



photo: Joya Barrow



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Annual Report October 2020 – September 2021

The Landworkers' Alliance ANNUAL REPORT

Uniting farmers, growers, foresters and land-based workers
to create better food and land use systems for everyone





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WELCOME

Welcome to the Landworkers' Alliance (LWA) annual report for the year October 2020 – September 2021. This document outlines the key activities carried out by the LWA during this period. Due to the huge amount of work being done by the coordinating group, staff teams, regional, branch, sectoral and working group organisers, members and supporters in farms, fields, forests and communities around the UK we can not mention everything, but have done our best to represent the activities we've been working on, the pathways advanced and the key outcomes achieved over the year.

We must begin by recognising that the last year has brought significant challenges for many of us. Covid-19 continued to have a huge impact on our lives, forcing farms, forestry and land based businesses to continually adapt and innovate their ways of working in order to supply their communities with food, fuel, fibre and other land based products in the context of supply chain disruption, government restrictions, uncertainty and the health crisis. It has also been a time of loss and isolation for many and we extend deep solidarity to everyone who has struggled during this time.

The year has been influenced by severe supply chain disruption with the prices of essential materials rising dramatically, and the availability of many core inputs from fuel to seed becoming unstable. Export markets for many food products have suffered significantly, causing many smaller businesses to close down or reorient their sales, while the full impact of checks and controls on imports have yet to be experienced.

These disruptions and the resulting economic changes have continued to drive food insecurity and hunger up to still higher levels, and the gradual withdrawal of support for many people and sectors from the government have left many workers and businesses struggling. Covid-19 has also accelerated the housing crisis in many parts of the UK, forcing rural workers and their families to compete with people on higher incomes in an often desperate search for housing, as homes are turned into holiday lets and options to buy or rent affordable homes have diminished or completely disappeared.

Extreme weather has also had a significant impact for many, with a cool spring and record rains in May disrupting the start of the growing season, and conditions remaining challenging throughout in some areas. The increasingly extreme and unpredictable weather is causing losses in production systems that are likely to continue as ecological systems struggle to adapt to the changing climate.



Welcome

Despite these challenges the year has yet again demonstrated the resilience and innovation of agroecological farmers, growers, foresters and land-based workers. Businesses supplying local and regional markets have maintained the production and distribution of essential food, fuel and building materials, whilst driving innovation in short supply chains and food justice. And they have done this while enhancing biodiversity, developing efficient low-input production, creating employment, building soils and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. LWA members across the UK are proving again and again that we can produce healthy, affordable food and resources without harming the earth, the climate, or the health of our communities.

This message is one that is continuing to grow its audience in policy, government and more conventional farming circles as the weight of evidence of environmental crises mounts, and conventional production and distribution systems struggle under the pressures.

Building on this opportunity, the LWA's campaigning and advocacy teams have continued to make progress in developing and persuading policy makers to adopt, approaches that provide support and investment to the agroecological sector.

It has also been a year of rapid growth and increased capacity for the LWA as successful fundraising and income generation allowed our staff team to expand significantly towards our strategic objectives. Whilst rapid growth is never easy, there are moments in the growth of any organisation and social movement when it is necessary to move fast and make the most of opportunities. Doing so has increased our capacity to further the vision of food sovereignty, agroecology and social and environmental justice that we are advancing. In many ways this year was another test of the LWA as an organisation, and one that has shown we have grown to meet the challenges of the times with a systemic, grassroots and cooperative approach to transforming our food and land-use systems.

Once again we look back on the year and are humbled by the skill, vision and commitment of our membership, encouraged by the growing social movement behind agroecology and food sovereignty, and committed to the pathways we all must follow in the coming years if we are to hold on to our hopes for a regenerative and equitable future.

photo: Kathrine Sharp





photo: Phil Moore

The activities and achievements of the LWA are the result of the skills, passion and commitment of many hundreds of people and wouldn't be possible without them.

We thank all our members for their incredible work this year.

We thank the increasing numbers of supporters and donors who contribute time and money to our vision.

And we thank the foundations, charitable trusts and grant making organisations that have funded our work this year, including:

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
Thirty Percy Foundation
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust
Friends Provident Foundation
The Network for Social Change
Erasmus +
Horizon 2020
Lush
The Roddick Foundation
The Princes Countryside Fund
The Agroecology Fund (New Venture Fund)
Farming the Future
The A-Team Foundation
The National Lottery
The Pebble Trust





photo: Joya Barrow



photo: Kathrine Sharp



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Organisational Structure

In our organisation structure we aim to:

Create a strong and resilient organisational structure that can support the LWA to grow into a large and democratic grassroots union operating within a participatory social movement dynamic.

Despite the challenges that Covid-19 continued to present, we have managed to make significant progress towards our long-term strategic objectives on a number of levels. The last year has seen very significant growth in the LWA staff team and we have made a number of organisational developments to support this growth. It has also been characterised by the continuation of positive growth trends in turnover, self-generated income, membership and supporters and the wider impact of our work.

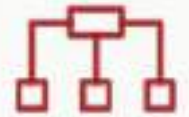
Building on a combination of secured core-cost support and project grants from funders and a growth in self-generated income and service contracts, our staff team has grown from 6.5FTE spread over 18 people at the start of the year to 21FTE spread over 43 people by the end of the year.

