

Agroecology Europe is looking for a

Young researcher in Agroecology Policy for H2020 projects AGROMIX and AE4EU

100% contract Starting: February 2021 Work place: Brussels (Belgium)

Agroecology Europe is looking for a young, motivated researcher in agroecology to work in the H2020 AGROMIX and AE4EU. Woman are encouraged to apply.

Summary of the projects:

The AGROMIX project (AGROforestry and MIXed farming systems - Participatory research to drive the transition to a resilient and efficient land use in Europe) aims to deliver participatory research to drive the transition to a resilient and efficient land use in Europe. It focuses on practical agroecological solutions for farm and land management and related value chains. AGROMIX makes use of a network of 83 sites with Mixed Farming (MF), AgroForestry (AF) or value chain stakeholder networks, which are used to measure, design, model, test and improve these systems. A nested approach will be used to conduct 12 codesign pilots across Europe. AGROMIX has six specific objectives: 1) Unlock the full potential of synergies in MF/AF systems. 2) Develop and promote value chains and infrastructure for MF/AF produce. 3) Develop the MIX-A toolkit to co-design and manage MF/AF systems in practice. 4) Identify and model transition scenarios. 5) Develop policy recommendations and action plans for a successful transition. 6) Maximise the impact and legacy of the project for building low-carbon climate-resilient farming systems. AGROMIX uses a transdisciplinary multi-actor research approach with 10 universities, 7 research institutes and 11 multiactor partners. It will use Reflexive Interactive Design methodology to include stakeholders in participatory co-design and implementation of MF/AF systems. The research topics of the project include co-creating a resilience framework, systems design and synergies, indicators and scenarios that refine the greenhouse gas inventories for MF/AF systems and model transition scenarios, tests of MIXapplication/serious game, economics and value chains, and policy co-development, action plans and dissemination delivering impact and exploitation through practical innovations on farms, in value chains, at different policy levels and through communication and knowledge hubs across Europe.

The AE4EU (Agroecology for Europe) project will contribute to agroecology research and innovation development through different strategic objectives. AE4EU with its 12 partners and associate stakeholders will develop a road map and framework for a European network of agroecological living labs (LL) and research infrastructure (RI), and other relevant actors. Major avenues for this will be the mapping of local, regional and national state of the art and initiatives in different European countries, provide also a more comprehensive and detailed overview of how agroecology is understood. This will lay out the ground to connect relevant actors of identified initiatives, LL, RI, funding schemes and policies. Further, the project will identify and assess past and ongoing agroecological LL and RI initiatives, and how they derive relevant and successful approaches for transition to agroecological production and food systems. Moreover, AE4EU will identify and analyse policy frameworks that include elements of agroecology and provide recommendations for future reinforcement and adaptation. The project will as well work out propositions for potential changes and improvements for enlarged and complementary funding of public and philanthropic/private funders to enhance research, practice and innovation of agroecology in Europe. The overall goal of AE4EU is through reinforced networks development and connection of a large diversity of relevant actors across Europe accelerate the transition to sustainable agriculture and food systems.

Work of the person to be employed:

In both project you will work on policy analysis and policy development for agroforestry and agroecology in the European context. The overall aim is to contribute to policy development to support national and EU (post-2020 CAP) policies to overcome trade-offs and conflicts of present agricultural and food systems. This will support agroecological transition for more sustainable practices in agriculture and food systems, including mitigation of climate change and improve adaptability, and suggest new policies at regional, national and EU level for policy makers, but also farmers, advisers, processors and others stakeholders. This should be achieved through: to provide an assessment of EU existing policies and their role in national and regional implementation to support agroecological systems; to identify strategies for policy improvement; to identify new and improved policy design and implementation options; to write policy briefs, and participate on workshops with national and/or EU policy makers to develop co-designed policy recommendations. Moreover, you will participate in dissemination activities and support elaboration of newsletters, website information, and other materials of the two projects.

Work will be organized in coordination with the project coordinators Paola Migliorini (AGROMIX), Alexander Wezel (AE4EU), and the Agroecology Europe secretariat (Laurence Eeckhout).

PROFILE:

Graduated with a MSc in Agroecology or Political Sciences with good knowledge of EU agricultural and food policy.

PhD is a plus.

You have very good writing and speaking skills in English and a good knowledge in a second language (French/Spanish/German).

Your enthusiasm and strong involvement in project work with multiple partners will be needed. You have the capacity to work autonomously and interdisciplinary with other researchers of Agroecology Europe, AGROMIX and AE4EU partners.

Length of the contract: 3 years 100% and a 4th year 50%. Please send your application (CV, cover letter, degrees and transcripts, publication list) to: info@agroecology-europe.org For further information you may contact Paola Migliorini, President of Agroecology Europe, p.migliorini@unisg.it