sufficient financial incentive were not as highly ranked. Therefore, it seems that extension services as well as easy paperwork and application processes are more important than or could be seen as necessary pre-conditions in order for sufficient financial incentives to be important to farmers.

## Discussion

Unfortunately, we did not have a large number of participants during the workshop. One of the reasons was the timing, sine the workshop took place during the busy summer months where workload for farmers and politicians is high. The timing was due to project stipulation and could not be delayed. Therefore, results cannot be seen as representative but instead as a snapshot in place and time. A validation of results with larger base of participants could be of interest but is not possible within the financial and time restrictions within the project.

## Feedback from participants

Feedback from participants was mixed. They did positively evaluate the mix of stakeholders that participated as well as the tour of the farm and the theoretical input in the morning. A major criticism was the low number of participants which don't allow for representative results.

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# Policy workshop



## ***Agromix policy workshop: Solutions for the CEE region***

### *Second workshop*

Online workshop - 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
Field trip: 9th August 2023, Sárvár

Ádám Varga  
avarga@ceeweb.org

CEEweb for Biodiversity



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 862993.



# Second workshop report

WP 6.3

*27<sup>th</sup> July & 9<sup>th</sup> August 2023*



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## 1. General outline of the event

The second Agromix multi stakeholder policy workshop within the CEE region took place online on the 27<sup>th</sup> of July, following a successful first workshop in Nagymaros, involving a variety of stakeholders from Hungary. The primary goal of the workshop was to facilitate the transition to agroforestry and mixed farming systems across the CEE region, including through the creation of policy recommendations which will be disseminated in an EU level MF/AF policy white paper and summit. To this extent, the workshop involved a series of presentations, including: the utility of agroforestry in mitigating and adapting to climate change; mechanisms to increase agroforestry uptake within Hungary; practical Agromix case studies into the development of agroforestry practices within Serbia and Poland; and an interactive session discussing agroecological transitions for a variety of farms.

The policy workshop was followed by an in-person field trip on the 9<sup>th</sup> August to Sárvár, providing both examples of effective agroforestry practices and a platform for discussion between a variety of stakeholders.

## 2. Location and time of the workshop

The workshop took place online via Zoom from 10:00-13:00 on the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023. This was followed by an in person field trip on the 9<sup>th</sup> August to Sárvár.

## 3. Speakers and presenters

### Online workshop

Time	Full name	Presentation topic	Organisation
10:00-10:15	Linda Magyar and Ádám Varga	Opening and introduction to the Agromix project	CEEweb for Biodiversity
10:15-10:45	Paloma de Linares PhD	Potential development of agroforestry systems in CEE countries	Hungarian University of Life Sciences
10:45-11:25	Adrienn Gyenes and Ildikó Dósa	Bringing agroforestry systems closer to farmers	Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture
11:25-12:05	Pawel Radzikowski and Marcin Wójcik	Agroforestry in Poland; introduction of the OIKOS pilot farm	Polish Agroforestry Association
12:15-12:45	Dragan Roganovic	Agroforestry in Serbia, introducing the pilot farm	Network for Rural Development of Serbia



In person field trip to Sávár:

Time	Full name	Presentation topic	Organisation
11:00-11:10	Ádám Varga	Opening and introduction to the Agromix project	CEEweb for Biodiversity
11:10-12:00	Attila Borovics PhD	Good practices in Agroforestry	University of Sopron
13:00-14:00	Attila Borovics PhD	Field demonstration, Bajti Experimental Nursery: Visit of demonstration plantations, discussion of field experiences.	University of Sopron
14:00-15:00	Attila Borovics PhD	Field demonstration, hornbeam-oak forest: The impacts of climate change on semi-natural forests and possible solutions of adaptation	University of Sopron

**Linda Magyar** is the CEEweb project coordinator for the AGROMIX Project, and **Ádám Varga** is the project officer. **Paloma de Linares** is a PhD student at MATE, providing expertise on the potential development of AF systems in CEE countries and the ability of agroforestry to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation. Further, **Adrienn Gyenes** (Policy Expert) gave an insight into existing funding and future opportunities for AF systems within Hungary, while **Ildikó Dósa** (Forestry Expert) introduced the development of the agroforestry demonstration area in Mezőhegyes. **Pawel Radzikowski** from the Polish Agroforestry Association was able to deliver a clear outline of the opportunities and challenges of implementing AF within Poland, which was followed with a case study by **Marcin Wójcik**, owner of OIKOS farm. Further, **Dragan Roganovic** from the Network for the Rural Development of Serbia outlined agricultural policy and funding opportunities in Serbia, using AGROMIX pilot case studies. At the field trip to Sávár, **Attila Borovics PhD**, Forestry Expert, provided an insight into AF practices through a presentation and field site demonstration. All presenters were chosen to assist in introducing the AGROMIX project to a broad audience and raise awareness of the benefits of agroforestry and mixed farming practices across the CEE region.



## 4. Agenda

### Online Event

<i>Time</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Presenter / Mentor</i>
9:50 – 10:00	Welcome	
10:00 – 10:15	Opening and Introduction to the Agromix project	Linda Magyar and Ádám Varga
10:15 – 10:45	Potential development of AF systems in CEE countries	Paloma de Linares PhD
10:45 – 11:25	Bringing AF systems closer to farmers	Adrienn Gyenes and Ildikó Dósa
11:25 – 12:05	AF in Poland: introduction of the OIKOS pilot farm	Pawel Radzikowski and Marcin Wójcik
12:05 – 12:15	Coffee Break	
12:15 – 12:45	AF in Serbia, introducing the pilot farm	Dragan Roganovic
13:25 – 13:35	Interactive session	Ceeweb: Linda Magyar, Ádám Varga, Charlotte Maddinson, Florent Demelezi

### Field Workshop

<i>Time</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Presenter / Mentor</i>
10:30-11:00	Registration	
11:00-11:10	Opening and Introduction to the AGROMIX project	Ádám Varga
11:10-12:00	Presentation on good practices in agroforestry	Attila Borovics PhD
12:00-13:00	Lunch	
13:00-14:00	Field demonstration, Bajti Experimental Nursery	Attila Borovics PhD
14:00-15:00	Field demonstration, hornbeam-oak forest	Attila Borovics PhD



## 5. Workshop topic

The aim of the second series of AGROMIX workshops was to introduce the AGROMIX project and AF/MF policies to a wider range of stakeholders, both across Hungary and in the wider CEE region. Within the workshops, presenters outlined a number of aspects of AF/MF transitions across the CEE region, from the challenges and opportunities of Polish and Serbian agroforestry to the funding opportunities of AF in Hungary, and the potential for AF systems in mitigation and adaptation to climate change. Discussions and outputs from the presentations are outlined below.

## 6. Discussions for the project

### Online workshop

Linda Magyar and Ádám Varga (CEEweb) opened the event, introducing the outcomes of the AGROMIX pilot sites and policy co-development work package so far, including key takeaway messages. These included the need for awareness raising and education; the importance of cooperation and communication; and the current benefits and challenges presented by the new CAP green architecture framework.

Next, Paloma Gonzalez de Linares PhD outlined the potential development of agroforestry systems in CEE countries and the ability of AF in climate change mitigation and adaptation. In particular, Paloma outlined the main challenges facing CEE countries in light of climate change and ecosystem degradation, including increased frequency, severity and duration of droughts, flooding and hailstorms; changes in green cover; and biodiversity loss, including bumblebee loss. Further, Paloma suggested a number of agroforestry mechanisms which could be enacted in specific areas of the CEE region. Proposed agroforestry mechanisms included forest gardens, shelterbelts, windbreaks, alley cropping, and orchards with grazing or poultry, and were produced alongside a map (see Annex). Overall, the presentation provided compelling data evidence for the utility of AF within the context of the climate crisis, as well as practical advice as to where specific AF systems should be implemented

Adrienn Gyenes (policy expert) and Ildikó Dósa (forestry expert) next represented the Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture to discuss AF uptake in Hungary. This included an outline of current barriers to AF transitions, with low uptake associated with lack of knowledge, appropriate machinery, the availability of other funding sources, and the complexity of agroforestry systems. Mechanisms to bring AF systems to farmers were consequently outlined, including through the creation of an AF Demonstration Area. Participants were left with a clear understanding of current state of AF within Hungary, as well as current government efforts to increase agroforestry uptake.

Pawel Radzikowski (Polish Agroforestry Association) next presented the characteristics of agriculture and agroforestry practices in Poland, introducing the main policies, funding and actors supporting the

development of agroforestry. Following an introduction by Pawel, Marcin Wójcik, owner of the OIKOS farm, provided an excellent case study into the development of agroforestry system within Poland. Marcin outlined his motivations for implementing AF systems, including the provision of ecosystem services such as soil protection, water retention, and climate mitigation. Consequently, participants were left with a strong example of the transition to AF practices, which has been flagged as a key requirement for increasing agroforestry uptake.

The final presentation was given by Dragan Roganovic (Network for Rural Development of Serbia). Dragan provided insights to the agricultural policy background and funding for Serbian agroforestry which is currently limited. Using the AGROMIX Serbian pilot farm as an example, Dragan provided a number of recommendations to incentivise agroecological transitions, including the need to improve existing forms of agricultural production, and for farm management to be adapted to the requirements of farming in protected areas. The Serbian farming case study provided a second clear example of the utility and practicality of agroforestry systems across the CEE workshop.

### Field trip

Following an introduction to the AGROMIX project and outputs from the first workshop by Ádám Varga (CEEweb), forestry expert Attila Borovics PhD (University of Sopron) presented on traditional approaches to agroforestry, using global case studies including India and South America. Attila stressed the need to combine traditional methods and current capabilities for agroforestry with modern solutions including mechanisation and the development of a market for products. Modern agroforestry approaches need to centre climate mitigation, soil protection and biodiversity conservation as **key objectives**; for long-term planning, this requires complementing subsidy-driven decision making with the consideration of sustainability objectives. Finally, Attila presented SiteViewer, a forestry decision support application developed by the University of Sopron's Institute of Forestry Science for climate change adaptation.

The morning presentations were complemented to 2 field site visits: Bajti Experimental Nursery and a hornbeam-oak forests. The field visits enabled participants to see agroforestry in action, and gain a deeper understanding of the different agroforestry mechanisms.



## 7. Workshop outputs

### Online workshop

To conclude the online workshop, participants took part in an interactive session, discussing the different scenarios for agroecological transitions, using case studies. This helped to develop several recommendations for agroecological transition. These included the **importance of dissemination, awareness raising and education**, as well as **economic viability** and **emotional attachment** of stakeholders to AF transitions. In particular, case studies and data which display the financial feasibility of AF transitions without a dependency on project-based funding is key. Further feedback from an online form highlighted the importance of **reducing bureaucratic hurdles**, increasing the **value of support payments**, and legalising forest grazing in CEE regions.

### Field trip

Several key outputs were produced during the field trip. Among the issues raised during the presentation were the **damage to crops by rare species or game** that are attracted by newly introduced shelterbelts. The importance of compensation by the sector concerned was discussed as a solution; in the case of game, the game keeper should be responsible for the damage, and in the case of protected species, the relevant conservation body should be responsible, so that the farmer does not have to bear all the damage.

