

REAF MERCOSUR

AGROECOLOGY, PUBLIC POLICIES, AND SOCIAL PARTICIPATION

DEDICATION

To Family, Smallholder, Indigenous, Quilombola, Ethnic and Community farmers who cultivate Agroecology day by day across diverse territories, with hard work, resistance, and care for the Earth.

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Florianópolis, SC, Brasil.
Autumn 2025.
ISBN 978-85-67297-11-8

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2025

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PREFACE

(...) REAF has served as a privileged space for dialogue between civil society and government representatives, driving the development of public policies that support the transition to fairer and more sustainable agri-food systems"

It is with great satisfaction and a profound sense of responsibility that I present the preface to this important publication: **Agroecology, Public Policies, and Social Participation,** a milestone for the Specialized Meeting on Family Farming of Mercosur (REAF MERCOSUR). This document is not merely a compilation of data and analyses; it is a testimony to the resilience, wisdom, and tireless work of Family, Smallholder, Indigenous, Quilombola, Ethnic, and Community-based Agriculture (FIA), who, day after day, practice Agroecology in diverse territories, with much effort, resistance, and care for the land.

Agroecology, for us, goes beyond an agricultural technique. It is configured as an integrated approach that applies ecological and social principles in the design and management of food and agricultural systems. It seeks to optimize interactions between plants, animals, humans, and the environment, considering the social aspects essential for a sustainable and just food system. It is science, a set of practices, and a social movement intertwined to build a more equitable and sustainable future.

This publication, the result of a joint effort by REAF with key partners such as the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the Center for the Study and Promotion of Group Agriculture (Cepagro), offers a detailed overview of public policies aimed at promoting Agroecology in six countries of the expanded Mercosur region: Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, Bolivia, Chile, and Colombia. It presents an exhaustive mapping of 103 public policies, programs, and regulatory frameworks, reflecting both advances and persistent challenges in institutionalizing Agroecology in our region.

The recognition of Agroecology as a strategy to ensure Food and Nutritional Sovereignty and Security, while strengthening climate resilience, is one of the pillars of this work. In a scenario of increasing challenges imposed by climate change, Agroecology emerges not only as an alternative but as the necessary response. Its practices—such as crop diversification, the use of native and creole seeds, agroforestry systems, and the reduction of external inputs—not only increase the resilience of agricultural systems but also significantly contribute to mitigating greenhouse gas emissions and the sustainable use of natural resources.

In this context, the National Program of Productive Forests stands out, aiming to support agroforestry and silvopastoral systems in agrarian reform settlements,

combining native tree species (such as açaí, cocoa, andiroba, or Brazil nut) with food crops—thus uniting income generation, food security, and environmental sustainability. Lines of credit focused on Agroecology, as well as PRONARA (National Program for the Reduction of Pesticides), are equally crucial for strengthening agroecological transition.

It is imperative to highlight REAF's catalytic role in this journey. Since 2013, when Agroecology was incorporated into its agenda, REAF has served as a privileged space for dialogue between civil society and government representatives, driving the development of public policies that support the transition to fairer and more sustainable agri-food systems. The road is long, but the consolidation of Agroecology in the REAF agenda, in national FIA plans, and the implementation of a Regional Exchange Program reflect the progress of a political project rooted in the food and nutritional sovereignty and security of our peoples.

This document also highlights the challenges to the full development of Agroecology in the region. Issues of financing, the need for greater institutional coordination, urgency in promoting social and gender inclusion, and barriers to the commercialization of agroecological products are crucial points that demand our coordinated attention and action. It is unacceptable that FIA, responsible for such a significant share of global food production and environmental conservation, receives such a small portion of climate financing.

The recommendations presented in this publication—including building evidence of Agroecology's positive impacts and active participation in resource allocation discussions—are a call to action. COP30, to be held in Brazil, represents a unique opportunity to position Agroecology and FIA at the heart of the global climate agenda, securing access to green funds and demonstrating that Agroecology works.

I reaffirm the commitment of Brazil's Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Farming to strengthen Agroecology as a pillar of sustainable rural development. We will continue to work tirelessly to make public policies increasingly inclusive, robust, and capable of supporting farming, smallholder, and Indigenous families in their essential mission to produce healthy food, protect the environment, and build a future of abundance and justice for all.

May this publication serve as an inspiration and a tool for all those who believe in and contribute to building an agroecological world.

Paulo Teixeira
Minister of Agrarian Development and Family Farming - BRAZIL

Family and Indigenous Agriculture plays a crucial role in expanding and maintaining agroecological practices for food and nutrition sovereignty and security, while strengthening climate resilience. In the photo, farmer Maria Erivânia dos Santos, from the Amarildo de Souza Commune Settlement, in Santa Catarina, southern Brazil.

INTRODUCTION

This publication is one of the outcomes of the Regional Agroecology Program of the Specialized Meeting on Family Farming of Mercosur (REAF), developed in partnership with IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development), FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations), and Cepagro (Center for the Study and Promotion of Group Agriculture), to promote the exchange of experiences and mutual advancement in the development of Agroecology in the region. The following pages present systematized information on public policies aimed at promoting Agroecology in six countries: Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, Bolivia (full members of REAF), and Chile and Colombia (associate members).

COPROFAM (Confederation of Family Producer Organizations of the Expanded Mercosur) has already carried out a robust study on the topic, diagnosing regulatory frameworks, public policies, and recommendations for promoting Agroecology in Mercosur, presented during the XLI REAF in Montevideo in November 2024. This publication follows in the same direction, adding information on more countries (Bolivia and Colombia) and bringing examples of good practices in the implementation of these public policies, including their advances and challenges. The data were collected within REAF's Agroecology Commission through questionnaires, literature reviews, and webinars.

We present this as a first effort to better comprehend the current landscape and acknowledge the limitations of its scope, since there is limited information on the actual impact of the mapped initiatives, and excellent municipal-level initiatives are not included in this study. Still, we hope to contribute to the expansion and strengthening of public policies to promote Agroecology and the transition to Agroecology-based production systems within Family and Indigenous Agriculture (FIA)—a strategic and necessary movement for adapting to and mitigating the effects of the climate crisis, ensuring the food sovereignty and nutritional security for people.



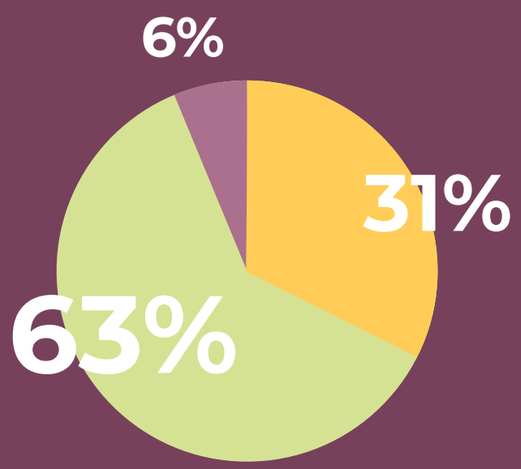
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This mapping complements other efforts conducted within REAF and its partner entities, such as COPROFAM, aiming to identify and systematize public policies for Agroecology in the expanded Mercosur region. It also reflects on success factors and challenges, based on cases of policy implementation and ongoing initiatives led by NGOs, social movements, and agroecological networks. The data were collected in collaboration with REAF Agroecology focal points through questionnaires, webinars, and individual consultations, as well as extensive documentary research.

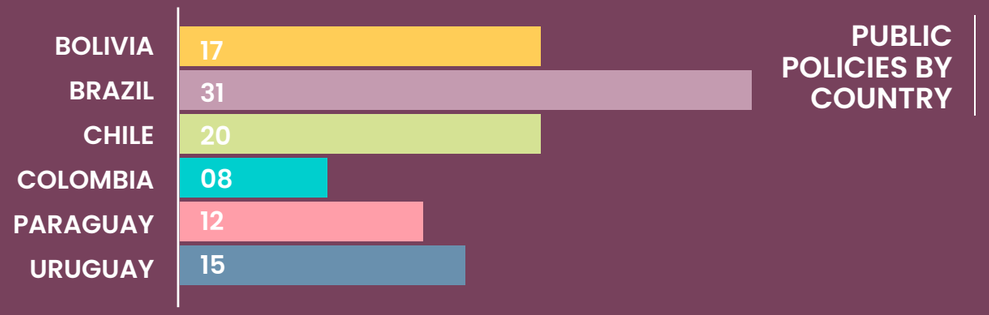
IN THIS STUDY, WE IDENTIFIED:

103

PUBLIC POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS FOR AGROECOLOGY AND FIA in SIX COUNTRIES of the expanded Mercosur, with the following status:



- UNDER DEVELOPMENT
- APPROVED BUT NOT REGULATED OR IMPLEMENTED
- IMPLEMENTED OR IN PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTATION



SOME OF THE KEY CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED IN POLICY DEVELOPMENT:

FINANCING:

- Lack of budgetary allocations within and from governments;
- Lack of credit for farmers;
- Lack of financial mechanisms that favor agroecological associations.

INSTITUTIONAL ARTICULATION:

- Lack of recognition of Agroecology's importance within governments and ministries;
- Lack of political will to create, approve, and implement initiatives;
- Need for increased resources for advisory services and investments;
- Short-term projects with limited territorial coverage;
- Difficulty translating specific objectives into concrete policies and actions.

SOCIAL AND GENDER INCLUSION:

- Need for targeted approaches for women and youth, and for policies to be less market-driven and more inclusive of various rural groups and populations;
- Need to enhance rural women's economic, physical, and decision-making autonomy;
- Difficulty translating specific objectives into concrete policies and actions.

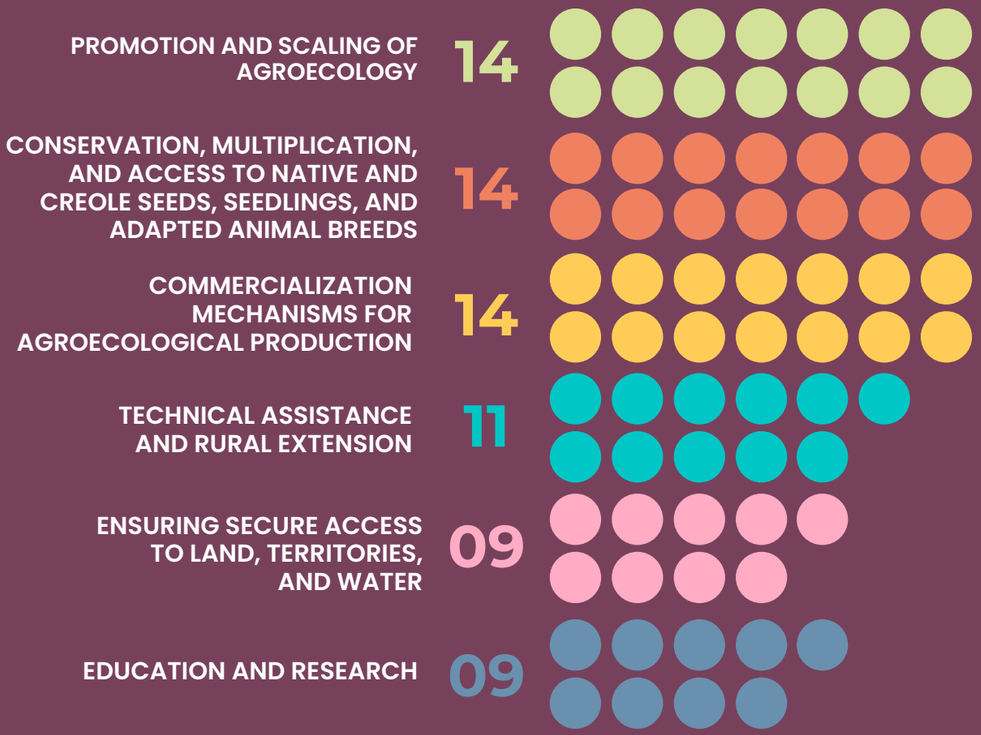
COMMERCIALIZATION

- Structural difficulties in agri-food commercialization in some countries;
- Lack of recognition for participatory certification systems.

LEARNING FROM EXPERIENCE:
GOOD PRACTICES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGROECOLOGY POLICIES AND PROJECTS

At least 109 ongoing initiatives with proven positive results were mapped. However, this number is only an estimate—many other actions are being developed in the territories. Still, this overview allows us to identify trends in support, success factors, and challenges.

MOST GOOD PRACTICES ARE FOUND IN:



In addition to these, the **Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS)**, present in all countries of the expanded Mercosur—even when not officially recognized—stand out as strategic tools for the spread of Agroecology in various contexts, such as Indigenous peoples and traditional communities, family farming, and smallholder market networks.

KEY SUCCESS FACTORS INCLUDE:

- **ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY** from design to implementation and evaluation of policies, contributing to their territorialization;;
- **SUPPORT FOR LOCAL ACTION THROUGH COLLECTIVES,** rooted in the territory and organized in networks, which enhances investments;
- **INTER-INSTITUTIONAL ARTICULATION**, involving various ministries and government agencies in the design and execution of policies;
- **CROSS-SECTORAL INTEGRATION OF POLICIES,** creating connections that increase the efficiency of public resource use;
- **CONDUCT DIAGNOSTICS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PLANS** and interventions;
- Ongoing **TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY** services;
- **EXCHANGES** between organizations, governments, collectives, and movements for sharing experiences and learning;
- **SUPPORT FOR SHORT SUPPLY** chains, farmers' markets, CSAs, and other **DIRECT MARKETING** initiatives.

Field School (ECA) in Agroecological Transition in the Tarapacá Region of northern Chile.



OUR FOUNDATION IS AGROECOLOGICAL

There are many definitions attributed to Agroecology, coming from academia, social movements, and normative frameworks. While the triad "transdisciplinary science – a body of practices – social movement" is widely accepted, there is no universal definition of Agroecology. It is, therefore, a diverse and dynamic concept. In this publication, we reference definitions developed by FAO and IFAD, and how they are expressed within REAF Mercosur.

*Within **REAF,** Agroecology is understood as **"the sustainable management of natural resources, contributing to environmental conservation and the resilience of agri-food systems."**[3].*

FAO defines Agroecology as an "integrated approach that applies ecological and social principles to the design and management of food and agricultural systems. It seeks to optimize interactions between plants, animals, humans, and the environment while considering the social aspects necessary for a sustainable and just food system[1]."

Since 2014, FAO and IFAD have been promoting dialogues between countries on Agroecology, understood as a strategic approach to achieving multiple SDGs, such as Zero Hunger. In 2019, FAO member states approved the **TEN ELEMENTS OF AGROECOLOGY** to guide transition processes towards more sustainable agri-food systems.

The **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)** emphasizes the role of Agroecology in producing **"sufficiently diverse and accessible food, while conserving and protecting biodiversity and natural resources."** IFAD also highlights that:

"Agroecology empowers small-scale producers, particularly **women and youth, as shapers of sustainable food systems**. By combining ecological principles, traditional knowledge, and modern science, agroecological techniques are **environmentally sustainable, socially just, and economically viable**"[2].

From these complementary concepts of Agroecology, we understand its **close relationship with Family and Indigenous Agriculture (FIA)**. As stated by **COPROFAM (Confederation of Family Producer Organizations of the Expanded Mercosur)**, FIA "produces and provides food that supports food sovereignty and security and helps preserve traditional culture and knowledge in rural areas.

