Experience to develop organic food and farming through EU regulation and policy support

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Strategic pillars

EU positioning and advocacy

Shape organic regulations

Influence key EU policies

Information & discussion platform

Communicate and engage with the sector

Developing organics

Drive sustainable food production methods

Build organic capacity

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EU policy
Relevant for organic food & farming?

Research & innovation
Horizon 2020
European Innovation Partnerships

GMOs
Coexistence
Seed threshold
GMO approval

Organic regulations
EU regulation review
Greenhouse, poultry, feed & processing implementing rules
Organic Regulation 834/07

CAP & rural development

EU labels
Organic label
Eco-label
Quality schemes and promotion programmes

Environmental policies
7th Environmental action plan
Soil Directive
Water Blueprint
Biodiversity EU 2020 Strategy
Sustainable Consumption

Animal welfare & health

Climate change
The new cross-cutting issue

Food safety
Hygiene Legislation
Food/Feed control
Pesticide registration

Seed
What can enter the market

Promotion policy

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Some facts...*

Where?

- Brussels, one of the highest concentrations of political power in the world.
- Just a **quarter** in the EU capital.

How many?

- They are estimated around **15,000 – 30,000 people** trying to influence the work of the EU institutions.

- More than **one billion euro** mark in annual turnover
- After Washington DC, is the **biggest centre of corporate lobbying.**

* Brussels, the EU quarter. Lobby Planet, CEO, September 2011
http://corporateeurope.org/sites/default/files/publications/ceolobbylow.pdf

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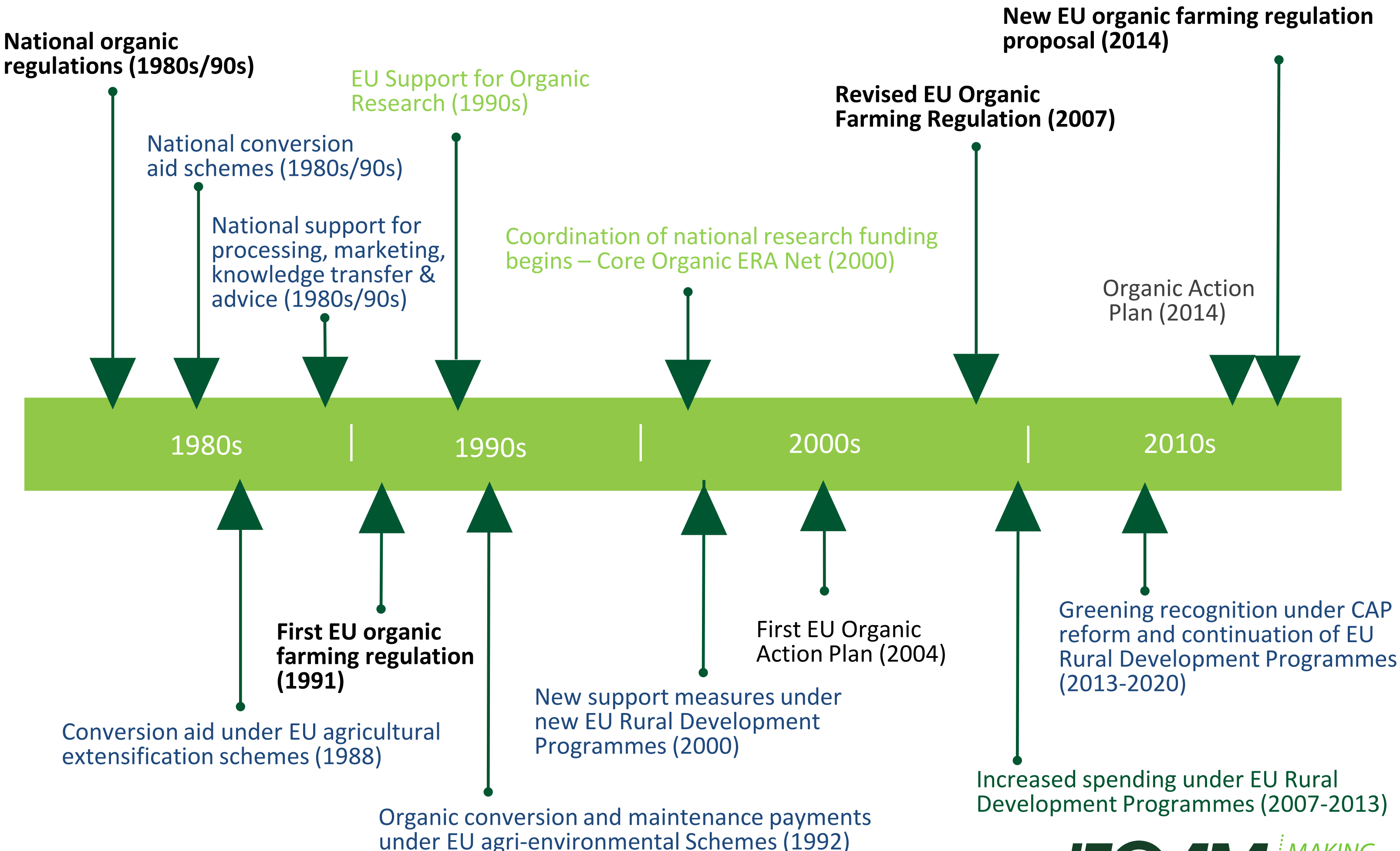
Development of EU Organic Farming Policy



