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(New Delhi, India)*



ORGANIC 3.0

for truly sustainable farming & consumption

A Landmark Document of the Organic Movement
IFOAM – Organics International

The global organic movement developed the concept of Organic 3.0 that is summarized in this landmark document in a participatory process.

The membership shares the visions and commits to being part of this strategic roadmap and to following the common objectives in own missions and strategies.

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IFOAM - Organics International

Charles-de-Gaulle Str. 5

53113 Bonn, Germany

www.ifoam.bio

ORGANIC 3.0 – FOR TRULY SUSTAINABLE FARMING AND CONSUMPTION

Organic agriculture can significantly contribute to addressing global environmental and social challenges and to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). In order to fully utilize its potential, organic agriculture needs to grow, continuously improve its performance and inspire mainstream agriculture. Organic 3.0 provides a roadmap for innovative, inclusive, fair and impactful organic development from farm to final consumer. The overall goal of Organic 3.0 is therefore to enable the widespread uptake of truly sustainable farming systems and markets based on organic principles.

THE NEED FOR ORGANIC 3.0

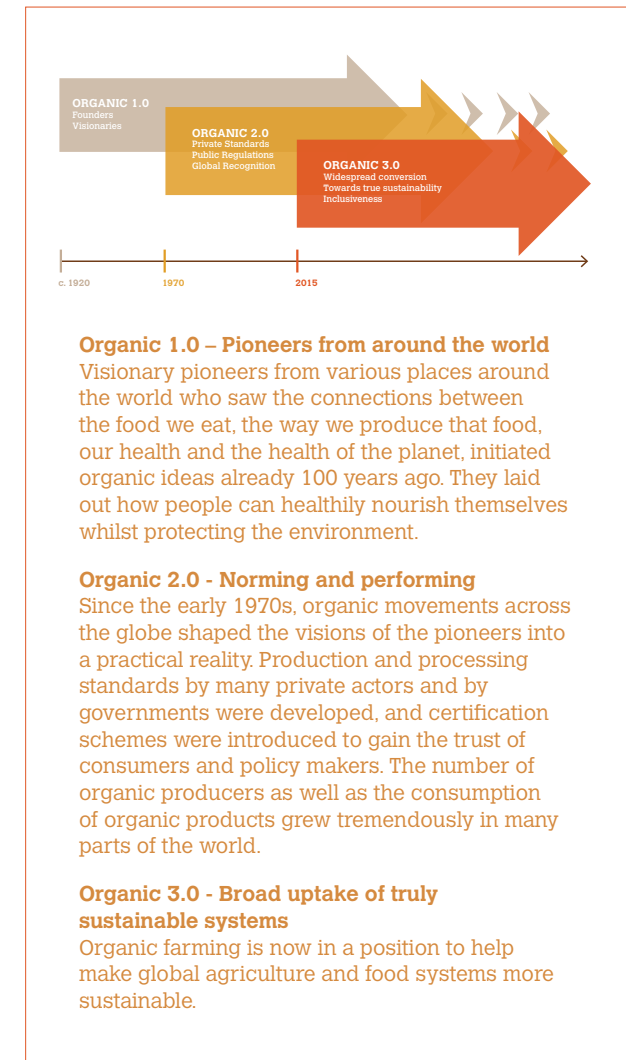
Organic agriculture has come a long way: from the early days of the pioneers more than 100 years ago to the forming of a global movement and the emergence of a sizeable organic sector. The codification of organic standards and regulations, participatory research to overcome technical challenges, and concerted efforts

to enable political support have made this development possible. Today, millions of farmers – certified and non-certified – manage their farms organically, and hundreds of millions of consumers buy organic products.

However, organic agriculture still accounts for only a small share of global agriculture. It is often perceived as being low-productive and too expensive. Organic standards are able to ensure that minimum requirements for organic production and processing are met, but they are insufficient to exclusively drive best practices based on the principles of health, ecology, fairness and care that are at the core of the organic philosophy. Furthermore, they exclude many producers who grow organically without being certified: smallholder farmers particularly in economically less developed countries who play a critical role in providing nutritious food to much of the world's population. While the organic sector grows and prospers, many stakeholders see a need for reforms in order to make overall agricultural production and consumption truly sustainable – not just to optimize the niche activity.

Therefore, the organic movement needs a new strategic course to become more relevant and impactful in view of the challenges that global agriculture is facing.

FIGURE 1 | Organic 1.0 - Organic 2.0 - Organic 3.0



WHAT ORGANIC AGRICULTURE CAN OFFER THE WORLD

Agriculture, as most widely practiced, significantly contributes to problems such as environmental pollution, loss of biodiversity and climate change. The majority of the world's population is either undernourished, malnourished or overweight, with enormous costs to society. Farmers across the globe struggle to earn a fair income, and many are leaving rural areas.

“Sustainable means meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

Today, it is widely agreed that business as usual in agricultural production, processing, trade and consumption is not an option. Far-reaching changes are needed without delay if future generations are to have equal or improved preconditions for prosperity, particularly in view of a growing world population. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide a commonly accepted framework for how the world needs to change.

