



## Call for proposals to organise in-person participatory workshops in 2024

**Deadline for applications submissions:  
Monday, 4 March 2024**

Agroecology Europe is inviting its members to submit a proposal to organise a participatory workshop in 2024.

The objective of these participatory workshops is to exchange and collect best practices and information from the field on current issues especially related to **generational renewal within farming communities, to the issue of installation of young people and non-agricultural people in the sector as well as to the transmission of farms.**

[After the successful five events held in Italy in 2022, and in Spain, Greece, and Hungary in 2023](#), the year 2024 will conclude this series of participatory workshops with two additional editions, aiming to **showcase initiatives in other regions and present organisational innovations to facilitate the integration of youth into the farming and food sector.**

### Context

The European Union is facing a decline in agricultural employment each year. In 2016, only 11% of farms in the European Union were run by farmers under the age of 40, more than half of farm managers in the European Union are 55 years old or older, and nearly a third are 65 years old or older (Eurostat, 2019). Thus, paving the way and ensuring generational renewal in the agricultural sector is critical for the maintenance of family farming in Europe. Moreover, the agroecological transition will require a substantial increase in the workforce in this sector, because the practices it implies require more human labor.

Agroecology can thus represent a pathway at the crossroads of these major issues and bring together multiple stakeholders, disciplines, and approaches, generations and localities.

Young people from different educational backgrounds and different localities will show the diversity of cross-cutting solutions to revive EU rural areas, to find innovative ways to transform the governance of food systems and thus to break the siloed approach on agricultural and farming issues.

### Key Characteristics of Participatory Workshops

- Workshops of exchanges and field visits should be organised for farmers, students, policy makers and farm advisors in the presence of local associative actors and other actors concerned by the subject;
- Each participatory workshop should generate ideas that will suggest promising social innovations to insure the generational renewal in EU rural areas;
- Outcome: Recommendations/brief report for EU Decision-Makers should be developed by participatory workshop organisers (and collectively with participants, if possible) to raise awareness about the current issues that young people are facing today in the field, or share inspiring innovations led by the youth in rural areas that could be widespread around EU.

### Further details

**When:** to be organized in 2024

**Where:** in any European country

**Who:** Agroecology Europe members

**Purpose:** half-day or one-day event to gather young agroecologists to collectively discuss on thematic related to youth inclusion and the agroecological transition

### Budget:

AEEU will provide €2,000 to the member. You can choose whether this amount covers either the speaker fees, or the farmers fees, the transport, etc.

### Application process

Agroecology Europe invites its members to **submit an application by Monday 4 of March, to the following email addresses:**

[secretariat@agroecology-europe.org](mailto:secretariat@agroecology-europe.org)

[elena.ambuhl@agroecology-europe.org](mailto:elena.ambuhl@agroecology-europe.org)

Workshop proposals should include:

- a title/workshop topic
- Date/location of the workshop
- a brief description of the association/experts organising the workshops
- the contact details of the organisers

- a brief description of the workshop and its goals/missions/proposed focus/impacts
- a brief description of the target audience/participants
- the intended format
- the planned activities (including the schedule during the session)
- a brief description of the budget

It should be noted that the organisers (individuals/associations) should be a member of Agroecology Europe.

**Evaluation of applications:**

Workshops will be evaluated by AEEU Board according to the following criteria:

- Relevance
- Localisation
- Knowledge exchange and tangible outcomes
- Inclusiveness of youth dimension (both in the organization committee as the event's target audience)
- Level of engagement and audience reached

**Please do not hesitate to contact the Agroecology Europe team with any further questions, we will be happy to support you with these applications!**