

Tuesday morning

- Food sovereignty, livelihood and Global (organic) food systems
- Concepts which you can use as framework to discuss your results with and can be helpful in seeing your projects in the bigger picture
- After this: the challenges in our dialogues with our universities about this project and its focus: 'organic food and farming'

Tuesday morning

- 8.30-9:15: What is food sovereignty and how does ProGrOV contribute to peoples' food sovereignty? Mette Vaarst
- 9:15-10:15: The concept of livelihood and how does ProGrOV contribute to the organic farmers' livelihood? Evelyne Lazaro

Health break

- 10:45-11:30: How do our ProGrOV studies contribute and link to the development of global (organic) food systems? Kostas Karantininis
- 11:30-12:30: Which arguments and discussions are we faced with on our universities regarding organic global food and farming, and regarding trying to take a cross-disciplinary / value chain approach, and how do/can you respond? Lise Andreasen and Mette Vaarst

8:30-9:15: How does our research (in the team of ProGrOV) link to and contribute to peoples' food sovereignty? Feed back from the groups

- Sustainable production as a concept linked to organic agr.: now and future generations. Farmers and consumers.
- Developing products: optimal use of materials and less dependency on inputs => increased yield / production, including integration.
- Whether this project has had an impact on livelihood; improved productivity and something to replicate for others – in this way
- How is the ProGrOV link to trade of organic products?
- Inputs in relation to sovereignty; care for the soil to make it care for you. Health throughout the system.
- Which kind of production systems are we promoting? Different cropping systems; enrichment of soils
- The project also emphasise the biodiversity.
- Pest management: farmers having control over indigenous knowledge on pest management => soil fertility and limit use of inputs.
- Limit the costs of production => farm level.
- Understanding of the consumers' preferences: help to target on the market.
- Small scale processing: improving shell life.

9:40-10:00: How does our research (in the team of ProGrOV) link to and contribute to organic farmers livelihoods? (and the livelihood of the communities) Feed back from the groups

- Economic: identifying and quantifying the transaction costs in market channels and to reduce them.
- Reducing the production costs at farm levels by using locally available material and not buy inputs, for control of pests, weeds etc. + conserves biodiversity, reduce health risks ...
- Once we produce organic products: premium price and improve economic situation
- Export: foreign currency to be invested.
- Social networking: provide info and technologies
- Promoting economic activities that does not destroy the environments.
- Promotes policies that document for decision makers/informs policies
- Telling the farmers to produce for sustainable consumption and production enhancing the environment
- Integration enables recycling and biodiversity leading to resilient systems – contributes to the ecological capacity
- Capacity building of farmers through the participatory research that we do; this enhances the social networks
- Through the value chain approach we identify where in the chain we have problems; how can people work together to reduce the transaction costs.
- Do we really take a value chain approach? Individuals do part of the chain each – if you connect the pieces, it does give a value chain perspective.

What is food sovereignty and how does it link to the principles for organic agriculture?



'The international Planning Committee for food sovereignty'

'the right of peoples to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sustainable methods, and their right to define their own food and agriculture systems'.

Seven principles of food sovereignty

- 1. Food: A Basic Human Right
- 2. Agrarian Reform
- 3. Protecting Natural Resources
- 4. Reorganizing Food Trade
- 5. Ending the Globalization of Hunger
- 6. Social Peace
- 7. Democratic control

The link between 'organic farming' and the concept of food sovereignty?

Principle of HEALTH

Organic Agriculture should sustain and enhance the health of soil, plant, animal, human and planet as one and indivisible.

Principle of ECOLOGY

Organic Agriculture should be based on living ecological systems and cycles, work with them, emulate them and help sustain them.

Principle of FAIRNESS

Organic Agriculture should build on relationships that ensure fairness with regard to the common environment and life opportunities.

Principle of CARE

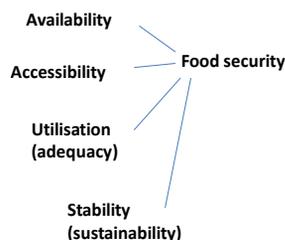
Organic Agriculture should be managed in a precautionary and responsible manner to protect the health and well-being of current and future generations and the environment.



From 'Principle of fairness'

This principle emphasizes that those involved in organic agriculture should conduct human relationships in a manner that ensures fairness at all levels and to all parties – farmers, workers, processors, distributors, traders and consumers. Organic agriculture should provide everyone involved with a good quality of life, and contribute to food sovereignty and reduction of poverty. It aims to produce a sufficient supply of good quality food and other products.

Food security - food sovereignty: what is the difference?



1. Food: A Basic Human Right

- Everyone must have access to safe, nutritious and culturally appropriate food in sufficient quantity and quality to sustain a healthy life with full human dignity.
- Each nation should declare that access to food is a constitutional right and guarantee the development of the primary sector to ensure the concrete realization of this fundamental right.

