



# Mapping agroecology in Europe

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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No101000478. The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Union. More information about the H2020-Agroecology for Europe project can be found here: [www.ae4eu.eu](http://www.ae4eu.eu)

# AE4EU



- H2020 CSA: Coordination and Support action
- 3 years project [2021-2023]
- 12 partners from 10 European countries

**To build an European agroecological network to speed up the transition towards sustainable agriculture and food system.**

⇒ [www.ae4eu.eu](http://www.ae4eu.eu) ⇐



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# Horizon Europe: our main instruments



**AE4EU**



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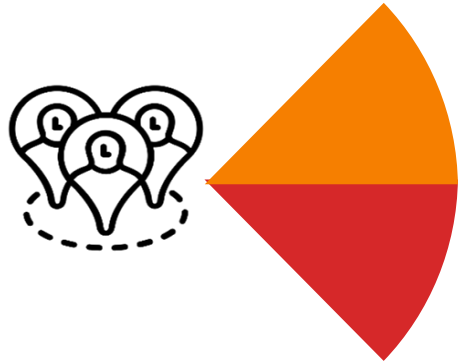
# «Accelerating farming systems transition: agroecology living labs and research infrastructures»



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# Mapping agroecology



Overview of the development of agroecology in different European Countries

Analysis of initiatives linked to agroecology

A non-exhaustive work for initiatives but illustrative for each country



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## Movement



Promotion and implementation of AE

- Farmers' union
- NGO
- Cooperatives
- Food sovereignty

## Practice



Implementation and dvp of agroecological practices

- Farmers, farmer's group
- Local distribution channels, CSA
- Advisors

## Living Lab



Practical dvp and Implementation of AE in a territory

- Interaction between different stakeholders.
- Network go beyond farm scale

## Science and Research



Dealing with AE related research

- Research projects and programs,
- Universities
- Research institutions and other organisations.