Limitations of the machinery and infrastructure currently available to farmers were also raised. Consequently, it was pointed out that many modern agroforestry systems are able to accommodate large pieces of existing machinery and may not require specialisation. This limitation falls into the remit of the wider need for **education and awareness raising** across a range of sectors including farmers and land owners who are considering agroforestry practices.

Further, the high rate of land renting in Hungary and the higher openness of small and medium farmers to uptake agroforestry systems compared to large farmers was discussed. Here too, it would be essential to find appropriate solutions, i.e. to **target non-renting and small/medium farmers in the first instance**.

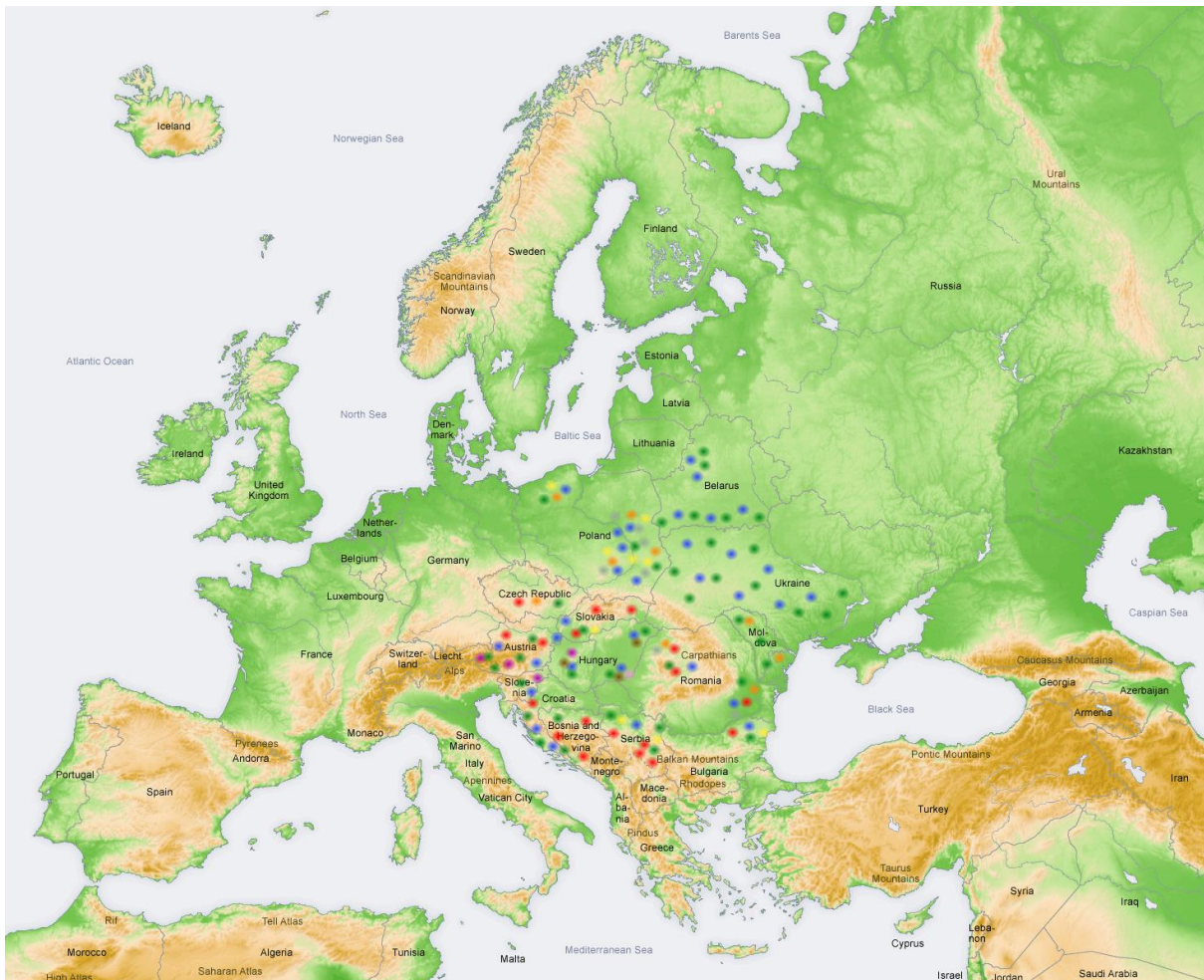
Finally, the post-workshop feedback form highlighted a number of important recommendations. These included **providing clarity** with regard to legislations and available subsidies relevant to agroforestry, and adapting **land use, land registry and land evaluation** to enable the uptake of AF systems.

### **Summary**

The online workshop and subsequent field trip successfully enabled the participation of and dialogue between a variety of stakeholders in the transition to agroforestry systems. The project consortium will submit a white paper based on the project's policy work package during the "AGROMIX summit" next year.

## 8. Annexes

### Media



**Figure 1:** Map of the agroforestry systems to implement according to the state of the soil and agriculture and the existing agroforestry systems per country, and according to the elevation map of Europe and the present land cover. Red: forest-gardens. Blue: alley cropping. Purple: woodpastures. Green: shelterbelts, windbreaks, hedgerows. Yellow: poultry in orchard. Orange: grazing in orchard. Brown: intercropping in orchard. Pink: intercropping in vineyards. Grey: fruit shrub and herbs.



**Figure 2:** Oikos farm, a case study into the development of agroforestry in Poland used within the online workshop. Image credit: Marcin Wójcik.





**Figure 3:** Presentation by Attila Borovics PhD on the transition from traditional to modern agroforestry practices.



**Figure 4:** Field site demonstration by Attila Borovics PhD on the agroforestry practices of Bajti Experimental Nursery.



**Figure 5:** Field site demonstration by Attila Borovics PhD on the ancient hornbeam-oak forest of Sávár, and good forestry practices in the context of climate change.

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# Policy workshop

Farm name, location, Source:



[agromixproject.eu](https://agromixproject.eu)

## ***Agroforestry in France***

*Policies and support measures for agroforestry*

August 31, 2023

9:00 – 12:15

ACTA

Teams visioconference

Sonia RAMONTEU

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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 862993.



# Second workshop report

WP 6.3

*31/08/2023*





# Workshop Report

*“Policies and support measures for agroforestry”*

31/08/2023



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## General outline of the event

The second workshop of the 31/08/2023 aimed at finalising propositions of support measures for AF systems in France and, following demands of the 1<sup>st</sup> workshop, to bring information on AF systems in Europe and current support of AF systems in France. Both advisors and AF systems funders participated at the workshop. Support measures were identified for 3 different AF systems (hedges, intraparcellar trees and breeder/arborist cooperation) in 3 thematic (knowledge needs, economic valuation, and policies).

### Introduction

Following the first workshop (15/03/2023), a second workshop took place on the 31st of August 2023 aiming to build together propositions of support measures for AF systems. The workshop also was the opportunity to present the issues debated in the other Member States of the project participating in this exercise and the current support measures of AF systems (demand of the 1st workshop). The list of invited people at the second workshop was broader than the first one as AF system funders were also invited. The workshop was initially planned the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June 2023 but had to be postponed since the same day was launched the 1<sup>st</sup> workshop of a national consultation: The Pact in favour of Hedges and Trees.

### Location and time of the workshop

In order to boost participation at a busy time (post vacations), a visioconference format was chosen. The workshop took place on Teams on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2023 from 9h00 to 12h15

### Speakers and presenters

Time	Full name	Presentation topic	Organisation
9h10	Sonia Ramonteu	Conclusions of the first workshop	ACTA
9h30	Sonia Ramonteu and Geoffrey Chiron	State of AF in Europe, assessment of current political measures and first proposals from the Agromix Deliverables, themes and conclusions of the series of policy workshops in the 5 MS	ACTA and ITAVI
10h00	Léa Lemoine	Proposals for political measures from the ReunirAF project	APCA
10h20	Geoffrey Chiron	Presentation of some current AF support measures (European and Regional)	ITAVI





10h50	Sonia Ramonteu and Léa Lemoine	Presentation of first elements of the Pact in favor of hedges and trees	ACTA and APCA
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Sonia Ramonteu (ACTA) and Geoffrey Chiron (ITAVI) both part of Agromix project presented Agromix results (AF state in Europe and conclusions of WP6 european workshops) and current AF support measures.

Léa Lemoine (APCA) coanimates the RMT Agroforesterie (french AF network gathering research, advice and education) and was lead of the Reunir AF project. She presented the results of this national project that aimed to promote the integration of agroforestry systems into agricultural policies.

## Agenda

<i>Time</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Presenter / Mentor</i>
9:00 – 9:15	31/08/2023	Introduction and presentation of participants	Sonia Ramonteu
9:15 – 9:30	31/08/2023	Conclusions of the first workshop	Sonia Ramonteu
9:30 – 9:55	31/08/2023	State of AF in Europe, assessment of current political measures and first proposals	Sonia Ramonteu and Geoffrey Chiron
9:55–10:15	31/08/2023	Proposals for political measures from the ReunirAF project	Léa Lemoine
10:15–10:40	31/08/2023	Presentation of some current AF support measures in France (European and Regional funds)	Geoffrey Chiron
10:40 – 10:50	31/08/2023	Break	/
10:50 – 11:05	31/08/2023	Presentation of first elements of the Pact in favor of hedges and trees	Sonia Ramonteu and Léa Lemoine
11:05-12:05	31/08/2023	Klaxoon workshop to reflect on the political message to convey and the follow-up to be given	Sonia Ramonteu and Geoffrey Chiron
12:05-12:15	31/08/2023	Conclusion and evaluation of the workshop	Sonia Ramonteu and Geoffrey Chiron



## Workshop topic

Following the first workshop, participants asked for presentations on two subjects to have a better overview of the workshop subject:

- State of AF in Europe (spatial distribution, different forms), assessment of current political measures and first proposals
- Presentation of some current AF support measures (European and Regional)

Concerning AF systems in Europe, comments included precision of types of silvopastoral systems including Dehesa system in Spain. It was also clarified that AF in free range poultry systems and collaborations between a rearer and an arborist are not in the LUCAS data presented.

Concerning current AF support systems, precisions were given by funders where/how they intervene. Precision was given :

- hedges/trees lump sums regional subsidies were calculated accordingly to the cost of plantation + upstream council.
- The CAP hedge bonus is only accessible to farmers having the hedge Label

In addition, two presentations were made on previous/current french work on the same topic as the present workshop in order to have everyone at the same knowledge level:

- Proposals for political measures from the ReunirAF project (recommendations for the CAP negotiation)
- Presentation of first elements of the Pact in favor of hedges and trees (French Plan and measures)

The Klaxoon workshop theme followed the discussions of the national Pact in favour of hedges and trees. The 3 themes of discussions were integrated : knowledge needs, economic valuation, and policies and 2 additional AF systems present in France were considered besides hedges : intraparcellar trees and breeder/arborist cooperation.

## Discussions for the project

We completed the current landscape of new measures and measures in discussion.

