

Committee: Environment
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Writer: Poland

Over the last twenty years, a major problem has been brought unto the attention by the governments. Agriculture has diverted from techniques respecting the environment and instead developing harming environment techniques such as monoculture, relying mainly on artificial fertilizers so soil can be more fertile every year, leaving it susceptible to erosion and even worse, damaging the surrounding ecosystems and biodiversity.

Polish agriculture, where small farmer predominate, is characterized by a low industrial development of countryside y environmental purity. The agrarian products are in their majority ecological and of high quality due to relatively low fertilizer use. The importance of polish agriculture is enormous to the economy, society and the environment of the country. This sector constitutes 4,2% of polish GDP, higher than any European Union country, There is approximately 18% of workforce designated to that sector. Poland is the largest producer of many cereals in the European Union such as rye and rapeseed but also other products such as potatoes and is one of the biggest beet producers in the world.

In Poland, there are about 2 million farmers and only 3,5% of Poland's agricultural lands are declared organic farms in 2014, about 26000 but only about 500 are vegetable producers. However this number is increasing. This means that slowly but steadily, farmers are in some way more and more conscious of the danger our planet is in and want to react, creating new agricultural systems that are environmentally caring presented in the sustainable development conventions like COP21 and agricultural specific ones such as Agricultural and Rural Convention (ARC2020) and others. In our country, new ways solutions capable of replacing monoculture such as agroecology are working in some polish cities, creating little communities that offer financial stability to small farms, community-supported agriculture (CSA), that were first created in Warsaw, in and it is this system is going more and more nice it has received a warm welcome from city consumers, the hardest actor to convince, is the common people, since agroecology demands a change of view. But once this change is achieved, the results are promising; not only in agroecology but other systems such as permaculture, that comes from the union of the words "permanent" and "agriculture" which empowers individual or little groups to be their own producers and move away from being dependent consumers.

When it comes to moving away from being dependent consumers, as said before, this is the biggest challenge for Poland as it is the european barn, and exports 20 910 million EUR of agricultural products but also imports 14 049 of other types of agricultural products based on the statistical factsheet of the European Commission of 2014, published on April 2014: this means that is both gives and receives agricultural products. The challenge will then be to try and find a sustainable way to export the agricultural production that makes up a big part of Poland's agriculture and at the same time to import as few products as possible, and subside little organic farms working in communities that at the same time help countries get along as it improves the life quality of individuals, societies and keeping away from danger our environment.