

## Agroecology Fund Welcomes Ballmer Group as New Funding Partner with Unrestricted, Multi-vear Investment

April 16, 2024

The Agroecology Fund is thrilled to announce that <u>Ballmer Group</u> has awarded \$9,000,000 to be disbursed over the next three years to support an ever-growing universe of grassroots agroecology movements. This unrestricted, multi-year investment in the fund will significantly deepen innovative, trust-based grantmaking to scale truly climate-resilient food systems across the globe.

Founded in 2015, Ballmer Group focuses on grantmaking that strengthens communities for today and on levers for change that transform systems of tomorrow. Economic mobility and climate change are two areas of impact that perfectly align with the Agroecology Fund's grantmaking priorities. They prioritize place-based systems change advocacy in their grantmaking, which is mirrored in the Agroecology Fund's support for scaling agroecological solutions, from the municipal to national to international levels.

"Over the past three years, we have launched <u>regional agroecology funds</u> in Mexico, India, and Eastern and West Africa. Relying on local expert advisors, these decentralized funds grant into the complex ecosystems of collaborating networks to strengthen community food sovereignty and food system transformation. Ballmer's flexible funds will further capitalize these regional mechanisms on the leading edge of trust-based philanthropy."

- Daniel Moss, Co-Director, Agroecology Fund

The Agroecology Fund continues to strengthen relationships among a diverse pool of funders now over 50 - to respond to the creativity and needs of agroecology movements. We find the recent spike in interest and investment from major philanthropies, like Ballmer Group, immensely hopeful. The world sits in a precarious place, and deepening investments in grassroots movements that build truly just and sustainable food systems is essential. We are honored to be able to increase our support for agroecology initiatives across the globe thanks to this timely and generous support.