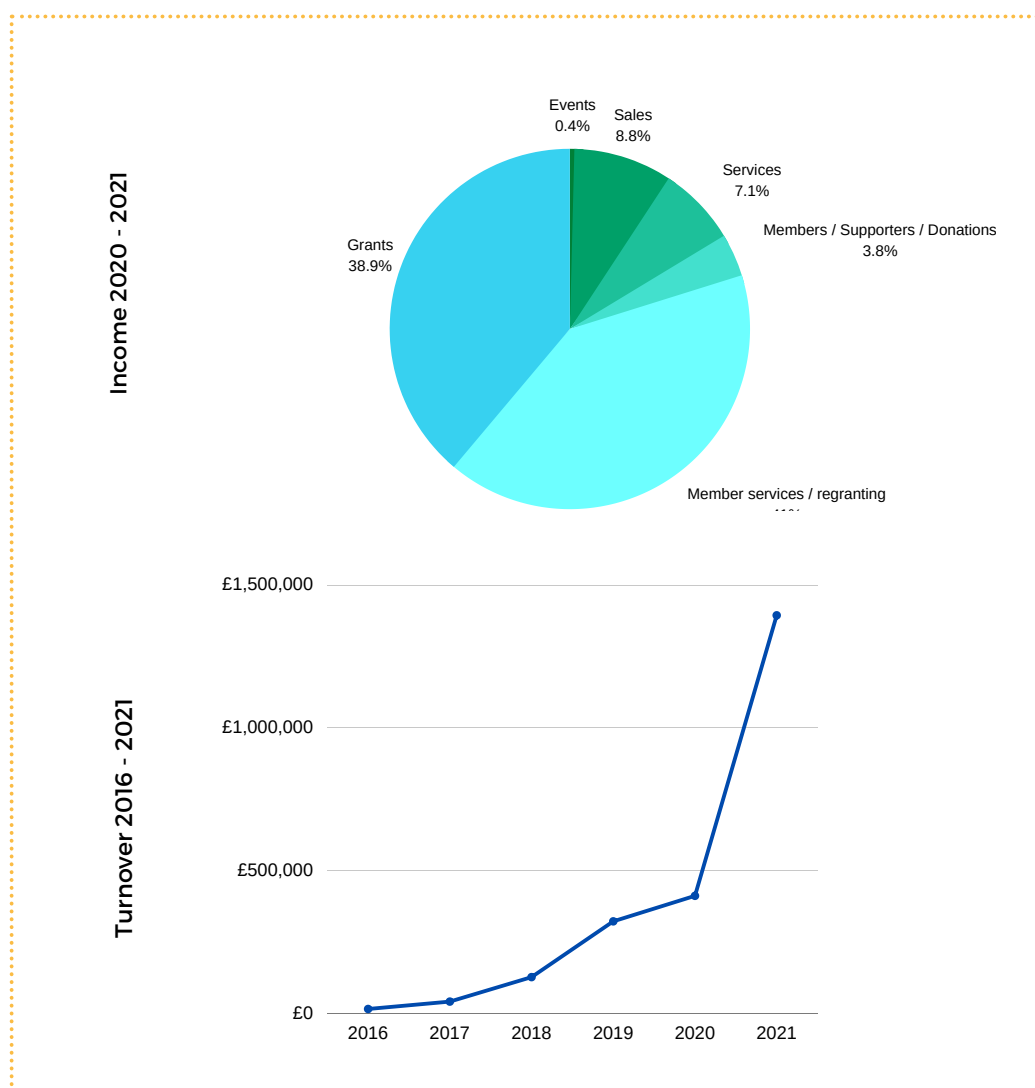
This growth has significantly increased our capacity and catalysed a number of changes within our organisational structure. We have developed stronger human resources and support processes and developed a structure of staff teams based around core work areas that are supported by an operations team which provides a key link between staff teams and the coordinating group.

We were able to put more resources and staff time into developing the capacity of regions, branches, sectors and working groups and held the first Organisers' Assembly in October. The Organisers' Assembly is a space designed to build capacity among, and develop stronger connections between the strategies, activities and people working in local, sectoral and working groups with the staff and coordinating group.

The Cymru coordinating group set up working groups to support wider membership involvement in organising, focussed on policy and campaigns, outreach and events, and training and farmer-to-farmer exchange.

Covid-19 restrictions meant we were not able to gather in-person over winter and spring, but in July we organised a 2-day gathering for staff and coordinating group members to develop relationships and work on organisational processes. This was key to successfully transitioning to a larger staff team and organisation.





The financial situation of the organisation continued to grow, with our total income for the year reaching £1,394,176. Of this £182,414 was self-generated income from events, sales, members, supporters and donations, £98,974 was from services, the bulk of which was the Growing the Goods test and trial contract with Defra (See campaigning section), £542,024 was grant income and £571,169 was grant and service contract income for regranting and member services.

The regranting and member services area represents a new development in organisational structure. After campaigning and lobbying on food justice, local food systems and solutions to the huge increase in household food insecurity catalysed by Covid-19 we received £350,000 from the National Lottery and Farming the Future to run a re-granting program which allowed us to fund 35 organisations with £10,000 capital or revenue grants to develop and deliver projects aimed to improve the accessibility of high-quality fresh food to people experiencing

food insecurity. From solidarity pricing to farmer cooperatives supplying community kitchens and many points in between this project has injected some essential funds into projects innovating solutions to the food crisis that are based on dignity, community power, local food systems and agroecology.

We also accessed the governments 'Kickstart' program, enabling members to draw-down funding to create employment opportunities for young people on universal credit who are at risk of long-term unemployment. 23 member businesses across England and Wales accessed the program, creating employment for 45 young people in forestry, horticulture, dairy and livestock.

Alongside growth in grant income and the new area of regranting and member services, we made significant progress increasing self-generated income with the total raised from events, sales, members, supporters and donations increasing by almost 90% to £182,414.



Our 2021 calendar “Another Farm is Possible” was a big part of this growth. We printed 6,250 calendars (up from 3,300 the previous year) and sold the entire stock. Interestingly we noticed a significant increase in member farms taking small numbers of calendars for retail, which helped drive this success.

In April 2021 we also launched our online shop – retailing LWA branded apparel, promotional materials and gifts online for the first time.

In April, the online shop took £4,108 after tax and shipping. In May to September the average takings were £2,694/month. 1,454 items have been purchased and shipped, with the top selling items by volume being tote bags, roll sleeved tees, and the LWA album ‘Stand Up Now’.

No in-person events were held or staffed in the first half of the financial year, but in the second half, the Sales and Merchandise team provided merchandise and support for Groundswell, The Land Skills Fair and The LWA Album Launch.

In July 2021, we significantly increased our Sales and Merchandise team capacity with

the recruitment of two new staff members.

Sophie Temple Preston, who has been in post since May 2019 on two days per week, was joined by Sally Lai on three days and Roberta Emmott on two days. Sophie continues to lead on the calendar project, whilst Roberta is now managing the online shop and posting, and Sally is co-ordinating the development of a 10 year anniversary LWA almanac. The team are now consulting with members of other parts of the LWA and are putting together a strategy document to set our mission, financial targets and to guide our work over the coming years.

The growth trajectory in staff and income was also matched in membership numbers, with 577 new members joining over the year bringing the total membership to 1785 at the end of September 2021.

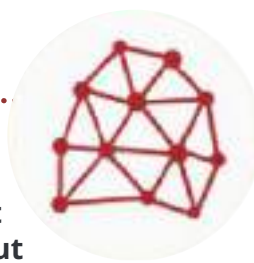
Alongside the farmers, growers, foresters and land-based workers who make up our membership, 236 new supporters joined, bringing the total number of supporters to 372. Supporters play an increasingly important role in bringing income from donations, and helping support, accelerate and multiply our advocacy and campaigning work.



photo: Chloe Eversfield



Social Networks, Solidarity and Member Support



We aim to:

1. **Develop strong social networks and build relationships of solidarity and mutual aid between members and with other farmers and landworkers organisations who share our vision around the world, in particular through La Via Campesina.**
2. **Improve the quality of life for members.**
3. **Increase the resilience of agricultural and forestry systems by increasing communication and reducing isolation.**

This year has been an exciting time in terms of the substantial growth of the membership as well as the membership staff team. We have been able to support an increase in membership engagement and begin work on improving the 'Member Journey' - an all encompassing process involving the support needs, experiences and facilitation of member engagement within the LWA.

