



Access to information

Introducing the "De Landgenoten" system

In 2014 an organic initiative "De Landgenoten" was initiated in Flanders. With it a cooperative was set up under the same name. Their aim was to provide an answer to increasing land prices, farmers without a successor and starting farmers unable to find land for organic production. The cooperative looks for farmland through conventional sales channels, but also through donations from individual land owners and leasing. With the land now in their possession they look for suitable farmers to use the land. These farmers must be organic but can be anywhere from new and small to experienced and relatively large. The cooperative can provide the farmer with a lifelong contract for their land, the price of which is determined by the quality and the crop type. Farmers with a successor that is unable to bear the cost of the land transfer can also benefit from De Landgenoten. By renting the land through the cooperative the initial cost is significantly reduced while the farm itself can remain unchanged in practice. Farmers willing to benefit from the program have to set up a crowdfunding campaign themselves to achieve the necessary funds to buy the land.

Recommendation

The growth of the organisation is slow, as they are faced by the same rigid and expensive land market as starting farmers, but in the future they should be able to help more and more organic farmers. The decision to focus on organic farmers could be re-evaluated by other European partners willing to try the same.



Internationally importance

1 – internationally very relevant

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Project information

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In Newbie we would like to create a large network of new entrants and professionals who work in the field of new entrants into farming across Europe. If you are a new entrant with a farm or if you are a professional working in this field in advice, banking, education, retail, policy etc. we invite you to register on [our website](#).



KU LEUVEN