## Training and Education

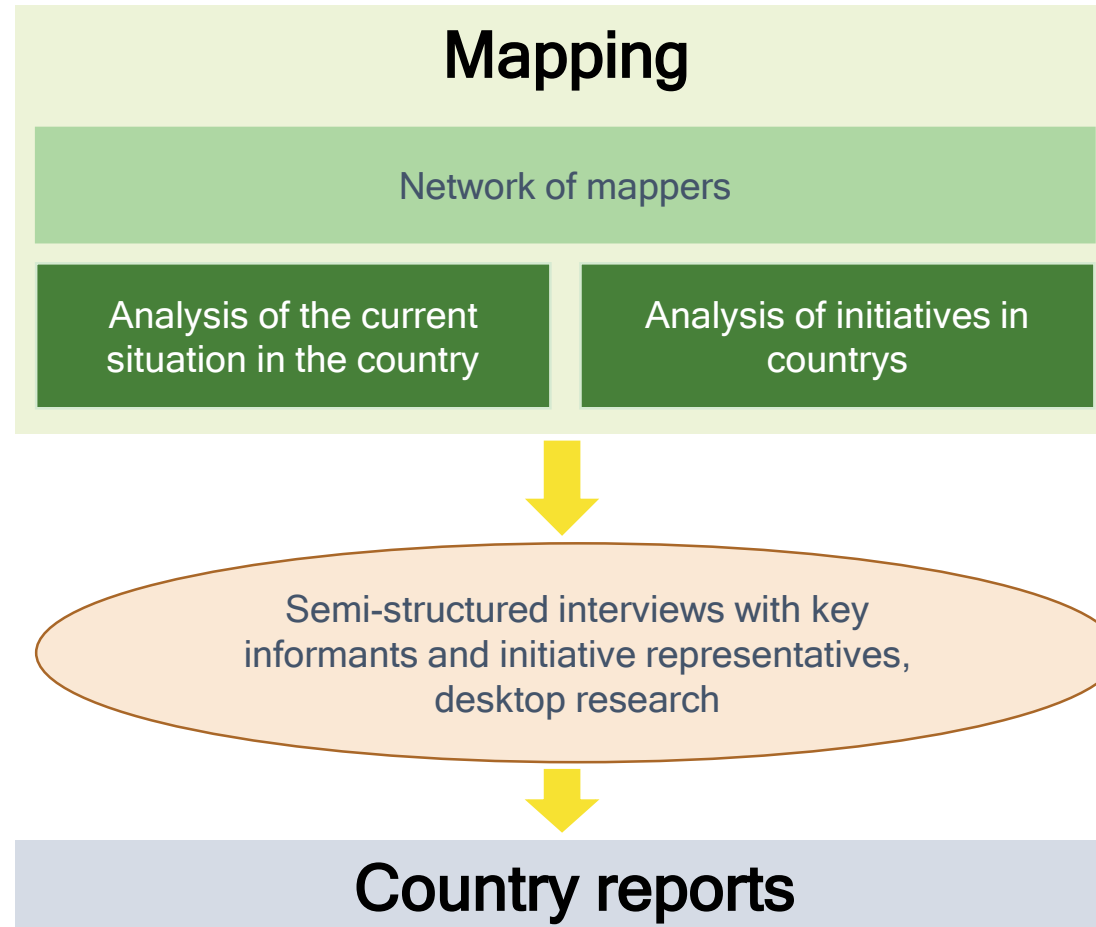


Teaching AE

- Vocational and professional training (non-scientific also included)
