

Organic farming and societal challenges

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**ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA
AGRICOLTURA BIOLOGICA**

Societal challenges and agriculture

- **Degradation of agro-ecosystem**

- **Climate change**

- Food insecurity
 - Resource scarcities
 - Lack of social cohesion
 - Soil preservation



Vision for an Organic Food
and Farming Research
Agenda to 2025

Organic Knowledge for the Future



TPorganics
Technology Platform

Strategic Research Agenda

for organic food and farming



TPorganics
Technology Platform

Implementation Action Plan
for organic food and farming research

December 2020

Which agriculture can better face them?



The Po valley corn desert



Which agriculture can better face them?



Bourgogne multifunctional enjoyable
landscape

Vegetable diversity for healthy diets



Agriculture of tomorrow must be able to produce ecosystem services

“The human species, while buffered against environmental changes by culture and technology, is fundamentally dependent on the flow of ecosystem services. Ecosystem services are the benefits people obtain from ecosystems. These include provisioning services such as food, water, timber, and fibre; regulating services that affect climate, floods, disease, wastes, and water quality; cultural services that provide recreational, aesthetic, and spiritual benefits; and supporting services such as soil formation, photosynthesis, and nutrient cycling.” (Millennium Ecosystem Assessment)

And so doing produce **sufficient food
for healthy life-styles**



A valuable contribution to avoid high costs for
health services and environment protection

Who are the farmers who can implement ecofunctional agriculture?

For example organic farmers are

younger

more educated

Innovative because of the restrictions in the standards
(EU Regulation 834/2007)

Responding to consumer demand



(EU market for organic product 19.6 billion € in 2010,
growth higher than 10% in DE and FR in 2011)

Which research and innovation support do farmers need to be able to do that?

Eco-functional intensification:

a novel approach to global food stability and security combined with resources preservation and efficient use



Diversity from field to plate

developing supply chains for a diverse range of high quality and natural products through diversity in fields and on farms



Which research and innovation support do farmers need to be able to do that?

Participatory and on/in-farm

Through a network of local **knowledge and innovation centres**



Innovation is not just “new” technology or “new” knowledge but also **social and organizational** and a **combination of existing with new knowledge**

Agricultural innovation is more complex than industrial innovation



A good investment of public money in agricultural research

Support the development of

**diverse high quality and sustainable food
production systems**
(including soft processing)

How to make Horizon 2020 a good investment of public money

Consider **resource saving** and **adaptability to climate change** through **eco-functional intensification**

Consider the **benefits for society** (citizens, consumers, farmers etc.) **also supplied by agriculture**, such as healthy environments and healthy food

Not just technological but also **social leadership** for a **fair economy**

Consider the importance of a **broad and institutional knowledge base** through **participatory research** involving stakeholders and the **combination of new and traditional/existing knowledge**

Thank you for your attention

**For more information visit:
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brings together stakeholders from the whole organic food sector and from the wider public to discuss strategic research priorities.

It is the only European Technology Platform focusing on agriculture and food systems.