

Information and registration

Target group

The main target groups for the workshop are:

Decision makers and office working with development issues at ministries
Development professionals at governmental aid organisations (DANIDA, SIDA etc.)
NGOs who are active in the field of organic agriculture and food production
Private companies with interest in organic products and organic/integrated production
Researchers, PhD students and advanced MSc students

There are no restrictions in participation, but access is limited to the number of seats in the Auditorium.

Registration and further information

You can register by sending an email to:

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Please state your name and contact details including institute/company. You will receive an email confirming your participation. Deadline for registration is 20 November.

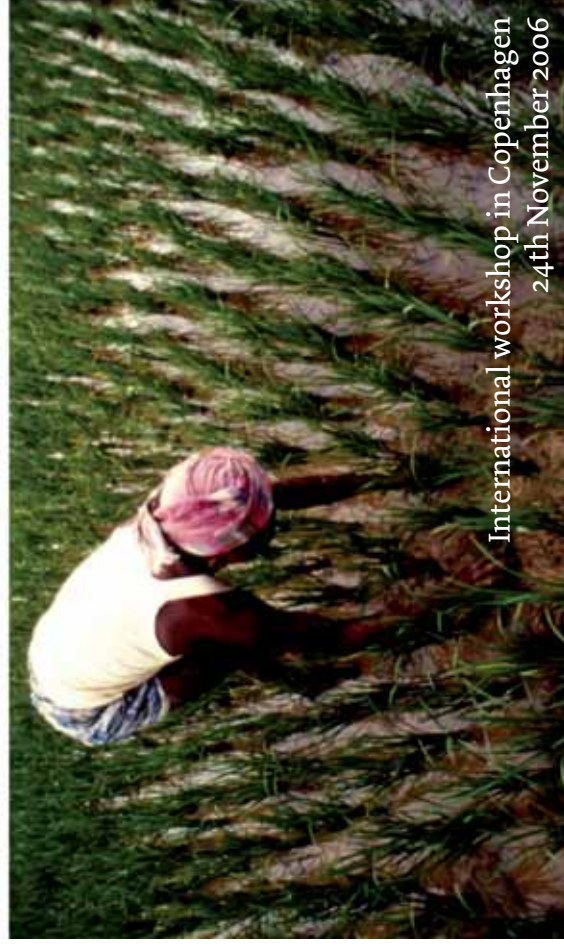
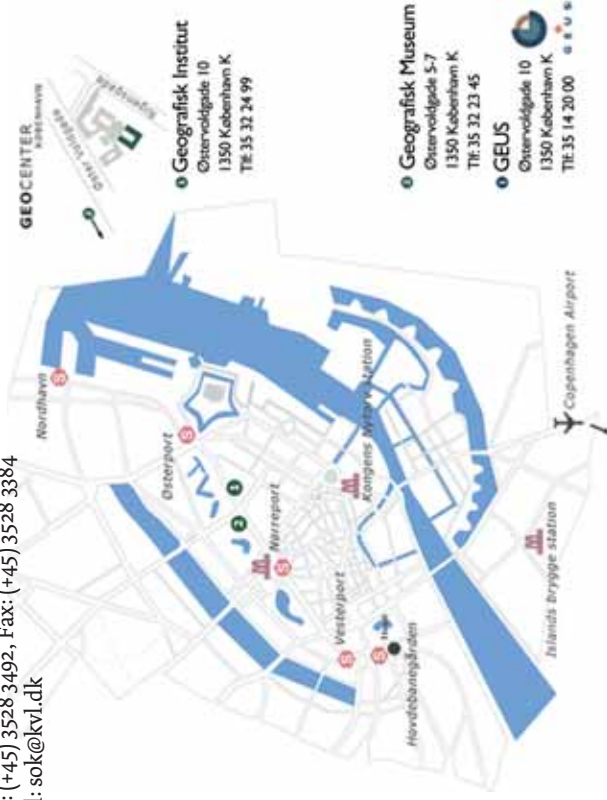
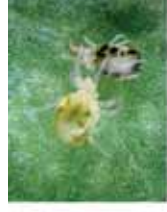
Venue

