



BUGA STATEMENT

**“PERSPECTIVES ON ADVOCACY AND RESEARCH IN
SUPPORT OF AGROECOLOGY FOR WELL-BEING”**

The organisations, institutions, research centres, universities, social movements and international cooperation agencies committed to sustainability and gathered at the 2023 Regional Forum “*Research and Advocacy to Champion Agroecology in Andean-Amazonian Countries*” in the context of the Shift to Peasant Agroecology for Food Sovereignty (SPAFS) Programme

Guadalajara de Buga, Valle del Cauca, Colombia, June 2023



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AGROECOLOGY AS A MEANS OF ADDRESSING THE CLIMATE AND CIVILISATIONAL CRISES

We reaffirm the necessity and urgency of developing varied methods and strategies, rooted in local territories, to implement agroecology in support of social and climate justice, food/technological/energy sovereignty, as well as to strengthen socio-ecological resilience, adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, and respect for the rights of human beings and Mother Earth, by consolidating efforts focused on respect and preservation of life.

2

AGROECOLOGY AS A UNIFYING SOCIAL MOVEMENT

We express our gratitude to all the peasant farmers, indigenous and native peoples, Afro-descendants, communities and institutions **that have from time immemorial sown the seeds of agroecology through their work and knowledge;** as well as **to those who, in their various capacities, support, promote and raise awareness of agroecology in our territories and in all relevant spaces.**

We reaffirm **agroecology as a path of resistance and construction of territorial power emanating from the local level,** bringing together grassroots organisations and unions, the health and education sectors, academia, environmental and rights defenders, consumers and all those who are committed to ensuring a Dignified Life, highlighting the contribution of women and youth.

We demand recognition and implementation of the Rights of Peasants, Native and Indigenous Peoples and all who work in rural areas.

3

THE NEED FOR COHERENT AND PARTICIPATORY AGROECOLOGICAL RESEARCH

Co-construction of insight into the various dimensions of agroecology **is required to foster interaction of knowledge, the biocultural memory** of native, indigenous and Afro-descendant peasants, and social innovation; to accentuate the multifunctionality of agroecology from an interdisciplinary standpoint; and to raise awareness of Participatory Action Research (PAR).

We insist on the importance of agroecological research to identify, bring to light and denounce the harmful impacts of the primary export model and agro/mineral/energy extractivism; to recognise, demonstrate and disseminate the benefits of agroecology as a contribution to the construction of alternative models promoting dignity and well-being.



FIRM IN THIS AGROECOLOGICAL CONVICTION, WE UNDERTAKE TO:

- **Co-construct faith in the future** through collective engagement.
- **Recognise, respect and honour** the collective memories of life and agroecological praxis of those who have paved the way and continue to re-create afro, indigenous, peasant and other structures of rural life.
- **Share** learning, approaches and courses of action to best accompany the advancement of agroecology with due regard for territorial specificities.
- **Promote constructive alliances and synergies** to foster the transformation of food systems and renewed dignity for peasant farmers.
- **Strive to ensure that agroecology retains its emancipatory, counter-hegemonic, anti-patriarchal and decolonial character.**
- **Recognise and welcome** the reality that agroecology is co-constructed on the foundation of agrobiodiversity, living soil and its ecosystemic functions.
- **Contribute to processes of knowledge co-generation** through inclusive, committed and transformative action.



WE CALL ON:

... **Governments** at all levels to recognise and promote agroecology and to discourage exploitative, polluting and destructive monoculture-based agriculture, dependence on petrochemical inputs and violent land grabbing.

... **the Education sector** to mainstream agroecology as a cross-cutting component in the educational framework, and to actively engage in territorial processes based on knowledge-sharing.

... **Grassroots social organisations** to make agroecology, as rooted in the exercise of autonomy, a key aspect of their action, and to uphold it as a way of safeguarding local areas while acknowledging and reclaiming ancestral wisdom.

... **International Cooperation Organisations** to continue supporting the agroecological transition in Andean-Amazonian countries.

... **Non-Governmental Organisations** that accompany and empower grassroots processes to promote strategic agendas for the advancement of agroecology with due regard for territorial specificities.

... **Citizens** to consume agroecological foods and to form collectives of responsible consumers, as a political act contributing to the urban/rural territorial development of agroecology in Andean-Amazonian countries.

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS:

FOVIDA
- FOMENTO DE LA VIDA -

SUYUSAMA
Fundación para la Sostenibilidad Regional de la Compañía de Jesús en Noroeste

movimiento agroecológico Boliviano

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SOCCLA
Sociedad Científica Latinoamericana de Agroecología
15 años



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Movimiento Agroecológico de America Latina y El Caribe

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