- Secondary and higher education programmes



# Mapping methodology





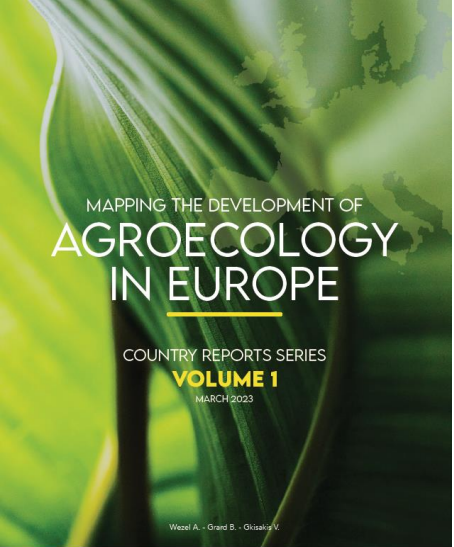
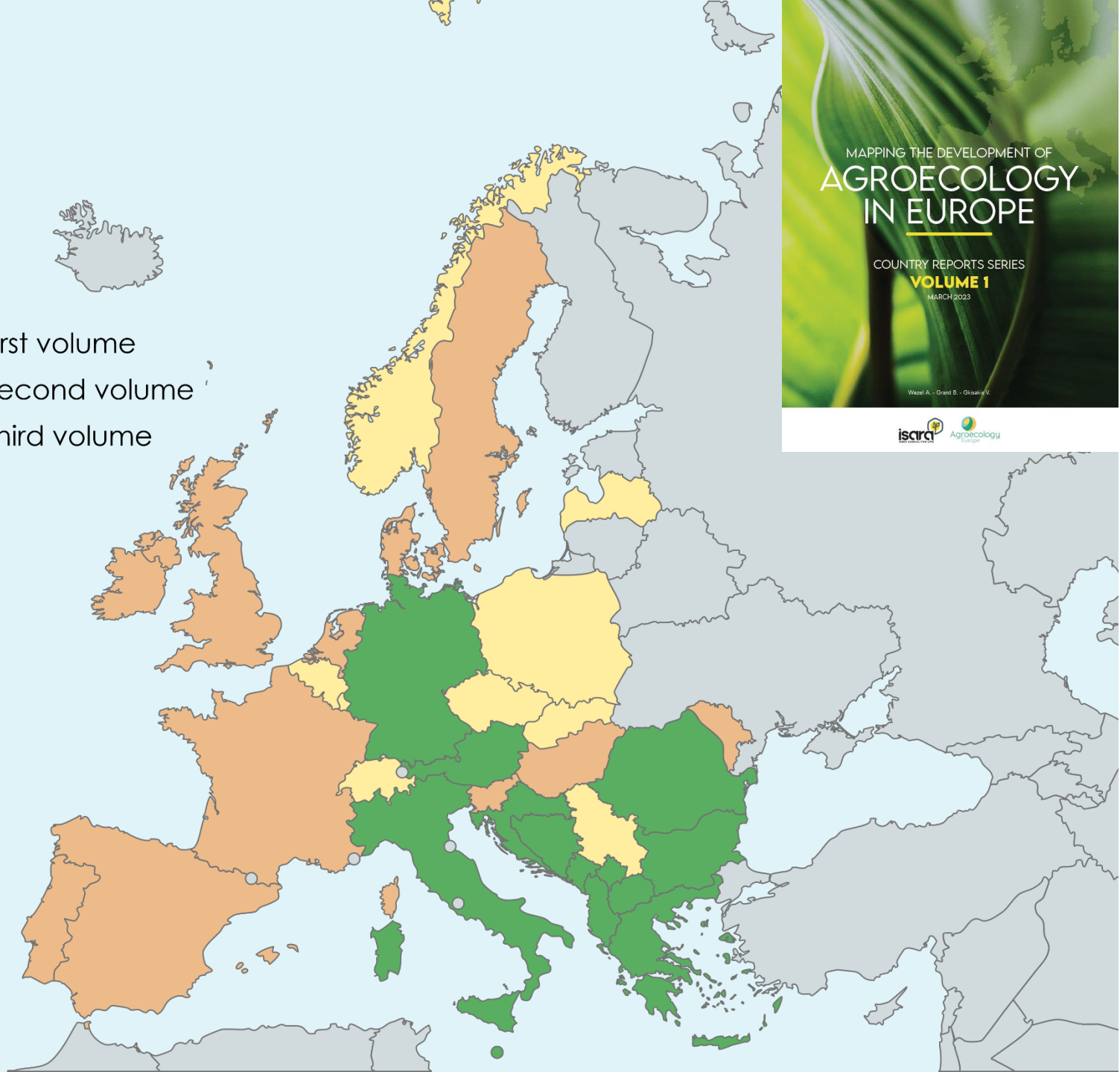
# Mapping methodology