The Pact in favor of hedges and trees (national Plan) led by Agriculture Ministry identifies these measures to discuss and precise with the stakeholders :

- Knowledge and know-how about hedges
  - Harmonise definitions of hedgerows: hedgerows, agroforestry tree formations, copses, etc.



- Develop a hedge observatory (quantitative and qualitative monitoring of hedges, analysis of changes)
- Improve knowledge (including continuing R&D work and outputs)
- Develop initial and lifelong education
- Disseminate and promote the knowledge acquired
- Local value chains and economic valorisation of hedgerows
  - Establish a shared understanding of the economic and agronomic profitability of an agroforestry plot
  - Create, structure and support downstream value chains
  - Take better account of the ecosystem services provided
  - Develop and support the seed collection and seedling production chains
  - Set up a regional agroforestry dynamic and consultation process
- The hedge, a sustainable object
  - Clarify and better coordinate the various regulations relating to hedgerows (CAP, non-CAP, non-agricultural)
  - Support hedgerow managers in the sustainable management of hedgerows
  - Support the planting of new hedgerows and curb the destruction of existing hedgerows
  - Support local projects (local facilitators)
  - Communicate about schemes to support the development of agroforestry: CAP: eco-scheme, MAEC, aid in the regional CAP plans of the Regions; aid from EU agencies, etc.
  - Clarify the legal aspects (lessor/tenant rights, access to land, etc.).

One of the quantified ambitions expressed by the Agricultural Ministry is to plant 50 000 km of new hedgerows by 2050. The final conclusions and pack of measures will be announced very soon.

Numerous aids for the plantation/installation of hedgerows and intraparcellar trees are present in the regional set of measures and in the national strategic programming.

## Workshop outputs

In complement of the presentation of the current discussions on the Hedges Pact, the klaxoon collective exercise put an emphasis on :

- **Knowledge needs, in line with an observatory :**
  - Feedback, lessons learnt from practical experiences : barriers, levers, success factors
  - Observatory : for hedges (condition/age), simplified protocol for characterization of condition,
  - **Knowledge on the interactions** : technical-economical impact on crops yields and on planting - maintenance of hedges and intra parcel trees and valorization of wood, fodder tables (for fodder trees), impact on animal productivity and welfare



- **Knowledge on impact on biodiversity**, quantitative water management, modification of microclimate
  - Specificities on poultry and pigs wooded rangelands : optimization
  - Specificities for cooperation between livestock keepers and fruit tree growers : platform to identify potential additional parcels for itinerant grazing, identification of collective initiatives by a network of contacts, structure a network of facilitators
- **How to support the structuration of value chains :**
- Products :
    - wood energy, fruits, timber wood (not in forest areas),
    - local short chains : wood chips and mulching for bedding/litter, green manure composting platform, wood chips for soil amendment; global view of resource deposits at territory level to organize a structured management ;
    - vision of the different actors on fields and gather needs of different chains and outlets ;
    - **communication on opportunities of valorizations ;**
    - **technical-economical investment and gain and workforce ;**
  - **Ecological services** : promote and protect soils
  - Specificities of cooperation animal rearers – trees growers : **Creation of a label** for animals reared under trees?, valorization of a virtuous practice (input reduction)
- **Which regulations and aids to support the development of AF :**
- **Harmonization** (between regions), **Simplification, Flexibility** (choice of species, enlargement to fruit productive trees even if less aids), consistency of regulations with local conditions
  - Financial support to planting but also support/follow-up
  - Better define poultry mixed systems : better deal with biosecurity (Avian influenza), and not forbid it in some regions
  - Propose financial aids to compensate yields losses
  - Low carbon for intra-parcel
  - **Specificities of cooperation** animal rearers – trees growers : support-facilitation to structure, financial aid like projects calls to launch collective initiatives, flexibility in CAP application : possibility for ruminant rearer that already benefits from ICHN (compensatory aid for natural handicap) to do temporary graze his animals under fruit trees via cooperation with fruit trees growers

## Feedback from participants

At the end of the workshop, the participants were asked to add a comment on the Klaxoon board on the quality of the workshop. These comments included:

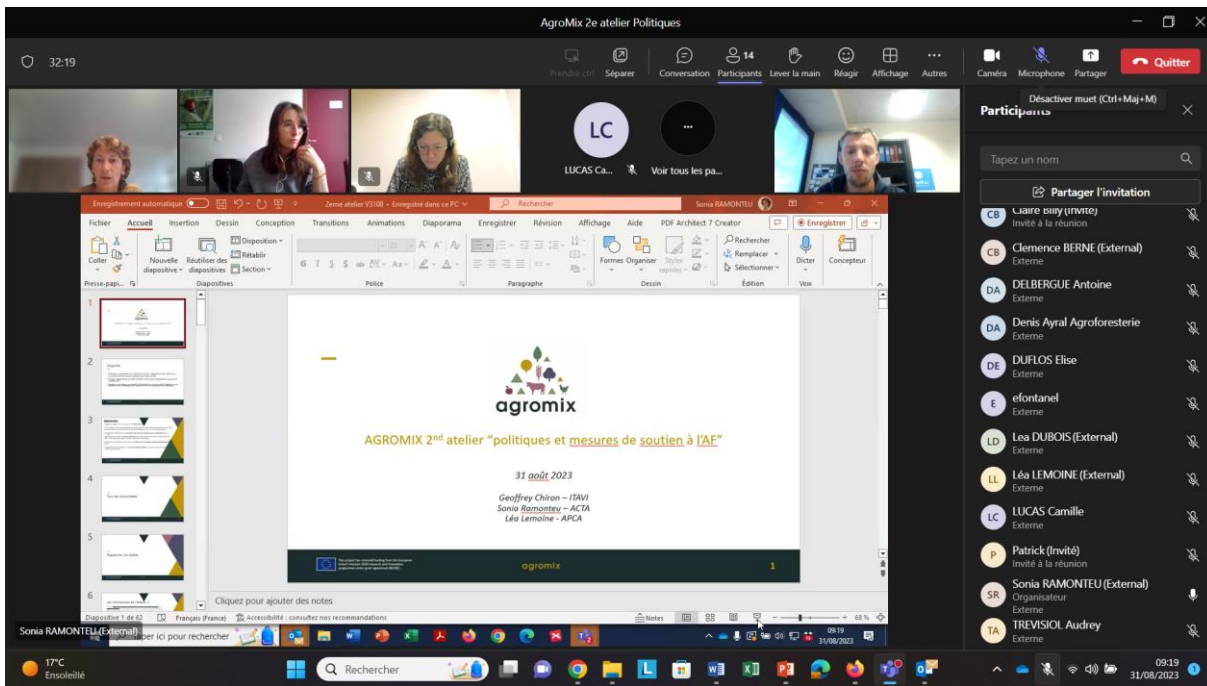


- Positive feedbacks: interesting and instructive workshop, including having a broad European AF vision
- Improvement suggestions: send the questions of the Klaxoon workshop before the event in order to reflect on them, give more clarity on how the workshop reflexions will be used at a European level

## Annexes

### Teams meeting printscreens





Participant list

Name Surname	Structure
Sonia RAMONTEU	ACTA
Geoffrey CHIRON	ITAVI
Léa LEMOINE	APCA
Arnaud DUFILS	INRAE
Claire BILLY	OFB
Clémence BERNE	ITAB
Antoine DELBERGUE	ADEME
Audrey TREVISIOL	ADEME
Denis AYRAL	AFAF
Elise DUFLOS	Agence de l'Eau Loire Bretagne
Eva FONTANEL	Parc Naturel Regional du Verdon
Léa DUBOIS	Chambre d'Agriculture du Cantal
Patrick COCHARD	Independant AF councilor
Camille LUCAS	Région Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes

Klaxoon workshop printscreen

The screenshot displays a virtual workshop board with three main sections, each containing a photograph and a cluster of sticky notes:

- HAIES:** Includes a photo of a green field with hedges. Sticky notes discuss 'naissance en lien avec la mise en place d'un observatoire?' and 'Quelle valorisation promouvoir?'.
- ARBRES INTRAPARCELLAIRES:** Includes a photo of a tree-lined path. Sticky notes discuss 'Comment accompagner la structuration filière?' and 'Quelle valorisation promouvoir?'.
- COOPERATIONS ELEVEURS - VITICULTEURS ou ELEVEURS-ARBORICULTEURS:** Includes a photo of sheep in a field. Sticky notes discuss 'Comment accompagner la structuration filière?' and 'Quelle valorisation promouvoir?'.

At the top of the board, there are three main topics: 'Atelier AgroMix politiques AF', 'Focus VALORISATION / LABELISATION', and 'REGLEMENTATION'. A 'partager' button is visible in the top right corner, and a zoom level of 99% is shown in the bottom right corner.

## Links

1. French AF network : <https://rmt-agroforesteries.fr/>
2. French mixed farming network : <https://idele.fr/spicee/>
3. Project POSCIF (grazing intercrops and non mature arable crops) : <https://www.agrofile.fr/poscif/>
4. Project PARASOL : <https://parasol.projet-agroforesterie.net/>

End of document

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# Policy workshop

Adlerzart Farm, Oberrütti (Canton Zug, Switzerland), Credit: Ulysse Le Goff

[agromixproject.eu](http://agromixproject.eu)



## ***Second Swiss Agroforestry Panel***

Federal Office for Agriculture )FOAG( and Federal Office  
for the Environment )FOEN (

21/09/2023  
FOAG, FOEN, Agroscope  
[www.agroscope.ch](http://www.agroscope.ch)

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# Second Policy Workshop Report

WP 6.3

*25/09/2023*



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 862993.

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## General outline of the event

Representatives of agroforestry met at the Agroforestry Panel to exchange updates from recent activities and projects and to promote the implementation and development of agroforestry systems in Switzerland. Together with the FOAG and the FOEN, Agroscope organised the meeting of various agroforestry interest groups for the second time at the Schluechthof Agricultural Education and Consulting Centre (LBBZ) in Cham (Canton Zug, Switzerland). In addition to administrative actors from FOAG, FOEN, the cantons of Zug and Lucerne, the meeting was attended by numerous technical experts (AGRIDEA, Agroscope, HAFL, ETH, FiBL, Vogelwarte, WSL, ZHAW), farmers and agricultural organisations and initiatives (arboThévoz, Bio Suisse, Humus Bauer, Klimabuur, Pro Natura), companies (First Climate, Silvicultura), the Swiss Ornithological Institute and the Swiss Landscape Fund. On this occasion, 18 stakeholders presented news from their projects, asked questions and expressed their wishes for agricultural policy.

The main topic "agricultural trees and hedges" was addressed in a presentation by Johanna Schoop (AGRIDEA). In particular, the effects of fodder hedges on animal welfare and the legal framework for (fodder) hedges and forest pastures at federal and cantonal level were discussed. In the afternoon, farmer Pirmin Adler gave a tour of his farm Adlerzart in Oberrüti ([www.adlerzart.ch](http://www.adlerzart.ch)) on the subject of fodder hedges and tree strips, emphasising the positive effects for animals, people and the landscape.

During the conference, Sonja Kay (Agroscope) officially handed over to the Federal Council and the Federal Offices the declaration "Rapid introduction of agroforestry systems demanded". The declaration was signed by 15 associations.