Auditorium B, 3rd Floor
Department of Geography
University of Copenhagen
Øster Voldgade 10
DK-1350 Copenhagen K

Organizers

The Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University (KVL)
Research School for Organic Agriculture and Food Systems (SOAR)
Danish Research Centre for Organic Food and Farming (DARCOF)
Danish Network for Agricultural Research for Development (NETARD)

– the need for integrated production for food security



International workshop in Copenhagen
24th November 2006

Background and objectives

Globalization and increased international trade has a vast impact on agriculture and food systems all over the world. For some countries globalization causes a general technological and structural modernisation of the food production, but in many low-income countries large proportions of the population cannot access the technology and production inputs that are preconditions for benefiting of the globalisation.

Organic farming are characterized by the use of local resources – and thereby independency of expensive inputs like fertilizers, pesticides etc. During the last decade, it has been demonstrated that modern, organic food systems can provide a relatively high and stable production. On this basis, several international organisations (IFAD, FAO and several NGOs) have acknowledged organic farming as a feasible approach to provide food security for small-holders and resource poor groups in low-income countries.

In addition, the production of organic foods might provide opportunities for exporting high value food products to consumers with considerable purchasing power. Currently, the demands for organic products, including tropical, organic products are rising in both Europe and the US.

Furthermore, organic agricultural production is seen as tangible efforts to create sustainable environmental development. Compared to industrialized production, orga-

nic production results in a higher biodiversity and less damage to the environment.

However, in order to take advantage of the possibilities embedded in the organic production it is essential to develop agricultural systems adapted to local conditions, and to supply the technical and biological knowledge indispensable for a sustainable development.

On this background the objective of the workshop is to introduce challenges and potentials of organic farming as a tool for development in low-income countries.

A panel of internationally acknowledged experts will spotlight relevant issues in the fields of organic farming, integrated crop production, biodiversity, human nutrition, and the role of organic production in Africa from farmer perspective, from NGO perspectives and micro- and macroeconomic aspects of sustainable production. Discussions will focus on potentials and constraints for organic/integrated production systems that can lead to development and improved livelihoods for resource-poor farmers.

The intention is that the seminar will provide a broad introduction of the possibilities of organic and integrated farming. It is thus the hope that the seminar will contribute to a discussion of what research and what developing aid is most beneficial for improving the livelihoods for resource-poor farmers in low-income countries.

Preliminary programme

- 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.10 Official opening and welcome by Judith Kyst, secretary-general for Max Haavelaar, Denmark

Session I: Organic Agriculture as a means to development for resource poor farmers

- 9.20 Opening notes by Prof. Henning Høgh Jensen, SOAR
- 9.25 Can organic farming contribute to a better livelihood of small scale farmers? Michael Hauser, BOKU, Austria.
- 9.45 Experiences with the use of "Organic" as a development model – seen from a private sector and a civil society angle. Moses Mwanga, Coordinator of the National Organic Agriculture Movement of Uganda, NOGAMU.

- 10.15 Discussion
- 10.45 Break

Session II: Certified organic products for the market to further development

- 11.00 Opening notes by head of centre Erik Steen Kristensen, DARCOF
- 11.05 Trading of organic products in Eastern Africa – an institutional supporting promotion. Dr. Sophia Twarog, UNCTAD responsible for the programme on Organic in Africa.
- 11.35 Using exporters with contract farmers as a business development model in Eastern Africa, experiences from the EPOPA programme, Gunnar Rundgren, Sweden.

- 12.00 Discussion
- 12.30 Lunch

Session III: Biological control for food security in integrated production systems

- 13.15 Opening notes by Prof. Lene Sigsgaard, KVL
- 13.20 Biological control and functional biodiversity in agricultural production – successful cases to improve food security by Peter Neuenschwander (IITA).
- 13.50 Growing vegetables in Eastern Africa – pest control in organic/integrated agricultural production, biodiversity, farmer economy and export markets, Markus Knapp, ICIPE, African Insect Science for Food and Health.

- 14.20 The need of diet diversity for family health and nutrition Nanna Roos, KVL.
- 14.40 Discussion
- 15.15 Closure by Hanne Carus, BFT, DANIDA.
- 15.30 Closed



Organic Agriculture in Development