Further to our 2019 strategic development approach, we have significantly progressed our work on membership outreach and recruitment with the introduction of dedicated staff members. With a UK-wide outreach coordinator alongside an England outreach coordinator, and soon to be introduced Scotland and Cymru outreach coordinators, as well as our forestry coordinator we have been working to support the organising within branch, regional and sector groups. Also within the membership team we have the BPOC Working Group coordinator and Cultivating Justice project coordinator

In May of this year, we launched our largest Member Survey to help us better represent members in our campaigning and policy work, developing member services, events, resources and training whilst learning more about our members' interests and needs from our union. The response from our members is an on-going process to inform our work.

The membership outreach and recruitment work has focussed on strengthening the ways that LWA members shape and input into the work of the union. This means supporting the work of regional and branch coordinating groups, the LGBTQIA and BPOC working groups, and FLAME - the new youth wing of LWA. At a time of huge growth for the LWA membership and staff team, it is essential to ensure we are developing strong channels for our grassroots membership to continue to drive and develop the vision and culture of the LWA. As part of this, we planned and held the first ever Organisers' Assembly, which brings together members from across the UK as delegates representing LWA regions, branches, working groups and sectors.

The England recruitment and outreach work has been focussed on working with regional coordinators to develop efficient systems to facilitate and support communications mechanisms, as well as identifying training opportunities for organisers and supporting events.

The woodland coordination work has centered on maintaining regular communication and visits with members as well as working on the development of our own membership services within the forestry sector by undertaking research and development of relationships within associated forestry unions. This work proved invaluable through the pandemic, highlighting both the vulnerabilities and resilience of UK forestry workers, and the role of professional and union support.



photo: Kindling Trust



Our commitment towards meeting the needs of the BPOC LWA Members, steered us to create a member-led Black, People of Colour (BPOC) working group. Through member meetings, we have been able to establish a safe communal space where members can share concerns/ideas, get involved and organise events that support the visions and goals of the group for developing racially inclusive and participatory education, training and support systems for farmers, growers, foresters and land-based workers. Our first recruitment presentation was hosted by the Community Food Growers Network (CFGN) and was a success in recruiting more members to the BPOC group and forging new allies with various local growing communities and organisations. We are working on creating strategic plans to grow our BPOC membership and engage with the wider BPOC community.

Alongside this, our Cultivating Justice work led to a Zine in collaboration with Land In Our Names (LION) which we are distributing through the LWA web shop. Our first in-person meet up for participants will be in November 2021, this will focus on project planning and developing Zine 2, to create and finalise the content with a Decolonising Botany/Queer Ecology theme. We are currently in the process of organising the winter workshop planning for the BPOC and queer land worker activism, storytelling and archiving. An additional focus in our cultivating justice work is a podcast in collaboration with Farmerama, which we aim to launch by the end of 2021.

Led by calls from young people, this year we worked with youth activists to launch a youth group 'FLAME' (Food, Land, Agriculture: A Movement for Equality). The group quickly gathered enthusiastic new voices together to get to know each other, establish a mission and build a common vision and social media presence. FLAME held a launch gathering and spaces at the Land Skill Fair, the Youth 4 Food festival and are sending representation to COP26.

Rising Covid levels in Autumn led us to replace our plan for a face-to-face AGM, with an on-line AGM and support the coordination of 9 in-person Regional and Branch gatherings. We have made the most of the opportunity to support strengthening local groups and have been creating budgets, templates, guidelines and communications as well as planning an in-person workshop to support regional event organisers. We have also been working to put together a line-up of exciting sessions and dynamic speakers for the Oxford Real Farming Conference (ORFC). We are supporting La Via Campesina (LVC) to put together their online session and have begun plans for an LWA social event in Oxford to raise funds for new entrants. We supported the LWA space and numerous sessions on the role of peasants, farmers, landworkers, foresters and indigenous peoples at COP26 and are starting to plan the core LWA events calendar for 2022.

Despite the challenges of Covid-19 we were able to organise many of the key events we had planned for the year.

During winter 2020 and spring 2021 these took place online, but we were still able to maintain participation and outcomes.

In December 2020 the Landworkers' Alliance held our first online AGM. It was a steep learning curve but overall we had a fantastic AGM with over 300 tickets sold and at any one time over 150 participants throughout the day. The programme included ceremony, songs, stories, presentations, and a pub quiz. It was of course very sad for us not to be able to run an in-person AGM, as it has always been a highlight of the year for many in the LWA, but we worked hard to try and convey and feed the spirit, energy and fire of the membership and the movement.



LWA Cymru were key participants in and organisers of the Wales Real Food & Farming Conference in November 2020. Members and staff spoke in sessions covering topics including building resilience in response to Brexit changes, seed breeding for whole food systems, education and more, and in classic LWA style, we organised the (virtual) pub quiz with beer and storytelling from Gafael Tir.

In January 2021 we were involved in the Oxford Real Farming Conference's global online edition. The conference attracted over 5,500 attendees and created platforms for over 500 speakers from 78 countries across 18 time zones. The LWA organised 8 sessions, and were heavily involved in both the framing of the event, and in supporting the participation of speakers from La Via Campesina and the global Food Sovereignty movement. The conference was a success and continues to go from strength to strength as a fertile space for movement discussions and sharing.

As lock down eased in spring 2021, musician and producer Sid Goldsmith recorded 14 songs from members of the LWA and musicians who support our movement. These have been collated in the album Stand Up Now - songs from the Landworkers' Alliance. The name of the album is drawn from that anthem of land based struggle; "The World Turned Upside Down", which relates the story of The Diggers.

This project culminated in a great festive gathering at Three Pools Farm, South Wales



photo: Joya Barrow

in July 2021 that brought together 150 members to launch the album. Since then coverage has been strong with articles in the Guardian and the Observer and plays on both local and national folk radio shows, and BBC Radio 4 and 6 Music. The album is available to buy from our website.

In August we worked with Land in Our Names (LION) and other allied organisations to hold a Land Skills Fair at Abbey Home Farm in Gloucestershire.

Despite Covid-19 restrictions we were able to host over 500 people for the multi-day event of music, theatre, culture, teaching and skill shares on agroecology, including the social justice element.

In August, LWA Cymru also organised a summer gathering for members at Caerhys Organic Farm in Pembrokeshire alongside the farm's annual Harvest Party. Members spent a morning setting an agenda for the next year of branch activities and discussing outreach, farmer to farmer exchange, policy, and campaigns.

In October, we held the first UK Organisers' Assembly in Gloucestershire, bringing together 30 active organisers from across the UK. The Organisers' Assembly is a space designed to build capacity among, and develop stronger connections between the strategies, activities and people working in local, sectoral and working groups with the staff and coordinating group.

Alongside these key national and UK wide events, regional groups, working groups, sectors and branches continued to stay in touch with farm tours (both online and in person), regional meetings and outdoor get-togethers to do essential farm work.