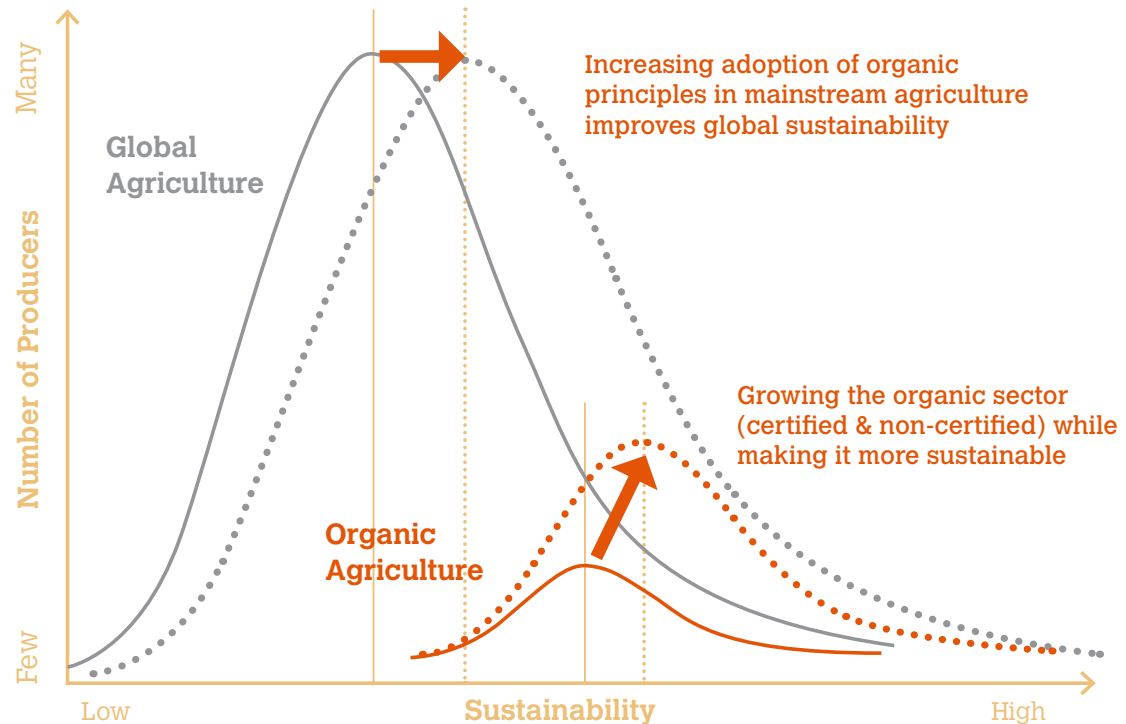
Organic agriculture, based on the principles of health, ecology, fairness and care, has high potential to contribute to many of these goals, directly or indirectly. There is sufficient evidence of positive impacts on a wide range of

important issues including consumer health, soil health, water, biodiversity, climate change, environmental pollution, animal welfare and improved livelihoods of producers. In order to fully utilize this potential, organic agriculture needs to grow, continuously improve its performance, and inspire mainstream agriculture.

Alongside the organic movement there are numerous worthwhile initiatives from farmers, organizations and businesses to improve sustainability in agriculture and food systems. They can be allies in advocating for more conducive framework conditions.

FIGURE 2 | Towards More Sustainable Agriculture

 = Envisaged impact



IMPLEMENTING ORGANIC 3.0

The strategy for Organic 3.0 builds on six main features, consistently promoting the diversity that lies at the heart of organic and recognizing there is no 'one-size-fits-all' approach:



#1 A culture of innovation

to stimulate greater farmer conversion and adoption of best practices. Organic 3.0 proactively combines the best traditional practices with modern innovations. It assesses practice, knowledge and innovation against impact risks and potentials.



#2 Continuous improvement towards best practice

for operators along the whole value chain. Continuous improvement covers all dimensions of sustainability: ecology, society, economy, culture and accountability.



#3 Diversity of ways to ensure transparent integrity

to broaden the uptake of organic agriculture beyond third-party certification. Trust instilled by transparency and integrity develops acceptance and builds the market.



#4 Inclusion of wider sustainability interests

through proactively building alliances with the many movements and organizations that have complementary approaches to truly sustainable food and farming. However, it also clearly distinguishes itself from unsustainable agriculture systems and 'greenwashing' initiatives.



#5 Empowerment from the farm to the final consumer

to recognize the interdependence and real partnerships along the value chain and also on a territorial basis. It particularly acknowledges the core position of small-scale family farmers, gender equality and fair trade.



#6 True value and cost accounting

to internalize costs and benefits of external effects, to encourage transparency for consumers and policy-makers and to empower farmers as partners with rights.

CALL FOR ACTION

All stakeholders and allies are invited to make the concept of Organic 3.0 reality and include it in institutional and individual strategies. The shift from Organic 2.0 to Organic 3.0 primarily requires a change in attitude and thinking. The call for action includes a call to include the features of Organic 3.0 in institutional and individual strategies. Basic values and attitudes promoted in Organic 3.0 need to become part of a new self-realization. We need to work together to advance organic know-how, to foster a more conducive policy environment, and to raise consumer awareness.

All stakeholders and policymakers are invited to participate in the formulation of local and international strategies that advance the implementation of Organic 3.0. Contact IFOAM - Organics International for assistance.

Reference:

Arbenz Markus, Gould David and Stopes Christopher, 'Organic 3.0 – for truly sustainable farming and consumption', IFOAM – Organics International and SOAAN (Bonn, 2016).

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