## Introduction

For the second year, the actors of the agricultural knowledge system (research and extension) met in a large circle for exchange (presentations, networking) in Canton Zug. The meeting was targeted as part of the 2021-2023 Action Plan and was held in cooperation with AGROMIX. The participants included representatives from the Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG) and the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) as well as the Agricultural Office of Canton Zug and Luzern from administration, numerous technical and scientific experts such as the Swiss Confederation's center of excellence for agricultural research (Agroscope), the Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW), the Swiss Association for the Development of Agriculture and Rural Areas (AGRIDEA), the Research Institute for Organic Agriculture (FiBL), the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich (ETH Zurich), the Bern University of Applied Sciences (BFH-HAFL), the Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL), the Agricultural Education and Extension Centre (LBBZ) Schluechthof, the Swiss Ornithological Institute (Vogelwarte), farmers and agricultural organisations and initiatives (arboThévoz, Bio Suisse, Humus Bauer, Klimabuur, Pronatura), companies (First Climate, Silvicultura) and the Swiss Landscape Fund (FSL).



In the first part, after an update from FOAG and FOEN on the current agricultural policy situation, the participating institutions were given the opportunity to make a short contribution in which news from their organisations, open questions, wishes and the need for action from their point of view were given space. Thus, 18 short talks were given.

## Location and time of the workshop

The second Swiss Agroforestry Panel was held on Thursday, 21 September 2023, from 9 am to 4 pm at the Agricultural Education and Extension Centre (landwirtschaftliches Bildungs- und Beratungszentrum, LBBZ) Schluechthof in Chamau (Canton Zug). Arrival by public transport was possible via Sins train station, a shuttle was organized on request. Arrival by car was indicated via this [link](#). The farm visit was conducted by the farmer Pirmin Adler on this farm in Reusshöfe 3, 5647 Oberrüti, Switzerland (<https://www.adlerzart.ch/>).

## Speakers and presenters

<b>Swiss Agroforestry Panel Programme 21/09/2023</b>			
<i>P.nr.</i>	<i>Full name</i>	<i>Presentation topic</i>	<i>Organisation</i>
1	Martin Pfister	Welcome, introduction of the LBBZ	LBBZ Schluechthof
2	Jean-Luc Jaton	Introduction, aims, current status	FOAG
3	Jean-Laurent Pfund, Bruno Lauper	Aims, current status, FOEN-reorganisation, next steps	FOEN
4	Johanna Schoop, Lisa Nilles	Update from diverse and teaching courses	AGRIDEA
5	Giotto Roberti	Update from diverse projects	Agroscope
6	Ivan Thévoz	Agroforestry farmer in Western Switzerland	arboThévoz
7	Adrian Reutimann	Update from teachings and scientific monitoring of farms	HAFL
9	Ulysse Le Goff	Update from scientific PhD project	ETH
10	Robert Home	Updates from diverse projects + outlook of a new agroforestry field in Frick	FiBL
11	Roman Hüppi	Introduction of agroforestry certification project	First Climate
12	Raphael Vogel	Initiative “Humus Bauer” from engaged farmers of Kanton Zug	Humus Bauer
13	Thomas Wiederkehr	Statement to the rejection of the application for support for agroforestry systems	Agricultural Office Canton Zug
14	Urban Baumgartner, Peter Waltenspül	Perspective of farmers	Farmers of Canton Zug
15	Antoine Giovannini	Aesthetical value of agroforestry in the landscape	FLS
16	Victor Anspach	Presentation of SilvoCultura	SilvoCultura



17	Dominik Hagist	Updates, potential and conflicts of agroforestry with respect to birdlife	Vogelwarte
18	Benno Augustinus	Agroforestry-trees as corridors for diseases, responsibilities	WSL
19	Christa Hirschvogel	Update on diverse projects	ZHAW
20	Beat Felder	Wishes to FOAG from Canton Luzern	Canton Luzern
21	Sonja Kay	Handover of the declaration to the federal offices in the name of 14 institutions	Agroscope
22	Johanna Schoop	Fodder hedges: function and legal framework	AGRIDEA

The short presentations of the participants allowed for a high number of inputs on wishes, questions and needs for action from the perspective of the respective representatives. The high diversity of participants from administration, scientific and technical theory and practice, and representatives of agriculture and forest created a holistic picture of the topic of agroforestry in Switzerland. Opportunities and challenges were considered from different perspectives.

## Agenda

The programme below was followed:

<b>Tour de table of agroforestry</b>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
9.00 am	Arrival with coffee and snacks	
9.30 am	Welcome	Martin Pfister (LBBZ), Jean-Luc Jatton (FOAG), Jean-Laurent Pfund (FOEN)
	Thematic introduction and news from the offices	Jean-Luc Jatton (FOAG), Jean-Laurent Pfund (FOEN)
	News from the organisations + questions, requests	All participants
12.00 pm	Focus topic: Agricultural trees and hedges (e.g. fodder hedges), legal framework for (fodder) hedges and forest pastures at federal and cantonal level	Experts from FOEN, FOAG, Agridea
12.30 pm	Lunch at the Cham Farm	
1.30 pm	Shuttle from Cham Farm to Adlerzart Farm	
2 pm	Agroforestry excursion to forage hedges at Pirmin Adler, Adlerzart Farm	Pirmin Adler
4 pm	Closing	



## Workshop topic

The main topic "agricultural trees and hedges" was addressed in a presentation by Johanna Schoop (AGRIDEA). In particular, the effects of fodder hedges on animal welfare and the legal framework for (fodder) hedges and forest pastures at federal and cantonal level were discussed.

Hedges currently fall under nature conservation or ecological infrastructure and may no longer be grazed and removed. However, this is precisely the point of fodder hedges – that they are grazed and regularly cut back to the stock. This circumstance and the partly different handling of hedges by the cantons were discussed. In the afternoon, farmer Pirmin Adler gave all participants a tour of his farm Adlerzart in Oberrüti ([www.adlerzart.ch](http://www.adlerzart.ch)) on the subject of fodder hedges and tree strips, emphasising the positive effects for animals (animal health and welfare), people and the landscape.

## Discussions for the project

The aim of the Swiss Agroforestry panel was to bring together the different actors in the agroforestry knowledge system from practice, extension and research to initiate a dialogue, sharing and exchanging information on the state of scientific and practical knowledge, as well as on innovations in agroforestry and the need for research. Another objective was to reflect on possible future collaborations and exchanges related to agroforestry, with the aim of promoting its economic potential, especially in relation to climate change, and the many other services that agroforestry systems can provide.

In the second panel in 2023, the aim was also to strengthen the need for action with regard to agricultural policy financial support for agroforestry systems. This culminated in the presentation of the declaration that was initiated by the Agroforestry Interest Group in the aftermath of the first meeting in 2022 and finally signed by 15 associations. The declaration "Rapid introduction of agroforestry systems demanded" was formally handed over by Sonja Kay (Agroscope) to Jean-Luc Jatton (FOAG) and Jean-Laurent Pfund (FOEN) as representatives for both offices. It was signed by AGRIDEA, Agroscope, Vocational Training Centre for Nature and Nutrition (BBZN, Canton Lucerne), Bern University of Applied Sciences (BFH-HAFL), BioSuisse, Domaine du Bugnonet, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), GGConsulting Sàrl, Proconseil, Pro Natura, Permaculture Agriculture Association, Permaculture Switzerland Association, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zürich (ETH Zurich), the Research Institute for Organic Agriculture (FiBL), Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW).

In brief, the rapid introduction of agroforestry systems called for systems to be introduced promptly by ordinance. However, support for agroforestry systems – besides orchards – is not envisaged until 2030 at the earliest in Swiss agricultural policy. The signatories from science, associations and education are, thus, calling for the promotion of agroforestry, to be more specific, the call for adaptations in the Direct Payments Ordinance and in the Structural Improvement Ordinance:



- accounting of agroforestry as biodiversity promotion areas (BFF) in arable land for the 3.5% minimum share of BFF in arable farming
- annual maintenance support for agroforestry systems for climate and resource protection
- free choice of tree species, fodder hedges
- one-off start-up funding/financing for agroforestry systems
- agroforestry consulting for each farm to take account of site-specific features (e.g. soil and water protection, biodiversity).

The original text of the declaration (in German) can be found in the annex.

## Workshop outputs

The outputs include mutual exchange and keeping up to date with the activities of other institutions/organisations. Furthermore, the field visit was able to show a best practice example of a farm with increasing implementation of fodder hedges and tree rows in its farm with livestock and arable farming.

Representatives of FOAG and FOEN took note of the declaration, agreed with the positive effects of agroforestry systems, but pointed to the complex funding system and the plan at federal level to simplify it. They asked for patience and pointed out that the developments are going in the right direction.

Due to the diverse feedback, FOAG and FOEN plan to establish annual meetings of the Swiss Agroforestry Panel.

## Feedback from participants

The participants praised the high diversity of the speakers' backgrounds as well as the short but varied inputs from the different institutions/organisations. The main topic of the hedge attracted great interest, especially in the practical part of the field visit to the Adlerzart farm. The farmer was very well prepared and explained the background and motivation of the respective plant in a detailed, understandable and practical way on different plots on his land.

## Annexes

Original German version of the declaration “Rapid introduction of agroforestry systems demanded”:





## Erklärung an den Bundesrat und die Bundesämter

(Bundesamt für Landwirtschaft BLW, Bundesamt für Umwelt BAFU):

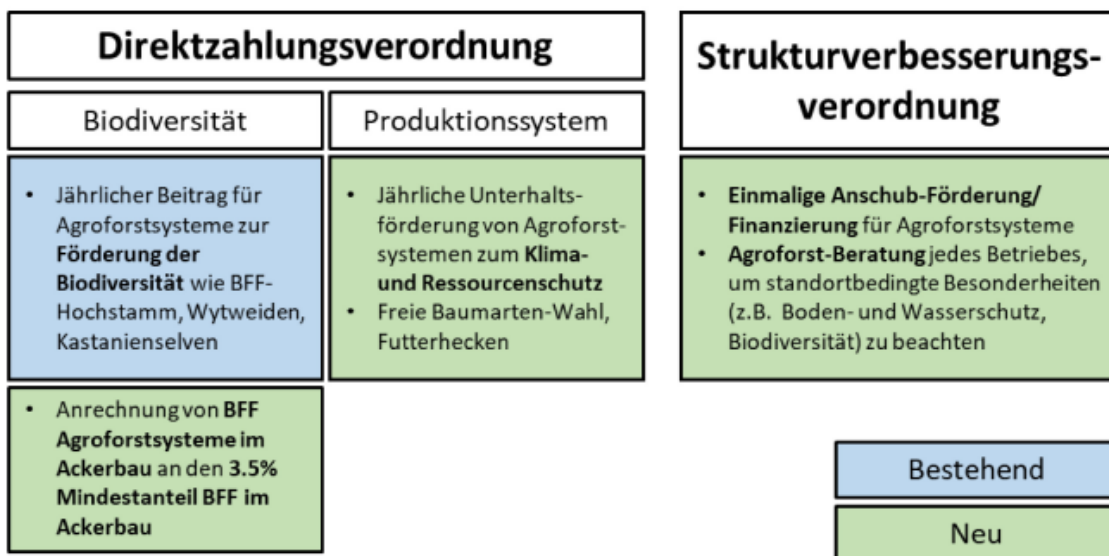
# Rasche Einführung von Agroforstsystemen gefordert

Förderung von Agroforstsystemen ist aber frühestens ab 2030 vorgesehen

Die Unterzeichnenden aus Wissenschaft, Verbänden und Verwaltung setzen sich dafür ein, dass die Förderung von Agroforstsystemen zeitnah auf dem Verordnungsweg eingeführt wird.