Alongside events we organised a number of solidarity campaigns including solidarity with the Indian Farmers' Strikes and solidarity with horticultural workers on strike in Spain.

From September 2020 millions of Indian farmers mobilised in protest against three farm bills passed by the Indian government. Protests have been ongoing



photo: Joya Barrow

and have included general strikes of over 250 million farmers, and brutal retaliation and repression of organisers by the Indian police and government. In January 2021 the farmers won a court stay on the legislation but the struggle to revoke them continues. The LWA organised a range of solidarity actions including photos, educational campaigns on the impact of UK trade policy, media work and an email campaign to MPs demanding the UK approach to aid in India is revised to support the farmers demands which mobilised over 5000 signatures.

In solidarity with farmers' unions in India we are also campaigning to stop the production and export of paraquat, a highly toxic herbicide that is banned for use in the UK and the EU as well as many other countries, and is highly implicated in farmer suicides and long term health problems in rural communities. The situation in India is so severe that doctors have resorted to hunger strikes demanding it's removal from the market. Despite the ban

on its use in the UK it is still manufactured and exported from here. We are exploring mobilisations and legal actions to highlight the situation and prevent its continued production and export.

We organised a petition to stimulate a parliamentary debate on the issue and are working with advocates to build public support around a legal challenge against the UK government on paraquat and other exported agrochemicals.

The campaign will culminate in the Spring when the research for the litigation will be completed, we will plan a mobilisation to highlight the issue.

We also responded to calls for solidarity from Soc-Sat, an agricultural workers union and La Via Campesina member organisation in Spain. Soc-Sat members working for Organic tomato exporters BioSabor, who supplied UK buyers, resorted to a strike after campaigns to

achieve payment levels consistent with the minimum wage were rejected by the company. Alongside pressure on buyers in other European countries by local unions and support groups. We contacted UK distributors and the sole importer 'Organico' about a boycott, at the same time the BioSabor backed down and agreed to Soc-Sats demands. We are now increasing our work with the European Coordination of La Via Campesina members and allies to strengthen our collective ability to pressure companies who are not respecting workers' rights by targeting their buyers and distributors in the UK.

In March 2021 we also mobilised members to respond to the governments 'consultation' into gene editing, aided by a visual stunt with a giant banner at Gothelney Farm. Many members responded to the consultation stating their opposition to de-regulating gene-edited crops and seeds, and calling out the biased

pro-bioengineering stance of the UK government's process. Frustratingly the consultation appears to have been a PR stunt as Defra declined to consider more than 50% of responses (3904 out of 6440) that they considered as coming from campaigning groups, all of which favoured regulation.

Worryingly their conclusions also ignore the majority of farmers and growers responses that favoured regulation (88% of individual responses and 64% of business responses). Indeed the only sectors in which a majority favoured deregulation were academic institutions and public sector bodies! Government is ignoring public opinion and the opinion of farmers, growers, and other land-based workers over the views of a minority with vested interests. Rothamstead Research have now planted the first crop trial of gene-edited winter wheat, so watch this space for LWA activities on this issue going forward.



photo: Joya Barrow



photo: Joya Barrow



photo: Blackbark Films

Training, Exchange and Business Support



We aim to:

1. Increase the skills and knowledge of our members in agroecological farming, growing, forestry and land management; running financially sustainable land-based businesses; and organising as a union and social movement.
2. Fill the gaps for practical training and mentoring in agroecological farming and land management.
3. Build low-cost and reciprocal models for training and exchange based on the knowledge base of our membership network.

In the last year we began work on developing our accredited training program for on-farm training in agroecology. In January 2021 we convened an Accredited Training Advisory Panel (ATAP), composed of growers, educators, farmers and researchers who have been meeting to inform and co-create a curriculum that meets the needs of potential participants and the sector. We have also identified an accredited qualification, with awarding body Laser Awards, which will form the basis of the Agroecology Level 3. Using a range of existing and newly developed units, the qualification will offer flexibility to participants to shape their learning.

Frustratingly, government funding to support training and adult education has been cut which represents a potential risk to the breadth and diversity of future participant engagement. Developing the financial model of the training program, as well as compiling the curriculum and gaining approval from the awarding body will be the focus of work in the coming year 2021-2022. This year we launched a pilot agroecology traineeship programme for 17 farms participating across South West England with 33 trainees.

At the start of the year we held a session for growers to develop on-farm training skills, led by Angela Raffle from The Community Farm. We then drafted a curriculum and trainees met in person for a number of training days and farm visits throughout the year. These included studying agroforestry with The Apricot Centre,

visiting Abbey Home Farm during the Land Skills Fair and learning about seed saving with the Gaia Foundation and Trill Farm Garden. We've had excellent feedback from the trainees that took part and we look forward to running the second, expanded year of the pilot in 2022. In the long term, we are aiming to develop a robust and sustainable model that can be implemented across the UK and run alongside accredited training opportunities.

We are also working with Lantra to develop and deliver a network for trainees working in horticulture in Wales. This is part of the Resilient Green Spaces project, which has received funding through the Welsh Government Rural Communities – Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the Welsh Government.

We've hosted webinars and organised farm visits, aiming to teach key skills for working in horticulture and to introduce trainees to a variety of growing philosophies and business models. Interim feedback indicates that connecting trainees to each other and to the wider agroecological movement in Wales



has helped trainees to see a way forward in horticulture, and we will be working with Cardiff University to evaluate the program so far, and improve it for next year.

Our mentoring programme continued in its second year of funding. 18 mentees took part with participants across the UK from Cornwall to the North of Scotland and a wide range of sectors including mixed farms, horticulture, flower

farming, livestock, pigs and microdairy. All mentees were matched with a range of mentors, all of whom received some training in being a successful mentor. We are currently working on a full evaluation of the program and feeding the results into the Defra co-design process for a new entrant support scheme. The programme is taking a break while this happens and we look for ways to build the program into policy or seek longer term funding.

In collaboration with the Seed Sovereignty Programme UK & Ireland and Sustainable Places Research Institute, we organised three regional Welsh gatherings to discuss opportunities for horticulture and arable farmers to cooperate around resources, discussing models such as grain hubs, labour sharing, and tool libraries.

We also organised and contributed to a large number of farm tours and farmer-to-farmer events over the year through the Landworkers' Alliance and other local producers groups and networks.

Our work on supporting producers to develop resilient local food systems continued to increase through advice, support, innovation labs, events and resources. Our main activities in this area have been:

- Providing advice and information on direct and short supply chain marketing systems for start-ups and businesses switching from supermarket supply chains.
- Facilitation to support farmers and growers



to solve supply chain problems by working together, for example helping small scale arable producers in Wales get access to appropriately scaled processing facilities.

- Working with digital platforms to help producers open up new markets and opportunities.

- Bringing different actors in collaborative food chains together to improve communication, understand how costs and benefits are shared, and to develop innovative governance models that promote fair, resilient food systems.