2. Agrarian Reform

- A genuine agrarian reform is necessary which gives landless and farming people – especially women – ownership and control of the land they work and returns territories to indigenous peoples.
- The right to land must be free of discrimination on the basis of gender, religion, race, social class or ideology; the land belongs to those who work on it.

Many investments [...] failed to live up to expectations and, instead of generating sustainable benefits, contributed to asset loss and left local people worse off than they would have been without the investment. In fact, even though an effort was made to cover a wide spectrum of situations, case studies confirm that in many cases benefits were lower than anticipated or did not materialize at all.

World Bank (2011): Rising Global Interest in Farmland: Can it Yield Sustainable and Equitable Benefits?¹²



3. Protecting Natural Resources

- **Food Sovereignty** entails the sustainable care and use of natural resources, especially **land, water, and seeds and livestock breeds**.
- The people who work the land must have the **right to practice sustainable management of natural resources and to conserve biodiversity free of restrictive intellectual property rights**.
- This can only be done from a sound economic basis with security of tenure, healthy soils and reduced use of agrochemicals.

Seed sovereignty ... and our genetic inheritance

- <http://vimeo.com/79790350>



4. Reorganizing Food Trade

- Food is first and foremost a source of nutrition and only secondarily an item of trade.
- National agricultural policies must prioritize production for domestic consumption and food self-sufficiency. **Food imports must not displace local production nor depress.**

5. Ending the Globalization of Hunger

- Food Sovereignty is undermined by multilateral institutions and by speculative capital.
- **The growing control of multinational corporations over agricultural policies** has been facilitated by the economic policies of multilateral organizations such as the WTO, World Bank and the IMF.
- Regulation and taxation of speculative capital and a strictly enforced Code of Conduct for TNCs is therefore needed.

6. Social Peace

- Everyone has the right to be free from violence. Food must not be used as a weapon.
- **Increasing levels of poverty and marginalization in the countryside, along with the growing oppression of ethnic minorities and indigenous populations, aggravate situations of injustice and hopelessness.**
- The ongoing displacement, forced urbanization, repression and increasing incidence of racism of smallholder farmers cannot be tolerated.

7. Democratic control

- **Smallholder farmers must have direct input into formulating agricultural policies at all levels.** The United Nations and related organizations will have to undergo a process of democratization to enable this to become a reality.
- Everyone has the right to honest, accurate information and open and democratic decision-making.
- These rights form the basis of **good governance**, accountability and equal participation in economic, political and social life, free from all forms of discrimination.
- Rural women, in particular, must be granted direct and active decision making on food and rural issues.

Tuesday morning

Lise Andreasen & Mette Vaarst

11:45-12:30: Which arguments and discussions are we faced with in our universities regarding organic food and farming? Which arguments and discussions are we faced with in our universities regarding cross-disciplinary / value chain approach? How do/can we respond?

- To be discussed in country teams (?)
- What have we learned in this process which can help others and ourselves in a future process?

Which arguments and discussions are we faced with in our universities; learning - Kenya

- Organic agriculture is considered primitive and backward and done long time ago
- Cannot be convinced that organic agriculture can (feed?) the Nation
- Cannot distinguish between organic and no-input
- Most research is very discipline and no holistic approach starting from soil onwards
- Most research done is about P and N
- Is production of organic for a defined niche of people? Why need to produce organic?
- The argument for introducing 'the platform' into the university was a demand from 'the world' and research was needed

Which arguments and discussions are we faced with in our universities; learning - Uganda

- Food security: organic cannot feed the nation
- Organic products cannot be absorbed by the organic market, and it ended on conventional markets.
- Challenge of diseases, especially livestock, still being addressed by chemical drugs; organic cannot take care of that, especially not on commercialised level.
- GMO debate: in universities research in GMO is highly funded, so the scientists promoting this will never be for organic.
- No methods to differentiate between organic and conventional products.
- Still need for incentives to go into org. agr. which is still absent in Uganda; lack of promotion.
- As long as research is donor driven, and organic agriculture has no funding and hence no priority.
- Addressing: university researchers need to validate and add a scientific dimension
- Organic technologies to be developed
- Capacity building within the university is needed about organic.

Which arguments and discussions are we faced with in our universities; learning - Tanzania

- No problem in the country policy
- Organic inputs: if all farmers wanted to go organic will there be enough inputs e.g. manure? Our response: if manure goes in high demand, there is a good business opportunity
- Soil nutrients: the crops will not care whether nutrients come from org. Or non-org. Our response: soil balances still important; microbes
- Food security: cannot be achieved via org. farming. We are still trying to find answers for this.
- Cross-disc. : crop protection still a big challenge for organic.
- What can be / have we done: every time the arguments come, we tried to address them, and we also agree that further research is needed.