Agroforstsysteme wie Baum- und Strauchreihen im Acker, im Gemüse- oder Weinbau oder Futterhecken auf Wiesland, usw., haben vielfältige positive Umweltwirkungen (Klimaschutz, Boden- und Wasserqualität, Biodiversität, Aufwertung der Landschaft). Diese Umweltwirkungen macht die Agroforstwirtschaft zu einem geeigneten Instrument, um die Effekte der Klima- und Biodiversitätskrise zu mildern, die Umsetzung der Agrarökologie-Prinzipien voranzutreiben und somit eine nachhaltige und diverse Entwicklung der Schweizer Landwirtschaft zu unterstützen und zu fördern. Jedoch werden diese Leistungen für Umwelt- und Ressourcenschutz den Bewirtschaften:innen bisher nur partiell abgegolten. Zwar können traditionelle Agroforstsysteme (Hochstamm-Feldobst, Hecken, Kastanienselven, Wytweiden) über Biodiversitäts- und Landschaftsqualitätsbeiträge gefördert werden. Wir fordern zusätzlich eine Förderung von innovativen Agroforstsystemen, die v.a. auf Klima- und Ressourcenschutz abzielt, mit einem Produktionssystem-Beitrag, um die Vielfalt der Systeme in die Fläche zu skalieren und damit die Erreichung der Umweltziele der Landwirtschaft substantziell zu verbessern.

Wir setzen uns dafür ein, dass ...



# Annex 8.3



## Summary report on links of AGROMIX WP6 and STARGATE WP5 and WP6

*August 2023*

Florent Demelezi & Linda Magyar (CEEweb)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement 862993.

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# 1 Introduction

The STARGATE project is an EU Horizon 2020 funded project with the goal to identify vulnerabilities in current farming systems and develop a breakthrough climate-smart agriculture methodology. Applying the current scientific and technological innovations in microclimate and weather risk management of ecosystems used for agriculture. The project seeks to achieve resilient and sustainable agricultural practices for landscapes and to modernise farms.

STARGATE's WP5 aims to provide farmers and consultants with advanced tools that enable the efficient use of agricultural inputs and energy, reduce emissions, and promote environmental preservation. The tool used already validated products in order to support decision makers, farmers with solutions and timing of their decision. The web platform tool will support farmers and consultants in planning everyday farm cultivation activities and managing weather and climate risks, long-term climate change adaptation, landscape design, and policy making. Using data from precision farming methodologies, earth observation data, weather data, crop models, and machine learning algorithms to enhance agricultural productivity and resilience in the face of climate change.

In this work package is also the validation of the tool through co-creation with stakeholders, ensuring their usefulness and relevance for predefined purposes and future predictions as DSS (Decision Support System) which will be compared to real data from pilot areas during the validation process.

STARGATE's WP6 explains the pilot farms, policy benefits and meetings with stakeholders to develop the change which are to be requested. STARGATE aimed to demonstrate the approach to engage farming communities in pilot areas and empower them in the improvement and piloting process in some countries. The project partners collaborated and worked on various 16 different regional pilot farms, focusing on climate change adaptation and agricultural productivity. The deliverable outlined project requirements, use cases, and the multi-actor community process, importance of knowledge transfer and learning for sustainable food production.

Key goals included substantially enhancing agricultural resilience to climate change and strengthening the adaptation capacities of developed technologies and methodologies. The deliverable described policy scenarios for increasing efficiency and profitability in agricultural production, with a particular focus on the CAP, Green Deal, and biodiversity strategies.

It aimed to strengthen farmer organizations, involve professionals, and raise awareness for agricultural development. Modern techniques, changes in local value chains, digitalization of farms, and improved governance were highlighted as key measures and the need for easy-to-implement methodologies for farmers.



## 2 Work Package 5

### 2.1 D5.1 Tactical Climate Smart Decision Tools Methodologies

The objective of **WP.5** (Methods and tools for climate smart decision making in agriculture) is to develop a suit of climate smart decision tools that will support CSA stakeholders in the decision-making procedure, concerning tactical decision of planning the everyday farm cultivation activities and strategic tools for the seasonal weather / climate risk management, long-term adaptation to climate change, landscape design and policy making. WP.5 will be developing the tools from WP3 and WP4 which are based upon the land and crop suitability analysis methodology, with data and services.

The objective of D5.1 is to develop tactical tools for farming procedures (tillage, irrigation, fertilisation, spraying, harvesting, planting and seeding). Tools will support farmers and consultants. The tools will use state of art of precision farming methodologies using earth observation data and weather data, crop models and machine learning algorithms in order to support the previous farming procedure.

Agriculture is a high demanding resource to produce with an environmental impact which can be decreased if applied precision agriculture for agro-inputs and better environmental techniques.

One of goal of the project is *“to push agriculture decision to new standards, regarding the complexity and intensity of information handled as inputs or outputs and the optimisation of information use to raise agricultural production efficiencies”*. The designed tool as climate smart decision tool it to help farmers with different scheduling tactical tools which is easy to use, site specific.

The validity of a model is determined to consider how useful and relevant is the decision model for predefined purpose, answer a set of questions or to predict a future value with the contribution of stakeholders. During the validation process, the output of the DSS will be compared to real data from the pilot areas.

The framework of Tactical Decision Support Tool has been provided for STARGATE. These tools will be developed to support the farmers and consultants to use agricultural inputs and energy efficiently, reduce agriculture emissions and preserve the environment. Containing state-of-art of precision farming methodologies using earth observation (*EO*) and *weather data*, along with the *crop models* and *machine learning algorithms* in order to support the previous farming procedures.

### 2.2 D5.2 – Crop and Land suitability methodologies

STARGATE project follows – for the Land Use Suitability Analysis (**LUSA**) – the FAO framework, and the inventory of parameters was designed including, apart from the biophysical indicators, socio-economic, environmental, and management indicators. The inventory of parameters was grouped in the following categories:

- Soil resources indicators
- Water resources indicators
- Climatic indicators
- Topographic indicators
- Socio-economic indicators
- Environmental indicators
- Crop indicators



Land evaluation is the assessment of land performance when used for specific purposes by providing a rational bases for taking land-use decisions based on analysis of relations between land use and land, giving estimates of required inputs and projected outputs. Land evaluation deals with two major aspects of the land: physical resources (soil, topography, climate) and socio-economic resources as farm size, management level, availability of manpower, market position and other human activity.

Land evaluation is based on land resources with information on climate, hydrology, topography, soils, land cover and vegetation which will be supplied with data on present land use and management. FAO defines land suitability as “the fitness of a given parcel of land for specific uses” and as such this is done to determine the specific land use for a specific location and classify the limiting factors for a specific crop production.

OECD defines agro-environmental indicators as attributes of land units that are policy-relevant, analytically sound and measurable. These factors/indicators are numerous and their analysis will require to select carefully to measure link between policy measures and their effects. The challenge is to find appropriate balance between policy measures and their effects.

The STARGATE focuses on agriculture land use and the goal is to provide spatial distribution of land suitability for selected crops. Where AGROMIX focuses on the policies to be changed on integration of mixed farming and agro-forestry as beneficial for the farmer and ecosystem.

The land use and suitability can be seen from different system as mentioned: LUSA, ALES, MicroLEIS, ISLE, ASLE, MCDA, Ostovari et al, ANP, TOPSIS, etc.

LUSA is one of several useful application for environmental modelling. It aims to identify the most appropriate spatial distribution for land uses according to the requirements, preferences, or patters of some activity. GIS-LUSA has been used to study land suitability of habitats for animal and plant species, risk analysis, geological studies, landscape evaluation and planning, assessment of environmental impacts, location of facilities, regional planning and the suitability of land use for agriculture.

The other system mentioned provide similar technique with different parameters and customisation and spatial modelling area. Where in some cases they consider more the local conditions and objectives. They also consider the land suitability, agricultural management, GIS capabilities,

Land evaluation is a vital link in the chain leading to sustainable management of land resources. Before **FAO** framework and the **USDA** Land Capability Classification as classification systems, the grading was done from economic perspective later it rose the need for land suitability assessment for specific kind of land use.

These requirements will be incorporated in the LUSA tool and establish threshold values of the inventory parameters’ performance to limit or favour plant growth. The factors which would be important to mention for the AGROMIX are environmental indicators and crop indicators.

Management of agricultural land to maximise crop productivity and quality is another crucial aspect of LUSA as it provides not only the relation to crop productivity but the impact of agricultural practices on soil and water resources as well as the environment in general.

There are ways to make it more sustainable starting from individual farms, from the principles of productivity, rotation patterns, cultivation frequency, genetic diversity and variety choice, nutrient or fertiliser balance and energy assessment.

Agricultural Management indicators
Land use timeseries
Crop pattern timeseries
Crop rotation timeseries
Cropping calendar: planting/sowing, harvesting
Tillage per crop
Agricultural chemicals per crop
Irrigation systems per crop (frequency and amount)
Manual labor per crop
Agricultural policies (i.e. subsidies) per crop

1. Table: Agricultural Management Indicators

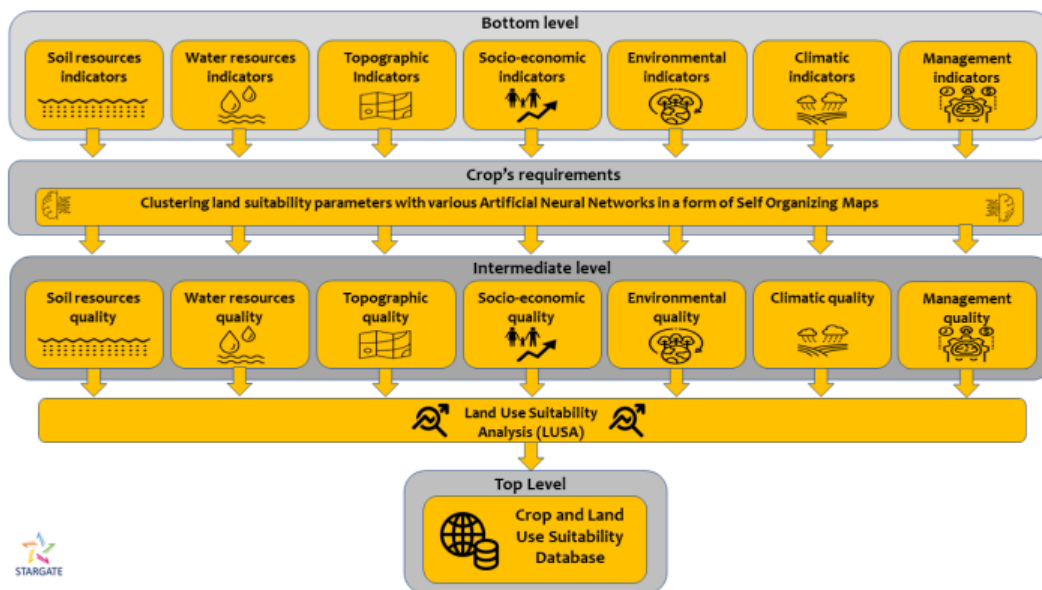


Figure 1: Land Use Suitability Analysis Flowchart

### 2.3 D5.4 Strategic climate smart decision tools methodology

Climate-smart agriculture (CSA) includes (agriculture, forestry and fishery sectors) at local level contributes to meeting global objectives, primarily those of UN framework on climate change (UNFCCC), the convention on biological diversity (CBD) and world summit on food security (WSFS), leading to a sustainable development landscape.

