



ACCESSSTOLAND

A European network of grassroots organisations securing land for agroecological farming.

The Land for our Food

This 34 min long film is a road movie documentary in which a young farmer from England, Gavin Bridger, from a Community Supported Agriculture project, is forced to deal with the issue of access to land after his initiative received notice to leave their farm land. He finds out that it is not easy to find suitable land, and in his quest he discovers that he is not alone with this problem. Through the facilitation of UK organisation Soil Association he embarks on a journey – starting from England - through various countries in Europe.

Initiatives enabling access to land for agroecological farming were visited in England (Hartley Farm, their grower is connected to the Soil Association), France (Terre de liens), Catalunya (Rurbans), Italy (AIAB Lazio and Cooperativa Co.R.Ag.Gio) and Romania (Eco Ruralis).

Gavin finds out about the different contexts of these countries from very liberal land market in England to more regulated land access and tenureship in France to the speculation that is happening in Romania.

Gavin also gets to know the different angles of the initiatives enabling access to land. This works through enabling training and contacts and strategies (UK), land acquisition through citizen investment (France), enabling of knowledge, making the links between new farmers and retiring farmers and helping with financial viability planning (Catalunya), squatting and cooperation with local governments (Italy) as well as providing consciousness for peasant farmers and fighting against land grabbing (Romania).

Gavin meets the farmers Kate Collyns (UK), Sjoerd Wartena and Christophe Gaudry (France), Anna Plana and Laura Madrid (Catalunya) and Carlo Pataconi and Giacomo Lepri (Italy) who are all – like him – from non-farming background. Gavin also meets traditional farmers who are retiring.

In the film Guardian journalist George Monbiot explains the historic differences between France and England when it come to access to land and food culture.

This film is a good introduction to the issue of access to land in Europe and a new movement trying to fight for land for agroecology.



Credits

Director: Julio Molina Montenegro

Producer: Network Access to Land (AIAB, Italy; EcoRuralis, Romania; Rurbans and Xarxa de custodia del territori, Catalonia; Real Farming Trust and Soil Association, UK; Regionalwert AG, Germany; Terre die liens, France; Terre en vue, Belgium)

Background information

The film was produced by the access to land network and was planned, shot and edited in 2015. The director Julio Molina hit the road with farmer Gavin Bridger and co-producer Peter Volz in June and July covering about 8000 km.



Julio Molina, director: *"Creating the film 'Land for Our Food' has been a fantastic opportunity. Not only have I started to have a better understanding of the challenges facing our food system, I also feel I have made a contribution towards a movement that is essential in creating a sustainable society."*

Gavin Bridger, protagonist of the film: *"This was an amazing voyage of discovery, showing me that my problems – of losing access to our fields – are not unique, that growers and farmers are facing the challenges of accessing land across the whole of Europe. It has given me great hope as I met people and organisations that are helping solve this fundamental problem to our food systems, which in term is paramount to the diversity of cultures across the continent."*





Peter Volz, co-producer: *“Being involved in making the film gave me hope, seeing beautiful projects, eating beautiful food and meeting beautiful people. A new generation that build up again, that heals. I hope that through the film people go deeper into the underlying issues and see the importance of the land question as basis for a different agriculture and economy. I hope that more people engage with food and farming cause it definitely improves the quality and joy of life.”*

Technical information

Date: 2016

Shooting format: HDTV 1080p25

Format: Quicktime/H.264

Medium: Online or file based media

Sound: Stereo

Duration: 34 minutes

Original language: English

Subtitles: French - Soon: Catalan, German, Italian, Romanian, Spanish

How to watch the film

You can find links to online watching and downloadable versions of the film here: <http://www.accesstoland.eu/film-Land-for-our-food>

Watching the film is free and we are happy if you screen the film for others, respecting the Creative Commons license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.0/>), therefore it should be screened in a non-commercial way.

In order to keep track of the dissemination we ask you to indicate where the film has been screened.

This film is suitable for anyone interested in the issue of access to land in Europe, starting from the age of 14.

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Contact

If you have any questions or suggestions please contact us at info@accesstoland.eu

Financing of the film

