

# THE RURAL RESILIENCE GATHERING 2025

THE RURAL CARAVAN RETURNS TO PLESSÉ, FRANCE

27-30  
NOV



*As the EU hollows out rural policy, how can a Université Paysanne build the political and practical infrastructure for agroecology from the ground?*

*This gathering is a space to confront disinvestment from above and build resilience, knowledge, and alliances from the ground.*

## DAY 1 – ARRIVAL & OPENING

### Evening Plenary: From CAP to PAAC

Setting the scene: from European agricultural policy (CAP) to local mobilisation and rural transition (PAAC). A call to connect the political and the practical.

November 27

## DAY 2 – LEARNING & LOCAL GROUNDING

### Go to Class: What is an Agroecological European Paysanne University?

*Mosaic-style participatory discussion*

What do we need to learn in practice?

What kind of university, and for whom? Workshopping real problems from existing paysanne and agroecological learning spaces across Europe.

### Securing Land Access for Agroecology and the Commons

*Collaborative workshop*

Land is increasingly commodified and inaccessible. Together we will map tools, alliances, and political levers to protect land as a common good.

### Get Out There: Local Field Trips

*Immersive visits*

Discover living examples of territorial food systems, land access & use, and agroecological infrastructure in and around Plessé - 4 possible visits for participants to be confirmed.

November 28

## DAY 3 – CURRICULUM DEEP DIVES & COLLECTIVE COMMITMENTS

### **Take Your Seeds Seriously: Seed Sovereignty and Liberation**

*Workshop & Debate*

How do we reclaim seeds as a political, ecological and economic issue in the face of NGTs, AI, and corporate concentration?

### **Sowing Renewal: Intergenerational Responsibility**

*Co-creation workshop*

Transmission is breaking down – of land, knowledge, and responsibility. This session will co-create a Rural Transmission Charter with proposals for generational renewal in agroecology and at the heart of the Université Paysanne.

### **From Breeders to Farmers to Bakers to the Table**

*Panel + participatory dialogue*

How do we build infrastructures and fair incomes in agroecological food chains? From the soil to the oven, from the fields to the plates, stories of resilience and transformation.

### **Bioregions in Practice**

*Territorial dialogue workshop*

What makes a bioregion thrive? We'll discuss the competencies needed to practice bioregional food systems (e.g. mapping, local governance, circular economies) and create a draft Université Paysanne class syllabus: learning objectives, methods (e.g. fieldwork, participatory mapping), and evaluation styles.

### **Closing Plenary: Tying It All Together**

*Plenary + collective commitments - 2h, all together*

What do we take home, and who will we work with next to build this and other centers of study? We'll gather closing reflections and collective commitments, by theme, partnership, or region – captured in a shared “Tying It Together” map to grow beyond the Gathering.

November 29

## DAY 4 – SOFT CLOSE & GOODBYES

Optional visit: future site of the Université Paysanne  
+ informal goodbyes & departures

November  
30