



Mission statement on agroecology

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We set off from our partners' realities, political, institutional, socio-cultural and socio-economic.

We build alliances and synergies to promote all agroecological levels.

We strengthen the foundation of food systems.

We are building strong food production systems but mostly strengthening their foundation through the adoption of agroecological principles.



We are diverse.

Our work reaches from organic farming to integrated approaches in conventional agriculture. Within this spectrum we have numerous lighthouses to show.

We are guided by opportunities, not dogmas.

Soil protection is important for everyone, for conventional and organic farming, for small and large-scale farms, for subsistence and market-oriented farms. We identify opportunities and suitable leverage points, promote cooperation and alliances for soil protection and thus strengthen the agroecological transformation.

We are protagonists of agroecological transformation.

Soil protection and agroecology go hand in hand. Agroecological action protects soils, soil protection promotes agroecological transformation.

We state clearly: There is no way around soil.

Soil conservation and rehabilitation are pivotal to the agroecological transformation. At least six out of ten agroecological elements directly or indirectly build upon soil protection.



We say yes to more complexity.

Agroecological transformation leads to greater complexity. We use social and technical innovations and digital tools to shape it.

We are committed to a modern, diversified and sustainable agriculture.

We develop solutions for alternative paths of intensification that preserve diversity, ensure participation, build on existing knowledge and enable market access.

We act climate-smartly.

Soil protection is a cornerstone of climate protection in agriculture and it increases the resilience of agricultural systems and their actors to the effects of climate change. We unlock this potential with the help of traditional knowledge and modern technologies.

We create perspectives for Africa.

"Africa's future lies in rural areas", says the German Marshall Plan with Africa. We share this vision and are committed to better protecting the fourth element soil. Soil protection deserves to be called by its name.



We scale up solution approaches, not standardized solutions.

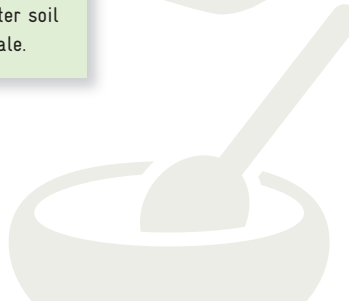
Local actors decide which innovations in the field of soil protection are appropriate for which agroecological context. We co-create knowledge, make it available, facilitate the exchange and support our partners in scaling up locally adapted solution approaches.

Learning is not a one-way street.

We prepare experiences and solutions of small-scale farmers and feed them into market-oriented farms and value chains. Also, we learn from medium and large-scale farms and cooperate with them in order to foster soil protection and rehabilitation at large scale.

Different paths, common goal.

Agroecological change is a development path to sustainable agriculture and not an all-or-nothing approach. Likewise, not only maximum solutions in soil protection contribute to change. A good start lies in simple techniques, that can be easily implemented and financed by farmers.





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Registered offices
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Programme „Soil protection
and rehabilitation for food security“
Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 36+40
53113 Bonn, Germany

T +49 228 44 60-0
F +49 228 44 60-17 66

E info@giz.de
I www.giz.de

Contact:
soilprotection@giz.de

Design/layout:
Iris Christmann, Wiesbaden

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