

Methodology for the elaboration of examples of agroecology systems around the world “Agroecology in action” 52 profiles

The goal of this questionnaire is to guide the process of writing and submitting a agroecology profile to be featured in FAO’s series of “Agroecology in action” 52 profiles (featured on <http://www.fao.org/agroecology/en/>).

There is no need to answer the following questions; they only provide guidance/tips to help the process. There is no mandatory field in this process. Given that agroecology has a regional and local approach, not all questions apply to all cases. It is important to include photos, maps or any other type of visual material. The final document should not exceed 4 pages.

For more information or clarifications on this process, please contact Carolina Starr and Renée VanDis. Carolina.Starr@fao.org and Renee.VanDis@fao.org.

a. Proposed title for the profile

b. General introduction of the initiative

- Information about country, region, city, community, organization, group of people (community, family) involved in the agroecology system

c. Description about the agroecology system

- Description of the agroecology system
- Is it a new system, an old system or a mixed system?
- Talk about the knowledge used in this system
- Describe the set of practices applied
- Did the group have the knowledge and tools to develop the agroecology system or did it benefit from external help (as rural extension, universities, NGO...etc)? Talk about this process
- Describe the natural and genetic resources used in the system (crops, tree, seed, soil, water, animals, fish) and how they are connected between themselves.
- Are young people involved in this system?
- If there was a specific problem that triggered the agroecology practice, please describe it (for instance no credit to buy commercial seeds lead farmers to produce their own seeds, absence of money to buy pesticide/fertilizer can oblige farmers to learn how to use natural

pesticide/fertilize, an extreme climate event that changed the way to produce food....etc).

d. Political space

- Is there political support for the adoption of this kind of system in your region/country? Are there any laws and regulations that either support or impede this process? Are there public policies to promote it? Researchers programs on agroecology or related matters? Describe the political environment, as well as the difficulties and the solutions

e. Outcomes of the practices

- Describe the results achieved with the system. How did this new approach change the reality of the people involved? Food sovereignty? Better nutrition for the community? End of hunger? Perceived costs and benefits?
- Costs and benefits of the system. Describe the economical component of the system, such as savings, non-monetary benefits of the system and other types of valuation.

f. Message from farmer to farmers

- Write a small phrase/message which summarizes the agroecology system with your own words. Imagine you are talking about your experiences with a friend. The idea is to have a vision from the farmer about the system. This is a free space to add a more personal idea or input.