



Soil Sisters Zine

Stories, poems, images and ideas for feminist agroecological partnerships

Call for contributions

We want to hear your SWIFT stories!

The SWIFT project has brought together farmers, researchers, civil society and social movements across Europe and beyond to do feminist participatory action research on agroecology. That experiment has been messy, surprising, generative, and sometimes difficult. It has produced knowledge as well as friendships, disagreements, podcasts, photographs, field work, videos, policy dialogues, indicators, dissertations, and late-night conversations in languages we don't all share.

As the project enters its final phase, we want to collate those experiences into a collaborative, creative Zine that reflects what SWIFT has been and what it has made possible. And we're inviting not just consortium members, but friends, allies, and everyone whose work or life has touched this project, to contribute.



SWIFT

Supporting Women-led
Innovations in Farming
and rural Territories

What has SWIFT meant to you as a feminist participatory action research project?

How do you envision feminist and agroecological futures?

These are the only questions we're asking. You don't need to answer both. You don't need to answer either directly. Let them guide you and then take your contribution wherever it wants to go.

Prompts to get you started...

- What does feminist participatory action-research look like from the inside?
- A moment in the project that changed how you think about something.
- Whose knowledge counts in agri-food systems? Whose doesn't?
- What grows in the space between academia and activism?
- Something that surprised you. Something that frustrated you. Something that gave you hope.
- What would you plant in the ruins of industrial agriculture?
- Who are your soil sisters? How do you care for one another?
- A landscape, a season, a tool, a seed, a meal - and what it holds.

Possible contribution formats

01- Short Stories (approx. 500 words)

Personal reflections, field notes, fictional vignettes, memory fragments, or accounts of moments that mattered. Write from experience - your own or a character's. Write about the project, the field, the meeting room, the cooperative, the field trip, the disagreement, the meal.

02 - Poems (any length)

Fragments. Root systems. Harvest songs. Elegies for what industrial farming has destroyed. Odes to the women who keep it going anyway. Write in any language - or more than one. No form requirements. If it feels like a poem to you, it is one.

03 - Visual Art (High-resolution image file + optional caption)

Photographs, photovoice images, drawings, collages, graphics, maps, diagrams, illustrations, word clouds. The image can stand alone or come with a short caption/description or reflection. It doesn't need to be professional - honest and specific matters more than polished and pretty.

04 - Micro-Essay (approx. 400 words)

A short argument, provocation, or reflection on feminist agroecology, participatory action research or the intersections between them. Feel free to cite ideas/authors who have inspired you but there is no obligation to do so. Whatever helps you to express yourself most clearly. Write for a reader who isn't in your field. Tell us what you really think. (approx. 400 words)

Who can contribute?

The zine is open to everyone in and around SWIFT

SWIFT partners

All consortium members and associated partners past and present.

Friends & allies

Collaborators, interviewees, event participants, and anyone whose work or life has come into contact with the project.

Collective pieces

Co-author with colleagues, co-researchers, or farmer partners. We especially welcome contributions that cross roles and institutions.

Multiple submissions

You're welcome to submit more than one piece - in the same format or different ones. We aim to include as many perspectives and different media as possible.

How to submit

Languages

Submit in any language. For contributions not in English please include a short English summary so we can make decisions about where it fits into the narrative. Your piece will be published in the original language.

File formats

Written pieces: plain text or .docx. Visual contributions: high-resolution image files (jpg, png, or pdf). Please include original captions and credits with your image.

Permissions

By submitting, you confirm that you own the rights to the work and that any other people who contributed to your submission have given consent for publication. The zine will be published under a Creative Commons licence.



SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

15 October 2026

(easy to remember, it's the International Day of Rural Women!)

Send contributions to:

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Questions? Write to the same address.

Editorial disclaimer

We may lightly edit written pieces for length or clarity, and will always check with you before making any changes.