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IFOAM EU demand for an EU Organic growth plan in updated action plan in 2012

- Common Agricultural Policy –Financial support conversion & Maintenance support for infrastructural investments, knowledge transfer, advisory services
- Research and Innovation – Allocate 10-15% of relevant EU research budget for organic innovation (400-600 mill EUR)
- Promotion support, e.g. access to School Fruit and Milk Schemes and EU Internal and Third Country Markets
- Include organic in public procurement policy of EU canteens
- Consistent approach to EU labels, no competing schemes
- GMOs - EU policy framework to effectively prevent contamination and to introduce liability of GMO producers for all related costs
- Increase agri-biodiversity: seed marketing legislation & programmes for genetic diversity
- Support organic in cross cutting legislation – e.g. hygiene legislation not just for the big, but also small on farm processing
- Use Organic as support for nature protection in water protection areas, presticide reduction, soil protection
- Formalised stakeholder involvement
- Improved implementation of organic regulation
- Improved data collection

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EU Organic Action Plans 2004 & 2014

Priority Areas		2004	2014
Market	- Facilitate internal market/third country promotion	✓	✓
	- Increase awareness/recognition of EU/logo organic farming benefits	✓	✓
	- Data collection on national/EU standards and production and market trends	✓	✓
	- Encourage organic public procurement		
	- Ensure consumer confidence and fraud prevention	✓	✓
Policy	- Identification of all relevant EU measures to support production, marketing and information	✓	✓
	- Development of national/regional organic action plans using a combination of relevant measures	✓	X
	- Prioritise organic research	✓	✓
Regulation	- Strengthening links between organic regulation, standards and principles	✓	X
	- Establishment of Expert panel for Technical Advice	✓	
	- Improvements in the certification process/control system	✓	✓
	- Further development of trade regime in third countries	✓	✓