- **Key informants** - national expert related to one or several activity categories of agroecology
- **Initiatives** - projects, programmes, cases or others established initiatives of different nature led by formal and informal organisations or institutions



- Mapping book - first volume
- Mapping book - second volume
- Mapping book - third volume

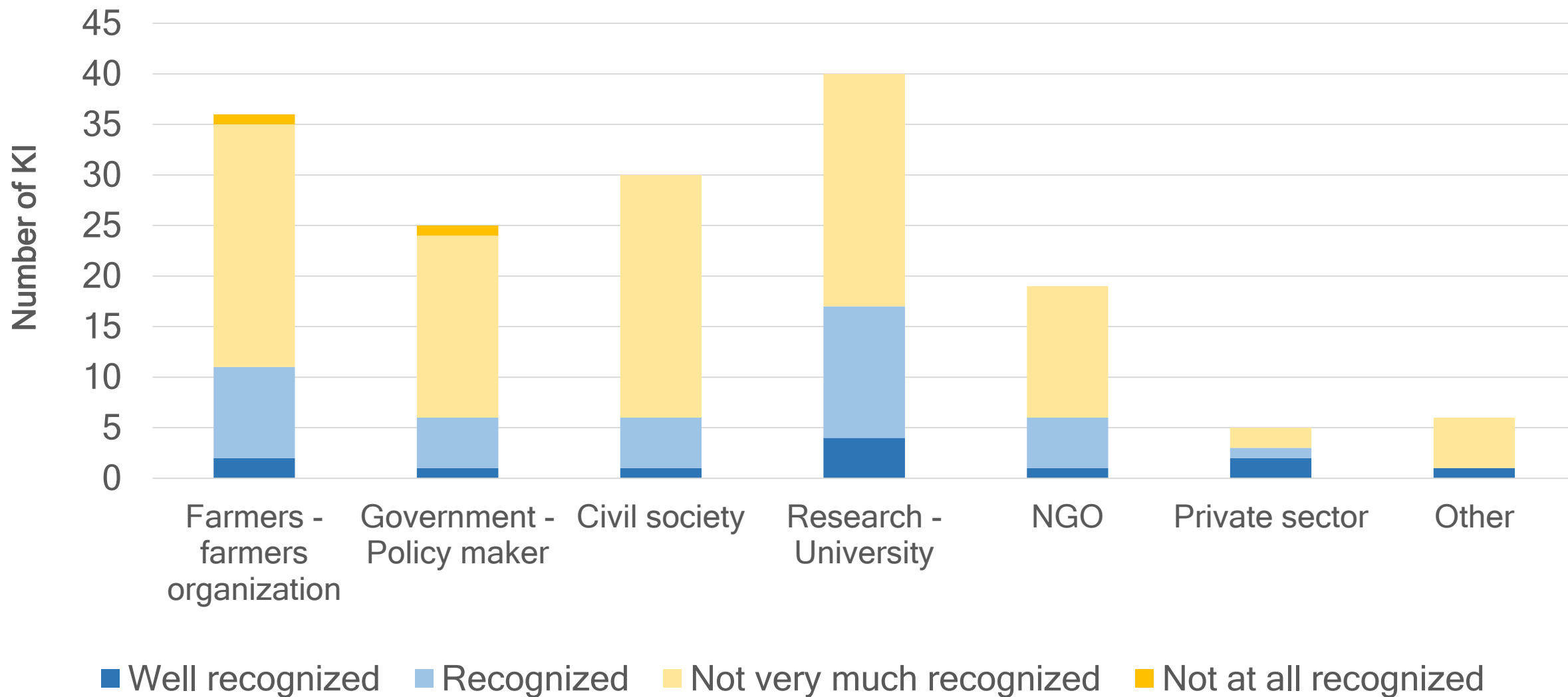


# Mapping agroecology in a nutshell

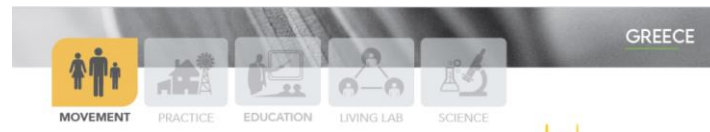
- 23 countries finished with country reports
- 9 countries currently mapped
- More than 40 'mappers' involved
- More than 180 initiatives described and analyzed
- Attracts attention - more than 3000 downloads of first volume

# Recognition of agroecology according to types of stakeholders

(n= 145 key informants)



# Illustration of initiatives from the mapping book..



GREECE



MOVEMENT



PRACTICE



EDUCATION



LIVING LAB



SCIENCE

## INITIATIVE N°8 – AEGILOPS



### AEGILOPS – NETWORK FOR BIODIVERSITY AND ECOLOGY IN AGRICULTURE

**Aegilops - Network for Biodiversity and Ecology in Agriculture**, is an NGO founded in 2004. Its members (approximately 30) are eco-farmers and agronomists from all over Greece, many of them active since the 1980s in ecological farming. Its main activities are i) the conservation of heritage varieties and traditional agricultural knowledge (through a seed bank of over 200 varieties, mainly cereals, and ii) the reintroduction of these varieties into everyday agricultural practices (on farm conservation), the promotion of ecological farming and the use of agricultural biodiversity. Its headquarters are in the area of Volos, Central Greece. It also composed of "Focal Points" in various regions of the country working on the evaluation of research of local varieties of vegetables,

#### KEY FEATURES

- **Main goals:** conservation of heritage varieties and promotion of ecological farming
- **Founded in:** 2004
- **Type of organisation:** NGO
- **Farming sectors:** arable and tree crops
- **Scale of the organisation:** national



NORTH MACEDONIA



LIVING LAB



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## INITIATIVE N°2 – FROM SEED TO SEED

Од семе до семе

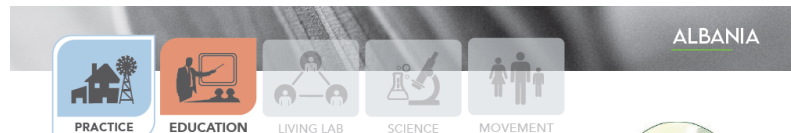
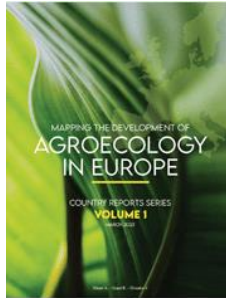
### FROM SEED TO SEED

**From seed to seed** is an initiative focused on establishment of a community seed bank to conserve traditional autochthonous varieties (mainly beans, other legumes, and vegetables), and make the genetic material available for anyone interested to grow them, both as a marketable product and for personal use. The participants in the initiative also contribute towards conservation and circulating of seeds. This is the first project of this type, as in NMK seed conservation is done ex situ in several different agricultural institutions in the country, while the priority of the initiative is to extend and focus on in situ conservation.

