

# Skopje Encounter

North-Macedonia, 12-13/XII/2023



## Networking Agroecology Territories to Push High Climate and Biodiversity Ambitions

The objective of Skopje Encounter is to bring together people willing to co-construct an alternative framework of the climate issue, based on the climate/biodiversity link in the food, agriculture and forestry sectors for the six Western Balkan Countries (WBC). We propose to launch this process with territorial mediators, civil society advocacy and outreach organizations as well as researchers and knowledge brokers.

For two days, we will work on a **Regional Platform proposal**.

Skopje Encounter's objective is twofold:

- (1) Bring together organizations and actors interested into the nexus perspective, as a way to develop a sustainable vision for the future of food and farming in the WBC and Europe. We will co-design a framing of the issue grounded in existing experiences, available knowledge - and its limitations - to appreciate the current public choices and strategies (national and regional) and further needs for action.
- (2) Start a discussion between "territories" that already are the place of strategies of climatic and agroecology transition. The purpose is to create (in relation with the above Regional Platform) a network of "situations" to move forward on the nature of transitions, trade-off and synergies that can appear, and identify sources of support for scaling up these initiatives.

*In a nutshell: a two-day event to give voice to territorial agroecology strategies in the face of climate change and launch a Regional Platform to contribute to an ambitious Green Agenda for Western Balkan (GAWB) for food & farming systems.*

# Program

TUESDAY 12th of DECEMBER	
8:30	Welcome - Registration
9:00	Introduction  <b>AgroBioClim Balkans Initiative</b> , François Lerin, Claire Bernard-Mongin & Jimmy Balouzat, AIDA <b>Skopje Encounters: The Way we Work and Who we Are</b> , Tamara Zivadinovic, Mena Group
9:45	Resources Speeches  <b>The EU Green Deal and Green Agenda for Western Balkans (GAWB)</b> , Delegation of European Union in Skopje <b>The Role of Civil Society in Implementing the GAWB</b> , Nevena Smilevska, BankWatch <b>Climate and Biodiversity Nexus in the Food, Farming and Forestry Sectors in the WBC: An Integrated Approach</b> , Claire Bernard-Mongin (Cirad) & Jimmy Balouzat (AirCoop)
10:45	Coffee Break
11:00	<b>Workshop 1</b> - Let's co-design an integrated framing for the future of food, forest and farming in WBC facing climate change
12:30	LUNCH
14:00	<b>Workshop 2</b> – What we have, what we need, what we know? Mapping competencies, knowledge and existing initiatives
15:30	Coffee Break
15:45	Collective Synthesis - Manifesto 1.0
16:15	<b>Workshop 3</b> – How do you imagine a Regional Platform? Acting together: organizational principles & network infrastructure
17:30	Welcome Drink & Social event  <b>Climate Quizz</b> , Ben Dida, Climate Awareness Association
18:30	Break
19:30	DINER in Town

WEDNESDAY 13 <sup>th</sup> of DECEMBER	
8:30	Introduction & Warm Up
9:00	Resources Speeches - Virtual Presentations  <b>Ten years for Agroecology</b> , Xavier Poux, AScA - <b>Q&amp;A with the room</b>  <b>Agroecology Territories</b> , Baptiste Grard & Alexander Wezel, ISARA (AE4EU Project) - <b>Q&amp;A with the room</b>
10:15	Coffee Break
10:30	<b>Workshop 4</b> – Agroecology territories for climate action: networking resources and strategies to create an enabling environment
11:45	Collective Synthesis - Manifesto 2.0
12:00	LUNCH
14:00	Common Declaration at the House of Europe  <b>Welcome of the French Embassy in Skopje</b> by the Acting Ambassador, Mrs Emmanuelle Gardille  <b>Common Declaration of Interest on a Regional Platform to Network Agroecology Territories for Climate Action In WBC</b>
15:30	Conclusion
16:00	<b>Next Steps and Take-Home Messages</b> , François Lerin, Claire Bernard-Mongin & Jimmy Balouzat, AIDA

Venue: Hotel Panoramika

Todor Aleksandrov 57, 1000 Skopje, Macedonia  
 For any question please contact Tamara Zivadinovic  
[tamara.zivadinovic@gmail.com](mailto:tamara.zivadinovic@gmail.com) or tel +381 60 734 96 33

An Initiative Jointly Organized by

