



Research for Agro-Ecology Network of Southern Africa (RAENS)

EU contribution: € 5 280 000 (approx. BWP 76 million)

Period of implementation: 2025 - 2028

Location: Southern African Development Community countries

Implementing organisation(s): Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa (CCARDESA) in collaboration with research institutes.

Project objectives and description:

This project aims to establish a sustainable multi-stakeholder Agroecology Research and Knowledge Network in Southern Africa, designed to enhance collaboration among research institutions, farmers, and practitioners while promoting the adoption of agroecological and regenerative food systems. By fostering stronger coordination, the initiative seeks to bridge gaps between research and practice, ensuring that scientific advancements in agroecology are effectively translated into real-world applications.

Achievements / expected results:

This project strengthens agroecology in Southern Africa by expanding regional research collaboration through a Multi-actor Research Network (RMRN), building practitioner capacities via training and knowledge exchange, and disseminating practical tools and innovations. It also engages policymakers to create a more supportive environment for agroecological transitions.

Early progress includes growing institutional participation (from 7 to 26), enhanced skills among farmers and researchers (135 practitioners trained), and increased availability of agroecological resources.

Moving forward, the initiative will deepen cross-border research cooperation, improve knowledge-sharing mechanisms, and reinforce policy support—helping to scale up sustainable farming practices across the region.

Incoming public / visibility events: -

Project website / Social media account links:

- Agroecology TPP – RAENS project page:
<https://www.agroecologytpp.org/project/research-for-agroecology-network-southern-africa-raens/>
- New official project website under development as of late 2025