



Bringing Organisations & Network Development
to higher levels in the Farming sector in Europe

BOND NEWSLETTER December 2019

Our BOND newsletters are an easy way to keep up-to-date with new developments at our project. From successful finished deliverables to upcoming activities, our newsletter informs you on how we are reaching the aim of this project - to reach higher levels of organisation and networking, and develop a healthier, and more productive and harmonious farming sector in Europe for the long term.

For up to date information, please also visit our

[BOND Webpage](#)

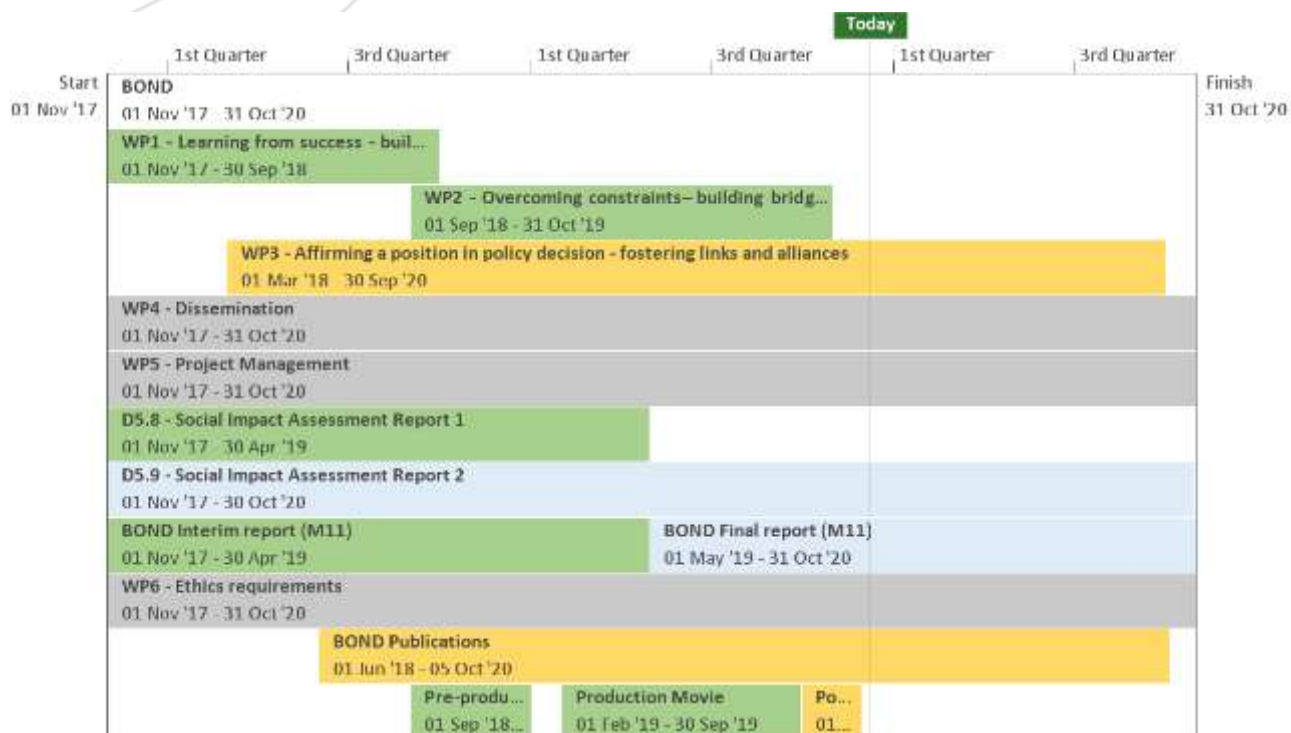
[BOND Facebook page](#) & [Facebook Group](#) & [BOND Twitter](#)