1 https://www.fao.org/agroecology/overview/en/.

2 https://www.ifad.org/en/agroecology

3 MERCOSUL/REAF/P.REC Nº 01/23. BASES DA AGROECOLOGÍA NA AGRICULTURA FAMILIAR NO MERCOSUL. XXXIX REAF – Rio de Janeiro, 2023.

Agroecological food production in Tekoá Vy'á, a Guarani territory in Santa Catarina, southern Brazil.



(...) **It plays a key role in reducing environmental damage, restoring and conserving biodiversity, and increasing forests, which are essential for mitigating global warming.**"[4]

The crucial role of **Family and Indigenous Agriculture**, as well as traditional, pastoralist, livestock, fishing, and highland communities, in establishing sustainable, inclusive, and resilient agri-food systems is also one of the central themes of the **United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028)**. It emphasizes "their **catalytic contribution to economic development, ensuring the production of healthy and quality food, maintaining territorial balance, managing natural resources more sustainably**, preserving knowledge and wisdom, and achieving inclusive and resilient development," as stated in the Final Declaration of the VIII Global Conference of the World Rural Forum[5].

If, on one hand, there is no Agroecology without Family and Indigenous Agriculture, then strengthening Agroecology is also fundamental for adapting to and mitigating the effects of the climate crisis on FIA—and, consequently, for ensuring the food and nutritional security of rural and urban populations.

4 Diagnosis of regulatory frameworks, current public policies and recommendations for proposals to promote Agroecology in Mercosur countries. COPROFAM, October 2024. Presented at the XLI REAF, Montevideo, 2024.

5 Final Declaration: "Sowing sustainability: Scaling up the vital contribution of Family Farming". World Rural Forum, 2024.

THE 10 ELEMENTS OF AGROECOLOGY

according to FAO[6]

DIVERSITY:
Genetic and species diversity in farming systems to strengthen resilience and productivity.

SINERGIES:
Enhancing beneficial interactions among plants, animals, and microorganisms to optimize resource use and productivity.

EFFICIENCY:
Increasing efficiency in the use of nutrients, water, and energy in farming systems, minimizing waste and environmental impacts.

RESILIENCE:
Farming systems capable of adapting to and recovering from climate changes or market fluctuations.

RECYCLING:
Promoting nutrient recycling and minimizing external inputs to care for the soil.

CO-CREATION AND SHARING OF KNOWLEDGE:
Participation from farmers in developing agricultural practices that integrate traditional knowledge with scientific advances.

HUMAN AND SOCIAL VALUES:
Emphasis on social equity, community well-being, and the cultural aspects of food production and consumption.

CULTURE AND FOOD TRADITIONS:
Recognition and appreciation of local cuisines, cultural identity, and the diversity of food systems.

RESPONSIBLE GOVERNANCE:
Inclusive governance processes that ensure the rights of all food system actors, especially marginalized groups.

CIRCULAR AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY:
Local economic models based on sustainability, community well-being, and fair practices in food production and trade.

6 Icons adapted from **FAO's 10 Elements of Agroecology**.



Family farming, productive backyards and cisterns in Northeast Brazil.

AGROECOLOGY: A STRATEGY FOR FOOD SECURITY AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Much more than an alternative to conventional agriculture, Agroecology offers answers to the challenges posed by the climate crisis. By promoting **more sustainable, resilient, and diversified agri-food systems,** Agroecology protects food and nutritional **security and contributes to both climate adaptation and mitigation.**

ADAPTATION, MITIGATION OR CLIMATE RESILIENCE?

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) defines **resilience as "the capacity of a system to absorb a shock, maintain its function during the shock or the ability to return to its functional state prior to the shock"**, a definition to which we have added the component of "consistent ability to adapt and learn to cope with change and uncertainty". Thus, resilience is understood as a way of adapting to climate change: the more resilient a system is, the better it can adapt to the changing climate, and vice versa[1].

1 The potential of Agroecology to build climate-resilient livelihoods and food systems. FAO, 2020, p. 6.

AGROECOLOGY AND CLIMATE

1. CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Agroecology promotes practices that increase the resilience of agricultural systems to climate change. Some examples include crop diversification and rotation, the use of native and creole seeds, minimum tillage systems, cover crops, the use of organic compost and animal manure instead of nitrogen fertilizers, reduced use of external inputs, and agroforestry systems.

2. GHG EMISSIONS MITIGATION

Agroecological practices such as crop rotation, green manuring, minimum tillage, and agroforestry systems have the potential to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by capturing carbon in the soil and reducing the use of synthetic fertilizers and fossil fuels.

3. SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

By avoiding the use of pesticides and synthetic fertilizers, Agroecology already makes a major contribution to the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources such as soil, water, and biodiversity. Practices like intercropping and agroforestry foster the cycling of organic matter and water, and increase plant species diversity[2]. Cover crops and green manuring help restore degraded, nutrient-poor soils and preserve highly fertile ones[3]. Efficiency in the use of water and agricultural inputs is also a defining trait of Agroecology.

4. KNOWLEDGE CO-PRODUCTION THROUGH INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE

By valuing the knowledge of traditional communities, Indigenous peoples, and family and smallholder farmers developed over generations, Agroecology offers insights into how to deal with environmental changes and stressors.

2 SAFAS Network: bringing the forest to the farm. DIONÍSIO, Ana Carolina; DORTA, Fernanda; MAGNANTI, Natal João; SIMÕES-RAMOS, Grazianne Alessandra; SIDDIQUE, Ilyas. Florianópolis: UFSC, 2017.

3 Green manuring: a tool for Agroecology. Letícia Filipini, Renata Rodrigues Lucas, Anne Elise Stratton. Florianópolis, SC : Cepagro, 2021.

AGROECOLOGY AND PUBLIC POLICIES

Working with boys and girls is one of the cornerstones of promoting Agroecology in the Montes de María region of Colombia. In a partnership between civil society organizations and local schools, agroecological transition is practiced in educational units with a territorial focus. More than 700 agroecological initiatives have already been mapped in the country, which is in the process of implementing their Public Policy on Agroecology.

THE PATH OF AGROECOLOGY AT REAF

Agroecology was formally included in REAF's agenda in 2013, under the Working Group on Adaptation to Climate Change. Over the years, discussions around Agroecology gained strength and today it is considered essential in debates on adaptation and mitigation strategies within Family and Indigenous Agriculture (FIA). As one of the main spaces for dialogue between civil society and governments in the region, REAF's inclusion of Agroecology reinforces its political relevance in shaping fairer and more sustainable food systems.

2013

INCORPORATING AGROECOLOGY INTO THE REAF AGENDA

During the XX Plenary of REAF in Caracas, Venezuela, Agroecology entered the agenda for the Thematic Group on Climate Change Adaptation and Risk Management, inspired by Nyéléni-Mali Declaration on Agroecology, developed by grassroots movements, traditional communities, Indigenous peoples, artisanal fishers, and youth.

2015

FIRST RECOMMENDATIONS



The **Regional Seminar on Agroecology in Latin America and the Caribbean**, held in Brasilia, Brazil, and organized jointly by FAO and the Brazilian government, brought together social movements, academics, government representatives, and international organizations, which drafted **18 recommendations** to promote public policies on Agroecology and food sovereignty, ensuring the broad participation of social movements and civil society, as well as the formulation of legal frameworks and budgetary guarantees for the implementation of these public policies. In addition, it launched a proposal to include Agroecology in the agenda of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) and to create a specific working group within REAF.

2016 EXPANDING THE AGENDA



Held in La Paz, Bolivia, the **Second Regional Seminar on Agroecology in Latin America and the Caribbean** was the result of extensive regional coordination involving FAO, REAF, the Alliance for the Sovereignty of the Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean, CELAC, and the Bolivian government. In addition to suggesting the creation of a regional work agenda to advance what had already been proposed, the event's Final Declaration highlighted the relevance of urban agriculture in promoting food security and the need to formulate and implement public policies and legal frameworks from and for the territories, ensuring and expanding the participation of traditional peoples and communities, young people, and women.

2020 DEEPENING THE DISCUSSION ON PUBLIC POLICIES

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, the **seminar "Public Policies and Agroecology in Family Farming"** was held online during Uruguay's Pro Tempore Presidency (PPT) of the XXIII REAF and in conjunction with COPROFAM, FAO, and IFAD. Its objective was to review and exchange experiences on public policies for Agroecology in the Expanded Mercosur and strengthen political dialogue on challenges and strategies for progress in collaboration with key actors in these processes: family farming organizations, governments, academia, FAO, IFAD, and UNDP. In 2020, the Agroecology Working Group was also established, with a work agenda coordinated with IFAD and FAO.

2021 START OF ACTIVITIES OF THE AGROECOLOGY COMMISSION (CAG) AT REAF

Based on the Working Group, the **REAF Agroecology Commission** was established, reflecting the growing relevance of the topic and advances in the development of public policies in Mercosur member countries. In addition to holding the **International Seminar "Agroecology: Challenges of Production, Distribution, and Consumption in the FIA**," in 2021, the first surveys were also conducted on regulatory frameworks, public programs and policies, financing lines, education and training in Agroecology, and participatory certification within the scope of REAF.

2022 STRENGTHENING THE AGROECOLOGY COMMISSION WITH IFAD AND FAO



During Paraguay's pro-tempore presidency, REAF's Agroecology Commission established a **technical cooperation agreement with IFAD and FAO** to structure a Work Plan for mapping and training in public policies, the generation of scientific evidence on Agroecology, as well as exchanges and sharing of experiences in participatory certification and agroecological transition.

2023 CONSOLIDATION OF AGROECOLOGY RECOMMENDATIONS



A first survey of public policies and normative milestones carried out through a cooperation between REAF and IFAD is launched during Argentina's PPT. In the XXXIX Plenary of REAF in Brazil, whose central axis was FIA's crucial role in the transformation of agro-food systems and Agroecology as a strategy for the climate crisis, the member countries consolidated a list of 8 recommendations - the document **Foundations of Agroecology in Family Farming in Mercosur** - covering public policies for promoting, financing, commercialization, SPG, bioinputs, seeds, access to land, and various other themes.

2024 EXCHANGES AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING TO IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS





During the Uruguayan PPT in 2024, in addition to the survey conducted by REAF/IFAD, COPROFAM also launched a diagnosis of normative frameworks and public policies to promote Agroecology in Mercosur. All this material contributes to the development of a **Regional Agroecology Exchange Program**, to be implemented from 2025 onwards in technical cooperation between REAF, IFAD, FAO, and the Center for the Study and Promotion of Group Agriculture (CEPAGRO/Brazil), marking the second half of the FAO/UN Decade of Family Farming.

OUR ROOTS RUN DEEP

The consolidation of Agroecology on the REAF agenda and the implementation of a Regional Exchange Program on this theme reflect the progress made by social movements, networks, and organizations in the agroecological field in Latin America, which, since the 1980s, have been sharing and exchanging experiences to advance the construction of a political project based on food and nutritional sovereignty and security for all peoples. One of the main forums for the coordination of these social forces is **MAELA - the Latin American Agroecology Movement** - which brings together more than 150 organizations of family and smallholder farmers, indigenous peoples, families, consumers, NGOs, Agroecology movements and networks, educational institutions, and universities. Currently, MAELA represents one of the main political expressions of agroecological movements at the continental level, promoting a vision of Agroecology that combines social, environmental, economic, and cultural aspects, which are indispensable elements in a new model of sustainable rural development.











AGROECOLOGY AND PUBLIC POLICIES IN THE EXPANDED MERCOSUR:

an overview[1]

All the countries in the Expanded Mercosur have specific public policies for Agroecology, organic production or sustainable agriculture, at different stages of implementation.

For this publication, we identified 103 public policies, programs and regulatory frameworks aimed at or related to agroecological production and FIA in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay and Uruguay.

The mapping of these policies was carried out using questionnaires, a literature review and two webinars to present and exchange experiences.

LEGEND

PUBLIC POLICIES, PROGRAMS AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS MAPPED

CURRENT PUBLIC POLICY

BOLIVIA — 17

Law No. 3525 on Regulation and Promotion of Agriculture and Forestry (2006)

PARAGUAY — 12

Paraguay's National Strategy for Promoting Organic and Agroecological Production and the National Concerted Plan for Promoting Organic and Agroecological Production

CHILE — 20

INDAP Strategy 2023-2030 for a more sustainable, inclusive and resilient Smallholder and Indigenous Family Farming and the Sustainable Agriculture Transition Program (TAS) of INDAP - Ministry of Agriculture

COLOMBIA — 8

Public Policy on Agroecology (2024)

BRASIL — 31

National Policy on Agroecology and Organic Production (PNAPO) and National Plan for Agroecology and Organic Production (PLANAPO 2024-2027)

URUGUAY — 15

Law 19.717 on Agroecology (2018) and the National Plan for the Promotion of Agroecological Production (PNA)

1 With information from the Diagnosis of regulatory frameworks, current public policies and recommendations for proposals to promote Agroecology in Mercosur countries (COPROFAM, 2024) and from the Working Document: Towards the creation of an Agroecology agenda in the REAF (Uruguayan Cooperative Center/IFAD/REAF).

WHAT TOPICS DO THE IDENTIFIED PUBLIC POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS COVER?