CSA is built on three pillars, which focuses on:

- Sustainability increasing farm productivity and income, produce more to secure food for the growing population
- Strengthening resilience to climate change and variability. Climate change requires adaptation of food production systems for resilience both at the livelihood level and at the ecosystem level
- Mitigation the contribution of agricultural practices to climate change through a reduction or removal of greenhouse gas emissions

Climate does give important effects for certain environmental conditions which result in certain importance to ecosystem services to the provision of clean water and soil protection. Climate poses a challenge to agricultural production. Adaptation responses can broadly be distinguished into:

- (a) short-term incremental responses that farmers often choose autonomously in response to observed changes and based on local knowledge and experiences,
- (b) long-term transformative responses that require strategic planning, which are implemented at a larger spatial scale

The farmers need are being looked in the aspects of climate extremes, weather patterns, rainfall periods (forecast), risks in producing different crops in providing support but not risk free. Strategic climate smart decision tool for long-term adaptation and policymaking

Involvement of stakeholders in various stages in beneficial in optimisation process. The higher the level of organisation dealing with adaptation planning, the greater the value of integrated large-scale assessment to support the coordination of policy measures toward congruent outcome. In the graph is proposed the conceptual framework for including stakeholders to solve real-world optimisation problems.

The graph is the proposed procedure the conceptual framework. The process is based on the systems approach, which is applied in variety of application areas, as policy analysis, divided in three stages with 9 steps.

*Stage I* – is the process formulation stage, with steps 1 to 4. The first step is the identification of overall goals of the project, based on larger project directed toward meeting stakeholders' goals and values. Second step is conceptual formulation of the problem, including identification of the issues and major physical systems involved. It does require inputs from Analysts, Decision makers (DM) and Experts. Steps 3 and 4 require input knowledge from both Analysts and Experts, as DMs alone which refer to the problem by identifying specific problem formulation components, as objectives. The main outcome of this stage are mathematically defined objectives, constrains and decision variables that can be directly incorporated into the optimisation model.

*Stage II* is the optimisation stage, with steps 5 to 9. A simulation model is developed to identify and evaluate alternative options. From steps 5 to 6 they also require information about the scenarios under which the solutions will be simulated. The development of simulation model and assessment scenarios require feedback from DMs, Experts and POSs. Step 7 will identification of efficient solution in terms of objectives and constrains.

*Stage III* is final decision-making stage, has one step. Which will select a solution from preferred solution presented by Analyst, considering stakeholder preferences. A multi-criteria decision analyst is used by Analysts to assist the DMs in selecting final options. The solutions must include multiple combination of options, involve a pathway of future actions, include monitoring, trigger points for review and further decision making.

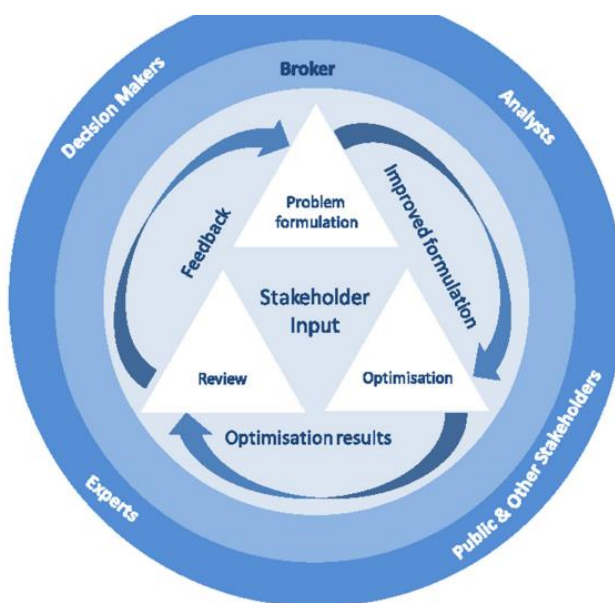
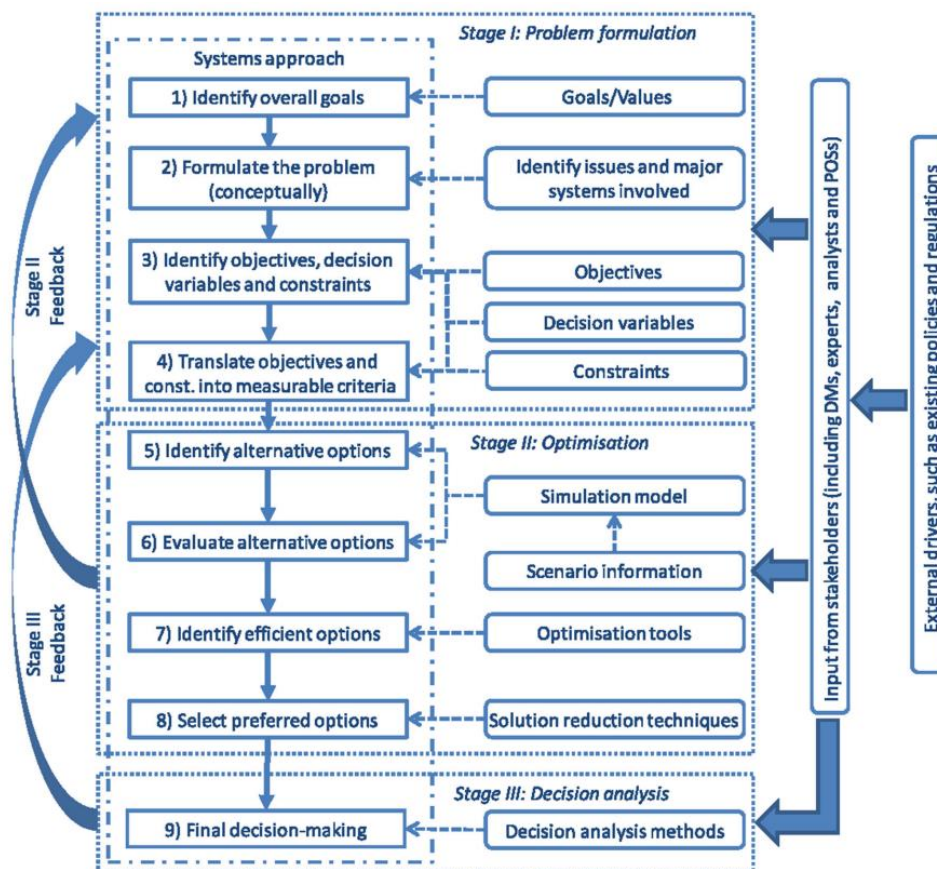


Figure 2: Proposed conceptual framework for including stakeholder input for formulating and solving real-world optimisation problems (source: Wu et al. (2016) [18])





**Figure 3:** Proposed procedure for implementing the proposed framework for optimizing real-world problems considering stakeholder input (source: Wu et al. (2016) [18])

In STARGATE project using the long-term weather and crop suitability analysis where climate change impacts exceeds a certain threshold can no longer be alleviated by farming practices, more fundamental transformative changes may be required. The changes will require changes in farming activities from production zones. These are spatial shifts which require changes in breeding in new cultivars and crops, reduce agricultural emissions and preserve the environment. The breeding goals are directed toward drought, climate conditions, tolerance to flooding, salinity as well as water and nutrient use-efficiencies

## 2.4 D5.8 DS Tools testing protocol

This section describes the needs for technological improvements in agriculture and decreasing environmental impacts. With the use of different sensors (IoT) produce tools to achieve the goals. Precision agriculture is an emerging area, where sensor based play an important role. A joint of farmers, researchers, and technological manufactures, all together play an important to find efficient solutions and improvements in production and into reduction in cost. In order to make proper decision with information it's important to have decision tools or decision support systems in order to assist in making evidence-based and precise decisions.

STARGATE tactical climate smart decision tool is designed to help farmers and consultants to improve their productivity and resilience in the face of climate change. Support them to make decision about agricultural production based on site-specific climate data, weather forecast and future outlooks.

## 3 Work Package 6

### 3.1 D6.1 Multi-actor process and validation framework

This deliverable describes the framework for multi-actor platform building in the pilot regions. It creates and sets up a maintained and participation through co-creating between the multi-actors. The multi-actor community is one of the key mechanisms for dialogue with and dissemination to end-users, stakeholders and the scientific community.

The main objective of WP6 is to demonstrate that STARGATE concept in an interactive multi-actor community framework, engaging farming communities in all pilot areas, and then expand, strengthen and empower these communities through participatory process that puts the user at the centre of development and piloting efforts. Expected outcome:

1. Engaged multi-actor community committed to sustainable agriculture, with a vision for their sustainable use in all pilot areas and in wider research, policy, and application community.
2. A multi-criteria assessment chart detailing the feedback of multi-actor community on the STARGATE innovation.

The project aims to have more global data to utilise for their needs and apply climatic data solution in the implementation of models for regional policy and mitigation of climate change. STARGATE will build a framework of sustainable and holistic soil and land management, with focus on land pollution mitigation and soil preservation – by integrating, comparing, improving and exchanging technologies, farm and soil treatment practices between the partners experts. The integrated STARGATE consists advanced land use, crop and soil sensing tools, land monitoring, more accurate irrigation systems, and measuring of pollutants using technologies such as data fusion, digital soil mapping, and land suitability management information.

The pilot areas are focused on major EU crops and livestock and their agricultural input serves as testbed for evaluation and demonstration of STARGATE technologies, techniques, and methodologies for policy assessment and impact assessment using LCA of nutrients and recommendations.

To describe the involvement of the actors in each community, foster collaboration with co-ownership and responsibility for tools, co-create and enable environment implementation. The first step of deliverables D6.1, D6.3 and D6.5 is to establish the fundamental concepts and methods for setting up, implementing and monitoring the participatory validation process that will be carried out in all pilot areas during the project lifetime. This includes:

- Developing and implementing methods to engage relevant actors
- Establishing a network of pilot communities and setting up the multi-actor community in each Pilot site and facilitate their interaction with each other and with other project WPs.

On the second step, multi-stakeholders, consisting of representative of all key players in the sector (agriculture, farmers association, agro-industry, government etc. therefore they could contribute, give inputs and enhance collaboration. The project gives pilot areas information for case studies.

