



The Emergent Generation

A new ecosystem of young champions building sustainable farming and food systems that nourish people and regenerate the planet

FarmED is helping to build this network

The Challenge	<p>We have a farming and food system that is not currently sustainable. Our dominant systems are depletive, damaging to the natural and cultural environment, and are harmful to human health.</p> <p>To be truly sustainable, we must be bold and do things differently, at pace. Crucially, deep and meaningful change cannot stop at the farm gate - we must work through the entire chain to build a new food system fit for the future. This system should protect and enhance our environment and deliver affordable healthy food for all. It should provide rewarding work for farmers and growers, big and small, and help build a thriving rural economy.</p> <p>We believe we must move to a diverse, regenerative and agroecological system.</p> <p>The scale and complexity of the challenge can be overwhelming. But the transition has begun, driven by individuals and organisations with vision, passion, commitment and knowledge. It is now time to nurture this activity building a sustainable farming and food future that nourishes people and regenerates the planet.</p>
The Role of Youth	<p>A diverse range of young people, of young regenerative thinkers, are key to an agroecological and regenerative future.</p> <p>The next generation of practitioners, influencers and leaders will spearhead the transition.</p>



	<p>But sadly, many young people are frustrated and overwhelmed by the enormity of the situation they have inherited. With so much to do, it can be hard to know where to focus energy, it can be paralysing, it can feel isolating.</p> <p>By creating the space for connection we can better support the emergent generation. We can show them that they are not alone and that together we can turn passion for change into action.</p>
Scoping Key Terms	<p>The word 'regenerative' is being used across sectors, from farming and economics to science, health, leadership, nutrition and even tourism. It is often included in descriptions of circular economy goals and just transition movements, and is sometimes used alongside or in place of the word 'sustainable.' Whilst it is not being used consistently, it is widely adopted and can be useful for signposting to the idea of a regenerative mindset or a belief system.</p> <p>Regenerative agriculture often means a way of farming that increases biodiversity, builds better soils, improves water catchments and enhances nutrient cycling. Regenerative farmers and growers work with nature, drawing from organic and holistic management methods, aiming to capture carbon in soil and aboveground biomass. The ultimate goal is to reverse atmospheric accumulation of greenhouse gases and climate change. Success can also bring increased yields, lower input costs, climate resilience, healthier livestock, happier farmers and growers, and thriving rural communities.</p> <p>Agroecology is an integrated approach that simultaneously applies ecological and social concepts and principles to the design and management of food and agricultural systems. It seeks to optimise the interactions between plants, animals, humans and the environment while taking into consideration the social aspects that need to be addressed for a sustainable and fair food system.</p>



<p>Exploring the Need</p>	<p>In April 2022 we gathered a focus group of 22 young people from a range of organisations and backgrounds across the UK, from throughout the supply chain, who are passionate about regenerative thinking and agroecological practice.</p> <p>We presented them with the idea of holding a Youth Summit that would enable them to connect with others, feel inspired and come away with new learning and perspectives. Through this workshop we wanted to ensure that any content created is relevant, and enables young people to make a change in the food system in ways that make sense to them. You can see the video from the event HERE.</p> <p>Whilst the idea of an event for 2022 was positive, there was also a thirst for much much more.</p> <p>Out of this workshop came the early stages of a mission and vision for building a network which we're calling The Emergent Generation.</p>
<p>The Entity</p>	<p>The Emergent Generation is a new ecosystem of young champions building sustainable farming and food systems that nourish people and regenerate the planet.</p> <p>FarmED is helping to build this network.</p> <p>We are currently working towards an online Slack community and an inaugural face to face kick-start gathering #EmergentGeneration2022.</p> <p>More activity will follow....</p>
<p>Audience</p>	<p>The Emergent Generation's audience is wide and inclusive.</p> <p>The network will champion the voices of all young people who are passionate about regenerative thinking and practice within farming and food systems.</p> <p>Our ecosystem includes students (meaning everyone who is curious and</p>



	<p>on a learning journey - not just those at school or college), and those practically involved in farming, growing, land management, conservation, advice, finance, health care, tourism, research, policy, teaching, activism, cooking and nutrition. We hope to engage with young entrepreneurs, doctors, vets, chefs, retailers, influencers, journalists, early career leaders too!</p> <p>We are initially concentrating on 18 to 26 year olds but a younger audience will also be engaged as we develop.</p>
FarmED	<p>FarmED is the pioneering farm and food education centre in the Cotswolds. We are a not-for-profit Community Interest Company.</p> <p>We aim to be at the heart of local, regional and global agroecological transition.</p> <p>Our mission is to provide learning spaces and events that inspire, educate, and connect people to build sustainable farming and food systems that nourish people and regenerate the planet. We also offer mentoring and advice to individuals and organisations needing one to one support.</p> <p>We formally launched in 2021 and to date our reach and impact has been overwhelming. We now aim to build on this by expanding our work with a young audience.</p> <p>See (www.farm-ed.co.uk).</p>

Our First Event:	This event will kick-start The Emergent Generation network.
The Emergent Generation 2022	We may not be able to fix the food system in one weekend, but we do hope that participants will gain more confidence and ideas for how to use their passion. They will be inspired by, and gain knowledge and skills