Contents

Overall Project Status	2
Project Highlights of the last months	3
National thematic workshops	3
Regional policy roundtables.....	5
BOND project website – New useful resources	7
Recommendations from the BOND National Workshop in Portugal brought to Portuguese Members of the European Parliament.....	8
Project ongoing and upcoming activities of the next months	9
Regional policy roundtables.....	9
BOND – Forum Young Farmers for the Future!	9
Other Interesting Topics and Events	11
BOND Project presentation within the Mid Term Conference – Cluster support for digital transformation in Agro	11
Second Agroecology Europe Forum 2019 26-28th September, 2019, Heraklion, Crete, Greece	12

Overall Project Status

The BOND project successfully **started the last year** at the beginning of **November 2019**:



The BOND project has accomplished at the **end of November 2019** the **23 deliverables** and **8 milestones** and **14** of the **deliverables** are already **approved**.

The next deliverables and milestones to be submitted at the end of February 2020 are the following:

No	Title	Lead	Due Date
D3.3	Four interactive regional policy roundtables on social capital and alliances	VDG	FEB-20
D4.4	8 Memoranda of Understanding on specific joint initiatives	KLT	FEB-20

Project Highlights of the last months

National thematic workshops

UK

Landworkers Alliance was pleased to host an event with the All Party Parliamentary Group on Agroecology, Sustain, CPRE, Soil Association and Organic Farmers and Growers and the Gaia Foundation in parliament this week showcasing some fantastic farmers and growers using agro-ecological and organic systems across their whole farm.

The room was packed with people, including about 40 MP's and decision makers- Lords, Ladies, Defra civil servants and organisations like Natural England. All seemed enthusiastic, showing a strong interest in helping farming protect people and planet. Presentations and policy recommendations were made by farmers across the UK who are using agroecological practices to create a food system that restores and builds nature whilst producing healthy affordable food. There was a display of photographs of agro-ecological farming and an amazing UK grown feast provided by UK farmers.

A new resource from the Landworkers Alliance - Agroecology in Action - describes the work of 27 farmers, growers and communities putting agroecological principles into action and making it work economically, socially, and environmentally.

We are seeking support for Agroecology in the 'new' Agriculture Bill - to be tabled in the next parliamentary session, after Brexit or General Election - to support such farmers and approaches. This may be through financial grants and capital support as well as training, advice and facilitation for all farmers to adopt these systems.



<https://www.bondproject.eu/news-on-the-two-days-national-workshop-in-london-10th-september-agroecology-in-action-parliamentary-meeting-on-agroecology-and-a-stakeholder-consultation-on-the-environmental-land-management-sche/>

Croatia

National workshop at the Technological Pole and the Mariapolis Faro center, Zagreb, Croatia 25-27 September organized by Legacoop.

Legacoop Agroalimentare from 25th to 27th September, organizes, in collaboration with the Croatian agricultural cooperatives and associations, the National Workshop at the Technological Pole and the Mariapolis Faro center in Krizevci (Zagreb, Croatia).

During the workshop will be introduced different farms from small-scale biodynamic farm to a more complex structure such as a cooperative producing cereals and beef with export-import relations with the European Union and also other countries of the world. In particular, during the event, will be discussed on regenerative agriculture, as a method to restructure the soil and improve its production capacity which, otherwise, in the current consumption rates will be exhausted over the next 60 years.

The Italian experience of the community cooperative Torri Superiore in Liguria and the Norwegian advanced cooperation in the collection of milk, meat, and cereals will be shown among the models disclosed.

During the three days, the participants will have the opportunity to exchange ideas, to debate, to build a common vision and to compare their experiences.

The workshop will close on the third day with a practical case, in which an attempt will be made to use an action plan for the revitalization of a rural village.



<https://www.bondproject.eu/national-workshop-at-the-technological-pole-and-the-mariapolis-faro-center-zagreb-croatia-25-27-september-organized-by-legacoop/>

Regional policy roundtables

Romania

“Let the BONDing continue!” ToT at the policy roundtable, Cluj Napoca Romania

Between the 28th and 30th of November, 2019, BOND project partner Eco Ruralis is organizing a series of events in Cluj, Napoca, Transilvania, Romania. It all begins with a training of 16 young peasant farmers, agroecological food producers, and food and civil activists from Romania and the Republic of Moldova. The objective of the training is to upscale their skills on leadership, communication, and political self-representation as well as debating on how to increase collective action and collaborative farming practices through developing larger social networks of farmers both on a regional and national level.