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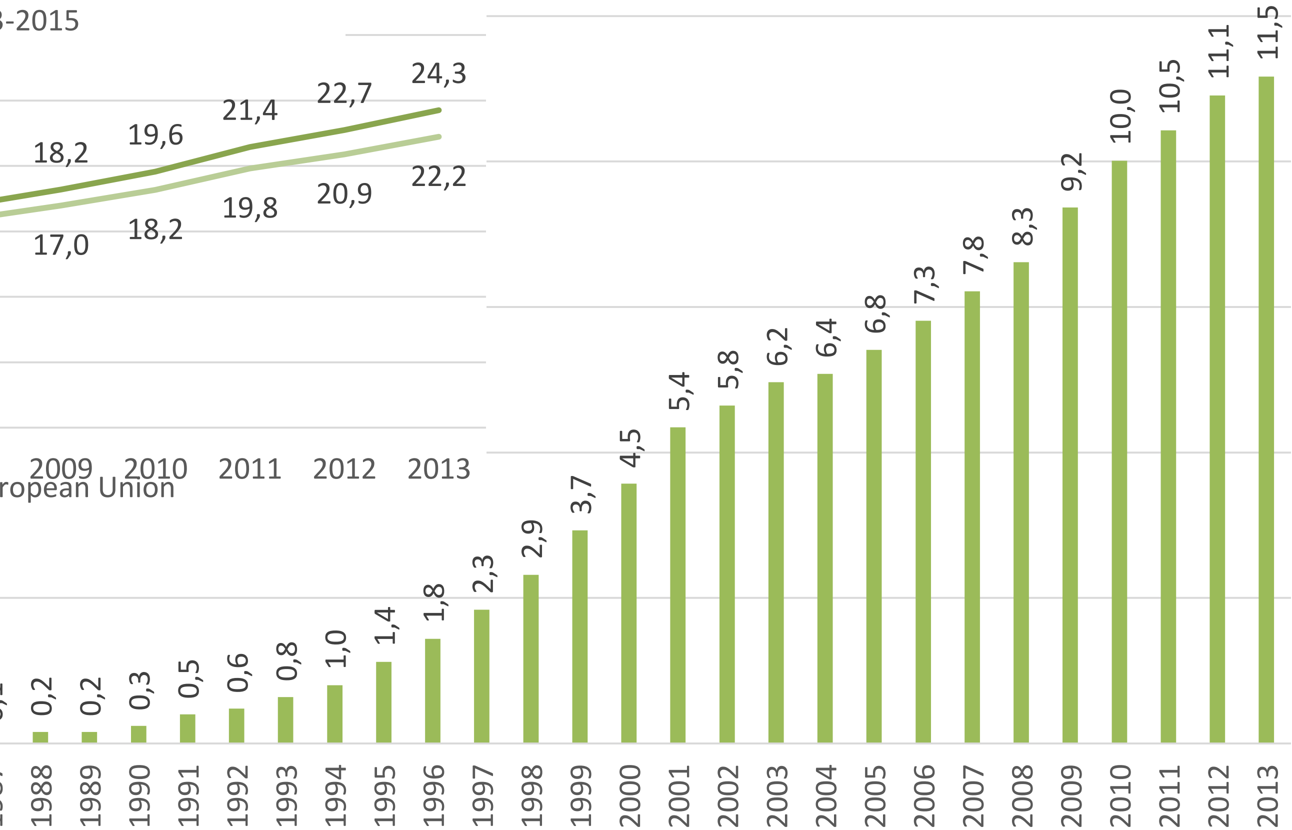
Country / Region		Running period	Number of previous actions plans	Year of implementation of the first action plan	Quantitative targets		Target year
					Share of organic for total agricultural area	Share of organic food in the total food market[a]	
AL	Albania	2006 - 2013	0	2007	2 %[o]	-	-
AT	Austria	2011 - 2013	4	2001	20 %	-	2013
BE	Flanders	2013 - 2017	3	2000	-	-	-
	Wallonia	2013 - 2020	0	2013	14 %	-	2020
BG	Bulgaria	2007 - 2013	0	2007	8 %		2013
HR	Croatia	2011 - 2016	0	2011	8 %	-	2016
CZ	Czech Republic	2011 - 2015	1	2004	15 %	3 %[b]	-
DK	Denmark	2012 - 2020	2	1995	ca. 15 %[c]	-	2020
EE	Estonia	2007 - 2013	0	2007	ca. 3 %[d]	3 %[e]	2013
FI	Finland	2013 - 2020	1	2013	20 %	-	2020
MK	FYROM	2013 - 2020	1	2013	4 %	-	-
FR	France	2013 - 2017	2	2008	ca. 8 %	-	2012
DE	Germany	since 2002	0	2002	-[g]	-	-[g]
IE	Ireland	2013 - 2015	1	2008	5 %	-	2020
IT	Italy	-	1	2005	-	-	-
LV	Latvia	2007 - 2013	1	2007	10 %	-	2013
LU	Luxembourg	2009 - 2013	0	2009	ca. 5 %[h]	-	-
ME	Montenegro	2012 - 2017	0	2012	-	-	2017
NL	Netherlands	-	2	2001	-	-	-
NO	Norway	2009 - 2020	0	2009	15 %	15 %	2020
PL	Poland	2011 - 2014	1	2007	ca. 4 %[i]	-	2013[j]
RO	Romania	-	1	2004	-	-	-
SK	Slovakia	2011 - 2013	1	2006	5 %	-	-
SI	Slovenia	2005 - 2015	1	2007	20 %	10 %[k]	2015
ES[l]	Spain	-	1	2007	-	-	-
SE	Sweden	-	1	1996	20 %[m]	-	2014
TR	Turkey	2013 - 2016	0	2013	-	-	-
UK[n]	Scotland	since 2011	0	2007	-	-	-