Agroecology goes beyond the production of healthy food in harmony with nature, cutting across other policies and encompassing a range of issues. In this survey, we have organized the **103 public policies mapped into 14 categories.**

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND RURAL EXTENSION

- National Plan for Integral Technical, Technological and Research Assistance (Colombia)
- Training Program in Technical Assistance for Agrarian Reform Settlements (Brazil)
- Sustainable Agriculture Transition Program (Chile)

CONSTRUCTION OF AGROECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

- National Agroecology Plan (Uruguay)
- Law No. 144 – Law of the Agropecuarian Community Productive Revolution (Bolivia)
- Baraúnas dos Sertões Project (Brazil)

COMMERCIALIZATION INITIATIVES FOR AGROECOLOGICAL PRODUCTION

- Marketing Support Program (Chile)
- Neighborhood Markets (Uruguay)
- National School Feeding Program - PNAE (Brazil)

TEACHING AND RESEARCH

- Senda Agroecológica (Uruguay)
- Agroresidencia Program (Brazil)
- SENCE-INDAP Agreement (Chile)

FINANCING AND NON-REIMBURSABLE CREDITS

- National Program for Strengthening Family Agriculture - PRONAF Agroecology (Brazil)
- Financial Support Program for Agroecological Transition (Brazil)
- Support Fund for Agroecological Production (Bolivia)
- Transition to Sustainable Agriculture Program (TAS) (Chile)

ENSURING THE AVAILABILITY AND SECURE ACCESS TO LAND, TERRITORIES, AND WATER

- National Program for Land Regularization and Access to Water for Agroecology (Brazil)
- “Tierras Vivas” and “Tierras Jóvenes” Agreement (Chile, under development)
- Law No. 3545 - Law on Community Renewal of Agrarian Reform (Bolivia, not implemented)

REGULATIONS FOR THE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING OF BIOINPUTS

- Law No. 21,349/2021 - Composition, labeling, and marketing of fertilizers and biostimulants; Exempt Resolutions 1557 and 6725 (Chile)
- Ministerial Resolution No. 132/2020 – Regulates the Production and Use of Bio-inputs (Bolivia)
- National Program for Agroecological Bio-inputs (Brazil)

PROMOTION AND SCALING OF AGROECOLOGY

- National Plan for Agroecology and Organic Production (Brazil)
- National Agroecology Plan (Uruguay)
- National Agroecology Strategy (Bolivia)
- National Productive Forest Program (Brazil)

GENDER EQUALITY PROMOTION

- Rural Women’s Program (Chile)
- National Gender Plan in Agricultural Policies (Uruguay)
- Law No. 5446/2015 - Public Policies for Rural Women (Paraguay)

RESCUE, CONSERVATION, MULTIPLICATION AND ACCESS TO NATIVE AND CREOLE SEEDS, SEEDLINGS AND ADAPTED ANIMAL BREEDS

- National Program of Community Seed Banks and Biodiversity (Brazil)
- Law No. 144 - Agropecuarian Community Productive Revolution (Bolivia)
- Law 6286/2019 for the Protection, Restoration, and Promotion of Agroecological Agriculture (Paraguay)
- Germplasm Bank Network - Agricultural Research Institute - INIA (Chile)

VALORIZATION OF REGIONAL PRACTICES AND KNOWLEDGE

- Law No. 300 – Framework Law on Mother Earth and Integral Development for Good Living (Bolivia)
- National Strategy for Food Security Sovereignty (Chile)
- Decree 5897/2021 – National Plan for Indigenous Peoples (Paraguay)

CLIMATE AND HARVEST INSURANCE

- Parametric agricultural insurance (Colombia)
- INDAP Agricultural Insurance (Chile)
- Municipal Agricultural Insurance (Bolivia)

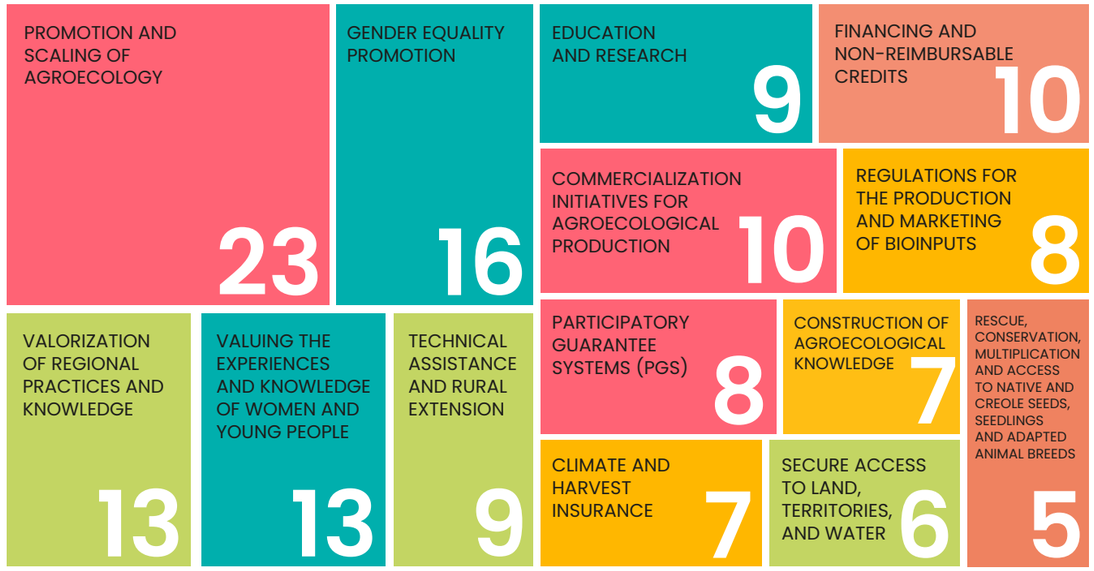
PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE SYSTEMS (PGS) OR EQUIVALENTS

- First-party certification system (Chile)
- Law 3.481/2008 on the Promotion and Control of Organic Production and Decree 4577/10 (Paraguay)
- Law 10.831/2003 - Organic Law (Brazil)

VALUING THE EXPERIENCES AND KNOWLEDGE OF WOMEN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

- PRONAF Mulher (Brazil)
- Regional Plans for Rural Youth (Chile)
- National Plan for Gender in Agricultural Policies (Uruguay)

NUMBER OF PUBLIC POLICIES MAPPED BY CATEGORY[1]



MAIN CHALLENGES TO ADVANCING AGROECOLOGICAL PUBLIC POLICIES

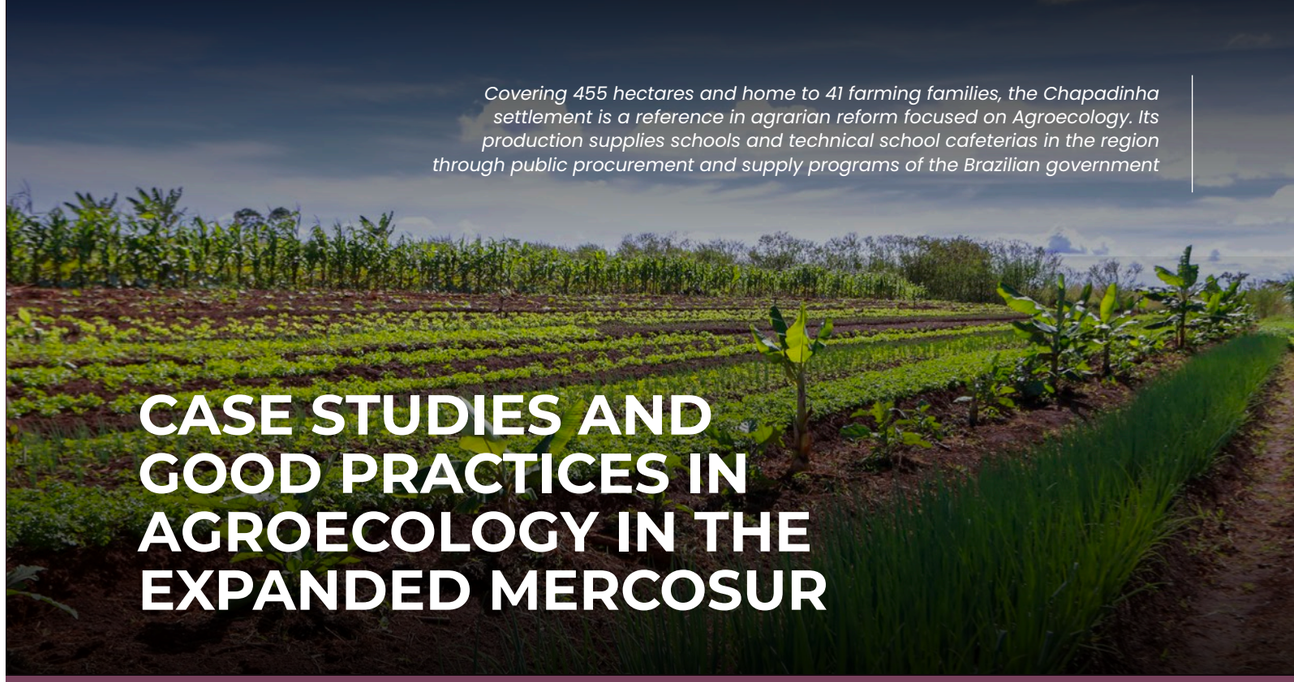


1 Some public policies cover more than one category. The complete list can be consulted in Annex 1.

HOW ARE WE DOING IN THE DEVELOPMENT, REGULATION, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF KEY PUBLIC POLICIES FOR AGROECOLOGY IN THE EXPANDED MERCOSUR?

Public policies for Agroecology in South America have advanced in recent years, with growing recognition of Agroecology in government strategic plans. However, countries still face obstacles in implementing these policies, such as: lack of funding, disruptions due to changes in government, and dependency on external financing. **Below is an overview of the current stage of the main public policies in force in the countries of the Expanded Mercosur:**

BOLIVIA	National Agroecology Strategy (ENA) 2025–2035	In the process of development, validation, and approval	
BRASIL	National Policy on Agroecology and Organic Production (PNAPO) (2023)	In implementation	
CHILE	INDAP Strategy 2023–2030 for a more sustainable, inclusive, and resilient Smallholder and Indigenous Family Farming	Fully implemented	
	Transition to Sustainable Agriculture Program (TAS)	In implementation	
COLOMBIA	Agroecology Public Policy (2024)	Regulated, but not yet implemented	
PARAGUAY	National Strategy to Promote Organic and Agroecological Production (2008)	Beginning of implementation	
	National Concerted Plan for Organic and Agroecological Production (2012)	Beginning of implementation	
	National Organic Program (2021)	Under ministerial approval process	
URUGUAY	National Plan to Promote Agroecological - Based Production (PNA) (2022)	In implementation	



Covering 455 hectares and home to 41 farming families, the Chapadinha settlement is a reference in agrarian reform focused on Agroecology. Its production supplies schools and technical school cafeterias in the region through public procurement and supply programs of the Brazilian government

CASE STUDIES AND GOOD PRACTICES IN AGROECOLOGY IN THE EXPANDED MERCOSUR

In this section, we present a deeper mapping of public policies and legal frameworks for Agroecology in the Expanded Mercosur, also highlighting good practice examples in their implementation. The information was collected through focal points for Agroecology in each country, via questionnaires, bibliographic research, and presentations during two webinars with participation from government and civil society representatives.

We adopt the FAO's definition of **"GOOD PRACTICES"**:

"A good practice is not only a practice that is good, but one that has proven to work well and produce good results, and is therefore recommended as a model. It is a successful experience that has been tested and validated in a broad sense, has been repeated, and is worth repeating and sharing so that more people can adopt it"[1].

WHAT CHARACTERIZES A "GOOD PRACTICE"?

- Proven and verifiable positive results;
- Environmental, economic, and social sustainability;
- Takes gender issues into account;
- Technically feasible;
- Result of a participatory process;
- Replicable and adaptable

1 *Good practices at FAO: Experience capitalization for continuous learning.* FAO, September 2013.



The Family and Indigenous Agriculture (FIA) produces over 90% of the staple food basket in Bolivia. More than 7,600 families are dedicated to ecological food production in the country, which currently has 68 active Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS). Agroecological production is also promoted in urban and peri-urban areas (photo).

BOLIVIA

With around 720,000 productive units linked to Family and Indigenous Agriculture (FIA), the sector produces more than 90% of the country's 39 basic food products, including vegetables, tubers, and fruits. The first legal framework specific to organic production in Bolivia was Supreme Decree No. 28.558 of 2005, which established the **National Control System for Organic Production**. The following year, **Law No. 3.525 was approved, regulating and promoting ecological, non-timber agricultural and forestry production**. The National Agroecology Strategy for 2025–2035 is currently being developed, validated, and approved.

1 Datos de 2020 de COPROFAM, disponibles en https://coprofam.org/2020/11/03/6-pilares-fundamentais-para-o-desenvolvimento-da-agricultura-familiar-na-bolivia/

Within the governmental structure, the Ministry of Rural Development and Lands (MDRyT), through the **National Coordination Unit for Organic Production (UC-CNAPE)**, is responsible for promoting agroecological production in Bolivia. This promotion also involves civil society organizations, social movements, farmer associations, foundations, universities, and international cooperation agencies.

BOLIVIA IN NUMBERS

Area: 1,098,581 km²
Population: 12.3 million
Family and Indigenous Agriculture: 720,000 productive units (2020).
Organic production and certification: 68 active PGS, with 7,680 families certified in 83 municipalities.

KEY PUBLIC POLICIES FOR AGROECOLOGY

LAW No. 3,525 - REGULATION AND PROMOTION OF ECOLOGICAL NON-TIMBER AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY PRODUCTION (2006)

Main objectives:

- Regulate and promote organic production in Bolivia.
- Establish mechanisms for ecological certification.
- Create incentives for agroecological producers.
- Disseminate and publicize the law among producers and consumers.
- Manage state resource allocation through programs to compete on equal footing with the conventional agroindustrial model, which receives more state support.

NATIONAL AGROECOLOGY STRATEGY (ENA) 2025–2035

Main objectives:

- Manage funding and provide technical support to agroecological producers.
- Reduce the pressure of agribusiness and the use of GMOs, which hinder the expansion of Agroecology.
- Promote access to differentiated markets that value and pay more for agroecological products.
- Raise awareness and provide training for producers, as well as raise consumer awareness.

UNDER DEVELOPMENT
APPROVED BUT NOT REGULATED OR IMPLEMENTED
IN THE PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTATION

OTHER POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS

Law No. 1715 – National Agrarian Reform Service Law (1996)
Law No. 3545 – Community Reorientation of Agrarian Reform Law (2006)
Law No. 3481 – Women's Access to Land Ownership (2006)
Law No. 070 – "Avelino Siñani - Elizardo Pérez" Education Law (2010)
Law No. 144 – Law of the Community Agricultural Productive Revolution (2011)
Ministerial Resolution No. 020 – Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) (2012)
Law No. 300 – Mother Earth Law and Integrated Development for Living Well (2012)
Law No. 243 – Law Against Harassment and Political Violence Against Women (2012)
Law No. 348 – Complementary Law to Guarantee Women a Life Free from Violence (2013)
Law No. 338 – Law on Smallholder, Indigenous, and Native Economic Organizations
National Program of Ancestral Knowledge for Food Sovereignty (2019)
Agroecological Production Support Fund (FONAPROA, 2020)
Ministerial Resolution No. 132/2020 – Regulation for the Production and Use of Bioinputs
Municipal Agricultural Insurance (Pilot Projects in Municipalities)
National Program for Agricultural and Forestry Innovation (INIAF)

PGS: A STRATEGIC TOOL TO STRENGTHEN AGROECOLOGY IN BOLIVIA

One of Bolivia's key advances is the official recognition of Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS) and their integration into Agroecology promotion policies. Based on mutual trust and peer verification among farmers, PGS are **an alternative to conventional certification systems—lowering costs, strengthening local agroecological networks, promoting autonomy** among farming families, and building consumer trust. This makes them a strategic tool for expanding Agroecology in the country.

Since 2006, PGS have been legally recognized by Law No. 3.525, which regulates and promotes organic agricultural and forestry production. National implementation was further strengthened in 2012 by Ministerial Resolution No. 020. The Coordination Unit of the National Council for Organic Production (UC-CNAPE) is responsible for accrediting PGS and authorizing the corresponding label, including for products in transition, which ensures their quality and authenticity.



In the territories, participatory certification results from collaboration among NGOs, foundations, local governments, and smallholder associations. Some municipalities have supported the implementation and recognition of PGS in local fairs and markets. Currently, **7,680 farming families certify their production through 68 accredited PGS across 83 municipalities. Another 54 are undergoing the regulatory process, aiming to certify over 6,000 additional families**. Achieving this goal and expanding participatory certification requires increased government support to consolidate PGS as Bolivia's official agroecological certification model.

OTHER GOOD PRACTICES

AOPEB - ASSOCIATION OF ORGANIC PRODUCER ORGANIZATIONS OF BOLIVIA



Officially recognized since 1993, AOPEB represents 64 affiliated organizations comprising about 52,000 organic producers in 77 municipalities across Bolivia's 9 departments. It aims to support organic producers in developing environmentally respectful agriculture and sustainable biodiversity use, adhering to national and international standards and Andean-Amazonian knowledge. As a nonprofit, AOPEB works through projects, services, and efficient advocacy to promote a sustainable, economically viable, socially just, and environmentally and culturally respectful organic production. Its core principles include ecological production, food sovereignty, solidarity economy, and respect for life and nature. Its values are commitment, integrity, solidarity, teamwork, and equity.

