Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ENVforum)

and its involvement in the 2030 Agenda implementation

3 March 2022 | 2022 Sustainable Development Transformation Forum

Overview

- 1. Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ENVforum)
- 2. ENVforum Annual Conference 2021
- 3. Agriculture & its link to SDG 15





Asia-Europe Environment Forum



- Established in 2003
- Partners:
 - Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)
 - Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF)
 - ASEM SMEs Eco-Innovation Center (ASEIC)
 - Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
 - Government of Sweden through the Strategic Collaborative Fund administered by Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)





Overview

AIM

Foster inter-regional cooperation between Asia and Europe on sustainable development and climate change issues.

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

Organise and presents findings at international conferences to promote intellectual exchange between Asia and Europe on issues related to 2030 Agenda and climate change.



RESEARCH

The ENVforum has been carrying out research projects on SDGs since 2013.



CAPACITY BUILDING

Support policymakers in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam in mainstreaming the 2030 Agenda through national workshops and regional conferences.





ENVforum Annual Conference 2021

Circular Food Systems: Solutions to reverse climate change

Circular Food Systems

(30 Nov - 1 Dec 2021)

- Thematic policy briefs:
 - Regenerative Agriculture
 - SMEs & Food circularity
 - Food Policy & Security
 - International Food Trade



asef.org/future-of-food







Circular Food Systems

Regenerative Agriculture Life on Land COVID-19 recovery & 2030 Agenda through addressing SDG 15







Agriculture & SDG 15

- Agriculture practice is responsible for...
 - 25% of greenhouse gas emissions,
 - 70% of biodiversity loss, and
 - 80% of deforestation

Indicator 15.2: By <u>2020</u>, promote the sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation [...]

Forest loss remains high, despite growing efforts to manage them sustainably

UN SDG Report 2020

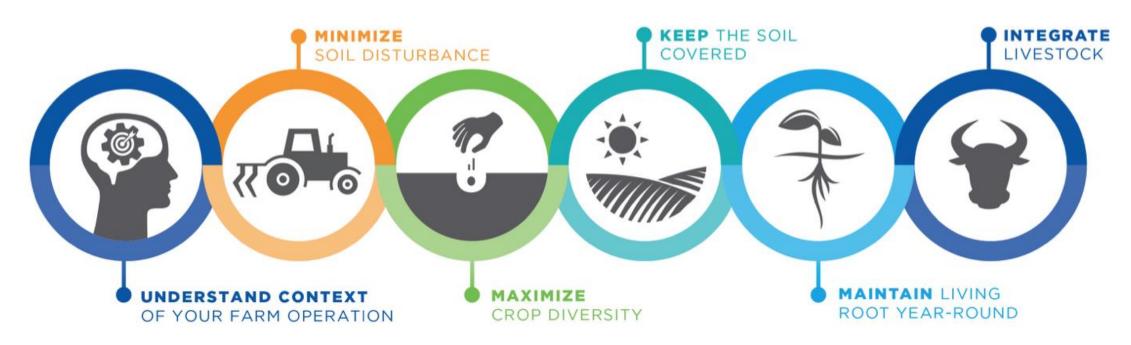




Regenerative Agriculture

6 Core Principles of

REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

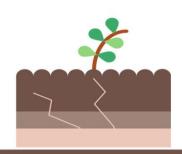


www.generalmills.com/Responsibility/Sustainability/Regenerative-agriculture





Conventional Agriculture vs Regenerative Agriculture



CONVENTIONAL FARMING PRACTICES

Weak, easily erodible soils

High input costs

Ever-increasing quantity of synthetic fertilisers and pesticides needed

High irrigation requirement

Low crop diversity

Low biodiversity

Polluted water bodies

Health risks of chemical exposure for farm workers

Low resilience

Threat to long-term yields due to soil degradation



REGENERATIVE FARMING PRACTICES

Biologically active soils

Low input costs

High water infiltration and storage

High crop diversity

High biodiversity

Healthy local ecosystem

High water holding and filtration capacity

Low health risks to farm workers

Tasty crops with high micronutrient content

Increased resilience

Support long-term yields

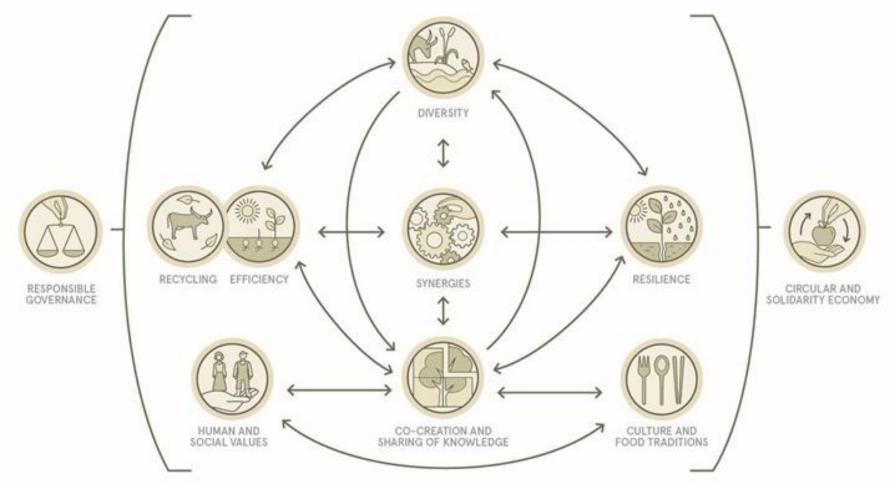
Multiple revenue streams

https://archive.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/explore/food-cities-the-circular-economy





Interaction of the 10 elements of Agroecology





www.fao.org/agroecology/overview/overview10elements/en/



Solutions

- Adjusting subsidies to agriculture should be based on net contributions to climate change and provision of ecosystem services
 - "almost 90 % of the \$540bn in global subsidies given to farmers every year are are harmful"
- Gathering more evidence on the performance of alternative food production systems
- More institutional support towards regenerative agriculture and agroecology
- Find ways for conveying the evidence in a form that is useful to drive and support policymaking
- Need for overcoming disciplinary and sectoral divisions in research and policy-making
 - Transition towards a trans-disciplinary and problem-oriented





COVID-19 recovery & 2030 Agenda through addressing SDG 15







Thank You

For your attention

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