

Risk register overview 2026

The following risks have been identified for Edinburgh Agroecology Cooperative CIC working at Lauriston Farm. Risk management and residual risk are provided.

Risk	Rating	Mitigating Actions	Residual risk
Loss of key members of staff	Medium	• Balance staff duties with time available to avoid burnout. • Maintain a clear strategic and financial plan with regular reviews. • Ensure all member voices are heard in strategic decision making. • Monitor financial and operational performance. • Maintain salaries inline with, or exceeding inflation. • Maintain clear lines of communication between members. • Address conflicts as they occur. • Provide robust staff support. • Secure & generate adequate funds to cover salaries and overhead costs.	Low
Loss of volunteer and community engagement	Medium	• Clearly communicate the direction of the organisation and the volunteer role within. • Involve volunteers and community in decision making. • Gather and act on regular feedback from volunteers, staff and visitors. • Provide volunteer support for agreed accountability/responsibility. • Establish complaints review procedure.	Low
Negative public perceptions & lack of community support	Medium	• Maintain clear communication about the farm's activities and developments with the local community. • Uphold a proper review process for handling complaints. • Undertake community consultations for decisions about major developments. • Use NVC to address tensions with	Low

		volunteers, visitors and local residents. • Agree a crisis management strategy for handling negative reporting in the media. • Ensure good quality reporting of the charity's activities and financial situation. • Maximise inclusiveness across communications, events and activities. • Actively engage local community members.	
Physical injuries	Medium	• Maintain comprehensive risk assessments for tasks and activities. • Install signage and raise awareness of hazards to staff, volunteers and farm visitors. • Ensure adequate training of staff and volunteers before completing tasks. • Enact effective mitigation measures for risks identified. • Keep first aid kits, COSHH forms, and staff first-aid training up to date. • Comply with employment H&S law and regulations.	Low
Conflict with partners, collaborators, and land partners	Medium	• Establish clear lines of communication. • Ensure regular contact and updates are provided to partners and funders. • Agree partner/collaborator roles, and set authorisation baselines. • Agree relevant partnership agreement, Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), timelines and/or project deliverables. • Conduct due diligence on partners to ensure values and ethics are upheld.	Low
Bankruptcy	Low	• Monitor cashflow and budgets closely. • Regular financial reporting for working group review. • Ensure adequate skills base to produce and interpret budgetary and financial reports.	Low

		• Maintain and regularly review reserves. • Ensure fundraising covers the budget gap between expenditure and self-generated income. • Full financial appraisal of new projects and include sufficient costs to cover overheads and staff time in funding applications. • Review SROI and identify corporate investment and sponsorship opportunities.	
Failure to deliver our mission	Low	• Ensure sufficient funds are available. • Maintain sufficient capacity to undertake all objectives and project deliverables. • Review and adjust the work plan/timeline for existing and planned activities to ensure it is achievable. • Ensure projects are compatible with the wider organisational plans and priorities. • Stay abreast of agroecological developments, better practices, and methods of community co-creation and place-making.	Low
Major external incidents	Low	• Request an incident alert from organisations that provide a direct risk to the Farm (Edinburgh airport, Grangemouth refinery, and Forth Ports (shipping)). • Monitor soil health. • Prepare emergency procedures and a business continuity plan. • Engage with the local community news/alert network.	Low
Climate Change	High	• Establish a climate adaptation strategy and identify suitable funding. • Increase capacity for energy generation and storage. • Increase water collection and storage capacity. • Expand and adapt indoor growing spaces to extend the growing season. • Actively maintain and protect soil health and fertility.	Medium

Biological hazards	Medium	• Maintain active risk assessment of known biological and environmental hazards. • Repair and maintain farm equipment and infrastructure to ensure it is fit for purpose. • Regular review of sickness and leave procedures. • Identify effective disposal and containment procedures for infected seeds and plants. • Follow comprehensive food hygiene procedures. • Identify suitable and effective remediation measures. • Maintain H&S procedures and staff first aid training. • Signpost known hazards to visitors and volunteers.	Low
Safeguarding	Low	• Identify regulated roles and enrol employees and volunteers in the Disclosure Scotland PVG scheme. • Regularly review company safeguarding policy and procedures. • Provide appropriate staff training and raise awareness.	Low
Loss of tenancy	Low	• Adhere to the terms and conditions of the landlord's tenancy agreement. • Maintain regular contact with local authorities. • Maintain relationships with farm neighbours. • Develop an effective exit strategy.	Low