STARGATE establishes the fundamental concepts and methods for setting up, implementing and monitoring the participatory process that will be carried out in all pilot areas during the whole project lifetime. To propose concepts and methods to engage relevant actors: local/regional stakeholders and the generic public,



in order to identify key socio-economic, environmental, physical, political, and cultural drivers in pilot areas, with practical response options. The stakeholders will hold meeting, access tools of STARGATE for local/regional groups and as well the interactions for pilot communities, including support of the exchange of experiences and potential transfer of knowledge.

The purpose of meetings will be with purpose:

- To secure stakeholders' involvement and empower the project
- Guide the Core Users and stakeholders, through the project (provide feedback, information, training, and receive feedback)
- Develop a dialog and foster linkage between the scientific community, policy makers, managers, end-users and general public within the context of the project, ensure effective development and uptake of the project outcomes.

The project is to ensure the sustainability and maximum possibility exploitation of the results. With aims to properly transfer knowledge at the targeted agricultural sectors, driving a number of practical applications and recommendations. The projects focuses on practical outputs at the region level. Afterwards it will be continued with operation and maintenance of the developed living labs and later to approach authorities and ministries to implement legal and regulatory arrangements to ensure implementing the innovative methodologies

Some activities were taken in different pilot sites by local farmers, local agencies, farmers, birdwatchers and researchers, to demonstrate the methodologies developed to the various groups of stakeholders, engage citizens in coordination with the local agricultural authorities. During these meeting was discussed to improve agricultural outputs and add value for local farmers' communities, policy makers and authorities.

Proposition of this deliverable is to continue supporting the continued operation and maintenance of the platform after the duration of the project. Building a more comprehensive and accurate database, gathering different data sources, formats, into a single access point may enable to develop and propose more service to the agriculture community and connections with farmers' communities to be maintained in the future.

### **3.2 D6.2 Multi-actor community director**

This deliverable describes the framework for multi-actor active participatory in the pilot regions. The multi-actor is directing the project within these communities which are the core participatory arrow head of region co-creation by implementing and supporting all progress plans. The multi-actor community is one of the key mechanisms for dialogue with and dissemination to end-users, stakeholders and the scientific community.

The tasks of working with communities, implementation and practices are described here and they were maintaining to make sure they were being implemented. The objectives of this tasks are directed to the validation framework jointly with the incipient multi-actor community. This deliverable covers the template for the baseline description, campaign plan, and the validation plan.

The main objectives of WP6 "Enabling validation with User Community" is to demonstrate an interactive multi-actor community framework, engaging farming communities in pilot areas, expand, strengthen and empower these communities through participation process that puts the user at the centre of development and piloting efforts.



Expected outcome: **1-** An engaged multi-actor community committed to sustainable agriculture, with an understanding of the value of the STARGATE innovation as well as a vision for their sustainable use. **2-** a multi-criteria assessment chart detailing the feedback of the multi-actor community on the stargate innovation.

Bringing policy and technology experts and academia from different disciplines and innovative services providers to contribute jointly to the identification of innovation needs. Engagement with stakeholders, knowledge transfer and their capacity building have a central place in STARGATE. Reaching in to interested stakeholders to engage with their networks and promote the project results through different channels. Because of COVID-19 this has been into the measures of changes and adaptations for reaching out.

The objective of this deliverables is to foster a strong collaborative multi-actor community with a sense of co-ownership and responsibility of/for STARGATE tools and to co-create the enabling environment for implementation, market uptake, and sustainable financing after the project will end. Engagement and participation are important in this case for sustainable agricultural production. This deliverable includes:

- Developing and implementing methods to engage relevant actors.
- Establish a network of pilot communities and setting the multi-actor communities in each pilot site, facilitate interaction and with WPs.

For this case a multi-stakeholder meeting with be set-up to discuss ideas, priorities and directions for the development.

Goals of this deliverable:

- Mapping all STARGATE Pilots and beginning of activities according to plans
- Setting of regular work with farmers and stakeholders for all 12 pilots
- Preparing several reviews of deliverables and submissions in the area of WP6
- Setting of co-creating activities in all pilot areas

### **The multi-actor community process**

It did establish the fundamental concepts and methods for setting up, implementing and monitoring the participatory process that will be carried out in pilot areas in the whole lifetime. Including workshops with stakeholders.

The purpose of regional meeting with day-by-day communication of pilot area managers and pilot teams for engagement is:

- To secure stakeholder involvement and empowerment in the project, co-creation process
- Guide Core Users and other stakeholders through tasks of the project
- Develop a dialog and foster links with scientific community, policy-makers, managers, end-users and general public, to ensure effective development and uptake of the project outcome

### **Validation and Exploitation of the pilot area results**

The project would like to bring the best outcome and ensure the sustainability and maximum possible exploitation of the project results. A wide geographic outcome, multi-actor would impact to better results and aim to properly transfer the knowledge targeted to the agricultural sectors, driving a number of practical applications and recommendation both directly and indirectly.

STARGATE focuses on practical activities in regional level, ensuring the sustainability of the outcome of the project. The data provided will be ready on demand for policy makers and scientific advisory board in particular which is in accordance with EU Open Access and Open Research Data Pilot principle. It did contain



the work to include various stakeholders with consultation and coordination in advance and how to work together.

This deliverable was to describe the final set-up of the multi-actor/stakeholder community in each pilot area, including from local scale to regional and country scale. Data sharing was regarded as important to collect and share from farmers to give, increase the sustainable practices such as precision agriculture, enabling the performance monitoring at the national and EU-level.

Specific data and engagement, co-design and evaluations activities are foreseen within the consortium for final/insurance sector and for policy, involving actors too. Particular attention was paid to the added value, improved agricultural products. Different actors provided helpful information for the farmers into their agricultural services with low-cost alternatives. The pilots organised workshops to discuss the pivotal role of how to improve technology and use methodologies developed at STARGATE in supporting Green and Digital Transition of Europe.

Main outcome: Aiming to create alliances between the STARGATE actors – academia, citizens, business and public institutions – to build an innovative society. We intend to demonstrate and scale-up innovation through engagement with and the creation of “Living Labs” in the EU and beyond.

### 3.3 D6.3 Pilot area profiles

This deliverable is based on the framework for multi-actor and living labs process that was described in D2.1 and D6.3. It set up and maintains an engaged multi-actor stakeholder community based on active STARGATE Living Labs that actively participate in the processes of co-creation (design, development, validation and uptake) of the proposed decision support system.

Here are described the 16 pilot farms in 6 countries of STARGATE, with information, roles of stakeholders in implementing STARGATE goals. The pilot projects include different specification and most of farmers will be expecting assistance during their activities with both on crops and livestock. The methodology is being developed and will be modified meanwhile.

Analysis of activities in different plot site, in different countries with diverse conditions, provides key information with diverse conditions, providing information and constrains for a system to be developed for the agricultural sector. Another constrain for methodology was to derive climate differences and ways farmers treat the soil, taking care of livestock, assessing the reliability of structure model obtained from STARGATE model development. The STARGATE methodology considers agronomic, economic and environmental benefits to determine the best fertilisation regime, related to livestock treatment and management. Aiming to decrease GHG emissions, decrease of nutrient application.

The framework including multi-stake assessment framework was developed in a co-creating process at the pilots, from variety of sectors, to assure compliance and prepare the ground for policy support and market uptake. This deliverable lay foundations for the validation of implementing the different methodologies and the demonstrations expected in the region. This deliverable assembles required information and data from the diverse pilot locations in a baseline description.

In each pilot case was described information, problems, land, water, major crops and farming systems. Involvement of stakeholders and farmers helped to implement the ideas and objectives of the project.

Climate change is impacting the productivity and profitability of European farmers, with attempts to adapt to it. The Paris Agreement provide framework for countries to implement and adapt methodologies from



individual countries, setting emission reduction targets and policies. The pilots in the diverse climate conditions and technologies implementation are key for the success of the STARGATE development. STARGATE activities are implementing methodologies than can bring an important advantage to the countries involved, toward lower carbon emission.

STARGATE consortium is committed to **ensure the sustainability** and maximum possible exploitation of the project results. They are well places, planned on agriculture development, with experiences and wide network of contacts and collaborating entities. The 16 STARGATE pilot project from different regions and experiences supporting entities will ensure exploitation be the Consortium at European level.

Pilot cases include IoT devices, technologies, methodologies, and procedures specific. The nature of this project is complex and requires multiple modes and phases with a goal to collect, classify and aggregate several types of information from different sources. Changes identified with current methods and practices as emerging challenges are associated with changing structure of farming, trends in ICT implementation with using of drones and computers. These pilots implement these changes with the goal to make changes and technologies friendlier to farmers.

### 3.4 D6.5 Validation Report of First Results

The aim of deliverable WP6 “Enabling validation with user community” was to demonstrate STARGATE approach, concepts and products to interact with community framework, engage farming communities in all pilot areas, and then expand, strength and empower the communities to a participation process which gives them the centre for improvement and piloting efforts.

The project partners were prepared, aimed and worked into the framework adjusting to their needs and they were committed for collaborating in different levels. This impact activity aims at properly transferring knowledge to the targeted agricultural sectors, driving a number of practical applications and recommendations, both directly and indirectly.

Stargate focus is on exploitation activities in practical outputs of the region, ensuring the sustainability of the outcomes of the project. Linking the climate, crop and regional stakeholders in peripheral communities with cutting-edge technology to produce improved crop and economic models contributing to the agricultural sector.

And the goals are to improve substantially the resilience of the agricultural production due to climate change and enhance adaptation capacities of the technologies and methodologies developed in the project.

The system tries to develop and overcome the main barriers on the adaptation of precision agriculture technologies in the agriculture domain. The project aim to develop IoT tools for use in agricultural sector and monitoring of performance. The main steps have been explained in another deliverable in working step with experts, methodologies, implementation and what is needed. While less attention is put to understanding learning in bottom-up group of food producers, farmers, consumers, NGOs.

Statement: “bringing farmers into the processes of learning can provide insights into potential transformation within their know-how and support sustainable food production. Farm digitalisation is important for marketing aspects, which can be transformed into multiple horizons and multiple level organisation”.

Subsections of the possible policy scenarios aimed at increasing efficiency and profitability of agricultural production for diverse actors. The specific descriptions considered to assess how public policies or direct



interventions. The project could impact small and medium-sized producers in these pilot regions. The deliverable gave clear description of the location and relevant information for the pilot areas.

Some results shows that in order to increase productivity and reduce losses in agriculture, the governments or the local authorities have to promote adaptation of higher-quality technologies and methodologies, enhance farmers' capacity though training and technical assistance.

Growing crops should be simulated for farmers to improve food production and food support programmes. Measures that need priority according to CAP, Green Deal and the biodiversity strategies:

- Implementation of modern and more sophisticated techniques
- Changes in the local value chain
- Digitalisation of farms
- Improvement in good governance which would take into consideration multiple time horizons and multiple level organisation

The Rural and agricultural extension network could be used to disseminate (share) information about the economic advantages of the methodologies developed and show in a way the importance of training farmers on agri-business.