The initiative started in 2018 and was established by the

#### KEY FEATURES

- **Main topics:** agroecological practice and production and raising awareness
- **Founded in:** 2018
- **Type of organisation supporting the living lab:** NGO
- **Type of actor involved:** farmers, students and individuals
- **Scale of the living lab:** regional



ALBANIA



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## INITIATIVE N°3 – AGRINET



Facebook: @agrinet.al

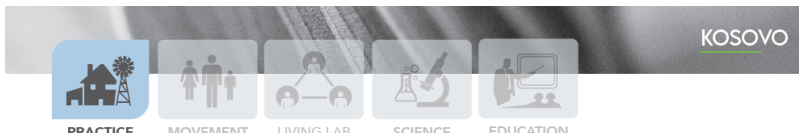
### AGRINET ALBANIA

**AgriNet** is an Albanian, non-governmental and not-for-profit organisation which was established in 2005. It has a head office in Korca and two other field offices in Elbasan and Peshkopi. During 2005-2020, AgriNet has implemented different projects which have been supported by different donors. The overall objectives have been the improvement of the social and economic situation in different rural regions of Albania.

From 2018, AgriNet has started its transformation to a membership organisation aiming to establish a network of farmer associations. This network started with 10 formal and non-formal associations, composed by 250 members, of which 100 were women. Currently, AgriNet is composed by 15 organisations with 450 members, including 200 women. AgriNet employs a team of full time and part time staff with a broad spectrum of skills in areas such as rural community and agricultural development.

#### KEY FEATURES

- **Agroecological practices concerned:** integrated pest management, organic pest control
- **Founded in:** 2005
- **Farming sectors concerned:** fruit cultivation
- **Types of stakeholders involved:** 15 farmers association
- **Scale of the initiative:** regional



KOSOVO



PRACTICE



MOVEMENT



LIVING LAB



SCIENCE



EDUCATION

## INITIATIVE N°5 – BOTANIC



Facebook: @Botanicllc  
Instagram: @Botanicllc

### BOTANIC

**Botanic** is a young, woman-run agricultural enterprise founded by two sisters in 2018, which started with an initial start-up grant. This initiative is one of the rare examples of local organic produce company, collecting and cultivating medicinal and aromatic plants. A large part of the collected and packed product is exported internationally as organic, raw materials. The enterprises' agroecological agricultural practices are: seed saving, crop rotations, and traditional fertilisation methods made by the farmers themselves.

Since Botanic's objective is to be an environmentally responsible business, it offers certified organic products in recycled and biodegradable packaging. Even though the business currently only offers medicinal and aromatic plants, it is developing capacity to begin producing organic vegetable and fruits, for the local market.

#### KEY FEATURES

- **Agroecological practices concerned:** organic agriculture, including seed saving, crop rotation, traditional fertilisation
- **Founded in:** 2018
- **Farming sectors concerned:** permanent crops
- **Lead organisation:** botanic
- **Types of stakeholders involved:** around 40 farmers



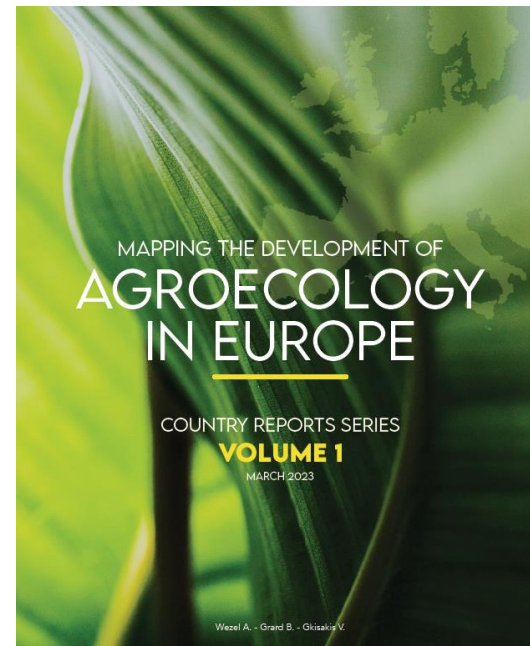
# Available about mapping agroecology in Europe



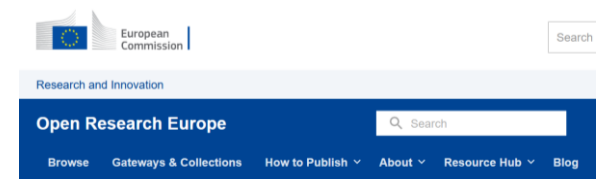
## Agroecology in Europe book

1st Volume (12 countries)  
2nd Volume (January 2024, 10 countries)  
3rd volume in preparation