CIOEC - COORDINATOR OF ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS OF SMALLHOLDER COMMUNITIES OF BOLIVIA



Created in 1991, CIOEC BOLIVIA aims to coordinate and represent the country's smallholder and community-based economic organizations (OECCOM). It plays a key role in promoting productive development models rooted in cultural identity, social equity, and environmental sustainability, based on principles of a plural and solidarity economy. Its history and experience position it as a key actor in designing and implementing public policies to strengthen family farming from a comprehensive and inclusive perspective. Through Law No. 338, CIOEC is accredited as one of the national representative bodies for formulating, monitoring, and evaluating public policies. Within the REAF MERCOSUR framework, CIOEC Bolivia has contributed to agroecology discussions, emphasizing its strategic importance for food sovereignty, climate resilience, and the revival of ancestral knowledge.

AGROECOLOGICAL FAIRS AND SMALLHOLDER MARKETS



In several Bolivian regions, **fairs and markets promote direct sales of fresh food without intermediaries between farmers and consumers.** This ensures fair prices and improves access to healthy, sustainably produced food, especially from smallholder farmers and Indigenous communities. There are markets organized by producers' associations, as well as municipal and departmental fairs. To promote the consumption of organic foods, the Vice Ministry of Agrarian Development organizes the **"From the Field to the Pot" fairs** and established November 21 as the **"National Day for the Consumption of Organic Foods for Buen Vivir,"** encouraging the organization of fairs aimed at offering organic foods at fair prices and weights to the population.

NATIONAL SOIL PLATFORM



Created in 1993, the National Soil Platform brings together 56 institutions, including producers' organizations, NGOs, foundations, consumer groups, academic institutions, and public agencies. **The Platform connects various stakeholders to promote the transition to agroecological food systems within Smallholder and Indigenous Family Farming**. It contributes to the development of public policies, such as the National Agroecology Strategy.

The Platform shares experiences, training, research, and publications on agroecological soil management and conservation, leading **to improvements in soil fertility and agricultural production, reducing the impacts of chemical inputs in rural communities, and strengthening local knowledge for the care of life-support systems**. In the photo, a field visit for knowledge exchange in the department of Cochabamba.



Smallholder, Indigenous, Quilombola, and Family Farming produces around 70% of the food that reaches Brazilian households. In the photo, a farming family from the Chapadinha Settlement, in the Central-West region of the country, with their agroecological production.

BRASIL

It is Smallholder, Indigenous, Quilombola, and Family Farming that produces around 70% of the food that reaches the tables of more than 200 million Brazilians. A significant portion of this production is still carried out under the so-called conventional model, using pesticides — Brazil, in fact, has ranked for years among the world's top consumers of agrochemicals, especially in export-oriented crops. On the other hand, organic production and Agroecology continue to grow in Brazil. The **National Registry of Organic Producers (CNPOrg-MAPA)**, maintained by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Food Supply, includes more than 25,000 registered farming families.

Public policies stand out at the regional level, and social movements and civil society actively participate in their development and implementation.

In this assessment, we mapped **31 public policies and programs for Agroecology in Brazil, with the National Policy on Agroecology and Organic Production (PNAPO)** as the main reference. One of the instruments for implementing PNAPO is the **National Plan on Agroecology and Organic Production (PLANAPO),** developed within the **National Commission on Agroecology and Organic Production (CNAPO). CNAPO** has equal representation from the government and civil society and proposes guidelines, goals, instruments, and priorities for the Plan.

BRASIL IN NUMBERS

Area: 8,510,417 km²
Population: 212.5 million
Family and Indigenous Agriculture: 77% of agricultural establishments, employing 10 million people.
Organic production and certification: 25,100 certified producers in the National Registry of Organic Producers.

Within the agroecological movement, organizations of family and smallholder farmers, Indigenous and Quilombola communities, feminist groups, territorial networks, and Agroecology Study Centers (NEAs) come together in the **National Agroecology Articulation (ANA), the "network of agroecological networks" in Brazil**.

In addition to periodically organizing the **National Agroecology Meetings**, ANA plays a key role in advocating for public policies. It was, for example, fundamental in the creation of public support instruments for agroecological networks, such as the **ECOFORTE Program**, which we present next.

KEY PUBLIC POLICIES FOR AGROECOLOGY

NATIONAL POLICY ON AGROECOLOGY AND ORGANIC PRODUCTION (PNAPO)

Objectives: To integrate, coordinate, and adapt policies, programs, and actions that promote agroecological transition, organic production, and agroecological-based systems, as a contribution to sustainable development and quality of life. This is to be achieved through the sustainable use of natural resources and the supply and consumption of healthy food.

The **National Plan on Agroecology and Organic Production (PLANAPO)** is the main implementation instrument of PNAPO. For the 2023–2027 period, PLANAPO aims to carry out 197 initiatives across the following areas: Production, Use and Conservation of Agrobiodiversity and Nature, Knowledge Building and Communication, marketing and Consumption, Land and Territory, Sociobiodiversity and Health and Care for Life.

The plan aims to foster agroecological transition and the development of organic and agroecological-based production, contributing to food and nutrition security and sovereignty, water security, and the sustainable use of natural resources.

OTHER POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS



In addition, another 30 public policies and programs were mapped at different stages of implementation, as shown in the table below:

- UNDER DEVELOPMENT
- APPROVED BUT NOT REGULATED OR IMPLEMENTED
- IN THE PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTATION

"From the Land to the Table" Public Call
National Program for the Reduction of Pesticide Use (Pronara)
Support and Strengthening Program for Ethnodevelopment (PAFE)
Program for Supporting Access to Land and Territory and for the Socio-territorial Protection of Traditional Peoples and Communities – Traditional Territory Program
National Program on Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture
Bioeconomy Project for Medicinal Plants and Herbal Medicines in Family Farming
National Policy for Territorial and Environmental Management in Indigenous Lands (PNGATI)
Mosarambihára Program: Sowers of Buen Vivir for the Healing of the Earth
Productive Gardens of Rural Women
PRONAF Women
PRONAF Youth
PRONAF Agroecology
ATER + Digital Program
Financial Support Program for Agroecological Transition (PAF Agroecological)
Rural Extension and Agroecology Project (ERA)
Training Program in ATER for Agrarian Reform Settlements (PROFOR-EXT)
Training of Extensionists and ATER Agents for the Amazon Bioeconomy Value Chain
National Policy on Technical Assistance and Rural Extension (PNATER)
Support for the establishment and maintenance of Agroecology Study Centers (NEAs) in higher education institutions
Agroresidency Program
Food Acquisition Program (PAA)
National School Feeding Program (PNAE)
Baraúnas of the Sertões Project
National Program for Training and Research in Agroecology (PRONAPE)
National Program to Support Agroecological Marketing (PROCOM Agroecological)
National Program for Strengthening Participatory Certification (PNCP Agroecological)
National Program for Agroecological Bioinputs (PNB Agroecological)
National Program for Community Seed Banks of Heirloom Seeds and Biodiversity (PNBSCB)
National Program for Land Regularization and Water Access for Agroecology (PNRFA Agroecological)
Program for Guaranteeing Agroecological Activities (PROAGROECOLOGICAL)

ECOFORTE PROGRAM: STRENGTHENING AND EXPANDING NETWORKS

The Program for Strengthening and Expanding Agroecology and Organic Production Networks — ECOFORTE — is part of PNAPO and aims to **strengthen and expand agroecological, extractivist, and organic production networks across all Brazilian biomes**. Developed through a partnership between the Ministry of Agrarian Development and Family Farming, the General Secretariat of the Presidency, the National Bank for Economic and Social Development (BNDES), and the Banco do Brazil Foundation (FBB), ECOFORTE **provides financial support for projects involving**:

- **Strengthening and expanding networks**, cooperatives, and socio-productive and economic organizations focused on Agroecology, sociobiodiversity, extractivism, and organic production;
- **Increasing the production** and supply of healthy foods and products;
- **Promoting agroecological transition** and ecosystem resilience;
- **Generating social and economic autonomy** for farming families, land reform settlers, and traditional peoples and communities.

Projects must **involve at least three productive organizations from family farming**, prioritizing networks that include **Indigenous peoples, quilombola communities, artisanal fishers, and other traditional groups, as well as women and youth**. They must also include training for beneficiaries on topics such as gender equity, rights, and citizenship, along with **strategies for the productive inclusion of women and youth**.

For the 2025–2027 cycle, the program plans to **invest R$ 100 million**, funded by BNDES and FBB, with the aim of **supporting up to 40 agroecological networks**. Among the key success factors identified so far, the articulation of initiatives into networks is seen as a way to foster multiple territorial processes, driving social dynamics and transitions to Agroecology at various scales. By **connecting with other public policies** — such as public procurement programs, technical assistance and rural extension services, and credit lines — **ECOFORTE enhances investment in territories** and demonstrates the efficiency of public resource use by supporting networks.

The expansion of ECOFORTE to more territories and networks faces **challenges** such as ensuring the continuity of public funding for agroecological networks; difficulties in social mobilization and organization in the territories; regional inequalities; and logistical and transportation issues.

ECOFORTE PROGRAMME IN NUMBERS

CALL FOR PROPOSALS	PROJECTS	BENEFI-CIARIES
Extractvism 2014	10	12,984
Extractivism 2016	23	6,114
Networks 2014	28	24,129
Networks 2017	21	8,880
Total	**82**	**52,107**

In previous editions, ECOFORTE supported 82 projects involving agroecological initiatives and networks, including associations, unions and federations, cooperatives, women's groups, agro-industries, PGS, fairs, seed banks, and the establishment of thousands of reference units in agroecological practices, directly benefiting more than 50,000 people across all Brazilian regions. Thus, **the program has been essential for scaling agroecological production in Brazil and expanding access for small-scale producers to agroecological product markets**.















OTHER GOOD PRACTICES

FOOD ACQUISITION PROGRAM (PAA)[1]





Traditional peoples and communities, such as Indigenous and quilombola groups, are priority recipients of the PAA, both in terms of food acquisition and distribution. In the photos, farmers Sueli de Oliveira, from the Dona Bilina Quilombo in Rio de Janeiro (right), and Irma Benite, from the Guarani community Tekoá Vy'á in Santa Catarina (left), harvest and prepare food for delivery through the PAA.

Created in 2003, the Food Acquisition Program (PAA) combines objectives of food and nutritional security with agricultural development, aiming to **expand access to healthy food while encouraging production by Family Farming.** Under the PAA, the federal government, mainly through the National Supply Company (Conab), **purchases food directly from family farmers and donates it to low-income families**, social assistance institutions, community kitchens, popular restaurants, and food banks. Proposals submitted to the PAA must have at least 50% female participation, and priority is given to agroecological and organic projects, as well as those involving Indigenous communities, quilombolas, traditional peoples and communities (PCTs), and agrarian reform settlers. Social oversight of the PAA is conducted by state and municipal Food and Nutritional Security Councils.

After a drastic budget cut in the previous government, the PAA **was reinstated in 2023 with approximately R$ 1 billion in public funding allocated for the purchase of over 163,000 tons of food produced by 81,707 family farmers—more than 50,000 of whom were women**. The program has been crucial in reducing alarming rates of food insecurity in Brazil: while in 2022, 17.2 million Brazilians were experiencing hunger, by 2024, that number had dropped to 2.5 million—an 85% decrease, according to the United Nations' State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World Report (SOFI 2024).

1 With information from Agência Brazil and the Ministry of Development and Social Assistance, Family and Fight against Hunger.

NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR STRENGTHENING FAMILY FARMING (PRONAF)



The Cognacco family, from Santa Catarina, was a pioneer in accessing PRONAF Agroecology in the state.

Established in 1995, PRONAF provides **financing through public banks to family farmers** for agricultural production costs and investments, aiming to generate income and improve the use of family labor.

Currently, PRONAF is divided into 10 subprograms, including PRONAF Agroecology, PRONAF Women, PRONAF Youth, and PRONAF Forest. PRONAF Agroecology offers up to R$ 250,000 in low-interest credit (3% annually for investment and 2% for production costs) for farmers to invest in **agroecological or organic production systems**, including implementation and maintenance costs. PRONAF Forest provides credit for family farmers to implement agroforestry systems, promote conservation and sustainable management of natural resources, support the **restoration of degraded areas, and enrich existing areas with diverse forest cover**. As part of productive inclusion, PRONAF Women offers up to R$ 15,000 and PRONAF Youth up to R$ 8,000, with an annual interest rate of 0.5% and a repayment term of three years.

PRONAF IN NUMBERS[2]
JAN 2023 - APR 2025

SUBPROGRAM	NO. OF CONTRACTS	AMOUNT IN R$
PRONAF Agroecology	215	9.632.768,24
PRONAF Forests	3.718	137.793.721,66
PRONAF Youth	21	306.218,91
PRONAF Women	3.561	101.422.679,00

2 Report on Rural Credit Credit Granted, Central Bank of Brazil.

PRODUCTIVE BACKYARDS OF RURAL WOMEN

The historical work of movements from Via Campesina (MST, MMC, MPA, MAB) has been essential in mobilizing the Productive Backyards of Rural Women Program.



Often managed by women, **productive backyards are spaces around homes dedicated to growing food and medicinal plants for self-consumption, exchange, and occasional sale**. Historically undervalued and considered "small-scale," these backyards have come to be **recognized for their relevance to food and nutritional security and income generation**—thanks to the efforts of civil society organizations, universities, and feminist movements. One of the key tools in this recognition process has been the Agroecological Notebooks[1], which allow women to record the destination of their production (consumption, sale, exchange, or donation), revealing its economic value and promoting reflection on gender relations in rural areas.

The Marcha das Margaridas, one of the largest mobilizations of rural, forest, and water-based women in Latin America, included the theme in its demands submitted to the Federal Government in 2023. In response, the **Productive Backyards of Rural Women Program was created, coordinated by MDA, MDS, and BNDES, with the goal of establishing 90,000 backyards by 2026**. Implementation is carried out by contracting civil society organizations in each region, responsible for purchasing inputs and equipment, as well as providing technical assistance—including through the use of the Agroecological Notebooks.

In this first cycle (2023–2025), **7,210 women farmers (mainly from the Northeast)** received support for gardens, irrigation, solar energy, cisterns, water recycling, biodigesters, agroforests, beekeeping, and animal husbandry, totaling R$ **68 million in investments.**

1 The Agroecological Notebooks were developed by the Center for Alternative Technologies of the Zona da Mata – CTA/ZM, an organization based in Minas Gerais, Southeast Brazil



FIA is a key player in both the transformation of agri-food systems and the preservation of people's tangible and intangible cultural heritage. In the photo, a farming family from the commune of Camiña, in the Tarapacá region of northern Chile, which is part of the Important Systems of National Agricultural Heritage (SIPAN) project.

CHILE

Based on the **legacy of indigenous and smallholder communities in building sustainable agricultural systems**, the agroecological movement in Chile has been articulated since the 1980s through civil society, smallholder and professional organizations, as well as universities and research centers that promote Agroecology. One of the milestones of this journey, which saw the participation of the Chilean Association of Organic Farmers (AOCH) and Tierra Viva AG, was the approval, in 2005, of Law 20.089, which created the **National Certification System for Organic Agricultural Products**. Between 2016 and 2017, **FIA's Agroecology Table** was founded, providing a direct dialog between social movements and INDAP, as well as the Chilean Federation of Agroecology and Responsible Consumption (FEDAECH).

