

UBI4FARMERS

SOWING THE SEEDS OF STABILITY

At UBI4FARMERS, our mission is to support the agricultural landscape of the UK with a radically pragmatic idea; a Basic Income (BI) for farmers. We are dedicated to addressing the pressing challenges faced by farmers, farmworkers, and food producers in the UK. Our campaign seeks to create a sustainable and equitable future for agriculture by advocating for a BI that enables food producers to thrive, ensures economic stability, reduces food poverty, enhances food security, and supports the transition to environmentally friendly practices. We aim to empower farmers and strengthen the resilience of the food system while promoting inclusivity and the well-being of those who sustain our nation's food supply.



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[@bi4farmers](https://www.instagram.com/bi4farmers)



MEET TODAY'S TEAM

Guy Standing, Co-founder of the Basic Income Earth Network

Dot Tiwari, BI4FARMERS (Co-founder of Land Justice Oxfordshire and Co-founder of SALT Union)

Hamish Evans, BI4FARMERS (Middle Ground Growers CIC Founder and NFU Young Farming Ambassador)

Kathleen Pollitt, Co-author of the BI4FARMERS report. Community Market Gardener and an MSc student in urban and regional planning

Jake Richardson, Co-author of the BI4FARMERS report and PHD student



UBI4FARMERS (90 MINUTES TOTAL)

ORFC 2024 SESSION PLAN

5 MINS- INTRO TO PROJECT **(HAMISH)**

5 MINS - DEFINITION OF BASIC INCOME **(GUY)**

5 MINS - VISIONING INTRO **(KATIE)**

30 MINS - INTERACTIVE BASIC INCOME DISCUSSION

15 MINS - DISCUSSION FEEDBACK

10 MINS - FARMERS PILOTS, WHY NOW? **(GUY)**

10 MINS - CAMPAIGN & REPORT LAUNCH **(JAKE & DOT)**



INTRO TO PROJECT (HAMISH)

The UBI4Farmers campaign is a grassroots movement advocating for the implementation of a basic income for farmers, farmworkers and food producers in the United Kingdom. We believe that a UBI would provide much-needed financial security and support for those working in this vital industry, while also helping to ensure the long-term sustainability of agriculture in the UK. Our coalition includes farmers, food producers, community groups, and advocacy organisations who are committed to raising awareness about the benefits of a BI for the agriculture industry and working towards its implementation.



BASIC INCOME DEFINITION (GUY)

Basic Income Earth Network (BIEN), basic income characteristics:

- 1. Periodic :** It is paid at regular intervals (for example every month), not as a one-off grant.
- 2. Cash payment :** It is paid in an appropriate medium of exchange, allowing those who receive it to decide what they spend it on. It is not, therefore, paid either in kind (such as food or services) or in vouchers dedicated to a specific use.
- 3. Individual :** It is paid on an individual basis—and not, for instance, to households. (in relation to this policy we recommend it would be paid to all farmworkers and food producers as well as farmers, not only those who own the land)
- 4. Universal :** It is paid to all, without means test (in relation to this policy we recommend the basic income would be paid to the full range of farmers from small-scale to large-scale)
- 5. Unconditional :** It is paid without a requirement to work or to demonstrate a willingness to work (in relation to this scheme we recommend there would be a



VISIONING INTRO (KATIE)

CAN YOU REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME YOU FELT INSPIRED TO GET INVOLVED IN FOOD AND FARMING? WHAT DID YOU SEE? HOW DID IT FEEL?



DISCUSSION PREP

- BREAKOUT INTO GROUPS OF 8-10 PEOPLE
- NOMINATE ONE NOTE TAKER
- NOMINATE ONE PERSON TO FEEDBACK/PRESENT
- 1 X BI4FARMERS TEAM MEMBER PER GROUP



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (40 MINS TOTAL)



supported by The Basic Income Toolkit questions

- **10 MINS QUESTION 1**: As a farmer, farmworker, food producer imagine you've been receiving a UBI of £1000 a month for the last 5 years,(this is a random sum) how would receiving this basic income impact your life, your mental health, your physical health, how might it impact the decisions you make in your work/business?
- **10 MINS QUESTION 2**: Casting the net a bit wider, how do you think farmers/farmworkers/food producers receiving a basic income would impact your local community and the food system in the UK?
- **10 MINS QUESTION 3**: Next steps: what do you think should happen with this campaign next? Would you want to see a pilot designed? What would that

DISCUSSION FEEDBACK (15 MINS)

ONE PRESENTER FROM EACH GROUP FEEDBACK KEY POINTS FROM THEIR DISCUSSIONS

(3-4 mins per presenter)



FARMERS PILOTS , WHY NOW? (GUY)



HOW WE GOT HERE



Launch

Jan 2023

We started sending call outs for initial conversations with farmers and growers through the Land Workers Alliance, CSA Network and social media.



Hosted conversations

March 2023

We hosted three initial conversations with a total of 20 stakeholders. We used the Basic Income Toolkit as a framework. We recorded the conversations and transcribed the findings.



Working Group Est.

April 2023

We had our first working group meeting as a group of seven.

- 4X growers
- 2X academics
- 1X union co-ordinator

Who now meet once a month to progress the campaign.



Autonomy

BIC & Autonomy

June 2023

Basic Income Conversation (a research network whose toolkit we were using for the conversations) was absorbed by progressive ThinkTank Autonomy and both agreed they would like to co-publish a report on our findings.

Basic
Income
Conversation



Report writing

July - Dec 2023

Working group members worked with Autonomy to collate findings from the conversations and we are working on the report of these findings to launch early 2024.



WHERE WE WANT TO GO



Early 2024

Launch Report

Co-publish our report with progressive ThinkTank Autonomy showing the findings of talking to stakeholders in the food & farming field, making an initial case for a Basic Income for Farmers.



Early 2024

Co-write an open letter

Collaborate with individuals and a broad range of organisations in the co-writing of an open letter to key ministers to consider this policy idea.



Mid 2024

Feasibility study into policy package

Secure funding to run a feasibility study into making this a robust policy package and how it would interact with the current devolved governments Agri policies in the UK.



Mid 2024

Feasibility study into a pilot

Secure funding to run a feasibility study into running a pilot/trial of direct cash payments to farmers across the UK to measure the impacts and inform our case.



Late 2024

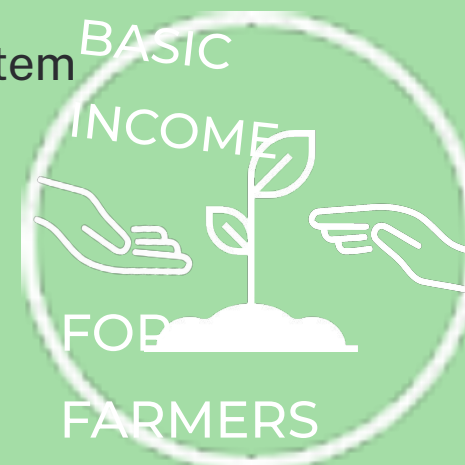
Call out for pilot funding

Seek funding for a 3-year pilot study trialling direct cash-payments to farmers and how that impacts farmers mental wellbeing, transition to sustainable practices and the impact on the local food system

THROUGHOUT 2024



Continue to host conversations online and in person and talk to farmers, farmworkers and food producers to better shape the policy for us all.



UBI4FARMERS

Join us at this crucial time, to support farmers and strengthen the UK's food system in the face of the ever changing environmental and economic landscape.



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GET INVOLVED



Complete the survey:



Read the report.



Sign our open letter.



Join the working group.



<https://shorturl.at/afmCE>



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