This work runs in parallel to campaigning for a political and regulatory framework that enables local resilient food systems to thrive. Building on this work we were successful in a bid to Defra's Future Farming Resilience Fund. Working in collaboration with the Pasture Fed Livestock Association and the Organic Research Centre, the project aims to support 500 farmers in England to integrate resilience into all aspects of their farming systems. With a focus on agroecological and environmental land-management practices, as well as shortening supply chains, we are encouraging sustainability from both a financial perspective and with respect to future generations.

We have now employed six staff members to deliver the project which will see us producing a transition toolkit, running a series of 20 informative webinars, and developing a mentoring and advice service, all on offer to farmers for free.

The support programme is running from September 2021 until March 2022 and any farmer or land manager in receipt of Direct Payments in England is eligible to apply. One key goal of the project is to bring farmers together in peer-to-peer support networks that will continue beyond the scope of the project. This work is invaluable in building connections with the broader farming community, providing greater understanding and confidence in the principles and practise of agroecology.

We also continued to develop the Farmstart Network both on the ground and by feeding the experiences of the network into Defra's co-design process for their New Entrant Support Scheme. Alongside ongoing work on the steering group and presentations from the network we held a winter social for Farmstart projects to strengthen connections, worked with Shared Assets on research into the impact of Farmstarts and held a series of workshops



in collaboration with Urban Agriculture Consortium to support cities in the North of England who are interested in setting up a Farmstart.

We are also waiting to hear about a funding bid which would support us to be involved in a three year 'European Farmstart Network programme' to learn from some inspiring and established incubator farm networks on the continent.

In partnership with the Gaia Foundation Seed Sovereignty Programme (GFSSP), we have been working on designing and developing projects to be part of building seed sovereignty in the UK and Ireland. Since the start of the Covid pandemic and Brexit, the demand for seed has increased dramatically. Whilst the proliferation in home gardening and subsistence food production is something to be celebrated and supported, it has also exposed the cracks and fragility of our seed systems. Small scale and agro-ecological seed companies came under an intense amount of pressure to keep up with unprecedented demand, and lower supplies from Europe as the effects of new import regulations and red tape took hold. At the same time farmers and growers across the UK are struggling to get the varieties and quantities of seed they need for commercial food production.

This has been very worrying and underlies the central but currently precarious role seed sovereignty plays in building food sovereignty and food justice in the UK.

As farmers, growers and seed producers who work with and use seed, we saw a need to take action around the availability of organic and open pollinated seed varieties to growers in the UK. In July 2020 we launched the State of Seed Survey. This survey and report was designed to gather the views and experiences of farmers and growers using, involved in or interested in seeds and the impact the pandemic and brexit regulations were having on their access to seed. We used this as a starting point to start to explore developing big picture, ambitious projects to address the challenges to accessing seed that commercial farmers and growers across the UK are increasingly facing today.

As part of this project we launched an International Seed Sovereignty exchange programme with 20 participants from Scotland, Wales, England and Ireland learning from seed companies and projects in Europe and the USA through a series of virtual exchanges and teaching session under the themes (1) Cultivating celebration and culture in our seed and food system (2) Growing seed diversity and food variety (3) Building resilience and adaptability in our seed systems in the face of climate change.

Media and Advocacy



We aim to:

1. Improve the public's understanding of the social, environmental and economic benefits created by agroecological farmers, growers, foresters and land-based workers as well as the challenges they face.
2. Raise the public profile of agroecology and food sovereignty as solutions to social, economic and environmental crisis.
3. Improve our communication channels and increase the reach of our media.

Today on BBC Radio 4 and a range of other podcasts.

Alongside this our own media has continued to grow with increasing followers and more material published. Facebook followers increased by 20% from 10,621 to 12,817, Twitter followers increased 29% from 7,706 to 9,971 and Instagram followers increased by 92% from 9,845 to 19,000. The combined social media reach over the last 6 months has been 625,000 people.

In addition, our newsletter has been going out to a mailing list that now includes 9,248 addresses and our website has been attracting between 6,000 – 9,000 visits per month, with page views of between 13,000 and 27,000 per month. We are now publishing 5-10 blogs per month including the new 'meet our members' series and book reviews, and are sending a similar number of newsletters and updates.

Over the course of the last year our communications capacity has grown from a team of one to three people working on press, campaigns, member and internal communications. This increase has enabled a larger impact and wider reach.

We have had regular coverage of our activities in media including The Guardian, The Independent, The Times, the BBC, Financial Times, Farmers Guardian and Farmers Weekly as well as Farming

We also translated the website to Welsh, updated the campaigns section, and introduced a number of features designed to make online content more accessible to a wider range of people.

Alongside this work we published seven reports covering our response to the national food strategy, the benefits of regional food systems, agroforestry, new entrants start up costs and a vision for positive trade as well as a manifesto for our work in Scotland, and the results of a survey into the nature and needs of new entrants.



We also released a short film of the 'Save our Standards' Halloween pumpkin stunt (see campaigns section) and a 'about us' film and three introductory films on Agroecology, Food Sovereignty and Land Justice which are available to view on our website. We also produced a film covering the LWA's woody branch to be released in late 2021 which develops



photo: Blackbark Films

the identity of the LWA woodland sector, promotes policy positions, lobbies for sustainable forestry and can be used for recruitment. We are also working on films highlighting our food and social justice work, and in support of the future farming resilience work which are all due to be released over winter 2021-22.

In partnership with the Organic Growers Alliance, the Gaia Foundation Seed Sovereignty Programme and the CSA Network we have been running a monthly webinar series throughout

2021. We have had a huge uptake and engagement with the programme, with many of the webinars attracting over 300 ticket bookings, the webinar format has enabled us to host speakers and teachers from the UK and across the world.

The webinar programme focuses on practical teaching and farmer-to-farmer knowledge exchanges from farmers and growers from around the UK. The series is designed to increase knowledge exchange and learning on both the politics and practice of agroecology, seed sovereignty and food sovereignty. We are delighted to be continuing the programme into 2022.

Alongside this we launched a COP26 podcast to bring the voices of our movement to these conversations. This has set the groundwork for an ongoing podcast project that aims to help raise the voices of our membership. This podcast will help facilitate movement building, collaboration and learning within the UK and beyond, linking in with our international solidarity networks and continue to bring the voices of our movement to large-scale events and conferences such as COP26. Building from this we are exploring running a wider ranging podcast series which will be trialled in 2022.



photo: Joya Barrow

Campaigning and Lobbying



We aim to:

1. Increase the numbers of farmers, growers, foresters and land-based workers in the UK.
2. Increase the political and policy level understanding of the issues our members face and the solutions they represent.
3. Improve the sovereignty, resilience and sustainability of our food and land-use systems.
4. Increase peoples' access to local, healthy and affordable food, fuel and fibre.