Currently, the benchmark for Agroecology public policies in Chile is the **INDAP Strategy "For a more inclusive, sustainable and resilient Family and Indigenous Agriculture"**, in force from 2023 to 2030, preceded by the National Rural Development Policy (2014) and the National Food Security Sovereignty Strategy (2023). One of the instruments for implementing the 2023-2030 Strategy is the Transition to Sustainable Agriculture Program (TAS) and the creation of regional sustainability and agroecological transition plans through INDAP.

CHILE IN NUMBERS

Area: 756,950 km²
Population: 19.6 million
Family and Indigenous Agriculture: with 207,000 users registered with INDAP, FIA produces 54% of Chile's vegetables and 40% of its wheat, corn and potatoes.

Despite these advances, there is still a lack of specific public policies for Agroecology in Chile, especially in the medium to long term (more than two years), which would facilitate access to funding for farmers wishing to adopt agroecological practices and training in sustainability for professionals associated with FIA. Other challenges include the limited integration of FIA into markets and the erosion of the social fabric in rural communities.

In this assessment, we identified **20 public policies** aimed at Agroecology or which include actions for agroecological production. Let's take a look at the main ones and their stage of implementation.

KEY PUBLIC POLICIES FOR AGROECOLOGY

INDAP STRATEGY 2023-2030 FOR A MORE SUSTAINABLE, INCLUSIVE AND RESILIENT FAMILY, SMALLHOLDER AND INDIGENOUS AGRICULTURE

Objectives: To promote a more inclusive, sustainable and resilient Family and Indigenous Agriculture, which guarantees sovereignty and food and nutritional security and promotes the conservation and preservation of the environment and the development and permanence of the rural and smallholder world.

Strategic axes:

- Sustainable and resilient agriculture: producing more and better with less environmental impact;
- Inclusive markets: FIA more integrated and better positioned in the markets;
- Participatory and Associative Transformation: together, transform the rural and smallholder world;
- Strengthening and modernizing INDAP: a strengthened INDAP that promotes FIA's leading role.



OTHER POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS

UNDER DEVELOPMENT

APPROVED BUT NOT REGULATED OR IMPLEMENTED

IN THE PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTATION

Sustainable Agriculture Transition Program (TAS)
Rural Women's Program (INDAP - PRODEMU agreement)
Self-consumption Program - MIDESO
SIPAN and SIPAM
Regional Sustainability and Agroecological Transition Plans - INDAP
Rural Women's Tables
"My First Rural Business" Program
National Rural Youth Policy
Regional Plans for Rural Youth
Smallholder Markets
Law No. 21. 349/2021 - Composition, labelling and marketing of fertilizers and biostimulants; Exempt Resolutions 1557 and 6725
Agricultural insurance
National Sovereignty Strategy for Food Security
Program of the Incentive System for the Agro-environmental Sustainability of Agricultural Soils (SIRSD-S)
SENCE-INDAP agreement
Marketing Support Program
First-party organic certification system
"Tierras Vivas"
Technical assistance programs dependent on INDAP executing entities

TRANSITION TO SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE PROGRAMME (TAS)

Specialized technical advice, training and economic incentives: these are the central instruments of the **Transition to Sustainable Agriculture Programme (TAS)**, of INDAP, part of the INDAP Strategy 2023-2030. Its aim is to **increase the proportion of farmers - especially young people and rural women - who adopt agroecological practices, promoting resource conservation, climate resilience and food and nutrition security**.

The implementation of TAS begins with a diagnosis of the farm, which underpins the development of **a two-year agroecological transition plan**. The diagnosis and the plan guide the application for economic incentives, which are: in the first year, CLP$450,000 for the purchase of inputs and tools; and in the second, up to CLP$2 million for larger investments. **The program offers technical advice** tailored to each farmer's transition plan, with personalized technical support and group training carried out by the Agricultural Research Institute (INIA) on topics such as soil, water, biodiversity, pest and weed management, farm design and management, and marketing.

As a **result**, the TAS Program has already assisted 1,002 farmers in Chile's 16 regions with technical assistance and rural extension with an agroecological approach to diversify production and reduce dependence on external inputs. It has also signed 364 investment projects, financing infrastructure and equipment for the agroecological transition. The program's **success factors** include its inter-institutional coordination and diagnoses for the development of work plans. The **main challenges** are to broaden the scope of the Program and institutionalize it so that it permeates other INDAP extension programs, as well as generating data to guide future actions.

In the first photo, a farmer from the Santiago Metropolitan Region and beneficiary of the TAS Program. On the right, 'Workshop on agroecological practices' with farmers from the Coquimbo region, in the north of the country, as part of the TAS Program





OTHER GOOD PRACTICES

NETWORK OF SMALLHOLDER MARKETS

The Network of Smallholder Markets is an initiative of INDAP's Marketing Support Program which aims to **consolidate and give visibility to farmers' markets, promoting the direct sale of FIA produce to urban consumers under a common visual identity.** This ensures quality and freshness at fair prices for both parties.



Smallholder markets can be set up in different formats: outdoors, in covered areas or solid buildings, with permanent or mobile stands. The operation can take place throughout the year, during specific periods or commemorative dates, with varying frequency (weekly, monthly, etc.). **Management is carried out by the producers themselves, who establish agreements formalized in internal regulations**. Participants must be accredited INDAP users, often supported by technical advisory programs. The products on offer include fresh items (vegetables, fruit), processed products (cheeses, honey) and handicrafts.



Funding comes from INDAP and occasionally from other public or private entities, with frequent support from local councils. Since its implementation, the **Network has strengthened direct marketing and contributed to food security and sovereignty**, as well as developing local networks and diversifying commercial strategies for farming families. There are currently more than 200 Network fairs in various regions of Chile, reflecting the initiative's success in increasing producers' incomes and offering quality products to consumers.

NETWORK OF IMPORTANT NATIONAL AND WORLD AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE SYSTEMS (SIPANM)



Artisanal part of the SIPAM Network, Chiloé archipelago, Los Lagos Region. Handicrafts are an important part of the tradition and multifunctionality of the inhabitants of Chiloé. Weaving and basketry are generally practiced and taught over the generations by women.

According to the FAO, **Important World Agricultural Heritage Systems (SIPAM) are "communities that base their livelihoods and food security on a close relationship with the environment"**[1]. SIPAMs are home to agrobiodiversity, traditional knowledge and cultural landscapes of inestimable value. The FAO's SIPAM Program has already designated 89 systems in 28 countries, representing a tool for safeguarding and promoting heritage agriculture.

In Chile, the SIPAM concept is implemented through the **Network of Important National and World Agricultural Heritage Systems (SIPANM)**, organized by the Ministry of Agriculture (ODEPA/INDAP) with support from the FAO and the Global Environment Facility. The SIPANM Network **seeks to recognize, protect and value unique agricultural territories by rescuing, safeguarding and enhancing the biocultural food heritage in the country's different territories**; promoting exchanges of experiences; training in agroecological practices; support for commercialization and rural tourism. The Network is organized into regional and local committees that bring together the public sector and civil society organizations, facilitating participatory governance and the implementation of safeguarding strategies in the recognized territories.

Data from 2020 shows that **more than 3,000 Aymara, Quechua and Mapuche farmers from 150 localities are part of the SIPANM Network[2].** By combining traditional knowledge, ancestral agricultural practices and agroecological learning, SIPANMs provide solutions for agricultural resilience, strengthen cultural identity, promote sustainable tourism and contribute to the local economy.

1 https://www.fao.org/giahs/es

2 https://coprofam.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Agricultura-sostenible-en-Chile-Red-Sipan.pdf

AGROECOLOGICAL LIGHTHOUSES



Rural young people from the Araucanía region visit the Newen Folle agroecological lighthouse in the commune of Vilcún. Araucanía is characterized by small-scale agriculture and various agroecological initiatives, which partly explains the presence of 87 Agroecological Lighthouses in the region.

Agroecological Lighthouses are **productive units that function as spaces for demonstration, education and peer-to-peer exchange, lighting the way towards sustainable and resilient agriculture**. Focused on the production of healthy, agroecologically-based food that enables adaptation to climate change, they are a model that INDAP seeks to promote nationally to encourage sustainable agricultural practices. The Agroecological Lighthouses are part of INDAP's Regional Sustainability Plans and are supported by INDAP professionals and extension program staff.

The Agroecological Lighthouses offer training, knowledge exchange and participatory research in Agroecology and sustainable management practices. INDAP plans to implement at least four lighthouses in each of Chile's 16 regions. In Araucanía, however, the target has already been exceeded, with 87 lighthouses shining in the region, as well as 64 in Los Lagos and 15 in Coquimbo. In Los Rios there are 2 agroecological lighthouses and 2 pilot-project regenerative livestock farms. The **impacts** include valuing local knowledge, adopting agroecological practices, strengthening food security and environmental conservation, as well as increasing the capacity of rural communities to adapt to climate change.



Through the work of smallholder, indigenous and Afro-Colombian hands, Agroecology is cultivating health and hope in territories affected by the armed conflict in Colombia. In the photo, farmer Celmira González, from the department of Cauca, a participant in the Raíces: Mujeres sembradoras del cambio project, implemented through collaboration between the National Government, the Korean Cooperation Agency in Colombia (KOICA), UN Women and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

COLOMBIA

The Agroecology Public Policy in Colombia is recent, dating back to 2024. Some of its antecedents are: the 1995 National Agricultural Technology Transfer Program (PRONATTA), whose objectives were to support the transfer of organic farming knowledge and encourage the development of rural projects. In 2002, Resolution 74 of the Ministry of Agriculture established the bases for certification of ecological products; in 2006, Resolution 0187 defined "ecological production system" as one that promotes agricultural production in a healthy and safe way, environmentally, socially and economically, and assumed the terms ecological, organic or biological as synonyms[1].

While the institutionalization of Agroecology has only been underway for a short time, there has been a long history of smallholder, indigenous and community movements and organizations building projects for food and nutrition sovereignty and security, the protection of ecosystems and natural resources, the recognition of traditional knowledge, access to land and the defence of rights, all of which have Agroecology as their main strategy. NGO and church pastoral projects also have a predominantly agroecological focus. Against this backdrop, in 2023 the Joint National Commission for Smallholder Affairs (CMNAC) was established,

COLOMBIA IN NUMBERS

Area: 1,142,000 km²

Population: 53.4 million

Family and Indigenous Agriculture: 8,383 farmers self-declare as Smallholder, Family, Ethnic and Community Farming (ACFEC), but it is estimated that around 1.4 million production units fall into this category.

1 Public Policy on Agroecology.

bringing together representatives from ministries and grassroots organizations to articulate public policies, funding and promote the rights of Smallholder, Family, Ethnic and Community Farming (ACFEC). For the implementation of the 2024 Public Policy, the **National Agroecology Table** is to be set up to plan and monitor the development of the programs. Currently, **a survey by the Ministry of Agriculture identifies 704 agroecological initiatives in the country, which serve more than 86,000 families.**

In this assessment, we identified **8 public policies aimed at Agroecology** or which include actions for agroecological production. Let's take a look at the main ones and their stage of implementation.

KEY PUBLIC POLICIES FOR AGROECOLOGY

PUBLIC POLICY ON AGROECOLOGY

Objectives: to promote Agroecology as a pillar of sustainable agricultural transformation, to tackle soil degradation, biodiversity loss and the vulnerability of traditional systems; to promote the transition from industrial models to regenerative practices, integrating traditional and agroecological knowledge; to value and strengthen local initiatives, especially those of indigenous and rural communities. Its guidelines include the conservation of agrobiodiversity, the strengthening of knowledge systems and the sustainability of food production.

UNDER DEVELOPMENT

APPROVED BUT NOT REGULATED OR IMPLEMENTED

IN THE PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTATION

OTHER POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS

Resolution 0464 of 2017 - Strategic guidelines for the public policy of Smallholder, Family and Community Agriculture
National Development Plan "Colombia, world power of life"
Law 731 of 2002 - 'Rural Women's Law'
Decree 2.145 of 2017 - "Plan for the Review, Evaluation and Monitoring of programs and laws that benefit rural women"
National Agroecology Table
National Plan for Technical and Technological Assistance and Comprehensive Promotion of Research
Agricultural parametric insurance

PARTICIPATORY ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AREAS (APPA)

The department of Antioquia is home to great natural and cultural wealth, but was marked by the armed conflict in Colombia, which influenced its social, economic and environmental dynamics. In this context, the **Participatory Environmental Protection Areas (APPA) emerged, key spaces for conserving ecosystems and biodiversity, strengthening Agroecology and fostering community participation and resilience**. These areas seek to guarantee the human right to food and promote sustainable practices. The APPAs, supported by Article 65 of the Constitution and created under the National Development Plan, are designated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MADR) with technical support from the Rural Agricultural Planning Unit (UPRA). The local driving force behind Agroecology is the collective work of smallholder organizations which, through networks and associations, influence public policies, defend rights and promote alternative development models. This coordination has been essential in addressing the effects of the conflict and building peace from the ground up.

Agricultural planning, which integrates different crops, soil rotation and ecological water management, is essential for optimizing resources and reducing dependence on external inputs. In this way, **the agroecological transition adds to the energy transition**, with biodigesters and rainwater harvesting systems, reducing environmental impacts and strengthening smallholder autonomy.



Food sovereignty is another fundamental pillar, with the conservation of native and creole seeds protecting biodiversity, without relying on monocultures. In addition, fish farming integrated with other crops improves nutrition and ecological balance.

OTHER GOOD PRACTICES

AGROECOLOGICAL PROCESSES IN MONTES DE MARÍA

The agroecological processes in Montes de María, in northern Colombia, are **led mainly by women** who, organized in associations, are restoring the forest, guaranteeing food security and resisting the extractivist and patriarchal model. These initiatives were born in a **context marked by armed conflicts and the expansion of monocultures** (teak and oil palm), which have caused land expropriation, environmental degradation, forced displacement and loss of biodiversity and restricted access to water resources. **Rural communities, especially women, are resisting these processes by conserving native seeds and promoting agroecological practices**.





Their initiatives include:

- **Community nurseries**, where they plant native trees, medicinal plants, vegetables and fruit, seeking to restore the ecosystem and generate local income. They also adapt non-native species, a task historically carried out by women.
- **Asociación de Mujeres Rurales Unidas (United Rural Women's Association)**, dedicated to traditional crops such as manioc, corn, yams and beans, seed conservation, the production of food and desserts for local fairs and the exchange of seeds between communities.
- **Processing products** from traditional foods, combining economic autonomy with cultural recovery.
- **Seed conservation** through native and creole seed banks, in resistance to the uniformity of monocultures.
- **Agroecology for children**, which involves cultivating and caring for the land, ensuring generational renewal and promoting territorial peace from an agroecological perspective.

These practices not only restore ecosystems, but also empower women as guardians of the territory and its biodiversity, as well as builders of their food sovereignty.

