

ANNUAL REPORT

Aktion Agrar 2021



Aktion Agrar

Aktion Agrar moves the agricultural turnaround with creative campaigns, background research and participatory actions. We fight for an environmentally, animal and climate friendly agriculture, in which farmers can live well from their work. We mobilize against the power of agricultural corporations, strengthen alternatives and put pressure for a different agricultural policy in Germany and Europe.

Against the resistance of the agribusiness lobby, we can only achieve the agricultural turnaround in a joint effort: Together with consumers, farmers are fighting against a policy that accepts the death of farms in favor of more mega-stables, genetic engineering and monocultures. Environmental protection and animal welfare are a common challenge for people in the cities and in the countryside.

Only if we respectfully allow the voices of producers and consumers to be heard and put commonalities before supposed differences will we succeed in changing agricultural policy.

Our vision is a rural agriculture that produces healthy food free of genetic engineering, animal-friendly and environmentally friendly. Fair prices for the producers of good products must be just as much a goal as the strengthening of alternatives to the international market, such as direct marketing or solidarity farming. Food sovereignty is a guiding principle with which we want to counter hunger in the world.

Find here our mission statement: www.aktion-agrar.de/leitbild



1.WHES 2021: Kick off agricultural turnaround

On the occasion of the International Green Week, the largest agricultural fair in the world, we called as part of the "We are fed up!" alliance again to protest against the agricultural and food industry. At the start of the super election year, we made it clear with the footprints sent in by over 10,000 committed people at the campaign in front of the Chancellor's Office in Berlin: Start the agricultural turnaround! The impressive picture of wonderfully beautifully designed footprints with strong demands was a good consolation for the fact that no large demonstration could be held this year.

On this occasion we also made a big distribution of 3500 of our new action booklets with the cargo bike to passers-by and stores in the center of Berlin. We were also present at the Schnippeldisko on the eve of the campaign, this time digitally. In the quiz "Who owns the field?", interested parties puzzled over the extent of land shrinkage, the level of rising purchase prices, and criteria for the public welfare-oriented leasing of land and fair access to land on the land market.





2. access to land

With the launch of our Access to Land campaign at the end of 2020, we were able to launch many projects for better access to land for farmers. In March 2021, we presented eight initiatives in the LAND Map of Alternatives over the course of the year that are working in Germany and around the world in a variety of ways for equitable access to land: From a field occupation, an advisory program for farmers, an information campaign, criteria for public tenders, to land purchase with public welfare-oriented leasing - with their commitment, these initiatives achieve a lot worldwide and we learned more about the background through our interviews. (<https://www.aktion-agrar.de/land/initiativen/>).

In line with our campaign, the 2021 campaign booklet also focused on access to fertile land as one of the most important sources of income for farmers. In the familiar pocket format, we have prepared information on the global sell-off of fertile farmland and shown starting points for soil policy. In addition, there were also tips and various opportunities to participate, e.g. our Land Turnaround Action BINGO, how readers can campaign for comprehensive access to land. This year, we were able to distribute our 15,000 booklets particularly quickly, as more than 300 committed people responded to the call in our newsletter and distributed the booklets throughout Germany in their neighborhoods (e.g. in regional stores, vegetable boxes or community centers). In Berlin, we also distributed the little booklets during the "We're fed up!" footprint campaign in organic food stores, bookstores and cafés. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our graphic designers Anne Schmidt and Friderike Umland for the wonderful design of the booklet.

Ackerland im Ausverkauf

BRENNPUNKT: OSTDEUTSCHLAND

Wer einmal mit dem Zug von Westen oder Süden nach Ostdeutschland¹ fährt, bemerkt schnell, dass Landschaft und Höfe anders aussehen: große Felder, kaum Bäume, Leerstand, Großbetriebe statt Bauernhöfe. Auch 30 Jahre nach der Wende ist Ostdeutschlands Land(wirt-)schaft stark geprägt von ihrer Geschichte. Für lebendige Dörfer braucht es Infrastruktur und Perspektiven auf dem Land – die Landwirtschaft kann hier Chancen bieten. Doch dafür braucht es eine regionale, faire, soziale und umweltfreundliche Agrarstruktur. Diese beginnt beim Boden und beim Zugang zu Land. Wir haben uns gefragt:

30.000 €/ha
WER BIETET
MEHR?