The start of the year for some of the campaigns team was dominated by the final stages of debate on the Agriculture Bill (England) which was focused by this stage primarily on trade and a campaign to protect UK farmers and consumers through legislation controlling imports produced to lower standards.

To highlight the issue, as the bill returned to the House of Commons from the House of Lords for the final debates we carried out a 'SOS - Save Our Standards' Halloween pumpkin stunt. LWA members carved hundreds of Halloween

pumpkins with candles and laid them out in a SOS call in Parliament Square. Many more members around the country carved pumpkins at home and shared them on social media. The attention-grabbing stunt received wide coverage in agricultural and mainstream media. The following day, the Government announced it would back a compromise amendment to give the 'trade and agriculture commission' a statutory basis.

The Agriculture Act received 'royal assent' on 11th November 2020 and the axis of our focus shifted to the policies that would be enacted to implement the agriculture act itself.

The process of building the case for our amendments, briefing MPs and Lords, working with allies and mobilising the public have all been crucial groundwork for the implementation stage. As a result of our work we have submitted huge amounts of evidence and been quoted in the House of Commons and the House of Lords multiple times. We have built credibility with politicians, effectively introduced new ideas, and shown that the UK public is deeply concerned about farming and food quality.

Moving forward our campaigns team have been working to implement the issues highlighted by the Agriculture Act within specific programmes in England, and working on the framing of policy with the agricultural ministries in Scotland, and Wales. It is clear that the civil service needs skilled support, input and guidance from agroecological producers while they are developing the policy as there is a lack of capacity, experience and information needed to understand many of the issues and potential policy solutions to the obstacles facing our members.

Our aim in this is to provide significant and substantial ongoing policy support to the civil servants and government through the provision of input from farmers and foresters on the ground, additional research, and skilled advice. Within this we are working for policies that can rapidly reduce the negative impacts of today's food systems on emissions and biodiversity whilst creating optimum conditions for the emergence at scale of a regenerative agroecological food system where nature and biodiversity restoration and carbon sequestration and storage are balanced with an economically viable, socially just, accessible, and resilient food system.



photo: Jova Barrow



Our core aims for the new agricultural policies are to support:

- Agroecological management across farms to improve soil health and decrease use of pesticides and other chemicals.
- More and appropriate tree planting, diverse species hedgerows and shrubs integrated into productive farms.
- Increased areas dedicated to productive forest with particular emphasis on agroforestry.
- Enhanced and protected biodiversity, e.g. increased wildlife, plantlife, insect life.
- Increased agro biodiversity including heritage orchards, seeds and native breed livestock compatible with ecological land management
- Greater alignment between subsidy payments and public health goals, especially on fruit and vegetable production.
- Increased public health and holistic wellbeing.
- Increased public access to farms, forests and healthy food especially in peri-urban farms, including active intergenerational learning.
- Increased employment in the land management sector with opportunities for new entrants from diverse backgrounds.
- Localised supply chains to reduce the climate impact of long global supply chains.

In England our advocacy work with Defra is spread across the various 'Future Farming' programmes including the Environmental Land Management Schemes (ELMS), the Small Farm Productivity Scheme, New Entrants Programmes, as well as a Community Resilience Programme, Food Strategy White Paper and Forestry. This entails a huge amount of work including:

- Regular input by all stakeholders to the ELMS Engagement Group meetings and side meetings. There are about 2-6 meetings per week varying from full days to a couple of hours.
- The development of specific standards for horticulture, public engagement, agroforestry, and hedge-laying and heritage (as related to heritage seeds and rare breed livestock).
- Side meetings on diversity and participation of marginalised groups.
- Proposing an agrobiodiversity standard alongside the Rare Breeds Survival Trust, Sustain and the Foundation for Common Land.
- Communicating the results of the Horticulture Test and Trial, "Growing the Goods", which was completed in October 2021.
- Working with Sustain and other organisations on a report to promote an Organic and Pasture for Life payments.
- Organising a special event for the ELMS team on peri-urban farms with grassroots practitioners.

- Participation in “Eligibility Task and Finish” group to determine eligibility criteria for ELMS, where we advocate for below 5 ha land holdings, peri-urban and urban farms to be included.

- Lobbying for a removal of the 5 hectare minimum threshold and other systems to enable small farms to participate in payment schemes.

- Engagement in a special working group for agroforestry.

- Advocacy for climate change mitigation measures to be cross-cutting.

- Findings of the county farm policy working group distributed to civil servants.

- Producing a list of equipment suitable for small farms/horticulture for the productivity scheme submitted to the Productivity grants team.

- National Auditing Office and PDD review of ELMS process.

‘Growing the Goods’ Horticulture ELM scheme Test and Trial. Our ELMS Test and Trial, ‘Growing the Goods’ (GtG) was designed to map, assess and improve the delivery of public goods in the Horticulture Sector. It has drawn together 60 growers of different types

and scales in an exciting and rewarding process of co-design.

GtG has involved developing codes to represent horticultural habitats and management practices, mapping these using a GIS programme (The Land App), comparing different ways of knowledge sharing (expert led and peer-to-peer workshops) and testing ways of making accurate Land Management Plans (LMPs) to show new and on-going public goods actions. It has also been a valuable opportunity to understand the opportunities and constraints for better environmental land management not just for small scale agroecological growers, but also large scale conventional growers of brassicas, apples and glasshouse ornamentals.

The final phase of the trial involved developing and testing payment mechanisms. The main outcome is a catalogue which enables growers to identify which public goods actions to include in their LMP. This combination has had enthusiastic feedback from growers, and we are pleased that Defra have shortlisted the LMP template for inclusion in the Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) pilot.

Despite the refusal from the government to include trade standards in the Agriculture Act we have continued to work on the issue, advocating that trade deals should be based on climate and nature friendly farm outcomes





with red lines on standards relating to food safety, animal welfare, labour rights and environment standards including emissions.

In this area we contributed to debates in the House of Commons and the House of Lords on trade elements in the Agriculture Act and Environment Bill, we gave oral Evidence to the Agriculture Bill committee and the Trade and Agriculture Commission, we made written submissions to the Trade and Agriculture Commission (TAC) and the National Food Strategy outlining our red lines on food and farming standards, we made contributions to the British Future Standards Coalition report and we published commentary on the impact of trade on developing countries with press releases, articles and social media.

The Environment Bill is another policy strand that has been ongoing over the last year. We have not been as active lobbying for amendments to the Environment Bill as we were with the Agriculture Bill. However, there are some amendments related to agriculture and our international solidarity aims that we have supported on agroecology, setting targets for soil health, and due diligence in sourcing forest risk commodities. The amendment on forest risk commodities was a change brought by the government and is included in the text currently under debate and the amendment on targets for soil health has been passed in the Lords and will soon be debated in the House of Commons.

The amendment on agroecology was debated in the Lords but not moved to a vote, nevertheless the process of debating an amendment is an important one and builds political understanding of the issues under discussion, setting the groundwork for future policy or political activity.