AGROECOLOGICAL SCHOOLS



Agroecological education in Colombia is developed mainly by civil society initiatives and non-governmental organizations, in the so-called **Agroecological Schools**. The schools are based on **valuing traditional knowledge to leverage new learning, shared and built collectively in exchanges of experiences and gatherings**. Using methodologies such as campesino-campesino; games; face-to-face and virtual meetings; participatory action research and joint efforts, the Schools strengthen Agroecology locally while generating opportunities for both young people and adults. In addition to the technical aspects of cultivation, the Schools also provide leadership training for political advocacy in the territories, as well as helping to rescue and preserve seeds, knowledge and flavors. The Ministry of Agriculture has already mapped **104 schools in 28 departments**, demonstrating their strategic importance for spreading, expanding and territorializing Agroecology in Colombia. In the photo, the Agroecological Campesino School of the Corambiente organization, Santander.





NETWORK OF SMALLHOLDER AGROECOLOGICAL MARKETS IN THE CAUCA VALLEY (REDMAC)

Founded in 2009, this network brings together **14 agroecological smallholder market initiatives** in the Cauca Valley in their production, transformation, marketing and political influence processes at local, regional and national levels. Around **300 families and 60 grassroots organizations** make up the Network, which also articulates a **Participatory Guarantee System** based on principles such as: farmer awareness, consumer trust and mutual knowledge. To guarantee quality control and trust, visits to farms are offered so that consumers can get to know and value the work of smallholder, indigenous and Afro-descendant families who grow clean, healthy food in harmony with nature.



Around 80% of what feeds the Paraguayan population is produced by FIA. In the photo, farmer Saturnina Vera, leader of the Ka'aty Miri San Francisco indigenous community, Capiíbary, department of San Pedro, a participant in the Poverty, Reforestation, Energy and Climate Change (PROEZA) project, implemented by the Government of Paraguay in technical cooperation with FAO.

PARAGUAY

By cross-referencing data from the World Bank[1] and Paraguay's Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG)[2], we can see that in 2021, 76% of the country's arable land (4.734 million hectares) was occupied by soybeans (3.64 million hectares), mainly destined for export. With decreasing arable land availability and dealing with pesticide contamination, soil and water depletion, **Family and Indigenous Agriculture resists by producing more than 80%, or 11 of the 19 important foods in the diet of Paraguayan families[3].**

This resistance is rooted in the struggle and work of social movements, smallholder federations, NGOs and producers' associations. The partnership between the public sector and organized civil society characterizes the advance of Agroecology in Paraguay. An example of this is the **National Strategy for Promoting Organic and Agroecological Production** (2008), built in technical cooperation between MAG, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the NGO Alter Vida. In 2012, the Concerted **National Plan for Promoting Organic and Agroecological Production** was drawn up with the support and advice of IICA and the Interchurch Organization for Development Cooperation (ICCO).

1 Available at https://datos.bancomundial.org/indicator/, TIERRAS CULTIVABLES indicaor (hectares).

2 Síntesis Estadísticas De los 16 principales cultivos Año agrícola 2020/2021, MAG/Paraguay.

3 Family Farming Review, FAO, 2021.

PARAGUAY IN NUMBERS

Area: 406,752 km²
Population: 7 million
Family and Indigenous Agriculture: 259,188 family farms, 12,694 farmers with organic certification, 25,614 agro-ecological farmers - Data from AECID/ Fundación ETEA/AlterVida (2021)

The Strategy is for the long term (10 years) and the Plan is for 5 years; both have already been approved and are beginning to be implemented, driven by the creation of the Organic and Agroecological Production Management Unit (UGPOA). This implementation begins with the construction of a baseline for organic and agroecological agriculture in Paraguay, work carried out in cooperation with FAO.

The **National Organic Program**, the most recent policy for Agroecology in Paraguay, was presented to the Vice-Ministry of Agriculture in 2022, but has not yet been approved. With the creation of the Organic and Agroecological Production Management Unit (UGPOA) in 2024 and the inclusion of Agroecology in the MAG's Strategic Plan, more government support is expected, especially with budget allocations, so that public policies can be effectively implemented in the field.

In this assessment, we identified **12 public policies** for Agroecology and Organic Production in Paraguay. Let's see which ones they are and their stages of implementation.

KEY PUBLIC POLICIES FOR AGROECOLOGY

NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE PROMOTION OF ORGANIC AND AGROECOLOGICAL PRODUCTION IN PARAGUAY (2008)

Objectives: Involves actions in 6 strategic axes: Markets; Technology and Innovation; Information and Knowledge Management; Incentives and Financing; Institutional Strengthening.

CONCERTED NATIONAL PLAN FOR THE PROMOTION OF ORGANIC AND AGRO-ECOLOGICAL PRODUCTION (2012)

Objectives: Aims to competitively develop the organic sector based on 7 strategic areas: Development of the national market; Positioning in regional and international markets; Research, development and innovation; Organizational development; Information and knowledge management; Incentives and financing; Institutional strengthening.

UNDER DEVELOPMENT

APPROVED BUT NOT REGULATED OR IMPLEMENTED

IN THE PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTATION

OTHER POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS

National Organic Program - PNO 2021
Law No. 5446/2015 - Public Policies for Rural Women
Decree 3678/20 - Regulates Law No. 5446/2015 - Public Policies for Rural Women
Enabling Agricultural Credit - Financial products for rural women and youth
PROEZA - Poverty Project, Reforestation, Energy and Climate Change Project (PROEZA)
Decree 5897/2021 - National Indigenous Peoples Plan
MAG Resolution No. 323/2024 - Creates the Organic and Agroecological Production Management Unit (UGPOA)
Law 3.481/2008 on the Promotion and Control of Organic Production and Decree 4577/10
Commission of Experts on Organic Production, created within the framework of MERCOSUR to promote trade in organic products between the States Parties
Law 6286/2019 on the Defense, Restoration and Promotion of Family Farming in Paraguay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APRO AND THE PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE SYSTEM





Above, Meeting on PGSs promoted by APRO in 2019, with the participation of representatives from seven Latin American countries.

Founded in 1999, the Association of Organic Producers of Paraguay (APRO) brings together **more than 400 farming families** from the departments of Central, Cordillera, Paraguarí, Itapúa and San Pedro. Its mission is to improve the quality of life of its members through the production and commercialization of organic and agroecological food, promoting sustainable practices that respect the environment, health and food safety. Based on exchanges with the Ecovida Agroecology Network (Brazil), in 2012 it became the **first PGS** to be recognized in Paraguay. **By 2024, 425 properties had been certified, including an association of organic yerba mate producers and a group of market traders**. The participatory certification carried out by APRO is done in **partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture's National Service for Plant and Seed Quality and Health (SENAVE)**. It covers agricultural producers and food processors (individual or collective), food traders and input traders, each with specific procedures.

APRO-certified families produce grains, yerba mate, coconuts, fruit, roots and tubers, vegetables, citrus fruits, medicinal herbs and bee honey. **The products are sold by the ECOAGRO cooperative**, linked to APRO and founded with the support of the NGO Alter Vida. ECOAGRO also provides financial credit to its members. APRO's **success factors** include: constant training, exchanges with other organizations, providing technical advice and inputs to farming families, guaranteed purchase of production and communication strategies to publicize the work. **Challenges** include: cultural resistance to change on the part of farming families, a lack of organic seeds and a lack of technical staff specialized in different areas of production.

OTHER GOOD PRACTICES

PROJECT "INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN VULNERABLE RURAL POPULATIONS IN THE EASTERN REGION OF PARAGUAY THROUGH INNOVATIVE PRODUCTIVE INITIATIVES"







Carried out by the NGO Alter Vida and with the support of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation and the ETEA Foundation and technical support from the Technical Committee for the Promotion of Organic Production (CTPPO/ MAG), the project aims to: strengthen the capacities of technicians and producers; promote sustainable production and local development in the Guairá and Paraguarí Departments; train extension workers and farmers in organic and agroecological production; influence public policy coordination spaces. Running since February 2024 and a duration of two years, **the project has so far trained 51 extension workers and 322 farmers on topics such as Soils, Biodiversity, Natural Pest Control and Climate Change**. These participants then go on to reapply the practices in FIA committees and fairs. The project has had a positive **impact**, especially among women, who are enthusiastic about implementing the practices quickly, even though they rely heavily on the support of their husbands or children, which is a challenge. The institutionalization of this and other agroecological initiatives within MAG is also a **challenge**, as is maintaining the sustainability of the actions after the projects have ended, especially in terms of allocating a budget and a technical team with an agroecological focus.

AGROECOLOGY PROGRAM NGO ALTER VIDA



The **NGO Alter Vida** has been working since 1989 to promote sustainable development in Paraguay, with a focus on socio-environmental justice and the well-being of communities. It has established itself as a benchmark in issues such as Agroecology, food security, environmental education and community health. Its **Agroecology Program** seeks **to strengthen organic and agroecological production**, working with smallholder organizations, agricultural schools, cooperatives and public and private institutions. Through training and technical assistance, it promotes the agroecological transition as a strategy for mitigating and adapting to climate change, recovering soil, conserving natural resources and strengthening food sovereignty.

It also promotes **organizational strengthening, support for PGSs, community ecotourism, monitoring of chemical contaminants, risks of GMOs, empowerment of rural women and advocacy in public policies**. Its main partners include AECID (Spanish Agency for International Cooperation), ETEA Foundation, Manos Unidas, CONACYT, Greengrant Fund, IPEN and OPS. Its **results** include the creation of agroecological production networks, the development of intelligent systems for family farming, the strengthening of the rural economy, raising awareness about the use of pesticides, and the inclusion of sustainable practices in public policies.



OTHER GOOD PRACTICES

PROEZA PROJECT





The PROEZA Project (Poverty, Reforestation, Energy and Climate Change) aims to **promote climate resilience and food security among 17,000 farming families** in eastern Paraguay through the implementation of agroforestry systems and clean energy. Carried out by an inter-ministerial body of the Paraguayan government coordinated by the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF), it has technical advice from the FAO and funding from the Green Climate Fund. The project's methodology is based on three main components:

- **Planting for the Future:** Supports families living in poverty with technical and financial assistance to establish agroforestry systems that conserve soil, capture CO2, improve food security and generate income. Families receive cash transfers conditional on the successful implementation of these systems and ecological stoves, improving quality of life, especially for women.
- **Sustainable Landscapes and Responsible Markets:** Offers credits with advantageous conditions for forestry investors, encouraging sustainable forestry production and the implementation of the National Reforestation Plan.
- **Governance:** Strengthens public institutions such as INFONA, MADES, MDS and VMME, with technical assistance from FAO, promoting legal adjustments and the sustainable development of bioenergy in Paraguay.

To date, **more than 1,400 smallholder and indigenous families are taking part in the project**, covering an area of **1,200 hectares in 3 departments**: San Pedro, Curuguaty and Canindeyú. By 2025, a further 5,600 families are expected to take part in implementing agroforestry systems, which has already contributed to food security in the territories through the production of cassava, corn, beans, watermelon, sesame, potatoes, pumpkin and pineapple for self-consumption. Around **80% of the participants are women**.



The intense participation of organized civil society, especially the Red de Agroecología del Uruguay (RAU), characterizes the elaboration and construction of public policies for Agroecology in the country. In the photo, RAU mobilization during the process of regulating the National Agroecology Plan, approved at the end of 2018.

URUGUAY

The process of building public policies aimed at agroecology in Uruguay is marked by the **intense participation of civil society**. Since the 1980s, with the creation of the Uruguayan Agroecology Table, an agriculture that conserves natural resources and human health has been the guiding principle. In the 1990s, the Society of Consumers of Organic Products (SCPB - 1992) and the Association of Organic Producers of Uruguay (APODU - 1996) emerged, followed by the founding of the Agroecology Network of Uruguay (2005) and the National Network of Creole and Native Seeds. These collectives were instrumental in drafting **Law 19.717/2018**, which created the Honorary Commission of the **National Plan for the Promotion of Agroecological Production (PNA)**, made up of representatives from civil society and the government. The Plan is regulated by Decree 159/2019 and under the responsibility of the Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries (MGAP).

The regulatory history also includes Decree 557/2008, which created the **National Organic Production Certification System**, with rules for the production, certification and marketing of organic products, as well as officially recognizing the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS). In 2022, however, Decree 175 revoked this recognition, representing an institutional step backwards. Even so, the **PGS is still active thanks to the work of the Uruguayan Agroecology Network**.

Other organizations, such as the Uruguayan Network of Community Gardens, the National Rural Development Commission (the reference body for family agricultural production in Uruguay) and the Latin American Scientific Society of Agroecology (SOCLA) are central to the advancement of agroecology in the face of institutional challenges such as the absence of a specific budget in the MGAP, a lack of infrastructure and credit, as well as insufficient technical support for the agroecological transition. All this in a country that has the highest proportion of land managed using organic or agroecological farming principles - around 15% of arable land[1].

In this assessment, we identified **15 policies for Agroecology and Organic Production** in Uruguay. Let's see what they are and their stages of implementation.

URUGUAY IN NUMBERS

Area: 176,215 km²
Population: 34 million
Family and Indigenous Agriculture: 27,642 family farmers (2024) in 15,863 production units.

KEY PUBLIC POLICIES FOR AGROECOLOGY

NATIONAL PLAN FOR THE FOSTERING OF AGROECOLOGICAL - BASED PRODUCTION (PNA)

Objectives: To promote and expand agroecological-based production systems, taking family farming and its organizations as a starting point, as well as urban and suburban agricultural production, with an emphasis on gender and generations.

Strategic axes: Promotion and Development of Production; Access, Distribution and Consumers; Genetic Resources; Training, Research and Extension; Communication and Dissemination.

OTHER POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS

- Agroecology Pathway
- Sustainable Livestock Program
- "Policultivos Hortícolas" Project
- National Plan for Gender in Agricultural Policies
- Honorary Commission for Rural Youth
- National Plan for Family Agricultural Production
- National Program for Promoting Agricultural Awareness
- Neighborhood Markets
- Decree 557/2008, repealed by Decree 175/2022 - PGS
- Law 20. 212 of 17/11/2023 - Creates the commission for the National Bioinput Plan (PNB)
- Law 17.942/2006 - Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
- Laws 17.503/2002, 17.844/2004 and 18.827/2011 - Fund for the Reconstruction and Promotion of Rural Properties
- Law 11.029/1948 - National Colonization Institute
- "Cultivar para Transformar" course

UNDER DEVELOPMENT
APPROVED BUT NOT REGULATED OR IMPLEMENTED
IN THE PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTATION

1 Data from Plan Nacional para el Fomento de la Producción con Bases Agroecológicas, p. 5

URUGUAY AGROECOLOGY NETWORK AND THE PGS

The **Participatory Guarantee System (PGS)** of the Uruguayan Agroecology Network (RAU) emerged as a response to the **demand for forms of organic certification that are more accessible and adapted to the reality of family farming**. Based on mutual trust, transparency, collective participation and co-responsibility, the PGS proposes a certification model in which farmers, consumers and technical teams from organizations themselves verify the organic quality of production. Initially supported by Decree 557/2008, which legally recognized the PGS in the country, the system has consolidated itself over the years as an **instrument for valuing agroecological production and exchanging experiences between farmers, consumers and technicians**.

