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TIPI

Organic agriculture: a <u>global</u> vision and research strategy

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Achieved so far

› First draft of a global vision for OF research elaborated by the 1st board of TIPI for discussion in Istanbul (IFOAM Conference October 2014).

› Lively discussed by 120 scientists, farm advisors and farmers – productive output for improving the vision and working on an action plan.

› More in-depth collection of the research needs, local, regional, continents and global ones.

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Objectives for today

❯ Mutual update and get ready for the next steps.

❯ Getting more input by 3 experts.

❯ Having more input from the floor.

❯ Elaborating on a more precise action plan and get into top gear.

Program

- Output of the Istanbul discussion and how to integrate it into the TIPI Vision (Urs Niggli).
- Research needs for organic farmers on the different continents (Dora Drexler).

- *Moderation: Gabi Soto*
- Research policy of NOARA (David M. Amudavi).
- Research questions of processing and trading companies (Manon Haccius).
- Most recent achievements with sustainability standards (organic, agro-ecology, private sustainability standards) (Ulrich Hofmann)

- Identify topics for discussion.
  Workshops in groups on priority questions (all participants).

- Get into gear: action plan (Brian Baker).
- Discussion.

- Summary and conclusion (Urs Niggli)

Important elements since Istanbul

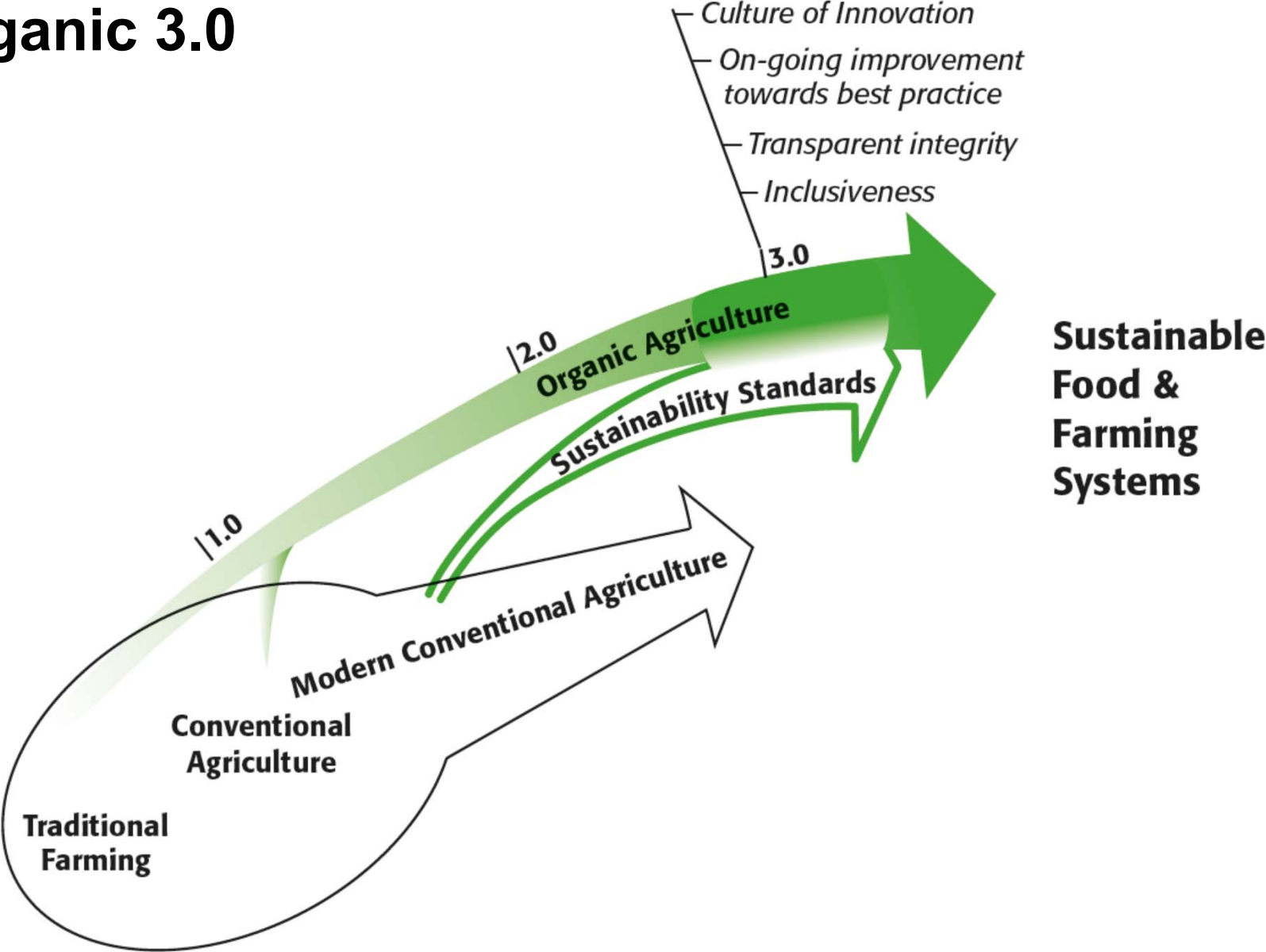**State-of-the-art of organic farming and its research community:**

- Extremely high variation from continent to continent and within continents.
- From niche/opposition to mainstream and even governmental priority (e.g. Denmark, Switzerland, Germany).
- Strongly influences the research priority, the research strategy and the research methods.

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Important elements since Istanbul

Is OF an niche production, alternative pathway (plan B) or up-scalable sustainability strategy?

- Influences the research agenda (examples).
- A comprehensive innovation strategy needed, based on different sources of knowledge and different ways of knowledge generation.
- The scientific community will play an important role when the comprehensive and a more open innovation culture for Organic 3.0 has to become defined.
- "Innovation can be destructive".

Organic 3.0

- Culture of Innovation
- On-going improvement towards best practice
- Transparent integrity
- Inclusiveness

3.0

2.0

Organic Agriculture

Sustainability Standards

1.0

Modern Conventional Agriculture

Sustainable Food & Farming Systems

Conventional Agriculture

Traditional Farming

Important elements since Istanbul

Internal and external drivers for organic farming development:

- Internalising environmental and social costs.
- *Data from science and experience from farmers needed, but actions by the society.*

- Improving the performance of organic farm and food production.
- *Innovation by science and farmers needed.*

New or important elements since Istanbul

Who profits or benefits from research?

- The scientific community often forgets about the research needs of small holder farmers.
- The TIPI vision should focus more on SME (farmers, processors, input provider, traders), they are important drivers of organic farming.
- A strength of organic agriculture is the health of farmers. Small holder farmers and farm workers suffer most from the 'chemicalization' of agriculture.
- Regional context of research is very important.

Important elements since Istanbul

Advocacy for organic agriculture research

- TIPI: advising the IFOAM board and the general assembly on sound science.
- Influencing in favor of the research spending for organic agriculture (example of TP Organics of the IFOAM-EU regional group)
- TIPI should facilitate the exchange of regional experience on advocacy for research agenda setting.
- Many Davids working together versus Goliath.

Important elements since Istanbul

System redesign contra organic 'silver-bullet' solutions

- Both approaches are highly qualified and needed.
- Still too many bad or not compliant techniques (e.g. chemical livestock medication, plant protection).
- Exploring the knowledge of how farmers have dealt with it over centuries and completely new solutions from cutting-edge science

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Important elements since Istanbul

Global sustainable food security as the overall framework

Productivity.
Efficiency.
Sufficiency.
Innovation.
Inclusiveness.
Guided progress
　　and development.