The series of events continues with an international policy roundtable having participants from both Eastern and Western European countries. Participants will debate under the overarching theme of “Collective action for access to farmland”. The event will look at the opportunities brought by the EU Common Agricultural Policy and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants bring for farmers and land managers in Eastern Europe.

Both events propose to tailor out action plans for the future, common activities that participants will engage in but also policy proposals that should come in the support of their practical and political actions.”



<https://www.bondproject.eu/let-the-bonding-continue-tot-policy-roundtable-cluj-napova-romania/>

<https://www.bondproject.eu/more-info-on-the-second-day-tot-policy-roundtable-cluj-napoca/>

<https://www.bondproject.eu/20800/>

Poland

BOND Training of Trainers in Jaworowy Dwór Trębki Nowe 100A, Poland took place 2-3rd December 2019 with participants from Greece, Serbia, Macedonia, Albania, Bulgaria, Kosovo and Poland.

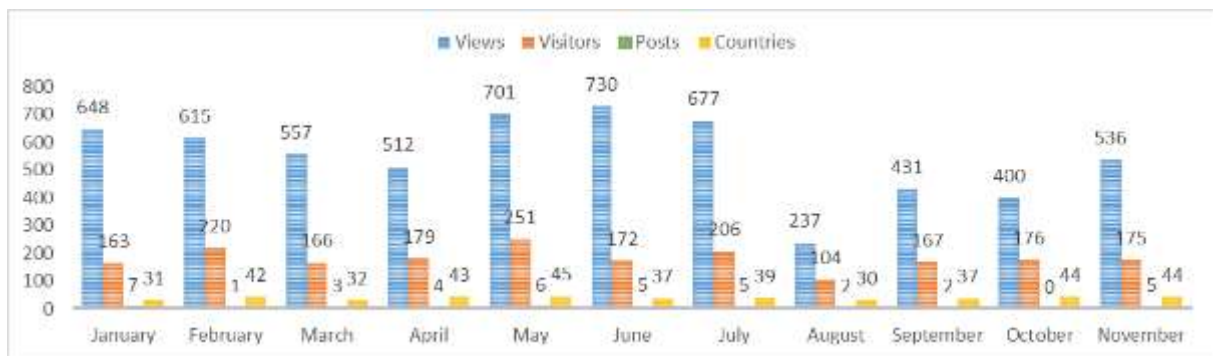


BOND project website – New useful resources

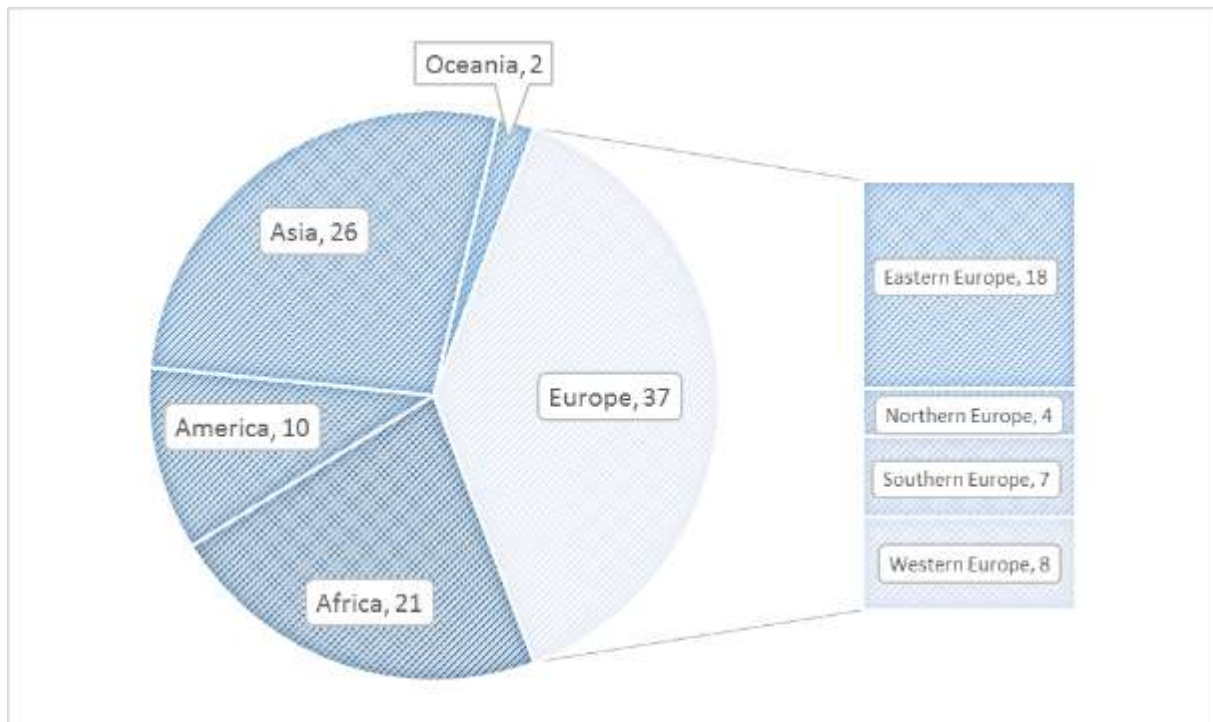
The BOND project is updating and extending their website within the upcoming weeks to make them more useful and extending the content. There will be a new part “Repository of Stories” where the interviews done by our Senior Media & Communications Officer Lindy with you and other contributors will be uploaded.

Please check them out: <https://www.bondproject.eu/repository/>

We also would like to share with you some statistics that shows how the BOND project website reaches out in the world



Overall development of the BOND website in 2019



Number of countries per region which visited the BOND website worldwide

Recommendations from the BOND National Workshop in Portugal brought to Portuguese Members of the European Parliament

A delegation of CNA leaders was in Brussels this week (18th to 21st November) where they met with Portuguese Members of the European Parliament and with the Permanent Representation of Portugal to the European Union (REPER).