The Agriculture Act and Environment Bill debates leveraged political support for agroforestry, a fantastic tool for on-farm climate mitigation and adaptation, yet the concept was not at first included in ELMS policy documents. To kick start a campaign for inclusion we

produced a draft policy for Agroforestry standards which we placed before Defra. This draft bought us time to develop a more refined version collecting feedback from various stakeholder groups such as the Woodland Trust, the Soil Association, Sustain and the LWA forestry sector.

This collaborative effort brought us a policy commitment. However, follow-up is needed on an ongoing basis, as important details can be lost as policy moves through department to department and as staff are changed. This commitment was reiterated in the recently published Net Zero report. We have used the agroforestry materials to produce a briefing for the House of Lords and to give input into an All Party Parliamentary group on the dangers of Carbon Offsetting.

In Wales we continued to engage with the Welsh Government, Senedd Members and others involved in Welsh agricultural policy making, highlighting the value and needs of small scale agroecological farmers. With Senedd (Welsh Parliament) elections in May, we reviewed party policies, set out our own election priorities and created an email campaign helping members write to their local candidates, asking them to support small farms, agroecology, local food systems and sustainable forestry.

We responded to the Welsh Government's third consultation plans for the Sustainable Farming Scheme, set to replace the Basic Payment Scheme. Our response emphasised the need for farms smaller than 5 hectares to be included, and targeted support for horticulture and new entrants. We welcomed proposals to shift from payments based on area of land to payments for environmental benefits; support for short supply chains; increasing woodland cover and streamlining regulations, but emphasised the need for more ambition.

LWA Cymru put together a briefing on the proposed liberalisation of GM crops in England. We encouraged Welsh members to write to their Westminster MPs to explain their concerns as to the likely cross border effects and problems it may cause for agriculture in Wales.

In Scotland our staff team was expanded with the recruitment of a new Policy and Campaigns Coordinator. We convened a Committee of

Members and drafted a manifesto for change, outlining our priorities for policy in Scotland.

Leading on from the manifesto we have hosted farm visits with Members of Scottish Parliament and we strengthened our coalition work within the Scottish Food Coalition and Scottish Environment LINK. In September, our Policy and Campaigns Coordinator gave evidence in the Scottish Parliament and we are currently working on responses to two major consultations on reform of agricultural subsidies and a new local food strategy. Looking ahead, we are excited to grow our Scotland team and we are involved in funding bids to extend some of our outward facing work and communications on agroecology, including peer-to-peer learning groups.

The horticulture campaign has operated in a more low key way this year, due to the demands of the "Growing the Goods" Test and Trial, but advocacy via the Fruit and Vegetable Alliance (FVA) and the Edible Horticulture Round Table has continued. Rebecca Laughton leads the Environment and Net Zero working group of the FVA, which has involved lobbying Defra for a more generous payment rate for horticulture in the Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) Standards proposals and looking into how to address the issue of plastics waste (from packaging to plastic mulch and polytunnel covers) in the horticulture sector.

On research and development (R&D) innovation funding, we are seeking to leverage government funding for a farmer-led programme to reduce climate emissions and build nature protection into farming.

An emerging focus for our R&D priorities is reducing the use of soya and palm oil, which have a significant deforestation impact, in animal feeds. We are developing a funding bid to UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) to research how to safely feed food waste to pigs and are seeking funding for a wider campaign on the animal feed issue.

We also submitted input into the controversial report "How Technology Can Accelerate a Transition to Agroecology", urging the authors to consider the social implications of new technologies to develop a framework for evaluating whether an innovation is useful or detrimental to a fairer, sustainable food system.

Alongside this we have been a part of setting up The Agroecology Research Collaboration



photo: Joya Barrow

(ARC) which is a new movement-led initiative, funded by Farming the Future, and co-developed by the Landworkers' Alliance, the Community Supported Agriculture Network, the Ecological Land Cooperative, the Organic Growers Alliance and the Pasture Fed Livestock Association. ARC is a collective endeavour to support and inform an increasing research interest led by, centring on and meeting the needs of agroecological farmers, growers, foresters and other land-based workers. Since the project began in January 2021, those establishing ARC have been working hard to:

- Develop a network of researchers, organisations and institutions interested in supporting our work. In October we held an in-person event with 20 researchers from various academic institutions, and other food and farming organisations, to explore how to develop research collaborations. We now have over 250 people, a mix of agroecological practitioners and researchers, signed up to our mailing list to follow the progress of ARC and to get involved with research.
- Coordinate the development and delivery of research projects.
- Build a database of 'research priorities' based on the needs of ARC member organisations and the practitioners they represent. This can be viewed on the LWA website under the Agroecology Research Collaboration project page.





photo: Joya Barrow



photo: Joya Barrow



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- Facilitate research students to undertake placements with ARC member organisations to support our work.

Our new entrant support has mainly focused on building relationships with agricultural ministries in Wales and Scotland, participating in Defra's co-design process for the new entrant support scheme and supporting member and non-member new entrants.

We have been heavily involved in the co-design process for the New Entrant Support Scheme (England). Alongside the Ecological Land Cooperative, OrganicLea and the Real Farming Trust as well as our FarmStart Network, we have raised the voices of agroecological new entrants in the scheme's design and have advocated for a framework of incubator farms and stand alone grants and loans to help overcome the issues of access to land, training, markets and affordable finance. Through this we are also aiming to ensure the scheme recognises and helps facilitate a much needed shift towards more diversity in both farming enterprises and the next generation of our farming communities.

A trial of the scheme is set to be finalised and rolled out in 2022. Further research has been carried out to better understand agroecology as a pipeline for new entrants into farming across the UK and to help advocate for further support across Wales and Scotland.

Alongside this we are working on movement centred approaches to overcoming obstacles facing new entrants including programmes supporting access to land, training, and affordable finance.

We also launched a campaign and media work to highlight the risk that the delinked payments promised to retiring farmers in England do not translate to tangible support for new entrants.

A further key policy area for us is work to support the expansion and proliferation of direct sales and local and regional supply chains. Here we are working for a future where resilient sustainable food production and financially equitable supply chains become the norm, generating good quality jobs, healthy, financially sustained communities and other social goods.

In this area our horticulture campaign coordinator Rebecca Laughton was on the advisory panel of the National Food Strategy (NFS) which was a



focus of work in England. The LWA actively contributed to the policy recommendations emerging from the report through the production of the Vocal for Local document submitted to the National Food Strategy alongside our response to the final report.

While falling short of our hopes in some aspects, the final report represents a number of small victories for our movement, including a recognition of the benefits of 'land-sharing' agroecological management and how such initiatives have been starved of research funding; boosting locally led initiatives to improve diet and health with a 'challenge fund', and calling for minimum standards for trade.

