



ERP-Gathering Kielce

Number of the workshop: 15

Name of the workshop: **Communities & the European Green Deal: Help us design the transformational local development policies of tomorrow.**

Our responses to challenges:

Saving energy - how to make it efficient and affordable (district housing)

Farming difficult because of heat → need for irrigation, (and fight/ prevent forest fires)

Circular economy especially in energy and water

Food security through agroecology ,short food chains, nature based solutions, eg for water retention

LAGs: how to respond locally? Need to educate communities, need to involve communities, to have a shared vision;

Organic products should NOT produce plastic waste and be affordable

Our three proposals for governments & EU

1. Education for environment
2. Prioritization of nature in all policies → needed: to live close to nature to care about it = access to nature (Urban areas will not understand the prioritization of nature)
3. Concept of sustainable development needs to be changed: prioritization of the ecological aspect of sustainability as the basis for all human life (economic and social) - traditional plans for development still prioritize economy over ecology over social/ create false trade-offs between nature and human systems; needed: indicators this new definition of sustainable development : e.g. wellbeing (happiness indicators/ planetary health)

Good ideas, practices, processes

1. Autonomy and sense of ownership for communities: If communities have rights/ have the ownership to their environment (commons) they will care about nature
2. Values like equality (Belarus is not democratic but provides a lot of basic services for people → sometimes much more than other democratic countries like Ukraine)
3. Need to create a good practice for transformative sustainable development, as there is no existing sustainable development policy yet which prioritizes nature in Europe - maybe Bhutan or Costa Rica? → check Happiness index to find this country:)