WHAT IS AGROECOLOGY?

Agroecology is a way of building sustainable and resilient food systems. It works with nature, not against it.

Agroecology combines different plants and animals, and uses natural synergies—not synthetic chemicals—to regenerate soils, fertilize crops, and fight pests. Diversity in the field increases access to fresh and nutritious foods for communities and keeps traditional food cultures alive. Agroecology also improves farmers’ livelihoods through diverse income streams, resilience to shocks, and short supply chains that retain value in the community. In other words, agroecology has the potential to reconcile the economic, environmental and social dimensions of sustainability.

#MONEYFLOWS

Who’s investing in agroecological research? What’s holding back investment?

In the Money Flows report, we look at investments in sub-Saharan Africa with a focus on: Switzerland, a major bilateral donor; the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), the biggest philanthropic investor in agri-development; and Kenya, one of Africa’s leading recipients and implementers of AgR4D. We find that only 3% of BMGF projects are agroecological. For Kenyan research institutes, the figure was 13%. By contrast, 51% of Swiss-funded agricultural research for development (AgR4D) projects had agroecological components. We look at why this is, and what needs to change!

DID YOU KNOW?

Approximately 30% of farms around the world are estimated to have redesigned their production systems around agroecological principles. In fact, funding is going in to agroecological transitions through what is known as agricultural research for development, or “AgR4D”.

READ THE #MONEYFLOWS REPORT AT WWW.AGROECOLOGY-POOL.ORG/MONEYFLOWSREPORT