

AGROECOPOLIS: Hellenic network for Agroecology, Food Sovereignty & Access to Land

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- **Scale of activity:** local, regional national, European
- **Actor/s:** NGO, farmers, consumers, volunteers
- **State of the activity:** started in 2017, ongoing
- **Keywords:** agroecology, Food Sovereignty, Community supported agriculture (CSA), Access to Land, ethical consumption



Summary

Hellenic network for Agroecology Food Sovereignty and Access to Land . Formal representatives for the country of Greece for the European Food Sovereignty Movement and for the Nyeleni Forum; the European CSA movement and members of the URGENCI kernel and the European CSA Research Group.

Description of activities

Background. Agroecopolis is a very young, grassroots non-profit, non-governmental organisation.

Activities.

- Actively promoting different models of connecting consumers and producers -like CSA,
- Providing links with the social solidarity economy movement and alternative currencies; issues of inclusion for sensitive social groups, migrants and displaced people through the idea of food production, distribution and consumption.
- Acting as a hub for networking, experience sharing, training, facilitation and provision of resources.
- Promoting participatory action research, advocating for policy change on local, national and international levels, creation of food policy councils.
- Counselling and training on ethical solidarity economy and human relations.
- Safeguarding our commons and Greek agricultural land through practices of communal ownership and usage.
- We promote ethical consumption and a change of consumer habits especially with regards to our food.

Outlook

Challenges: Actually access to funds. The financial conditions in Greece make it difficult to crowdfund; institutions, local authorities etc. are overwhelmed with applications, we are in need of some starting capital.

Next steps for the next 2 years:

- 3 Erasmus+ projects with major European partners;
- a pilot PGS (Participatory Guarantee Systems) in the extended area of Thessaloniki;
- networking of food initiatives with view to create the Thessaloniki Food Policy Council;
- hosting the 4th European CSA meeting and the 7th International CSA Symposium (Dec 2018);
- gardening project together with refugees;
- focus on consolidating CSA movement around the country; set up a national CSA association;
- bring together, empower small agroecological farmers;
- revive the Permaculture Caravan with new objectives.

Source and contact

Information gathered at: the ERSG 2017 (European Rural Sustainability Gathering), Greece, Karditsa, 17-21 May 2017

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Website: www.agroecopolis.org (under construction)

Available at: Forum Synergies' website ->



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