Founded in 2005, the Uruguay Agroecology Network brings together farmers, consumers and organizations, and is primarily responsible for coordinating and administrating the PGS in Uruguay. The importance of the PGS for agroecological production becomes more evident since **they are no longer officially recognized, with Decree 175/2022, which repealed the 2008 regulations, representing not only an institutional setback but also a contradiction, since the PGS are mentioned in the National Agroecology Plan**, which is currently being implemented. Despite this, the PGS is still active, sustained by the voluntary work of the RAU, although considerably reduced and without validity for external/indirect marketing, such as to supermarkets.

Data from 2020 shows that **133 properties were certified by the RAU**. According to participants, the PGS recognizes and values small-scale agroecological practices, which are often made invisible by the traditional certification model, which is costly and far from the reality of family farming. It also promotes short marketing circuits and fairer, more conscious consumer relations. Its **impacts** include the strengthening of food sovereignty, greater visibility for Agroecology and the empowerment of local communities. The Network is part of the Honorary Commission of the NAP and in 2022 signed an agreement with the General Directorate of Rural Development of the MGAP to receive financial resources to carry out NAP actions.





OTHER GOOD PRACTICES

SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK PROGRAMS



Uruguay is a regional leader in livestock farming, with beef accounting for a significant part of its exports. However, this activity also contributes substantially to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, such as methane (CH_4) emitted by ruminants. In order to reduce the environmental impact of livestock farming and increase the sector's productive efficiency and climate resilience, the **Sustainable Livestock Program** was launched in 2024. Preceded by the **Resilient Family Livestock Program** of 2021, the initiative seeks to minimize GHG emissions by implementing good management practices and promoting greater production efficiency without expanding grazing areas or deforesting new areas, all while ensuring economic viability. The good production practices include: pasture rotation, recovery of degraded soils, use of balanced feeding technologies, crop-livestock-forest integration (ILPF), certification of sustainable meat and technical assistance for producers.

The initiatives already underway show **results** such as: improved production levels and income for producers; protection of the biodiversity of pasture species by preventing selection and overgrazing by cattle; soil conservation by increasing vegetation cover; greater sequestration of atmospheric carbon by increasing soil organic matter; improvements in animal welfare. In terms of environmental impact, a **significant reduction in methane and CO^2** emissions is expected. The main **difficulties in its implementation** are: technological process changes demand cultural changes, which are often the most difficult to implement; a lack of financial resources to set up paddocks and water and shade distribution systems; and gaps in technical assistance.

The Sustainable Livestock Program is financed by the European Union's EUROCLIMA fund, with an initial investment of US$3 million. It involves various institutions, such as the Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries (MGAP), the National Institute for Agricultural Research (INIA), the Agricultural Planning Institute (IPA), the University of the Republic, the National Meat Institute (INAC) and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA).

NATIONAL NETWORK OF NATIVE AND CREOLLE SEEDS



The **National Network of Native and Creole Seeds** rbrings together more than 350 farmers on 250 family farms, both rural and urban. Its main objective is to **rescue and value native and creole varieties**, strengthening food sovereignty by making seeds available for family production, whether for self-consumption or for local markets. Founded by groups of farmers and with the support of the University of the Republic's Agronomy Faculty, the Network is based on the principles of **autonomy, cooperation and respect for biodiversity**.

By **creating seed banks and holding exchanges and fairs**, families share plant genetic resources and knowledge, involving both rural properties for the local market and urban gardens for self-consumption. As well as directly impacting food sovereignty and security, the Network addresses cross-cutting issues such as **gender and youth**, with women and young people taking on leadership roles in local groups and events, such as the **National Native and Creole Seed Festivals**, held every two years, and the **National Youth Camps for Food Sovereignty**.

The Network has proven to be fundamental in resisting the genetic erosion promoted by industrial agriculture, **fostering climate resilience and autonomy for farming families**, as well as influencing the development of public policies focused on Agroecology in Uruguay. The Network is part of the Honorary Commission of the **National Plan for the Promotion of Agroecological-Based Production (PNA)** and, in 2024, signed an agreement with the General Directorate of Rural Development (MGAP) to receive funding and carry out PNA-related activities.



Young people gathered at the 4th National Youth Camp for Food Sovereignty, organized by the National Network of Native and Creole Seeds.

SENDA AGROECOLÓGICA



Collective activities of the Senda Agroecológica project



Senda Agroecológica is an initiative of Uruguay's Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries (MGAP), through its General Directorate of Rural Development (DGDR), with funding from the World Bank. Its goal is to **promote the agroecological transition by encouraging agronomic practices grounded in ecological science** to enhance the economic, social, and environmental sustainability of agricultural production. The initiative targets family farmers with small and medium-sized farms, organized around the **Rural Development Territorial Agents (ATDRs)** — entities accredited by MGAP to support awareness-raising, training, and the dissemination of technical knowledge.

Senda Agroecológica is implemented through **public calls for these organizations to submit transition proposals**. The project receives technical support from institutions such as the National Institute of Agricultural Research (INIA), the University of the Republic (UDELAR), and private consultants, who form Agroecological Transition Committees in the livestock, agriculture, horticulture, and dairy sectors. Although this policy has been the most significant in terms of funding for Agroecology, it will need to be adjusted to include the participation of the CHPNA in its design and governance. Among **the impacts** observed so far are the consolidation of technical foundations for Agroecology, the development of monitoring indicators, and the strengthening of biodiverse production systems that are less dependent on chemical inputs and more resilient to climate change.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND STRATEGIES TO OVERCOME CHALLENGES AND ADVANCE SUSTAINABILITY

If Family and Indigenous Agriculture (FIA) and Agroecology play a fundamental role in Food Sovereignty and Nutrition Security, as well as in climate adaptation, mitigation, and resilience for peoples and territories, it is essential that their demands are heard and considered in the development of public policies and resource allocation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSIONS AND RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION:

FIA IN THE GLOBAL CLIMATE AGENDA

The hosting of COP30 in Brazil represents a unique opportunity to position Agroecology as a strategy and Family and Indigenous Agriculture (FIA) as a key agent for climate adaptation and resilience. However, the sector's access to resources—particularly climate financing—remains inversely proportional to its enormous work in producing healthy food while conserving the environment. Despite being responsible for producing one-third of the world's food and more than half of the volume of eight staple crops (rice, peanuts, cassava, corn, wheat, potatoes, barley, and rye), FIA received only 0.3% of the total $1.3 trillion in climate finance circulating in 2021/2022. The disparity in resource allocation worsens when considering the high vulnerability of family farmers, smallholders, Indigenous peoples, quilombolas, and other traditional communities to extreme climate events.

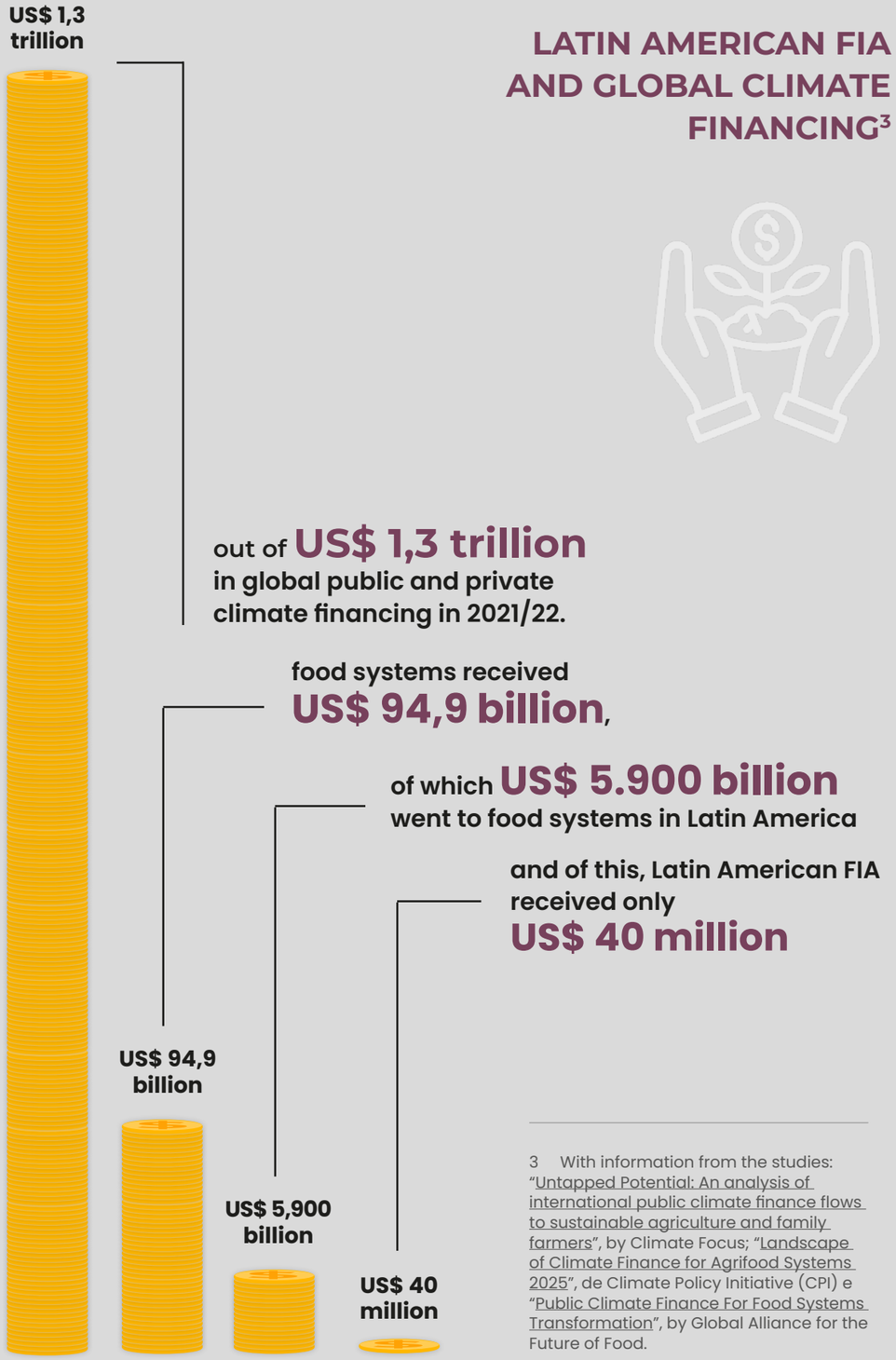
The IFAD estimates that at **least $75 billion annually would be needed to reduce this inequality gap in resource allocation — a crucial step to safeguarding global food security**[1].

Furthermore, given that food systems account for one-third of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, supporting sustainable agriculture is key to climate adaptation, mitigation, and resilience. Therefore, it is essential **to position Family and Agroecological Agriculture as a recipient of "green funds."** To achieve this, it is necessary to demonstrate, through evidence and indicators, that **Agroecology works**.

1 The $75 Billion Climate Finance Gap: An imperfect but important figure for small-scale farmers.

2 Food systems are responsible for more than one-third of global greenhouse gas emissions | FAO in Brazil.

LATIN AMERICAN FIA AND GLOBAL CLIMATE FINANCING[3]



3 With information from the studies: "Untapped Potential: An analysis of international public climate finance flows to sustainable agriculture and family farmers", by Climate Focus; "Landscape of Climate Finance for Agrifood Systems 2025", de Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) e "Public Climate Finance For Food Systems Transformation", by Global Alliance for the Future of Food.

RECOMMENDATIONS

DEMONSTRATING THAT AGROECOLOGY WORKS:

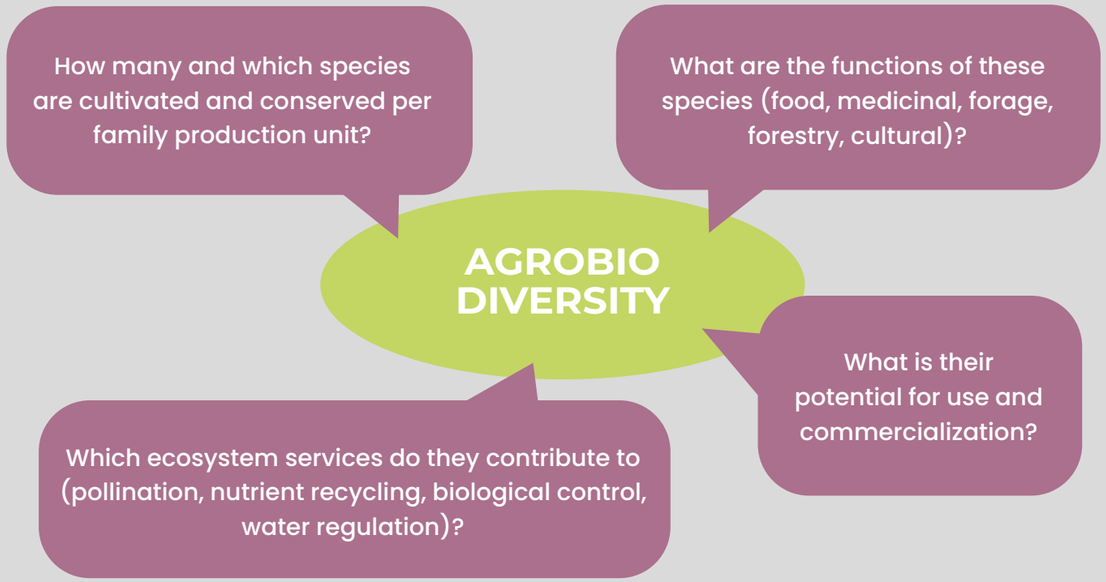
BUILDING EVIDENCE TO INCREASE VISIBILITY, INFLUENCE, AND MOBILIZATION



FAO already states that “diversified agroecological systems are more resilient—they have a greater capacity to recover from disturbances, including extreme weather events such as droughts, floods, or hurricanes, and to resist pest and disease outbreaks.” **To advance awareness among various stakeholders** about the central role of agroecology in climate adaptation, mitigation, and resilience — and thereby **mobilize financial resources for more sustainable agriculture — it is essential to develop indicators and generate evidence of its positive impact**.

The agrobiodiversity cultivated and preserved by Family and Indigenous Agriculture is one of the indicators of resilience in agroecological food systems and represents an opportunity for advocacy at COP30 and other climate agendas. In this regard, the Regional Agroecology Program, alongside other REAF commissions, has pushed for the inclusion of an agrobiodiversity indicator in the set of agriculture metrics to be discussed at COP30.

1 The 10 Elements Of Agroecology Guiding The Transition To Sustainable Food And Agricultural Systems. FAO, 2018.



A LATIN AMERICAN NETWORK FOR THE PARTICIPATORY CONSTRUCTION OF INDICATORS IN AGROECOLOGY

Understanding, through indicators, the social, environmental, and economic impacts of Agroecology: this is the main objective of the project **Agroecology in Latin America: Building Pathways**, a participatory action-research developed since 2020 by a network of 10 organizations in 7 Latin American countries with the participation of more than 450 farming families. Through the collection and systematization of data directly on rural properties, the project works on the construction of 11 environmental, social, and economic indicators:

ENVIRONMENTAL	SOCIAL	ECONOMIC
• Agrobiodiversity • Natural areas • Agroecological practices	• Gender relations • Production-consumption relations • Family succession • Access to technology • Challenges for the agroecological transition	• Size of agricultural units • Agroecological production • Commercialization channels

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS:
Asociación de Productores Orgánicos - APRO (Paraguay), Asociación Vivamos Mejor (Guatemala), Cepagro (Brazil), Centro Campesino A. C. (Mexico), CETAP (Brazil), Corporación Buen Ambiente - Corambiente (Colombia), Movimento Mecenas da Vida (Brazil), Fundesyram (El Salvador), Movimiento de Economía Social y Solidaria del Ecuador (Ecuador), Red Tijtoca Nemiliztli (Mexico).

