

Problem encountered and objective

The community supported agriculture (CSA) model remains largely novel and underrepresented in Danish agriculture. CSA farmers practicing regenerative agriculture sought to strengthen peer-to-peer learning and exchange to strengthen their activities.

Main Results and Outcomes

A vibrant network of 10–20 CSA farms has been established, enabling regular meetings for knowledge exchange on regenerative practices, soil health, and community-supported farming. Farmer engagement is high, though structural barriers remain difficult to address. The most significant barriers, namely broader political and legislative structures such as CAP dynamics, remain challenging for farmers to overcome.

Practical recommendations

- Facilitation support of farmer-led learning networks focused on sharing practical experience, especially where innovative production models are still emerging.
- Create space for both technical exchange and broader reflection, even when participants are hesitant to reflect on existing structural barriers.
- Engage diverse stakeholders (municipalities, financiers, and consumers) to strengthen shifts in ownership and governance.
- Recognize that motivation often comes from small, tangible improvements rather than abstract policy shifts. Regenerative agriculture festivals and similar events can anchor ongoing collaboration.

Among other practical recommendations, it is also important to involve local municipalities that own land to help ease land rents for regenerative, soil-friendly farms. Such farms may not only protect ecosystems—such as drinking water resources—by avoiding chemical use (organic practices) but also strengthen local food systems by selling directly through CSAs. By improving the conditions for CSA-based regenerative agriculture, more farmers will be able to establish operations close to cities and contribute to resilient, community-centered food systems.



ABOUT SOILVALUES

SoilValues is a Horizon Europe project that will contribute to the development of successful soil health business models across the EU to improve soil quality and provide land managers with the necessary incentives.

Coordinator: KU Leuven

AUTHORS

Martin Thorsøe, Kasper Krabbe
(Department of Agroecology,
Aarhus University)


DATE


August 2025


KEY WORDS

CSA farms, peer-to-peer learning

USEFUL LINKS

 <https://soilvalues.eu/>

 info.soilvalues@kuleuven.be

 <https://zenodo.org/communities/heuropesoilvalues>

Funded by the European Union (EU). Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the EU or the European Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the EU nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them. Grant agreement: 101091308