At these meetings, CNA addressed the concerns and perspectives of Family Farming for the CAP – Common Agricultural Policy, including the recommendations from the national workshop promoted under the BOND project on 30 March in Fundão (Portugal).

This workshop, which had 118 participants, discussed the main themes of Family Farming under the CAP reform and other related policies, such as Trade and Food, which have an impact on everyday life of farmers and in the rural world.

From the discussion came a list of questions and recommendations that CNA has now brought to Brussels to give voice to Portuguese family farmers.

In addition to the CAP Reform, CNA representatives also addressed at these meetings the envisaged transitional regulations and the Multiannual Financial Framework.



Project ongoing and upcoming activities of the next months

Regional policy roundtables

Following the national workshops **4 regional policy roundtables** in the selected regions in Europe (South, Centre, East and North), in **Portugal, Hungary, Romania and Poland** respectively will be organised between **October 2019 and February 2020**. In each regional policy roundtable, 20 participants will be invited, representative of the farmer/land manager and policy making constituencies as well as other key stakeholders as deemed relevant. The meetings will be interactive and use the tools and methods developed, for creating links at different levels, and developing alliances and a better understanding of the realities of the farming and land manager constituencies. Drawing from all the previous WPs, a list of recommendations to policy-makers will be developed and made available widely in the selected countries and for EU policy-makers in general.

Please find below the provisionally dates.

Country	Planned dates
Romania	27-28 th November 2019 ToT 29-30 th November 2019 roundtable
Poland	2-3 rd December 2019 ToT 4 th -5 th December 2019 roundtable
Hungary	January 2020
Portugal	End January 2020

If **YOU** are interested in **participating or supporting of a roundtable** please let us know. You can also follow up on the events on the BOND website News section and on Facebook.

BOND – Forum Young Farmers for the Future!