10%
RENDITE-
JETZT
ZUSCHLAGEN

WIESO SIEHT DIE LANDSCHAFT SO AUS,
WIE SIE AUSSIEHT?

WEM »GEHÖRT« DAS LAND??

WER DARF LAND KAUFEN,
UND WER NICHT???

VON WEM WIRD LAND GENUTZT,
ZU WELCHEM ZWECK UND
WIE LANGE???

WER BLEIBT DABEI
AUF DER STRECKE?

¹ Unter Ostdeutschland verstehen wir in dieser Publikation die fünf Bundesländer, die aus der ehemaligen DDR gebildet wurden.

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agrар**
Landwende jetzt!

Actions/ Projects

Improve instead of dilute!

Right at the start of our "Access to Land" Year 2021, we were able to weigh in on an important political issue: In Saxony-Anhalt, as in other federal states, new laws on agricultural structure and the land market were negotiated in 2021 - a significant opportunity at the state level to concretely address the land issue. Together with the farmers of the AbL, we demanded on 13.1.21 in front of the state parliament in Magdeburg on the draft of the agricultural structure law in Saxony-Anhalt: "Improve instead of watering down!" to stop the sellout of farmland.



Arable land being sold off

With the leaflet "Ackerland im Ausverkauf: Brennpunkt Ostdeutschland" (Farmland in the Sellout: Focus on Eastern Germany), we traced the causes of today's agricultural landscape and highlighted what is actually needed for fair access and for a regional, fair and environmentally friendly agricultural structure. The leaflet was particularly popular with farmers and solidarity farms, who were able to use it to draw the attention of their customers and members to the current situation. Altogether we could inform with the arable land leaflet so far already more than 3,600 humans.

Bag the land!

What can city dwellers who do not own land do? In order to symbolically counteract land grabbing, our potato fun campaign "Bag the land grabbing! 120 urban potato farmers created a small piece of arable land on their windowsills. With an argumentation aid, we also suggested how city dwellers can step on the toes of city administrations to make urban green spaces edible: Picking allowed, instead of trespassing forbidden!

Workshops

What does the 190% increase in the purchase price of land have to do with the progressive death of farms? What framework is needed for fair land allocation? In our workshop

"Fair access to land - for ALL", we explored these questions with about 15 participants at the protest camp at Dannenröder Wald in April 2021 and had a lively discussion about possible solutions. For our newsletter subscribers we held the workshop again digitally on 29.6.21. Here you can download the presentation (<https://www.aktion-agrar.de/land/webinar/>).



Acker(Land) Action Bike Tour

For the future of a rural agriculture and the access to land we cycled with 24 people on the Acker(Land)-Action bike tour 5 days through Brandenburg to Berlin. Even 30 years after the reunification, the area is still strongly characterized by huge areas of land and rapidly increasing land prices. In conversations with farmers, experts for the land market and employees from the administration, we learned how the low interest rates make land an attractive investment opportunity and what consequences this development has in practice. But we also saw how it is possible to jointly secure land for the long term. Political decisions are urgently needed to protect farms and farm founders from the influence of investors.

As a final action of the bike tour, we drew attention to the grievance of the public land allocation of the BVVG in front of the Ministry of Finance. Together with the AbL, the Bündnis Junge Landwirtschaft, the Kulturland Genossenschaft and more than 400 action postcards with your demands for a fair land policy, we organized a small spectacle with dance and show performances and gripping speeches in front of the (then) official residence of Olaf Scholz: Public arable and forest land must no longer be auctioned off by the BVVG at top prices! With success - after much public pressure, the new federal government has now stipulated in the coalition agreement that the remaining BVVG areas must be leased primarily to sustainably managed farms.

