

# Manifesto for the European Elections

Next June 6th - 9th 2024, EU citizens are called upon to vote to elect the composition of the European Parliament for the next five years. Given the role that the EU plays in the elaboration of agriculture policies, the promotion of research and innovation and the establishment of inclusive policies, GAIA, the Gender Alliance for Innovation in Agriculture, is putting forward its priorities.

We, the undersigned, encourage policymakers elected for the next term to adopt this manifesto when dealing with agriculture, innovation, and DEI policies. At the same time, we pledge to:

## Creating awareness and recognition

- 1** **We strive to build a future where all people have the same opportunities** to thrive in the agri-food sector. The agricultural sector is crucial to food security in the EU. We want to inspire a new generation of Europeans to take upon opportunities in the agricultural and agri-tech sectors.
- 2** **We recognize that there are significant gaps** between, but not only, men and women in agriculture, exacerbated by the challenges of depopulation of rural areas, that need to be better tackled at EU level. Diversity should be more reflected and respected in the agri-food sector at all stages of the chain. We will raise awareness of the gaps and advocate for these challenges to be considered in EU legislation.
- 3** **We commit to effectively communicating the existing policies** to promote diversity and equality in the agri-food sector, through meetings with stakeholders, and policymakers.

## Enabling innovation and R&D

- 4** Women too can make significant contributions to the digital transformation of European agriculture. For this reason, **we support policies that encourage investment in research and development to advance gender equality in the agri-food sector**, and we will connect women entrepreneurs in agri-food digitalisation across Europe.
- 5** We will **promote investment in appropriate agricultural technologies** and methods to increase agricultural productivity and promote more sustainable agriculture, participating to the discussions of the EU strategic funds.

## Education and Training

- 6** **We advocate for specific educational programs** that include gender equality in the agri-food sector. We will create a series of seminars tackling this in collaboration with a university or research centre.
- 7** **We promote training and extension services**, which are positively associated with empowerment and therefore necessary for a gender-equal sector. We will create a database of training opportunities, to make it more easily accessible to their target audiences.

## Signatories:



## About GAIA

The Gender Alliance for Innovation in Agriculture (GAIA) is dedicated to supporting the 4th agricultural revolution in Europe, by supporting inclusive and sustainable solutions. GAIA focuses on promoting excellent farmers, advisors, agri-business actors, entrepreneurs and Digital Innovation Hubs, who can make significant contributions to the digital transformation of European agriculture.