

# SCALING UP AGROECOLOGY THROUGH PEASANT SCHOOLS AROUND THE WORLD



Scientific studies and practical experiences around the world have shown peasant and family farm agroecology to be superior to industrial agriculture in terms of:

- rural livelihoods and cultures
- healthy food for local and national markets (food sovereignty)
- resilience to climate change and other shocks
- greenhouse gas emissions
- production costs
- living in harmony with Mother Earth

Yet the challenge remains of how to bring agroecology to scale. That means it should be practiced by ever more families, over ever larger territories.



INDONESIA

CUBA

The experiences of peasant and family farm organizations and rural social movements indicate that peasant and farmer protagonism are key to "massifying" agroecology. Organizations and movements use horizontal social methodologies to collectively construct social processes. These mobilize peasant leadership to motivate and support peasant and farmer families as they transform their production systems and local realities.

Agroecology schools run by peasant organizations themselves are among the most useful tools in building these processes. La Vía Campesina, as the world's largest social movement, made up of some 200,000 million farm families in nearly 80 countries, now has more than 40 such schools in the Americas, Africa, Asia and Europe. More schools are being planned all the time. These schools train peasants as facilitators, promoters and coordinators of territorial-scale agroecology processes.



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La Vía Campesina  
[www.viacampesina.org](http://www.viacampesina.org)