	<p>from, experienced leaders, pioneers and other participants about regenerative thinking and practices. Together we will discuss new perspectives, apply ideas to real life scenarios and design new ones. All whilst having some fun and getting closer to nature!</p> <p>The connections made at Emergent Generation 2022 will make a difference and the collective will become bigger as a result. Participants might even meet people they end up working alongside in the future, and we hope that they'll become a driving force in this new network.</p> <p>We shall listen and learn from our first event and develop the next steps thereafter.</p>
The Audience for the Event	<p>We will welcome around 75 young representatives aged 18 - 26 from all four corners of rural and urban UK and further afield. All will be passionate about regenerative thinking and practice within farming and food systems.</p> <p>The event audience will include students (meaning everyone who is curious and on a learning journey - not just those at school or college), and those practically involved in farming, growing, land management, conservation, advice, finance, health care, tourism, research, policy, teaching, activism, cooking and nutrition. We also hope to engage with young entrepreneurs, doctors, vets, chefs, retailers, influencers, journalists and early career leaders.</p> <p>We welcome participants from underrepresented backgrounds, people of colour, neuro diverse and those who might have a long-standing illness, accessibility needs, disability or infirmity (this can relate to either your physical or mental health).</p> <p>We understand that not everyone can afford to come to events such as these, so we can offer some subsidised tickets for those who need it most.</p>



<p>The Venue</p>	<p>We will be spending most of the weekend at FarmED with accommodation and some sessions held at the Royal Agricultural University in Cirencester (around 40 minutes from FarmED). We hope to visit other local farms and projects too.</p>
<p>Event Outcomes</p>	<p>Our focus group helped us develop the narrative, outcomes and content for the event to ensure its relevance.</p> <p>Event participants will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Connect with other regenerative leaders, thinkers and doers ● Gain knowledge, insight and skills from others ● Design tangible action plans to focus energy and skills <p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Inspire and reach new and diverse audiences ● Build an environment that stimulates regenerative change
<p>Event Agenda</p>	<p>We are currently working on the final programme which will be posted on our website and updated as more speakers are announced. Please find an overview below:</p> <p>Day One - Friday 2 Sept 10:00 - 18:00 + dinner/accommodation. <i>Join us at FarmED for introductions, a farm walk and sessions where we'll explore the challenge, potential futures and what it means to be a regenerative champion. We'll end the day at the Royal Agricultural University in Cirencester for dinner, a key speaker and sleep!</i></p> <p>Day Two - Saturday 3 Sept 09:30 - 18:30 + dinner/accommodation</p>



Starting the day at the Royal Agricultural University, get involved in sessions covering topics such as eco-entrepreneurship, how to move to a localised supply chain and western perceptions of sustainability. After lunch we'll head to Conygree Farm, an organic agroecological farm, to engage in practical sessions such as dry-stone walling, market gardening, foraging and rearing pasture-fed livestock. End the day with a bbq dinner and stories around the campfire. There might even be some dancing!

Day Three - Sunday 4 Sept 10:00 - 18:00

Spend the day at FarmED with keynote speakers such as The Black Farmer, Anna Jones, Farming George, Dr. Sally Bell and Russ Carrington (and more!) and engage in a range of breakout sessions.

Participants can immerse themselves in the event for 3 full days (approx. 50 people), or just come on Sunday (max. 100 people). Either way, they will connect with others who have a passion for regenerative practice across farming, food, conservation, community, tourism, nutrition, health, science, journalism, media, management, leadership, business, finance and more.....

By 31st December 2022 - Evaluate, share learning and report back

Ticket Costs

Development and delivery of this event is supported by WWFs Land, Food and Farming Fund, and attendance at the event is subsidised for all to help make it affordable. The ticket price includes accommodation (if required), great food, transport between sessions, a shuttle bus from the station, some drinks and access to all sessions.



Standard Tickets:

1 x 3-day ticket - £145 (with accomodation)

Includes: 2 nights accommodation, all food and transport between venues. We will offer a shuttle from Kingham station but participants will be responsible for getting themselves there. (The true cost of the subsidised ticket is approx. £530pp).

1 x 3-day ticket - £100 (without accommodation)

Includes: all food and transport between venues. We will offer a shuttle from Kingham station but participants will be responsible for getting themselves there. (The true cost of the subsidised ticket is approx. £365 pp).

1 x Sunday Day Ticket - £40 (without accommodation)

Includes: tea, coffee, cakes and lunch. We will offer a shuttle from Kingham station but participants will be responsible for getting themselves there. (The true cost of the subsidised ticket is approx. £120pp).

Bursary Support

If you need extra financial support to join us for 3 day or just Sunday, we have a few bursaries available for those that need it most. We can offer a number of 25%, 50% bursaries and some 100%. In addition, we have some funding for those who need help with transport costs. Please fill in the form below to enquire.

If you are one of the cohort who have helped/are helping organise the event, please fill in the form below and we will issue you with a code.



	<p>Get in touch to enquire about all bursaries using this form HERE.</p>
<p>Key Stakeholders</p>	<p>Beneficiaries Young Participants, FarmED, Speakers / Facilitators</p> <p>Other Orgs Speakers / Facilitators, Schools / Colleges / Universities, LWA/FLAME, Federation of Young Farmers, NFU, Land Based Colleges, Feedback.org, SOS , Growing Communities, LION, Civic Square, Bite Back 2030, Rural Youth Project, Rural Youth Europe, Slow Food Network / Regenerative-Led Chef Networks, Schumacher College, School for Social Entrepreneurs, UKYouth4Nature and many more....</p> <p>Funders WWF & FarmED Funders</p> <p>Partners WWF</p>
<p>Key Contacts</p>	<p>Becky Grove - Project Coordinator (becky@farm-ed.co.uk) Jonty Brunyee - Project Manager (jonty@farm-ed.co.uk)</p>