Among the activities organized under the project BOND, an international meeting of young European farmers will take place in Spring 2020! The European and pan-European Forum Young Farmers for the Future! will gather together 34 young farmers and land managers (half female and half male) from 34 European countries in Hosman village, Romania between the 16th and the 17th of April 2020.

Are you a farmer or land administrator under the age of 34 years old? Do you come from one of the 34 countries involved (EU28, Albania, Bosnia, and Herzegovina, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, and Serbia)? **Do you want to take part in the Youth Forum on the future of European and pan-European farming?**

Send to ecoruralis@gmail.com a motivation letter (max 500 words) or a video (max 3 minutes) before the 15th of January 2020. Be creative! Journey, food, accommodation, and local expenses are covered.



The event is organized by Eco Ruralis, a Romanian partner of the project, which together with other partner members will select the candidates and plan the activities. A list of 34 selected representatives will be delivered on the 6th of February 2020.

Further info is available a:

<https://www.bondproject.eu/project-activities/youth-forum-for-the-future/>

<https://www.bondproject.eu/bond-forum-young-farmers-for-the-future/>

Other Interesting Topics and Events

BOND Project presentation within the Mid Term Conference – Cluster support for digital transformation in Agro

1st October 2019 the Mid – Term Conference – Cluster support for digital transformation in Agro Food Sector took place in the Academy of Sciences Moldovan.

The purpose of the mid-term conference was to ensure the visibility of the project activities and to facilitate the cooperation with the relevant stakeholders. The participants within the event were: PPs, SMEs from agricultural sector, Business Support Organizations, Agro Food Clusters and, associations and cooperatives, NGOs, Higher Education and Research Entities, Regional and National Authorities, Civil society and General public.

The main objective of this meeting was to bring together government officials, business support organizations, research institutions, civil society representatives, agricultural SMEs and agro food cluster leaders to inform and disseminate the project activities to facilitate the cooperation with the relevant stakeholders for enhancing innovation management knowledge and skills and foster transnational cluster cooperation in Agro-Food sector.

At the event participated and Mr. Andrei ZBANCA, one of the BOND Project representatives.

<http://proentrance.md/bond-project-presentation-within-the-mid-term-conference-cluster-support-for-digital-transformation-in-agro-food-sector/>



Second Agroecology Europe Forum 2019 26-28th September, 2019, Heraklion, Crete, Greece

Agroecology Europe (AEEU) is an association of members that want to exchange knowledge and experiences on agroecology and to support the transition toward agroecological practices and policies. Together with local farmers, universities, social movement organisations and non-governmental organisations, the second Agroecology Europe Forum was organised to support exchange, reflection and bottom-up contributions. It took place on 26-28 September 2019, on the island of Crete, Greece, on the premises of the Technological Educational Institute (TEI) of Crete in Heraklion, which co-organised the event.

The Forum provided a wide range of examples towards achieving agroecological transitions in farms, universities and research institutes, via social movements and cooperatives, through establishing bio-districts through agroecological local policies, by achieving agroecological labels and by empowering youth, women and farmers.

The event aimed to create an inclusive European community of professionals, practitioners and citizens engaged in Agroecology and fostering interactions between actors in science, practice and social movements.

Two of the BOND Project partners, the University of Córdoba and Védegylet Association were invited as guest speakers for different sessions; and in the name of collective action they held together a workshop on Scaling Out Agroecology, based on the findings from the BOND Project.

<http://www.agroecologyeuropeforum.eu/forum-proceedings>

<https://www.bondproject.eu/agroecology-europe-forum-2019-26-28th-september-2019-heraklion-crete-greece/>





As the holiday season is upon us, we find ourselves reflecting on the past year and those who have helped to shape the BOND project. It's been quite a year for us all, with a lot of activities, learnings, challenges and joy! We hope that 2019 has been just as memorable for you, your colleagues and your loved ones.

It is in this spirit that we say thank you for your engagement and support. We appreciate working with you and hope that the holidays and the coming year will bring you happiness and success.

We wish you a very Happy Holiday season and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.
The BOND project team

