



Subject Area

Organic Agriculture

SA Organic Agriculture – Why?

- Organic Agriculture covers the whole food chain from farm to fork
- Organic Agriculture is a quickly developing sector for sustainable food production
- Organic Agriculture should include a systems approach in research and teaching
- Students are interested, but rarely do exchange with the partner universities.
- Each of the participating universities has different strengths in teaching, research as well as different facilities
- Different conditions for and state of development of Organic Agriculture in the different countries offer a variation of opportunities in teaching

The Partners and their current Organic Farming Activities

- **BOKU:** M.Sc. Programme in Organic Agriculture (System approach)
- **UHOH:** M.Sc. Programme “Organic Food Chain Management” (Food Chain approach)
- **KVL:** Courses in Organic agriculture, PhD Research school in Organic Agriculture with some activities open for advanced MSc students
- **SGGW:** Courses on M. Sc. level
- **SLU:** Courses in Organic agriculture, PhD Research school in Organic Agriculture
- **CUA:** B.Sc. and M.Sc, Courses “Organic Farming” and PhD students in organic farming research

Different Foci – Added Value

- BOKU:** - Own research group on Organic Agriculture
- Emphasis on social sciences and soil fertility as well as animal husbandry
- UHOH:** - Focus on agriculture in tropical and subtropical regions
- Emphasis on socioeconomics of Organic Agriculture, crop production including plant breeding and plant protection, soil fertility and environmental issues
- KVL:** - Broad research base within organic animal and crop production
- quality and consumption of organic food and global issues
- close connection to the Danish Research Centre for Organic Farming (DARCOF)

Different Foci – Added Value

- SGGW:** - Focus on the quality of the organically produced foods and their impact on animal and human health
- environmental and social context of the Organic Agriculture
- SLU:** - Strong environmental approach: Planning for interdisciplinary BSc and MSc programs in Rural Development and Natural Resource Management, with possibilities for specialisation in Agroecology
- CUA:** - Field experiments with traditional varieties of plants, investigating their nutritional values and the effect on animal's health

The Pathway to closer Co-operation

- Strengthen student mobility for a complete semester as well as for single modules
- Strengthen teacher mobility: within existing modules by teacher exchange
- Identification of commonly organized teaching modules
- Adding new activities: common field trip, e-learning
- Platform for exchange of teaching and learning methods
- Common M.Sc. Programme as a future challenge

Last year's output

- Identification of partner universities
- Preliminary approval of the subject area
- Compilation of a list of all subjects related to organic agriculture at the different universities
- Compilation of the different semester schedules, holidays, free periods

The Plan for 2007...

- Concept and development of web pages for the Subject Area including links to the module databases at the different universities and services for students willing to do exchange
- Definition of modules and teachers for teacher mobility, conception for teacher exchange
- Conception and planning of the field trip in 2008

... and beyond

- First field trip of the Subject Area in Austria in the summer semester 2008
- Establishment of teacher exchange
- Development of E-Learning units
- Common Master Program