

# agroecology for new realities

## Authors

Ms. Muneezay Jaffery - Green Shoots Foundation

## Abstract

Green Shoots has been working in the realm of Agroecology for the last seven years. Whether working on school vegetable gardens or our own Agriculture training Centre, the intention has been to create a microcosm that is demonstrative- a space that provides and teaches.

In 2018 we established our award-winning eco-built Agriculture Training Centre in North West Cambodia. It operates as a community centre, open to all and with its existence advocates for a better food system. We look to agroecology as our guiding light for building resilience in communities and ecological cycles. In the middle of 2020 we find ourselves at a crossroads as we try to ascertain a new reality.

How does COVID 19 and the world to come look like for a small provincial town close to the Thai border? So far, we have seen an increase in food prices, a massive influx of migrant workers returning back from Thailand and urban areas. There are few job prospects for them during the early days of lock-down food availability in markets was disrupted due to heavy reliance on imports from Vietnam and Thailand.

How does this new reality impact the community we operate it? We hope agroecology techniques for growing food such as integrated farming and nature-friendly farming pave the way for low-cost solutions and food-secure communities. By promoting “diversity on the farm and diversity on the plate” we regenerate disrupted ecological cycles, improve soil fertility and ensuring households can provide for families and have nutritionally diverse diets

## Biography - Muneezay Jaffery

Muneezay Jaffery (UK) Operations Manager of Green Shoots Foundation. Muneezay has been involved in Green Shoots projects in SE ASIA since 2013. Her role involves planning and design for interventions, conducting consultations with community and local partners in Cambodia and monitoring+ evaluation of all activities. Green Shoots has a longstanding commitment towards impact assessment which they fulfill via data collection and routine analysis. Prior to this work she was a contributor and assistant editor for a global book project Sustainable [R]evolutions which documents ecovillage, community led sustainable projects globally. [http:// www.cultureofpermaculture.org/blog/](http://www.cultureofpermaculture.org/blog/) Over the years she has

volunteered on local farms in London and attended workshops to learn skills for sustainable production.

## Topic Areas

Agroecology