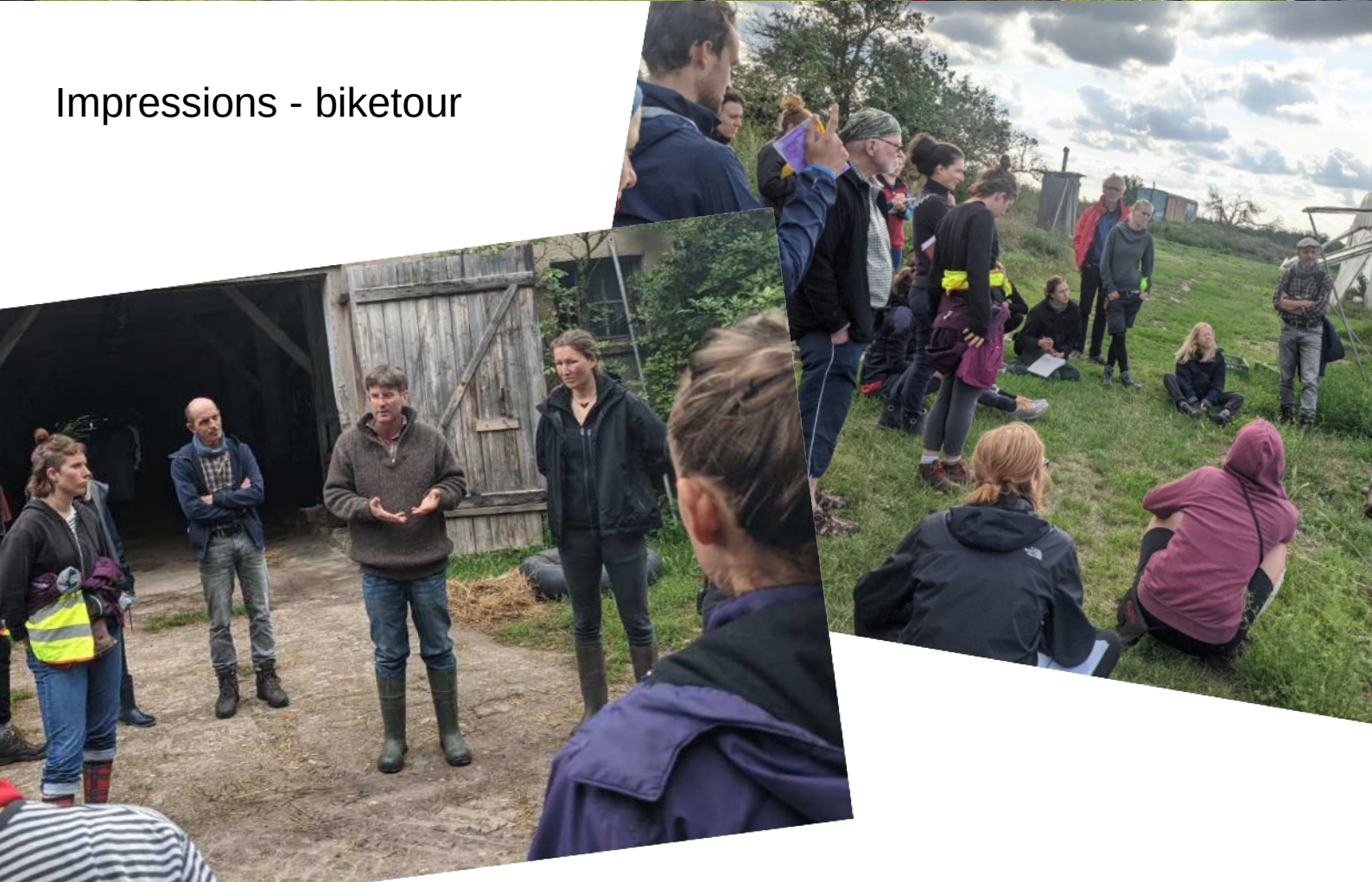
**The detailed report
on the tour can be
found here:**

**[https://www.aktion-agrar.de/
aktionsradtour-2021/](https://www.aktion-agrar.de/aktionsradtour-2021/)**





Impressions - biketour





Biketour: Final action at the Ministry of Finance, Berlin



3. vote out agribusiness: The 2021 Super Election Year.