With this working package the aim is to see the exploration of research areas for the common benefits for perspective agricultural development, strengthen farmer organisations, involvement of professionals, raise awareness. Other part of the documents describes user requirements for use cases

### Czech pilots

- Use case: Jizer river, Rostenice, Region of South Moravia
- Info: Country, Company, GPS coordinates
- Water use saving efficiency topic – reduce, efficiency and price tag
- Crop testing: Potatoes
- Crop coefficients
- Information farmers asked: landscape management, weather forecast, seasonal forecast, satellite data, climate change practical information, best growth practices, deal with pests.

### Greek pilots

- Use case: Corinth (Greece), Central Macedonia (KEFALAS), Central Macedonia (STROIKOS EMMANOUIL)
- Info: Country, GPS, Company management
- Corinth: technological risks, lack of investments
  - o Description of farmers, consultants, company requirements regarding farms
  - o Req: yield, efficiency, profitability, soil erosion, climate change, cultivation, monitoring, information for use cases, advice, manage resources, environmental footprint, cooperation and high-quality products
- Central Macedonia
  - o Farm with cows and sheep, negative effects of climate change
  - o Heat stresses, GHG emissions
  - o Research/information about heat stress and productivity and behaviour
    - Envisioned Scenario = farming and footprint. In order for farmers to achieve high yield and to cope with climate change. Farmers will have to manage issues which rise



from the climate change and costumes them, tailor to the needs into the micro-climate of the area.

- Benefits: reach environmental stability as primary importance in the agenda of EU environmental policies, decrease excessive fertilisation, water and power consumption and inadequate pest management. Harnessing the CAP and European Green Deal, forestry strategy and maintain and environmental stability

#### Israeli pilots

- Collaboration with farmer associations
- Case: Hulla Valley, Galilee
- Irrigation pastures with cattle
- Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) service applied for animal behaviour, grazing quality, and cattle wellbeing where with these data were sent to the farmer for the cattle wellbeing, nutritional feed, sickness and reproduction
- Training was done online, YouTube and Facebook series

#### Belgium pilots

- Case: 1-Flanders (Veggies, fruit, potato), 2- (vegetable sector), 3- (Fruit sector), 4- (Potato sector)
- Irrigated crops, farmers need to do prioritisation of field in raking order of irrigation emergency
- Irrigation requirements – decided by fruit and potato sector, monitoring of agro-climatic services
- Finding of alternative water sources – forbidden during long dry spells

#### Latvia pilots

- Use case: 1- (Regional level, landscape management); 2- (experimental farm level)
- Provide local farmers with regional and national long-term weather prediction tool and crop loss calculator and local mitigation tools
- Supporting harvest schedule, irrigation solution, pest control
- Models and tools cannot be generalised, and they should be crop specific because of indicators

#### Spain pilots

- Two regions: Dehesa de los Llanos, Agropecuaria Albacete
- Farm description given, climate effects, agricultural reliant region and irrigation
- Fertilisation advice – for farms, water use, nutrient management
- Description of stakeholders specialisation

### 3.5 Conclusion WP6

This deliverable contained the methodology developed in the pilots that has been followed during the project to maximise synergise between the technologies and methodologies developed. The report aims at achievements of research and pilot activities during the years in the field and serve as pillars for methodology developments. The aim of this deliverable is to review the co-creation situation at STARGATE pilots in relation to the agri-food needs and farmers approaches, with a particular focus on the outputs of the pilots' activities. The values in co-creation in the agribusiness sector is limiting but emerging.

From work package 7, AGROMIX project there could be the same approach which is implemented as STARGATE project. As they are similar another way to consider is reaching out via social media, email and messages. It's something we only use for direct and faster reach to organisation, institutions and individuals.





## 4 STARGATE key policy recommendations and summary

### 4.1 Policy recommendations

Policies should be focused on decision-making in order to involve various levels of stakeholders in the process and use their inputs and data to create reasonable decision-making information and feedback which might outcome in more effective and targeted policies.

The implementation of innovative techniques for soil and land management is crucial, and both can have a big impact on policies. Policymakers should give importance to and support programmes that encourage **multi-actor participation**. Decision-making processes that are informed and effective can result from collaboration with farmers, stakeholders, and researchers. Farmers' opinions can be strengthened by a well-designed multi-actor platform, providing them with a **more powerful voice for advocacy** and representation in policy discussions. Policies can be adapted to address the particular requirements and obstacles faced by farmers in different geographic areas by putting a focus on collaborative methods.

A **focus on sustainable agriculture** is necessary, and holistic land management can persuade decision-makers to give environmental practices the greatest importance. Such regulations that **mandate** sustainable development practises on farms will encourage sustainable farming and lessen its adverse impact on the environment. Policymakers should think about giving farmers who use sustainable agricultural methods **financial and management support**. This may promote the use of climate-smart practices and reduce agriculture's negative environmental effects.

The incorporation of new technologies would reduce the need for expensive inputs in the fields and increase productivity since farm expenses and funding are essential for enduring farms. Benefits or funding may be introduced through policymaking to encourage farmers to use these practices more actively. Governments and organisations that support farmers should allocate resources and money. putting emphasis on precision agriculture technologies at this point in time

The projects that have been put into place and completed would offer the expertise and capacity developing that would lead to the formulation of policies that **support skill development among farmers**, thereby boosting their resilience to difficulties that others may encounter in the future. Training sessions, workshops, and informational sessions are all suitable ways to share knowledge.

To build a comprehensive framework for sustainable agriculture, policymakers should work to **integrate climate, environmental, and agricultural policies**. As a result, policies are put together and beneficial to both sides. Policies should emphasise **promoting drought-tolerant crops, water-efficient irrigation techniques, and climate risk management tools** as have been tried to adjust to the STARGATE project in order to increase agricultural resilience to climate change.

In conclusion, the development of a multi-actor platform and the application of innovative techniques in agriculture might create a more dynamic and supportive policy environment that benefits farmers by encouraging sustainable practises, providing specialised support, and guaranteeing their active participation in decision-making processes.



## 4.2 Work package 5 and 6 summaries

In the Work Package 5 was integrated the climate smart solutions in decision making in order to support the stakeholders in the tactical planning of everyday farm activities. The tools created by this project are based on land and crop suitability analysis methodology, using data and services to help farming procedures as tillage, irrigation, fertilisation, spraying, harvesting, planting and seeding. The project goal is to improve agricultural production efficiency while reducing environmental impact. The validity of the decision models will be validated through stakeholder contributions and comparisons with real data from pilot areas to support with decision making, optimisation of resources use and promoting sustainable practices in agriculture.

The STARGATE project utilizes the FAO framework for Land Use Suitability Analysis (LUSA) and incorporates various parameters, including biophysical, socio-economic, environmental, and management indicators, also included pilot farm data. The goal is to determine land suitability for specific uses and classify limiting factors for crop production. Land evaluation is essential for sustainable land resource management, providing a rational basis for land-use decisions. The project focuses on providing spatial distribution of land suitability for selected crops. Other systems like AGROMIX also consider policies for integrating mixed farming and agro-forestry. Climate-smart agriculture (CSA) encompasses the agriculture, forestry, and fishery sectors, contributing to global objectives set by the UN Framework on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and the World Summit on Food Security (WSFS) for sustainable development. CSA is based on three pillars: sustainability, strengthening resilience to climate change, and mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions from agricultural practices. It aims to increase farm productivity and income, adapt food production systems to climate change, and reduce agricultural emissions.

Adaptation responses to climate change include short-term incremental changes made by farmers autonomously based on local knowledge and experiences, as well as long-term transformative responses requiring strategic planning at a larger spatial scale. Climate-smart decision tools play a crucial role in long-term adaptation and policy-making, involving stakeholders in various stages to optimize the process and achieve congruent outcomes. Transformative changes, such as spatial shifts in farming activities and breeding new cultivars and crops, are required. The breeding goals aim to enhance drought tolerance, adapt to climate conditions, and improve water and nutrient use-efficiencies while reducing agricultural emissions and preserving the environment. In some sections was important to mention the technological advancements in agriculture to reduce environmental impacts and improve efficiency. Precision agriculture, driven by sensor-based technologies, plays a crucial role in achieving these goals.

The project aims to establish a sustainable and holistic approach to soil and land management, integrating advanced tools for land use, crop and soil sensing, irrigation systems, and pollutant measurement through participation. The pilot areas focus on major EU crops and livestock, serving as testbeds for evaluating and demonstrating STARGATE technologies and methodologies and also to validate the project outcomes. The main important is the meetings with stakeholders serve the purpose of involving and empowering the project, guiding core users and stakeholders, and fostering dialogue between different groups. The outcomes include a committed multi-actor community for sustainable agriculture and a detailed assessment of their feedback on the STARGATE innovation. The validation and exploitation of pilot results are crucial to ensure the project's sustainability and practical application. STARGATE aims to transfer knowledge and practical recommendations to the agricultural sector through data sharing and co-design activities with stakeholders. Ultimately, the main outcome is to build alliances among academia, citizens, businesses, and institutions,



creating an innovative society. This deliverable focuses on the framework for multi-actor active participation in the pilot regions of the STARGATE project. The main objective is to engage farming communities, expand their participation, and empower them in the development and piloting efforts. The project partners have been committed to collaborating and transferring knowledge to the agricultural sector.

The deliverable presents use cases from different pilot areas, highlighting their specific requirements and goals. It also emphasizes the importance of co-creation and collaboration with farmers and stakeholders for sustainable food production. The report serves as a foundation for future activities and recommends an empirical focus on citizen science and direct discussions with farmers for effective implementation of methodologies.

### 4.3 Links of AGROMIX and STARGATE

The summary and analysis provided above shows that there is good complementarity between the two projects. STARGATE has focused on different aspects e.g., drought-tolerant crops, water-efficient irrigation techniques, climate risk management tools. While AGROMIX has focused on agroforestry systems which include drought-tolerant crops but also changes in the micro-climate for crops through trees.

AGROMIX is documenting the benefits/dis-benefits of agroforestry and mixed farming in the few existing long-term trials with tree crops in Europe and uses modelling to forecast climate change effects until 2100. It also delivers major work to engage farmers in design pilots, use IT and data driven analysis with planning tools for agroforestry (the mix-app). In addition, it provides policy co-design, to reduce the barriers for adoption and successful value chains based on agroforestry innovations.

It is therefore interesting to note that the annual combined online project workshops have led to better understanding of the complementary work conducted and also led to policy recommendation with shared agreement.

From an AGROMIX perspective we conclude that all of the chapter 4.1 STARGATE policy recommendations can also be endorsed by the AGROMIX work. AGROMIX is however more specific on agroforestry policy recommendations in various countries and at federal, national and EU level. AGROMIX has the working hypothesis that to fundamentally transform landscapes (AGROMIX strap line) **more change** is needed than crop or irrigation improvements and that trees in themselves, once grown large, can fundamentally change at least the micro-climate of farms and ultimately also wider landscapes. The landscape changes are much more fundamental, especially considering that large parts (>70%) of Europe's usable agricultural area is currently used for crops feeding exclusively intensive indoor livestock systems. For this reason, AGROMIX has also not prioritised mixed farming, just on its own. Mixed farming lacks the vital tree element, while livestock in silvo-pasture within agroforestry has a research focus in AGROMIX.

