

Organic Denmark

Global Organic



Organic Denmark is an organization of organic farmers, food companies and consumers jointly working to strengthen the organic vision and production for the benefit of people, animals and the environment.

The mission of Organic Denmark is to work for local, national and international development of organic agriculture. We have worked for the development of organic agriculture for more than 30 years, and at the same time strengthened collaboration with international organizations with similar goals.

The organic idea is also about global balance, democracy, wise use of natural resources and agricultural activities respecting and supporting a well balanced natural environments.

Organic Denmark is ready for the challenges of organic development in a global context. Our primary goal is to work for and support further development of organic agriculture in the Global South and to be a strong advocate for organic farming as the leading agricultural system in Danish development efforts.

Organic Denmark - Global Organic

Global Organic is a network for members of Organic Denmark. Formed in 2007 the network comprises a group of members with a wide range of qualifications relevant for our focus area: scientists, farmers, teachers, advisors and people from trade, banking, and the environmental sector. Almost all members have experience from working in the Global South. In other words a network of very many competences and an organization with engaged 'grassroots' and staff to support the work.

The network has chosen 6 of its members to a committee, which coordinates capacity development, projects and network activities.

The goal of Global Organic is:

- to integrate development work in the Global South into our organization Organic Denmark
- to collaborate with Danida and Danish NGOs in order to implement organic agricultural methods as part of their programs
- to establish close, practical cooperation with sister-organizations in the Global South

Guiding principles for our work

In Global Organic, we base our work on the organic principles concerning health, ecology, justice and care expressed by IFOAM, the international organic federation. Read more on <http://www.ifoam.org>

We aim at reducing hunger and poverty through agricultural development, and our experience is that sustainable organic / agro-ecological strategies are a way towards this goal.

Every initiative for implementing organic production and principles must naturally

consider the local conditions, possibilities and limitations.

Factors such as:

- Landscape and climate
- Infrastructure
- Family structure and gender issues
- Cultural traditions
- Food and agricultural traditions



We want to collaborate with and support all types of organic and agro-ecological farming. We focus on at least two strategies for organic production:

- a. Production of organic products for the local or international markets, with the goal of steady household incomes. This strategy is not possible everywhere. This often raises awareness among governments about the benefits of organic production and environmental protection. Export increases prestige and income. This strategy can also stimulate the interest for the organic methods in general in farmer communities. We are very aware that this has to be carried through in a socially responsible manner, e.g. that men, women and children equally benefit from an increased family income

- b. A transition from traditional subsistence farming to deliberate organic food production for the family. This is maybe the most important strategy. This development can be stimulated by introducing organic farming of products for export as explained above. The greatest impact on development is a sufficient and healthy local food-production for health, learning, peace and a self-reliant community.

When cooperating with sister organizations in the Global South, we want to focus on subsistence farmers and small scale farmers, because they are often poor and have a great potential for improving their production through improved integrated and diverse production. They will furthermore benefit greatly from improved education, sparing and capacity building.

We look for possibilities to assist partners in the Global South to break this pattern, empower the farmers and stimulate the farmer communities to mobilize their own resources. Capacity building, empowerment, self-help and commercial viability are keywords to development.

Contacts:

Organic Denmark, Silkeborgvej 260, DK-8230 Aabyhøj
+45 8732 2700. www.okologi.dk www.organicdenmark.com

Global Organic:

Bjarne Larsen, chairman, Sdr. Forumvej 22, DK-6715 Esbjerg
+45 2330 4399. landmandbjarne@larsen.mail.dk

Inge Lis Dissing, secretary, Fasanvej 11, DK-9460 Brovst
+45 2339 2749. dissing@10mb.dk



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