We are now working with other NGOs to ensure that the best recommendations make it into the NFS White Paper while showcasing the ways in which peri-urban and broader agroecological farming can contribute to addressing the health and skills challenges identified in the NFS. Together with Growing Communities and Organiclea, we hosted 9 Defra delegates from the Food Strategy White Paper, Access to Food and Future Farming teams on a peri-urban study tour, to illustrate the multiple benefits such farms can bring.

Throughout our campaigning and lobbying work we aim to build a stronger movement by nurturing relationships and engaging in collaborative activities, promoting greater understanding and forging alliances through strategic outreach with a broad spectrum of farmers and their organisations as well as environmental organisations and those working on food and farming issues. Whilst we do not expect to agree on all the issues they represent, it is important to build common action where possible, and to explain the reasons behind different positions where they exist. Through this approach we can leverage a greater impact.

We participated in the Farmers against Neonicotinoids campaign advocating for action to improve sugar beet industry practice to prevent emergency authorisations for the use of neonicotinoids and supported the submissions to the government made by the Pesticide Collaboration.

Alongside this we advocated for Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as an alternative to pesticides including advice and financial incentives to decrease the use of pesticides and contributed to the POSTbrief on Pesticides & Health.

Climate justice and COP26 were significant elements of our campaigning and advocacy work this year. We will be playing a significant role in Glasgow as part of the COP26 meetings, both within the conference and within the civil society spaces.

As the national member of La Via Campesina (LVC) in the UK we have worked to build and support the LVC delegation in Glasgow logistically and politically. This has involved working with LVCs climate justice collective to build political positions, working with the European Coordination of La Via Campesina (ECVC) on analysis and positions for EU carbon farming policies and supporting producers organisations in the Global South to sign up for COP26 farmers' constituency and to attend the meetings. Our campaigns coordinator Jyoti Fernandes was appointed to address the conference on behalf of the farmers constituency in the opening ceremony.

In Civil Society organising we have participated on the coordinating group of COP26 Coalition,



photo: Joya Barrow

working with organisations across the UK to forefront climate justice at COP and supporting the development of demands and positions. We helped support the development of the Peoples' Summit programme and have held several events in the run up, including supporting indigenous facilitation, ensuring translation is available for international speakers, and organising podcasts and webinars with farmers and landworkers unions involved in LVC. Alongside this we will be coordinating a Farmers, Foresters and Landworkers bloc at the



photo: Joya Barrow

march with a number of creative visual props and activities planned.

We have also gained new accreditation for LWA to be part of UN official negotiations at COP and begun work with formal constituency groups in these negotiations.

In related international solidarity work we participated in the round table organised by the UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) to develop a new funding programme for indigenous people supporting their efforts to protect nature and helping assert their rights to land and their territories to protect biodiversity. This fund to support

indigenous peoples will be launched at COP26 during the Leaders Summit.

Based on work with allies in the indigenous movement we have been working with Lord Goldsmith and advocating a clause in the Environment Bill on due diligence to stop deforestation in the supply chain of UK products. This is likely to be adopted, but stands in need of improvements. After it is passed, we will need to work with farmers and feed companies to ensure implementation.

We carried out an assessment of FCDO to determine the portion of development funds dedicated to agroecological solutions which we will publish in the coming months. We also submitted funding applications to the FCDO Green Climate Fund with the objective of supporting agroecology schools, trade in Brazil Nuts with the Kayapo Indigenous people and agroecology networks in East Africa. The funding applications were unsuccessful.

Nevertheless we continued development of a UK supply chain for Brazilnuts from the Kayapo to start our solidarity trade arm of the LWA online shop.

Alongside this we helped organise the 'Peoples' Food Summit' held to highlight the corporate capture of the UN Food systems summit which has been discredited by the international food sovereignty movement. A key objective of this was to catalyse the engagement of UK based NGOs and civil society groups in international food systems advocacy.

Campaigner and Coordinating Group member Dee Woods also took on the role of the 'West Europe Focal Point' of the Civil Society and Indigenous People's Mechanism for relations with the UN Committee of World Food Security. In this capacity she engaged in the Women's and Gender Equality Working Group contributing to the negotiations on the Voluntary Guidelines For Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment.

In this past year LWA took a deeper commitment to racial justice work after the Black Lives Matter protests around the world. The member led BPOC working group was initiated by Coordinating Group member and Food Justice coordinator Dee Woods alongside a working group coordinator to increase the membership of the group and facilitate some of its work.

In the area of Food Justice Policy we undertook a variety of tasks working on public policies to build social equity in the food system. These included participating with roles on the London Food Board and the Fringe Farming Working party in London; responding to government consultation on food supply during the Covid-19 pandemic and giving evidence to the select committee on the National Food Strategy.

A core part of the strategy going forward is to build momentum behind right to food legislation in the UK, and to work to achieve a recognition and use of this essential framework in the upcoming White Paper on food policy. To further this we have worked with the Right to Food Campaign led by the MP for West Derby and Liverpool, bringing in a small farmers and food justice perspective.

Alongside this we are participating in both local and global right to food, climate, food and land justice, food sovereignty campaigning and movement building through networking, webinars, interviews, podcasts and events with farmers groups, campaigners and activists in the UK and internationally. This work has also attracted a lot of media attention which we have engaged with to further the public understanding of the right to food issues and their relationship to agroecological farming and local food systems.

In the “Activation of Land Justice” project, LWA has partnered with organisations representing young people and people of colour (BPOC) to build our agroecology, food, climate and racial justice movement. This includes working with FLAME, a youth movement working for food and climate justice, and Land in Our Name (LION), a grassroots, black-led collective that organises around environmental and land justice issues.

The project aims to break down the barriers to food, farming and forestry work for under-represented groups by providing skills, support and networking opportunities. We also work to ensure the voices of young people and BPOC are

front and centre to the conversation on how we get land and food justice in our country. Events, such as the Land Skills Fair, which this year brought together a diverse mix of hundreds of people from different places, experiences and backgrounds, provide an essential place to share skills, get to know one another and build our movement.

As well as the national work, the project is doing some focused work in Gloucestershire where we are working to connect people who work in food, farming, forestry and youth to build a more inclusive and effective movement across the county. This includes providing opportunities for different people to meet up and skill share, looking at how access to land could be improved, and working to make sure that all voices are heard to shape a just future for food and farming across Gloucestershire.





Once again we look back on the year and are humbled by the skill, vision and commitment of our membership, encouraged by the growing social movement behind agroecology and food sovereignty, and committed to the pathways we all must follow in the coming years if we are to hold on to our hopes for a regenerative and equitable future.

The activities and achievements of the LWA are the result of the skills, passion and commitment of many hundreds of people and wouldn't be possible without them.

We thank all our members for their incredible work this year.

We thank the increasing numbers of supporters and donors who contribute time and money to our vision.

And we thank the foundations, charitable trusts and grant making organisations that have funded our work this year.



To join as a member or supporter and get in touch:

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