

The Regenerative Agriculture Revolution



Co-funded by the
European Union

February 2023

Context

- Reports from leading organisations, such as FAO, IPCC, and EAT Forum, state the fundamental importance of transitioning to more regenerative agriculture methods if Europe is to meet its climate change targets, food security needs, protect our farmland and build a healthier food system.
- According to Maria-Helena Semedo of the FAO, the world could run out of topsoil in about 60 years if we continue at current rates of soil destruction. This affects the earth's ability of food production, water filtering and carbon absorption.
- In fact, our present agricultural system is a major contributor to the emissions of greenhouse gases. The IPCC states in its latest report on climate change that 24% of the total global GHG emissions are directly related to agricultural production
- Without protecting and regenerating the soil on our 4 billion acres of cultivated farmland, 8 billion acres of pastureland, and 10 billion acres of forest land, it will be impossible to keep global warming below 2 degrees Celsius or halt the loss of biodiversity

Solution

- But there is a solution and it lays right beneath our feet. Regenerative Agriculture restores the natural rhythm of our ecosystems, reviving landscapes for generations to come. The secret lies in the soil.
- The course: **“The Regenerative Agriculture”** it is composed of 6 hours of learning broken down in 2 modules.
- On this course, learners will look at:
 - Explain the concepts of regenerative agriculture and sustainable intensification and the impact these can have on farming systems
 - Explore how regenerative agriculture can help reducing environmental impacts of farm practices
 - Identify which skills are necessary to implement new data-driven regenerative farming techniques
 - Reflect on the challenges faced by farmers and how regenerative agriculture can help them to provide a secure and sustainable food supply for a growing population
 - Assess soil health
 - Develop a regenerative action plan for your farm (or a hypothetical farm)



Ambition

- Enable anyone to discover the inspiring future of sustainable farming
- Allow consumers to learn the fundamentals and benefits of regenerative agriculture, and to explore the policies and designs needed to transition supply chains.



High level contributors

- This course has been designed for anyone committed to improving our agricultural system, especially stakeholders working in the agricultural industry, who are concerned about climate change and looking for solutions to the loss of soil fertility and biodiversity. The content was produced by EIT Food experts.



Melissa Comellas

Agricultural Project Manager at EIT Food. Helping farmers make an alternative choice for them and the generations to come. I'm also a vine-grower in the Douro valley.



Monika Linkowska

Project Manager at EIT Food, in charge of Regenerative Agriculture Programme in CEE region. Helping farmers make an alternative choice for them and the generations to come. I co-run a family farm.



Philip Fernandez

Activity Leader of the Regenerative Agriculture Revolution at EIT Food. We help farmers to improve soil health to produce food that is better for the environment, their businesses and people's health.



A modern approach to learning

- Available for free for 2 weeks from the date of enrolment
- Course available 24/7 to fit with busy lifestyle
- Content accessible on any connected device
- Short lesson in a variety of formats: video, text, quizzes, etc.
- Conversational learning: Learners are encouraged to reflect and join discussions
- Additional content added to each steps to further explore the topic



Course Syllabus

Week 1: Uncover the story of regenerative agriculture

Welcome

Farming better

Soil, climate and plant as a set

Review & reflect

Week 2: Farming for the future

Animals as key-player in the agroecosystem

Holistic management

Transitioning supply chains

Course summary

Week 1: Uncover the story of regenerative agriculture

Welcome to the course

This first activity introduces the course topic and the educators.

- 1.1** Why this course ARTICLE
 - 1.2 Meet the Educators ARTICLE
 - 1.3 Your definition DISCUSSION
 - 1.4 What is regenerative agriculture? VIDEO (03:30)
 - 1.5 Glossary ARTICLE
-

Farming better

This activity explores the need for a shift from traditional to regenerative agriculture.

- 1.6 Moving away from conventional farming ARTICLE
- 1.7 The need for change VIDEO (04:03)



Moving away from conventional farming

0 comments

As our conventional agrisystem has grown, its focus has been on finding cheaper ways to produce more food to feed our growing population. As a result, farmers in Europe often receive prices for their products that don't even cover the costs of production, forcing them to rely on subsidies just to stay afloat.

Additionally, many farmers are seeing tangible changes to their farm. Production is declining; there are more pests and diseases; more fluctuating and extreme temperatures, heavy rain events and winds.

Uncovered soil combined with occasional heavy rains are causing extreme erosion and loss of fertile soils. Further exacerbating the issue is deforestation, and the grazing and burning of land that has expanded deserts in the region. Water scarcity has been temporarily held at bay



[View transcript](#)

Download video: [standard](#) or [HD](#)

What is regenerative agriculture?

[0 comments](#)



Co-funded by the
European Union



The Regenerative Agriculture Revolution



Starts 7th November

- Course available all-year round
- [Link: https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/the-regenerative-agriculture-revolution](https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/the-regenerative-agriculture-revolution)





Thank you!



Co-funded by the
European Union

Follow us on:

