

Organic solutions for the climate talks in Lima and Paris

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Countering Climate Change with Organic Agriculture
Brussels, 11 November 2014

IFOAM is the international umbrella organization for organic agriculture



International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements

Mission

Leading, uniting and assisting the organic movement in its full diversity.

Goal

The worldwide adoption of ecologically, socially and economically sound systems that are based on the principles of Organic Agriculture.

People

The global organic umbrella organization has over 800 member organizations in around 120 countries.

2 million certified organic farmers and substantially more uncertified organic farmers

The Definition of Organic Agriculture

‘Organic agriculture is a production system that sustains the health of soils, ecosystems and people.

*It relies on **ecological processes, biodiversity and cycles adapted to local conditions**, rather than the use of inputs with adverse effects.*

*Organic agriculture **combines tradition, innovation and science** to benefit the shared environment and promote fair relationships and a good quality of life for all involved.’*

solution for climate change

Rationale:

- Emission reduction potential
- Sequestration potential
- Building climate resilience
- Ecological and social benefits

Agriculture at UNFCCC: history



- Bali Action Plan - sectoral approach
- Durban COP17 (2011)
 - Agriculture as agenda item for SBSTA
 - Implications of the creation of ADP on Ag
- NAMAs start to include Ag
- No Work Programme on Ag under SBSTA in COP17-19
- 2-year plan adopted by SBSTA 40 in Bonn 2014

Agriculture at UNFCCC: strategic considerations



- Responsibility issue (CBDR) – who will need to reduce emissions?
- Scope of a possible future Work Programme:
 - adaptation
 - adaptation and mitigation co-benefits
 - adaptation and mitigation
- Different roles of SBs (SBSTA ad ADP)

Agriculture at UNFCCC: open questions

- Will ADP take up agriculture?
- Where will the SBSTA process lead to?
(especially after the Paris agreement)
- What effect can NAMAs have on the process?
- What approach to take to promote agro-ecology (incl. organic) and smallholders?

Controversial issues re: possible Ag related offset projects for agro-ecology and smallholders

- changing animal diets – animal welfare
- short-term soil carbon sequestration
- speculative business
- most of the revenues remain with consultants