FOOD AND FARMING ACTORS WORKING TOGETHER TOWARDS THE VISION

ORGANIC ON EVERY TABLE

- Helps to ensure that the rules and economic value of organic production stimulate conversion
- Promotes the availability of inputs adapted to organic systems and fights against inputs that threaten organic production
- Builds bridges with farming communities and like-minded organisations to develop strategic cooperation

IMPROVE INSPIRE DELIVER

- Demonstrates the solutions organic food and farming can provide to the challenges facing our food systems
- Advocates for key issues at the intersection between environmental and agricultural policies, such as climate change and biodiversity conservation
- Helps to increase the EU funding dedicated to organic research, and showcasing organic innovation

FAIR PLAY FAIR PAY

- Advocates for true cost accounting and value pricing
- Increases the credibility, fairness and transparency of the organic food chain by supporting the development of new certification and inspection tools
- Builds the capacity of organic associations; enhances dialogue between actors in the value chain

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To transform food and farming successfully, high quality food must become more widely available. This can be achieved by increasing production, while also levelling the playing field. Coherence among consumers and policy-makers of the economic, environmental and social benefits provided by organic production.

To make this happen, the organic sector needs to reach out to food and farming actors working both within and beyond organic. Engaging with conventional farmers, community leaders, citizens’ initiatives, companies and NGOs dealing with sustainability, as well as with schools, chefs and health advocates, will ensure the recognition and support needed in order to put organic food on every table. Creating links with these actors requires improvements in the way we communicate, and the use of diverse channels to tell the story of the benefits of organic food for society and ecosystems.

The success of organic food and farming also depends on their economic viability. This means that farmers, companies and the whole value chain need to invest in the production capacities to satisfy current and potential demand to raise the profitability of organic, and to reduce the dependence on subsidies.

Organic food and farming work with nature to achieve the best possible results for people, animals and the planet. A systems perspective and a spirit of continuous improvement are inherent parts of the organic model, making it a key driver of transformation. To inspire further change in food and farming systems, organic producers need to continue reducing the use of resources at all levels, while increasing productivity, recycling and reusing inputs, improving animal health and welfare, and avoiding waste. As processed food plays an even bigger role in our lifeways, organic actors also need to improve the quality of such foods, using healthier recipes and adopting minimal processing techniques.

By promoting greater consumption of organic food and using an organic focus, to ensure the spread of practical knowledge and data. There is also a need to develop and implement organic action plans that enable organic actors to improve and innovate, and inspire others to follow suit. Finally, the thorough transformation of our food and farming systems can only happen if there is complete coherence between all policies related to food and farming, health, education and the environment.

It is a good time to be organic. Never before has the market been as big, nor has it grown as rapidly. But while the sector begins to expand beyond the niche market, the supply chain actors must reflect on their organic spirit and should play a role in finding solutions for more and more transparent food systems. They should do so in cooperation with entrepreneurs and economic actors outside the sphere of food and farming. For food systems to be transparent and fair, all actors need to work together to ensure that value and power are fairly distributed around the operators in the system, and that the costs and benefits of food production are accounted for. In the organic sector, a continuous dialogue between producers, traders, certifiers and distributors would benefit the whole chain. To close the knowledge gap that exists between organic and conventional food production, policymakers need to provide more funding for organic research and innovation. Such research should be based on participatory, system-oriented approaches. There is also a need to develop a paradigm shift in knowledge, a broader and greater focus on the results delivered by farmers are fully incentivised and rewarded.

Increase research funding and support development of formal education and advisory systems with an organic focus

Ensure coherence between policies related to food, farming, health, education and the environment

By promoting greater consumption of organic food and using an organic focus, to ensure the spread of practical knowledge and data. At the same time, promoting local and regional food systems that generate more added value and provide communities with healthy, safe and affordable food, its origin and how it is produced.

Policymakers also create incentives to encourage operators to exchange price and production data. At the same time, policymakers need to develop a unified framework of indicators for transparency from farm to fork and fairer and more transparent food systems. Policy-makers must create incentives to encourage operators to exchange price and production data.

Organic food & farming systems are successful, continuously improving their performance & inspire change.

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