THE 3 FACETS OF AGROECOLOGY

AGROECOLOGY IS:
1. A scientific research approach involving the holistic study of agro-ecosystems and food systems;
2. A set of principles and practices that enhance the resilience and sustainability of food and farming systems while preserving social integrity;
3. A socio-political movement, which focuses on the practical application of agroecology, seeks new ways of considering agriculture, processing, distribution and consumption of food and its relationships with society and nature.

THESE PRINCIPLES ARE A SET OF BROAD “GUIDELINES” THAT CONSTITUTE THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF AGROECOLOGY, ITS PRACTICE AND IMPLEMENTATION:

Agroecology promotes principles rather than rules or recipes of a transition process.
Agroecology is the result of the joint application of its principles and the values that lies behind them to the design of alternative farming and food systems. It is therefore acknowledged that the application of the principles will be done progressively.
The principles are valid across the diversity of territories and lead to various practices in different places and contexts.
All principles should be interpreted in the context of improving integration with the natural world, and justice and dignity for human and non-human actors and processes.

WHAT ARE THE PRINCIPLES OF AGROECOLOGY

ECONOMIC
Promotes fair, short, distribution webs, producers and consumers working together
Increases resilience through diversification of farm incomes and strengthens community autonomy
Aims to enhance the power of local markets and build on a social and solidarity economy vision

POLITICAL
Promotes farmer to farmer exchanges for sharing knowledge
Strengthens food producers, local communities, culture, knowledge, spirituality
Promotes healthy diets and livelihoods
Encourages diversity and solidarity among peoples, encourages women and youth empowerment

ENVIRONMENTAL
Eliminates use of and dependence on agrochemicals
Nourishes biodiversity and soils
Enhances integration of various elements of agro-ecosystems (plants, animals, ...)
Encourages new forms of decentralized, collective, participatory governance of food systems

SOCIO-CULTURAL
Requires supportive public policies and investments
Eliminates use of and dependence on agrochemicals
Encourages diversity and solidarity among peoples, encourages women and youth empowerment
Encourages stronger participation of food producers/consumers in decision making

There is no food sovereignty without agroecology. And certainly, agroecology will not last without a food sovereignty policy that backs it up.
Ibrahima Coulibaly

Find out more: https://agroecologyprinciple.atavist.com