

Roadmap

Towards more organic farming research in International cooperation

Science Day
February 12, 2016
Brian Baker



TIPI Roadmap

- > Where are we?
- > Where do we want to go?
- > How do we get there?





TIPI's 2015-16 Goals

- > Information Dissemination: Facilitate global access to information on organic farming and food systems.
- Networking: Facilitate interactions between researchers and the beneficiaries of research, development, and technology transfer.
- > Advocacy: Assist IFOAM and the entire organic movement with scientific evidence-based advocacy.
- Capacity Building: Increase the number of researchers, educators and extensionists working with organic farming systems.



Facilitate global access to information on organic farming and food systems

> Objective

> Expand content and links of the portal <u>www.organic-research.net</u>

Tasks

- > Invite contributions of farmer driven innovations
- > Create a moderated and peer-reviewed practitioners' section designed to address specific challenges faced by organic producers and others, and solutions to those challenges
- > Create and make accessible to the public a directory of expertise that can be searched by topic, specialization and geographic location.
- > Objective
- > Enhance researcher-practitioner partnerships.
- Task
 - > Organize regional and local networks of farmers and practitioners



Facilitate interactions between researchers and the beneficiaries of research, development, and technology transfer (I)

> Objective

> Organize workshops and listening sessions in all parts of the organic world.

- > Organize the Organic Agriculture Research Symposium, February 2015, LaCrosse, WI.
- > Participate in TP-Organics meetings in Europe.
- > Collaborate with SOCLA in Latin America.
- > Establish similar partnerships in Asia, Africa and Oceania.



Facilitate interactions between researchers and the beneficiaries of research, development, and technology transfer (II)

> Objective

 Establish communication links between researchers and practitioners in organic farming systems.

- > Launch a forum for researcher-practitioner discussions;
- > Create a database of research priorities, experts in the relevant fields, and organizations of practitioners who stand to benefit from the research.
- > Invite organic farmers, practitioners and other stakeholders to IFOAM and ISOFAR events that feature organic research, development and technology transfers.



Facilitate interactions between researchers and the beneficiaries of research, development, and technology transfer (III)

> Objective

> Facilitate technology transfers.

- > Identify existing research that presents commercial opportunities.
- > Organize farmers and other practitioners into technology and information sharing networks to develop, transfer and demonstrate innovations in organic farming systems.



Assist IFOAM and the entire organic movement with scientific evidence-based advocacy (I).

> Objective

> Prepare and publish policy briefs and position papers for IFOAM on scientific topics that are discussed in the appropriate international forums.

Task

- > Prepare a policy brief for the IFOAM World Board on the way to set global organic farming research priorities.
- > Prepare a position paper on evidence-based benefits of organic food and farming.
- > Prepare a position paper on organic farming, nitrogen cycling and water quality.



Assist IFOAM and the entire organic movement with scientific evidence-based advocacy (II).

> Objective

> Represent IFOAM and the organic movement at international scientific conferences.

- > Represent IFOAM at the 8th Annual International Integrated Pest Management Symposium in Salt Lake City, Utah (USA) in March, 2015.
- Represent IFOAM at the International Nitrogen Management System meeting in Lisbon, Portugal in April 2015.
- > Represent IFOAM at the next UN Climate Change Conference in Paris, France in November 2015.



Increase the number of researchers, educators and extensionists working with organic farming systems.

> Objective

> Increase funding for organic farming research.

> Tasks

- > Lobby government sources for funding.
- Write proposals to foundations and NGOs to fund organic farming research.
- > Work with existing agricultural research centers to initiate and expand research in organic farming practices and systems.

> Objective

> Increase the number of students who study and conduct research on organic farming.

- > Work with existing educational institutions to develop curricula in organic farming.
- > Solicit funding for scholarships for students to specialize in organic agriculture.



- > Vision has a 17 point Action Plan that we ask the organic community to support.
- Action Plan is more a wish list than a set of action items.
- > Created by brainstorming, listening sessions, and comments.
- Need to make them Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Timely (SMART) action items.
- > People need to take ownership of specific action items for them to be implemented.
- > Quickly review the Action Plan and determine how to implement it.



- > Reform the TIPI Council to ensure that all stakeholders are represented;
- > Build a database of the benefits of, and greatest challenges to, the further global development of organic agriculture that is evidence-based, quantitative, and comprehensive.
- Prepare and disseminate policy briefings for IFOAM to make the case for organic agriculture based on scientific evidence, facts and findings from international debates, negotiations, and treaties.
- Establish a database on the leading experts for all themes of organic agriculture worldwide.



- > Devise and promote a network to develop and transfer farmer driven innovations.
- Publish case-studies of successful farmer-driven innovation within the organic and agroecological movements.
- > Bring a broad range of stakeholders to the scientific conferences of IFOAM and ISOFAR.
- Facilitate global discussions on the future pathways of organic agriculture through workshops and sessions at international or regional conferences —on themes related to innovation and the future development of organic agriculture and Organic 3.0.



- Identify and demonstrate organic best practices from all regions of the globe and highlight these via various information and communications technologies (ICT).
- Establish, build and maintain an international internship scheme for students working on organic farms and at research groups all over the world.
- > Build capacity in areas where there is a serious lack of, or decline in, organic agricultural research particularly in parts of sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and Central America.
- Quantify and internalize the external costs of agriculture and food chains so that food reflects its true costs and market distortions do not discourage organic food production and consumption.
- Facilitate interaction between researchers and beneficiaries to make the global research agenda visible and create policies that promote organic agricultural research.



- > Facilitate global discussions on the future pathways of organic agriculture through workshops and sessions at international or regional conferences —on themes related to innovation and the future development of organic agriculture and Organic 3.0.
- > Identify and demonstrate organic best practices from all regions of the globe and highlight these via various information and communications technologies (ICT).
- > Establish, build and maintain an international internship scheme for students working on organic farms and at research groups all over the world.
- > Build capacity in areas where there is a serious lack of, or decline in, organic agricultural research particularly in parts of sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and Central America.
- Quantify and internalize the external costs of agriculture and food chains so that food reflects its true costs and market distortions do not discourage organic food production and consumption.
- > Facilitate interaction between researchers and beneficiaries to make the global research agenda visible and create policies that promote organic agricultural research.



TIPI's 2020 Goals

- TIPI will be the most credible and complete global resource for organic farming research in the world.
- TIPI will be respected as a peer and effective as a partner with other global institutions working on food and agriculture.
- > TIPI will be financially sustainable with a business model that ensures its long-term mission.