Driver for organic farming growth



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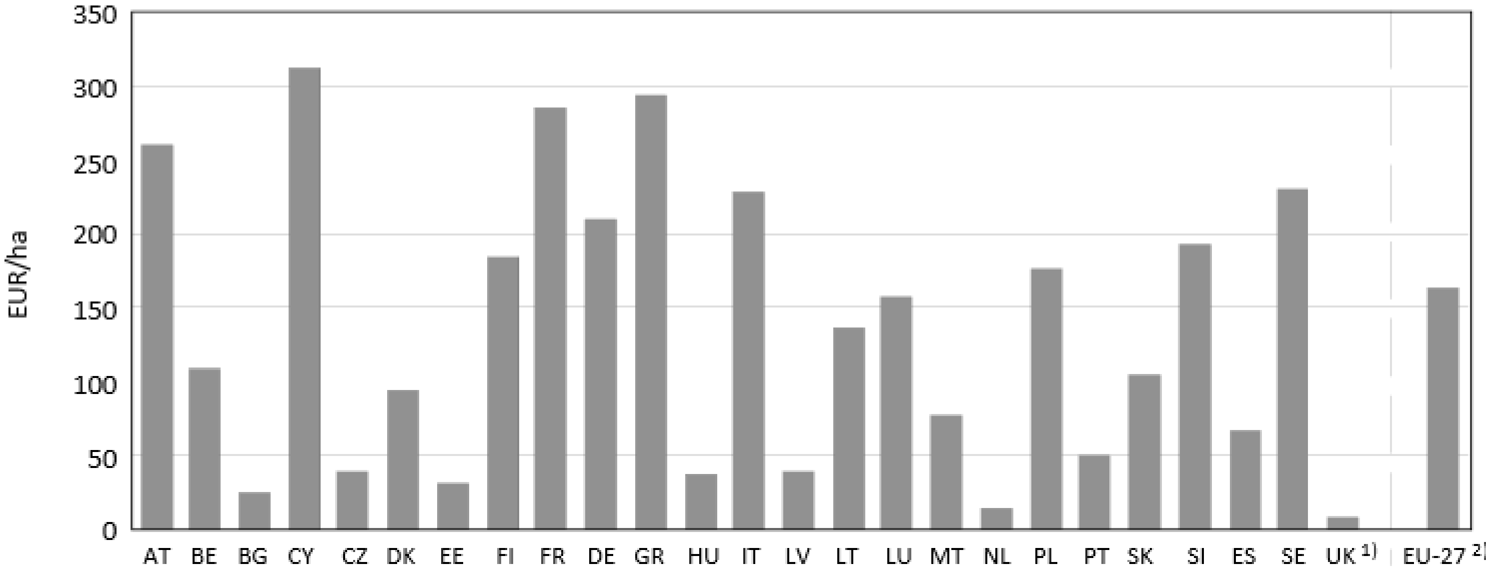
Average organic support payment under EU RDPs 2008/2009 (Thünen Institute, 2011)



1) Without England.

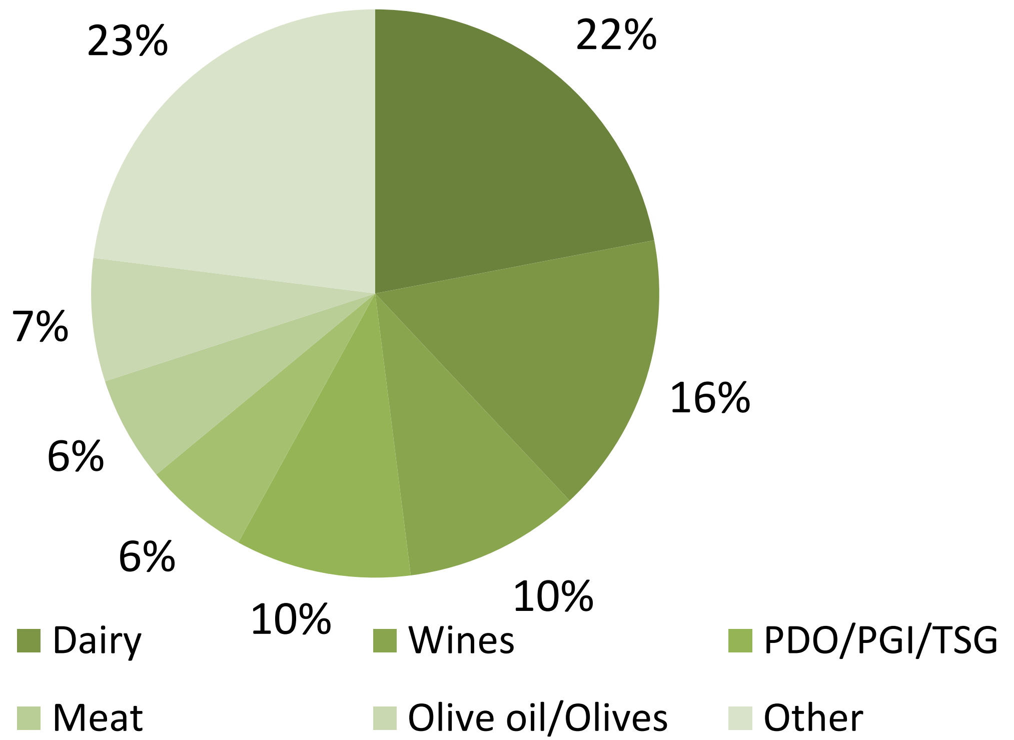
2) Without England, Ireland, Romania.