2021 was a year in which the political landscape was newly elected in many places, both nationwide and in 5 federal states - an opportunity to realign agricultural policy this year. With our election test stones, which we developed together with AbL and NABU for the election in Saxony-Anhalt, we were able to reveal strengths and weaknesses of the parties for a sustainable agricultural policy and rural areas. You can read about the various positions here:

<https://www.aktion-agrar.de/aktionen/wahlpruefsteine-sachsen-anhalt/> On May 25, two weeks before the election, we presented the election test stones with AbL and Nabu in front of the state parliament in Magdeburg.

For the federal elections, we also joined more than 100 organic companies, environmental organizations, water management associations and scientists in an open letter calling for a "phase-out of synthetic chemical pesticides". The measures needed for the phase-out and how a phase-out can succeed were sent to the election candidates of the five major parties in our public demand paper on 24.8.21 by mail and e-mail (you can read the open letter here: <https://enkeltauglich.bio/offenerbrief2021.pdf>).

And also during the coalition negotiations for the Bundestag election we made public pressure. On October 24, we called for the demonstration "Solidarisch geht anders" ("Solidarity is different") together with 50 other organizations and made it clear on site in Berlin in a broad alliance that we will not accept a watering down of the demands of the parties. Together we demanded a policy of social ecological transformation in agriculture and everywhere. For a policy and economy for all people!





Since the end of the year, we have been deep in research and are on fire for our next major focus topic: "Fewer farm animals - more future". Because the restructuring of animal husbandry is urgently needed to counteract the climate crisis and at the same time to offer the farms a perspective. The current focus on mass animal production and cheap animal products is destroying prospects for people in agriculture both in this country and in the Global South - not to mention the high greenhouse gas emissions from animal production worldwide. Together with Bäuer:innen, we are campaigning in 2022 for the transformation to a sustainable food system and calling for consistent political action.

We are delighted that we have received a lot of support for our new campaign and have been able to expand our team. Since the end of the year, our wonderful new team colleagues Lucia Müller, Catharina Rubel and Lena Hüttmann have also joined us.

As the first project of the new campaign, we developed the new campaign booklet, which focuses on our new campaign theme. We have submitted applications for this to the Catholic Fund, Bread for the World and the Future Foundation for Agriculture. In order to raise the last 3,000 € for the campaign booklet, we shot a crowdfunding video and were able to realize the new campaign booklet with a print run of 15,000 copies thanks to the great support of many donors.

And to make our many ideas for projects around animal reduction possible, we have applied for grants from the Postcode Lottery and Engagement Global for next year. Look forward to many creative projects and more movement for the Agrarwende 2022!



At a glance

Year of foundation: 2014, association registration number: VR 201043

Statutes for reading:

https://www.aktion-agrar.de/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Aktion-Agrar-Satzung_2020.pdf

Our mission statement: www.aktion-agrar.de/leitbild/

Last recognition as a **non-profit association** by the tax office Verden/Aller on November 18, 2019.

Tax number: 102/142/14135

The board in 2021: Michael Krack, Leonie Steinherr, Jutta Sundermann

Staff in 2021: Three employees (15 h/week) until May. From May two employees (15h/week) + one mini-job. Since October three employees (2x 15h/week, 1x 16,7h/week) + one mini-job. Fees for graphics and personnel accounting. Several volunteers, interns and honorary staff (see p. 2).

Affiliation with third parties under company law: none

Legal entities whose donations accounted for more than 10% of our annual income: Deutsche Postcode Lottery (€26,400); Deutsche Postcode Lottery out-of-period for 2022 (€29,787). S.s.X

Our cooperation partners in 2021: Arbeitsgemeinschaft bäuerliche Landwirtschaft (AbL) and AbL Sachsen-Anhalt, Bündnis junge Landwirtschaft e.V., Naturschutz Bund (NABU) Sachsen-Anhalt

