

We hope you find this section on Frequently Asked Questions helpful. If you have questions that have not been covered here, please email: info@consumergrassroots.org

1. What is agroecology?

Agroecology is an integrated approach that simultaneously applies ecological and social concepts and principles to the design and management of sustainable agriculture and food systems. It seeks to optimize the interactions between plants, animals, humans, and the environment while addressing the need for socially equitable food systems within which people can exercise choice over what they eat and how and where it is produced.

2. Why Agroecology in this era?

Over time with the practice of conventional agriculture, most Sub-Saharan countries have not been able to achieve the key role of food insecurity. Additionally, with the challenges that comes with the conventional system, there is a need to identify a more sustainable farming system in order to improve the food systems. As a holistic agricultural farming method agroecology plays a major role in addressing such challenges.

3. What is the new gap that Consumer Grassroots Association brings to the existing literature on agroecology?

Various research has been done to explore different aspects of agroecology. The research that has been done was to counter other research arguments of donors such as the World Bank and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, who advocate for a new Green Revolution to increase yields and feed a growing population. Their approach promotes the heavy use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and hybrid or genetically engineered seeds, which in one way or the other hence threatening biodiversity and environment, farmers' livelihoods, and human and animal health. Consumer Grassroots Association CGA is committed to grassroots consumer protection through education, research and evidence based advocacy. CGA works towards a fair, just, and safe marketplace for all consumers in all sectors of the economy. CGA's consumer guide will help in creating consumer awareness of agroecology, and is a must-read not only for consumers but also for decision-makers and producers who play a critical role in ensuring consumer rights in the food and agriculture sector are respected.

4. Can agroecology help combat climate change?

Yes. Since agroecology reduces the use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides it in the end reduces the emission of Green House Gases (GHG) hence reducing the pollution of water sources, soil, and the environment. Agroecology also plays a key role in combating climate change by enhancing biodiversity and improving soil fertility for instance with changes in weather patterns e.g. intense rains or prolonged droughts. Farmers who practice agroecology are likely to adapt better to diversified crops while those practicing conventional farming may be more vulnerable to the changes.

5. Is agroecology suitable for all environments?

Yes. Agroecology is not one-specific environment practice. Agroecology practice involves having techniques that can adapt and thrive in a certain environment. The practice will depend on farmers' locally available materials, cultures, and dietary patterns.

6. Why is this approach relevant to food security?

The world's population continues to increase with a projection of about 10 billion people by 2050. The projected population growth will however come with increased demand for food. Therefore, it is important that we transform our agricultural and food system, in a way that is more sustainable. For this reason, promoting agroecology that is environmentally / Ecosystem friendly can help reduce the effects of climate change, improve human well-being, and protect our planet.

7. How can you learn more about agroecology?

You can learn more about agroecology through our consumer guide in the link provided here, [link](#)