Source: European Commission (2011).

EU promotional programme spending 2002-2014

EU Co-financing per production category

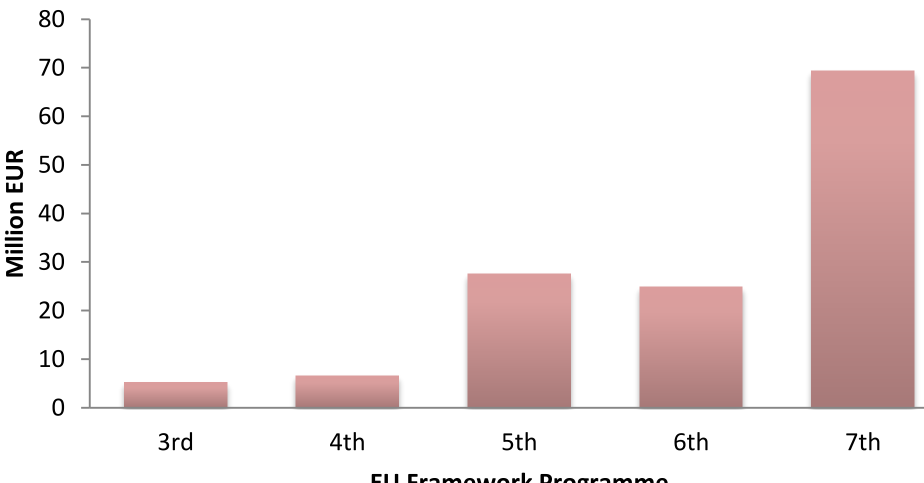
Source: European Commission 2014



Lobby for organic research & Innovation

- IFOAM EU initiated with ISOFAR organic research platform in 2007
- Platform of over 20 EU umbrellas dealing with environment, farming, social issues
- IFOAM EU hosts secretariat
- Formulating research needs of organic sector to EU
- Influence EU research budet of 70bn € (2014-20)
- Acknowledged as relevant research platform to the EU

EU Funds for OF research



How many regulations are there?

~~Reg. (EEC) 2092/1991~~ ~~Reg. (EEC) 1804/1999~~

Since 1st January 2009

- Reg. (EC) No. 834/2007 → Aims, Objectives,
- Reg. (EC) No. 889/2008 → Principles,
- Reg. (EC) No. 1235/2008 → Technical Requirements

Import Requirements

Amendments: wine, yeast, aquaculture

New Regulation in 2018?

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EU Organic Logo and Labelling

Terms “bio” “organic” “ecologic” are protected for:
- Live and unprocessed agricultural products,
- processed agricultural products for food,
- feed,
- propagating material, seeds

Textile and cosmetics are not covered by EU legislation.

AT-BIO-301
EU-Landwirtschaft

Mandatory for: pre-packed food (min. 95% organic ingr.) , including wine produced after 2012 harvest.

Voluntary for: imported products, wine before 2012, feed, loose products.

Forbidden for: in conv. Products, food < 95% organic ingr., no food like seeds, ornamentals . Textile and cosmetics.

Benefits of EU public standard

- One set of regulation for all EU Countries – same rules = easy trade and fair competition
- One pre-condition for successful market development
- The term “organic” is legally protected – only certified products can be sold as organic
- As it is legally defined, it can be supported by EU & National policies (e.g. CAP) - this would not be possible with private standards

Risks of EU public standard

- The ownership (public-private partnership) of the standard by the sector is more difficult to guarantee (EU institutions and National ministries decide)
- More difficult to extent or develop further the standard by e.g. adding new categories of products under the scope (textile, cosmetics, packaging) or adding/deleting allowed input from the lists
- Controls are going towards official control approach instead of audit for improvement of the system
- It can lead to a lot of bureaucracy and paperwork

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Recommendations

- Policy is one important, but not the only important factor for organic development
- Important to build reliable organic food chains in Ukraine
- Analyse your potential to have sustainable organic growth
- Enforcement of national law and future equivalence agreement with EU might be strategic options – but long way to go
- Advocate for:
  - Stable policy environment: Good mix of supply and demand orientated support measures
  - Organic as economic opportunity for Ukraine
  - Resources for organic to innovate essential (=research funds)
  - Stakeholder-driven involvement: Organic operators must be a central part of the policy process
  - You must know what you want – if you ask policy do define this for you, you are lost