## 6 Webinars



## Scientific articles



Open Research Europe

Open Research Europe 2023, 3:25 Last updated: 16 MAY 2023



RESEARCH ARTICLE

**Development of agroecology in Austria and Germany [version 1; peer review: 2 approved]**

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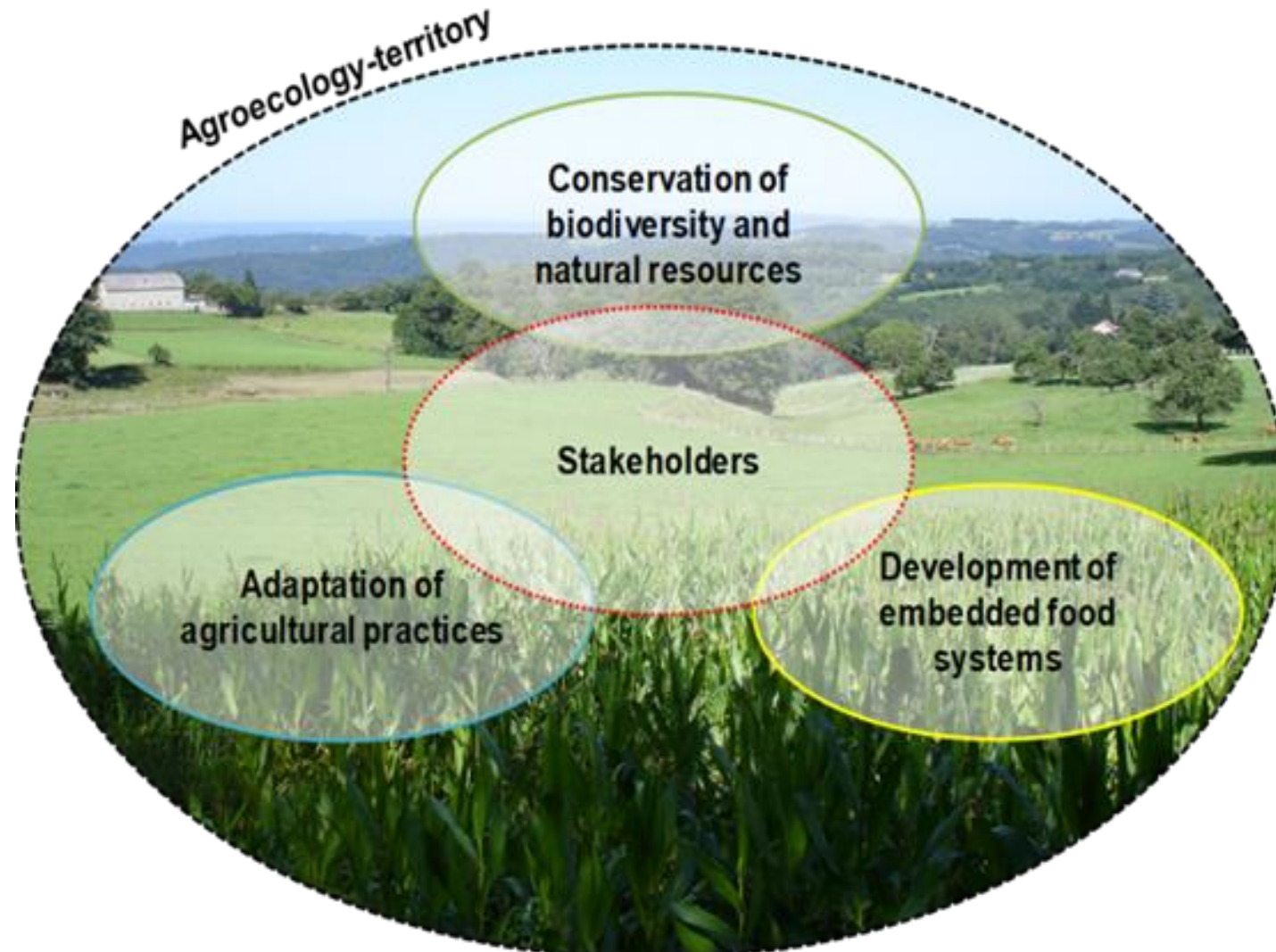
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<sup>4</sup>Biodiversity of Agricultural Landscapes, Institute of Geoeology, Technische Universität Braunschweig, Braunschweig, 38106, Germany