RECOMMENDATIONS

IDENTIFY CHALLENGES AND BUILD STRATEGIES BEYOND COP30

For over a decade, REAF has been developing formal recommendations for the advancement of Agroecology in Mercosur countries. Over these years, various public policies and programs have been created, especially to promote and scale Agroecology, but they still face challenges in their implementation at the national level. Identifying and discussing these obstacles, collectively weaving strategies to overcome them at the national and regional levels to influence COP30, was one of the outcomes of the 1st Exchange of the Regional Agroecology Program, held in Florianópolis in April 2025.

Below is a summary of what was debated:

CHALLENGE: FUNDING

Lack of budget allocations for policy implementation.

✔ STRATEGIES:

- Strengthen REAF as a space for political construction and dialogue to improve the design and proposals of public policies;
- Promote Agroecology as a positive sector for investments, with evidence, data, and indicators;
- Allocate resources for Agroecology in national, regional, and global climate policies;
- Create national and regional funds for agroecology;
- Include FIA and Agroecology in each country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).

CHALLENGE: INSTITUTIONAL ARTICULATION

Lack of recognition for Agroecology in government spheres; weak articulation between sectors and ministries for policy construction and implementation; local obstacles for the implementation of federal policies.

✔ STRATEGIES:

- Promote training and exchanges for public managers;
- • Promote "institutional pollination": ensure the debate is present in various ministries and spheres;
- • Encourage and support the active participation of social movements, civil society, indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants, women, and youth in the processes of policy establishment, execution, and monitoring;
- • Integrate Agroecology into policies of sovereignty and food and nutritional security, climate change mitigation and adaptation, public health, and agrarian reform.

CHALLENGE: GENDER AND YOUTH FOCUS

Without a differentiated focus on women and youth, public policies can reinforce structural inequalities or end up competing for smaller resources, reinforcing segmentation.

✔ STRATEGIES:

- Promote and create conditions for gender parity and youth in policies for access to land and technical and financial inputs;
- Integrate Agroecology policies with those of legal and social protection, considering the multiple labor burdens of women-productive, reproductive, and community-based;
- Promote the organization of women and youth and ensure parity in social organizations (e.g., 50% women and 20% youth in decision-making processes).

CHALLENGE:
STRUCTURAL INEQUALITIES

Sexism, racism, land concentration, and other historical oppressions hinder the advancement of public policies and must not be reproduced by them.

✔ STRATEGIES:

- Adopt an intersectional approach in land access policies, prioritizing Agroecology and ensuring secure and fair access to territories, land, and water for family farming and traditional peoples;
- • Denounce and confront sexism, racism, and all forms of discrimination, recognizing and valuing diverse family types and trajectories, including LGBTQIA+ individuals in rural areas.

CHALLENGE:
CULTURAL CHANGES

Social norms, cultural expressions, and legal frameworks directly influence—even if not explicitly—the advancement of Agroecology from grassroots to institutional levels.

✔ STRATEGIES:

- Generate and disseminate evidence on the positive impact of Agroecology on climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- Adopt Agroecology as a strategy for food security and public health;
- Integrate Agroecology content into formal and informal educational spaces;
- Promote assertive communication campaigns and strategies on the importance of Agroecology;
- Strengthen the *campesino-campesino* methodology as a collective knowledge-building process.
- Invest in training technicians from public and private entities with a focus on agroecology;
- Strengthen REAF as a promoter of agroecological transition not only technically but also politically, socially, environmentally, and culturally.

AGROECOLOGY IS STRENGTHENED IN GATHERINGS

Deepen dialogue between governments and civil society in sharing experiences and best practices on public policies, agroecological transition, and participatory certification, building strategic recommendations for the advancement and strengthening of Agroecology and influence at COP30: these were some of the objectives of the REAF Regional Agroecology Exchange, held in Florianópolis from April 23 to 25, bringing together representatives from ministries, academia, and social organizations and movements linked to Agroecology and Family Farming from Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, Colombia, Bolivia, and Paraguay. Although conceived in a South American context, the proposals discussed can and will be shared with other partner countries to strengthen South-South articulation toward a more agroecological and resilient future. In the photo, the Exchange group visiting the Saraquá Farm, an agroecological property in the municipality of Angelina, in Santa Catarina.





ANNEX

LIST OF PUBLIC POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS MAPPED AND ORGANIZED BY CATEGORIES

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND RURAL EXTENSION	
BOLIVIA	Law No. 3,525 on Organic Production (2006)
BRASIL	ATER + Digital Program
	Rural Extension and Agroecology Project – ERA
	Rural Extension Training Program for Agrarian Reform Settlements and Contributions to the 2030 Agenda - PROFOR-EXT
	Training of Extensionists and ATER Agents for the Bioeconomy of the Amazon Value Chain
	National Policy on Technical Assistance and Rural Extension (PNATER)
CHILE	Transition to Sustainable Agriculture Program (TAS)
COLOMBIA	National Plan for Comprehensive Technical Assistance, Technology, and Research Promotion
PARAGUAY	MAG Resolution No. 323/23 of March 2024 - Creates UGPOA

CONSTRUCTION OF AGROECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE	
BOLIVIA	Law No. 144 – Law of Community Agricultural Productive Revolution (2011)
	National Agroecology Strategy 2025-2035 (under construction)
	National Agricultural and Forestry Innovation Program (INIAF)
BRASIL	Baraúnas dos Sertões Project
	Support for the Installation of Agroecology Study Centers (NEAs)
COLOMBIA	Public Policy on Agroecology
URUGUAY	National Plan for the Promotion of Agroecological-Based Production

MARKETING MECHANISMS FOR AGROECOLOGICAL PRODUCTION	
BOLIVIA	Law No. 3,525 on Organic Production (2006)
BRASIL	National School Feeding Program – PNAE
	Food Acquisition Program – PAA
	Support and Strengthening Program for Ethnodevelopment – PAFE
	National Support Program for Agroecological Commercialization (PROCOM Agroecológico)
CHILE	Marketing Support Program
	Smallholder Markets
COLOMBIA	Public Policy on Agroecology
URUGUAY	National Plan for the Promotion of Agroecological-Based Production
	Neighborhood Markets

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	
BOLIVIA	Education Law No. 070 “Avelino Siñani - Elizardo Pérez” (2010)
BRASIL	Support for the Installation of Agroecology Study Centers (NEAs)
	Agroresidency Program
	National Training and Research Program in Agroecology (PRONAPE)
CHILE	SENCE-INDAP Agreement

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH	
COLOMBIA	Public Policy on Agroecology
URUGUAY	National Plan for the Promotion of Agroecological-Based Production (PNA)
	"Polyculture Horticulture" Project
	Senda Agroecológica

FINANCING AND NON-REIMBURSABLE CREDITS	
BOLIVIA	Law No. 338 of Smallholder, Indigenous, and Native Community Economic Organizations (2013)
	Agroecological Production Support Fund (FONAPROA, 2020)
BRASIL	PRONAF Agroecology
	PRONAF Women
	PRONAF Youth
	Financial Support Program for Agroecological Transition
CHILE	Transition to Sustainable Agriculture Program (TAS)
	System of Incentives for the Agro-environmental Sustainability of Agricultural Soils (SIRSD-S)
COLOMBIA	Public Policy on Agroecology
URUGUAY	National Plan for the Promotion of Agroecological-Based Production

GUARANTEEING AVAILABILITY AND SECURE ACCESS TO LAND, TERRITORIES, AND WATER	
BOLIVIA	Law No. 300 – Law of Mother Earth and Integral Development for Living Well (2012)
	Law No. 1,715 – National Agrarian Reform Service Law and Law No. 3,545 – Law of Community Agrarian Reform Reconstruction (2006)
BRASIL	National Land Regularization and Water Access Program for Agroecology (PNRFA Agroecológico)
	Support Program for Access to Land and Territory and Socioterritorial Protection of Traditional Peoples and Communities

GUARANTEEING AVAILABILITY AND SECURE ACCESS TO LAND, TERRITORIES, AND WATER	
CHILE	"Living Lands" and "Young Lands" Agreements
PARAGUAY	Law 6,286/2019 on the Defense, Restoration, and Promotion of Smallholder Family Farming in Paraguay

NORMS FOR THE PRODUCTION AND COMMERCIALIZATION OF BIOINPUTS	
BOLIVIA	Law No. 3,525 on Organic Production (2006)
	Ministerial Resolution No. 132/2020 – Regulation for the Production and Use of Bioinputs
BRASIL	National Program for Agroecological Bioinputs (PNB Agroecológico)
CHILE	Law No. 21,349/2021 - Composition, labeling, and commercialization of fertilizers and biostimulants
	Exempt Resolution 1,557 and Exempt Resolution 6,725
COLOMBIA	Public Policy on Agroecology
PARAGUAY	Expert Commission on Organic Production (PGS)
URUGUAY	Law 20,212 of 11/17/2023 - Accountability Law - approves the creation of a commission to draft the National Bioinputs Plan (PNB)

PROMOTION OF GENDER EQUALITY	
BOLIVIA	Law No. 348 – Comprehensive Law to Guarantee Women a Life Free of Violence (2013)
	Law No. 3,481 – Women's Access to Land Ownership (2006)
	Law No. 243 – Law Against Harassment and Political Violence Against Women (2012)
BRASIL	Mosarambihára Program: Sowers of Good Living for Healing the Earth
CHILE	Rural Women Program
	Self-Consumption Program

PROMOTION OF GENDER EQUALITY	
COLOMBIA	Law 731/2002 - Rural Women's Law
	Decree 3,678/20 - regulates Law No. 5,446/2015 It's about evaluating and monitoring programs and laws that benefit rural women
PARAGUAY	Agricultural Qualification Credit - Financial products for rural women and youth
	Poverty, Reforestation, Energy, and Climate Change Project (PROEZA)
	National Gender Plan in Agricultural Policies
	Honorary Commission for Rural Youth
URUGUAY	National Gender Plan in Agricultural Policies
	Honorary Commission for Rural Youth
	National Plan for the Promotion of Agroecological-Based Production
	National Family Farming Production Plan

PROMOTION AND SCALING OF AGROECOLOGY	
BOLIVIA	National Agroecology Strategy (ENA) 2025-2035
	Ministerial Resolution No. 020 – National Technical Regulation of the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS)
	Law No. 3,525 on Regulation and Promotion of Ecological Agricultural and Forestry Production (2006)
BRASIL	"From the Land to the Table" Call
	National Agroecology and Organic Production Plan – Planapo
	National Program for the Reduction of Pesticide Use – Pronara
	National Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture Program
	Bioeconomy of Medicinal Plants and Herbal Medicines in Family Farming Project
	National Policy for Territorial and Environmental Management in Indigenous Lands – PNGATI

PROMOTION AND SCALING OF AGROECOLOGY	
BRASIL	Mosarambihára Program: Sowers of Good Living for Healing the Earth
CHILE	INDAP Strategy 2023-2030 for a More Sustainable, Inclusive, and Resilient Smallholder and Indigenous Family Agriculture
	National Sovereignty Strategy for Food Security
	Transition to Sustainable Agriculture Program (TAS)
COLOMBIA	Public Policy on Agroecology
	Resolution 0.464 of 2017. Strategic guidelines for public policies for Smallholder, Family, and Community Agriculture
	National Development Plan "Colombia: Power of Life"
PARAGUAY	National Strategy for the Promotion of Organic and Agroecological Production in Paraguay
	National Concerted Plan for the Promotion of Organic and Agroecological Production
	National Organic Program
URUGUAY	Senda Agroecológica
	"Sustainable Livestock"
	"Polyculture Horticulture" Project
	"Cultivate to Transform" Course

RECOVERY, CONSERVATION, MULTIPLICATION, AND ACCESS TO PROPAGATIVE MATERIALS OF CREOLE AND NATIVE SEEDS, SEEDLINGS, AND ANIMAL BREEDS	
BOLIVIA	Law No. 144 – Law of Community Agricultural Productive Revolution (2011)
	Law No. 300 – Law of Mother Earth and Integral Development for Living Well (2012)
BRASIL	National Program for Community Banks of Creole Seeds and Biodiversity (PNBSCB)
COLOMBIA	Public Policy on Agroecology
URUGUAY	Law 17,942 of 2006

VALUATION OF REGIONAL PRACTICES AND KNOWLEDGE

BOLIVIA	Law No. 144 – Law of Community Agricultural Productive Revolution (2011)
	National Program of Ancestral Knowledge for Food Sovereignty (2019)
	Law No. 300 – Law of Mother Earth and Integral Development for Living Well (2012)
BRASIL	Mosarambihára Program: Sowers of Good Living for Healing the Earth
	Support and Strengthening Program for Ethnodevelopment – PAFE
CHILE	Sustainability and Agroecological Transition Plans
	SIPANM Network
	National Sovereignty Strategy for Food Security
COLOMBIA	National Agroecology Roundtable
PARAGUAY	Decree 5,897/2021 – National Plan for Indigenous Peoples
URUGUAY	National Plan for the Promotion of Agroecological-Based Production
	National Family Farming Plan (PNAF)
	National Program for the Promotion of Agricultural Awareness

CLIMATE AND/OR HARVEST INSURANCE

BOLIVIA	Municipal Agricultural Insurance (Pilot Projects in Municipalities)
	Universal Pachamama Agricultural Insurance (Law No. 144 – 2011)
BRASIL	Agroecological Activity Guarantee Program (PROAGROECOLÓGICO)
CHILE	Agricultural insurance
	INDAP Agricultural Insurance Hiring Program
COLOMBIA	Parametric agricultural insurance
URUGUAY	Law 17,503 of June 2002, amended by Law 17,844 of October 2004 and Law 18,827 of October 2011

PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE SYSTEMS

BOLIVIA	National Agroecology Strategy 2025-2035 (under construction)
	Ministerial Resolution No. 020/2019 – National Technical Regulation of PGS
BRASIL	National Program for Strengthening Participatory Certification (PNCP Agroecológico)
CHILE	First-Party Certification System (Participatory Certification)
COLOMBIA	Public Policy on Agroecology
PARAGUAY	Law 3,481/2008 on the Promotion and Control of Organic Production and Decree 4,577/10.
URUGUAY	National Plan for the Promotion of Agroecological-Based Production
	Decree 557/008 of November 17, 2008. Decree 175/022 of May 2022 repealed Decree 557/008

VALUATION OF THE EXPERIENCES AND KNOWLEDGE OF WOMEN AND YOUTH

BRASIL	Productive Backyards of Rural Women
	PRONAF Youth
	Mosarambihára Program: Sowers of Good Living for Healing the Earth
	PRONAF Women
CHILE	Rural Women Roundtables
	Regional Plans for Rural Youth
	Transition to Sustainable Agriculture Program (TAS)
	National Policy for Rural Youth
	"My First Rural Business" Program
COLOMBIA	Public Policy on Agroecology
URUGUAY	National Plan for the Promotion of Agroecological-Based Production
	National Gender Plan in Agricultural Policies (PNG)
	National Family Farming Plan (PNAF)

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ISBN 978-856729711-8