# Agroecology Territories

## The concept

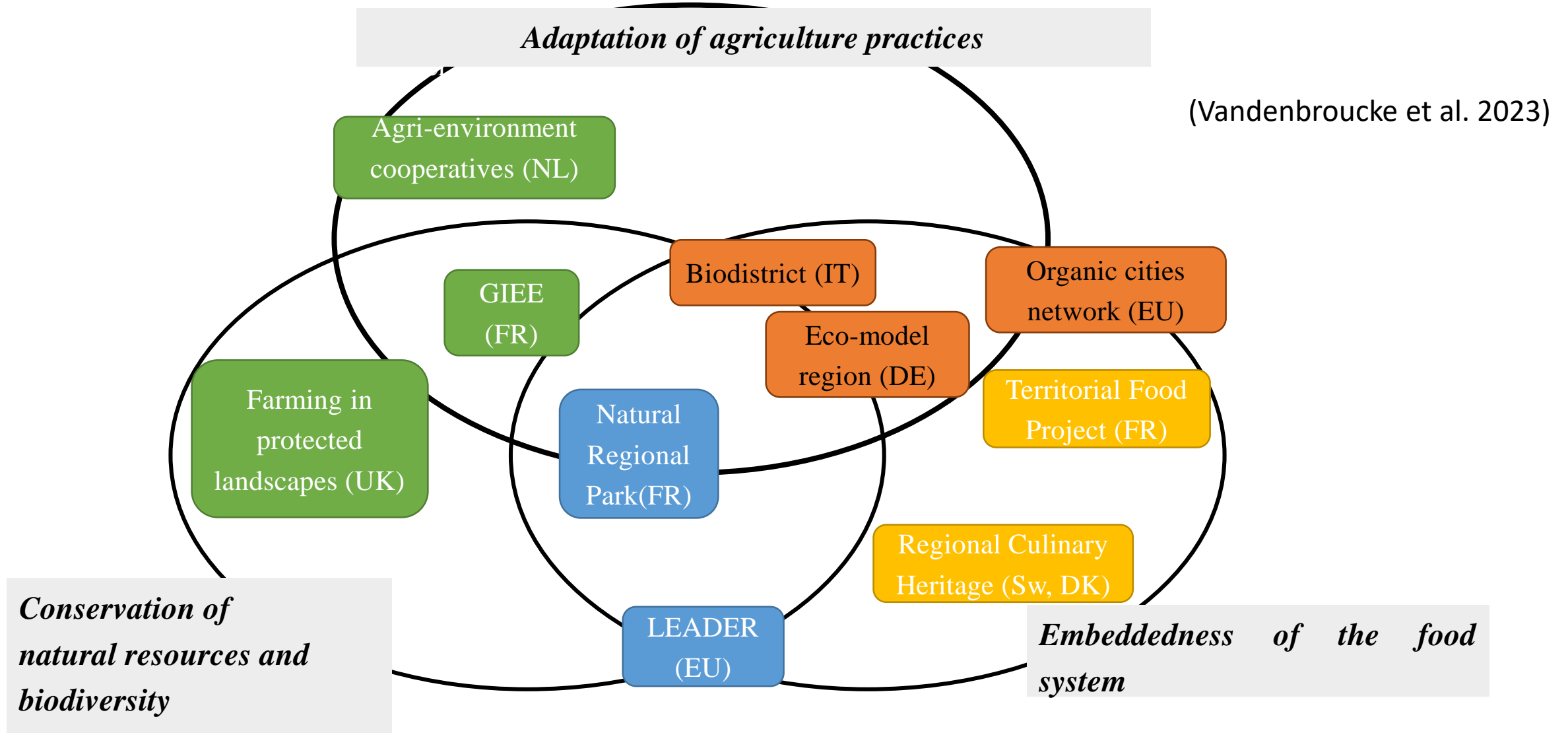


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Figure 1: Schematic presentation of Agroecology Territory with stakeholders as central actors and the three essential domains for transition (Wezel et al., 2016).

# Territorial schemes for agriculture and food systems transition



**Territorial schemes and their dominant AET domain of influence.**

# Thanks for your attention – follow us!

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