

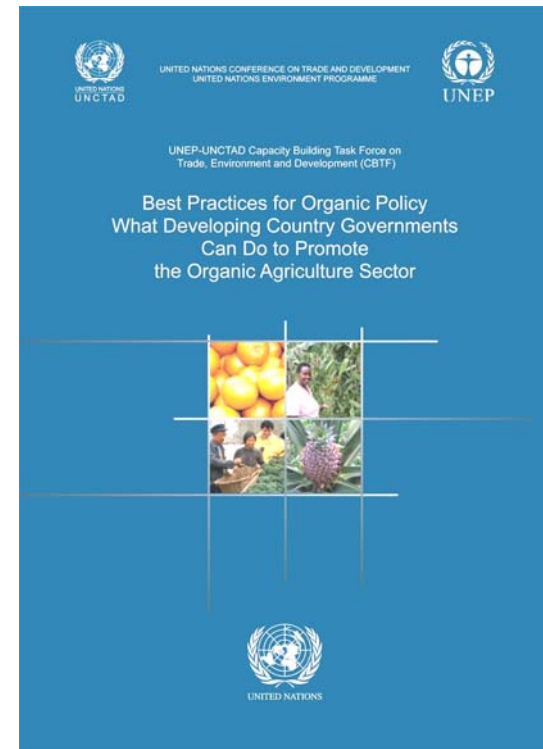
Best Practices for Organic Policy

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UNEP-UNCTAD CBTF study

- 35 actionable recommendations based on:
- Case studies of 7 countries
 - Chile
 - Costa Rica
 - Denmark
 - Egypt
 - Malaysia
 - Thailand
 - South Africa
- Other experience



"Organic is the same as farming as our ancestors"

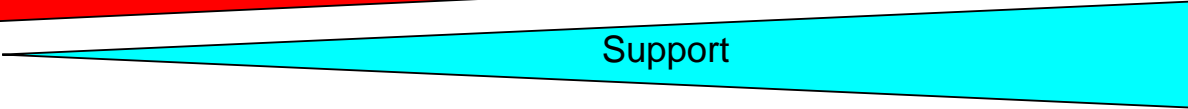
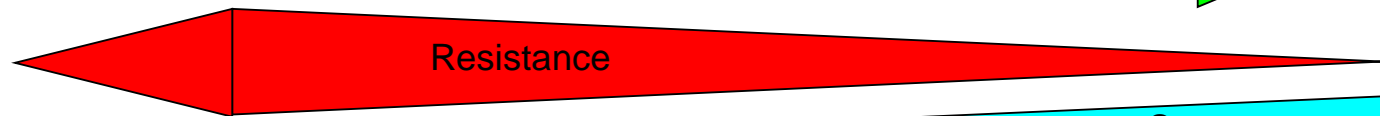
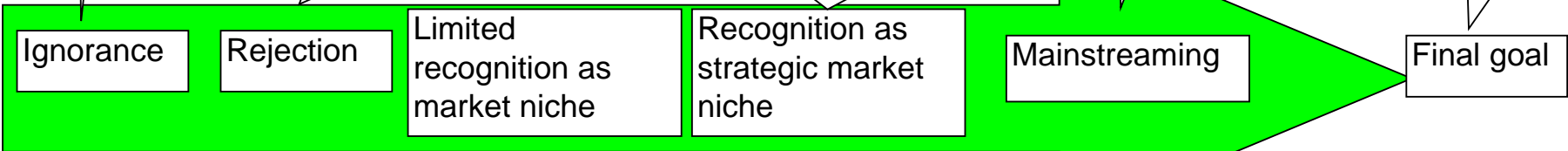
"Organic is against progress and can't be recommended"

"A few consumers ask for this, but it is not very interesting"

"There is a big demand and our farmers should capitalise on it. Good image for the country"

"Organic delivers a lot of benefits to farmers, consumers and the country and should be promoted and recognised in all policies and plans"

"Organic is the future of our country's farm sector. Our goal is that all farms should be organic"



Policy Basics

1. Set sustainable agric as a priority
2. Assess current situation professionally
3. Link to main agric policies



4. Involve and listen to stakeholders

5. Recognize the diversity in the sector



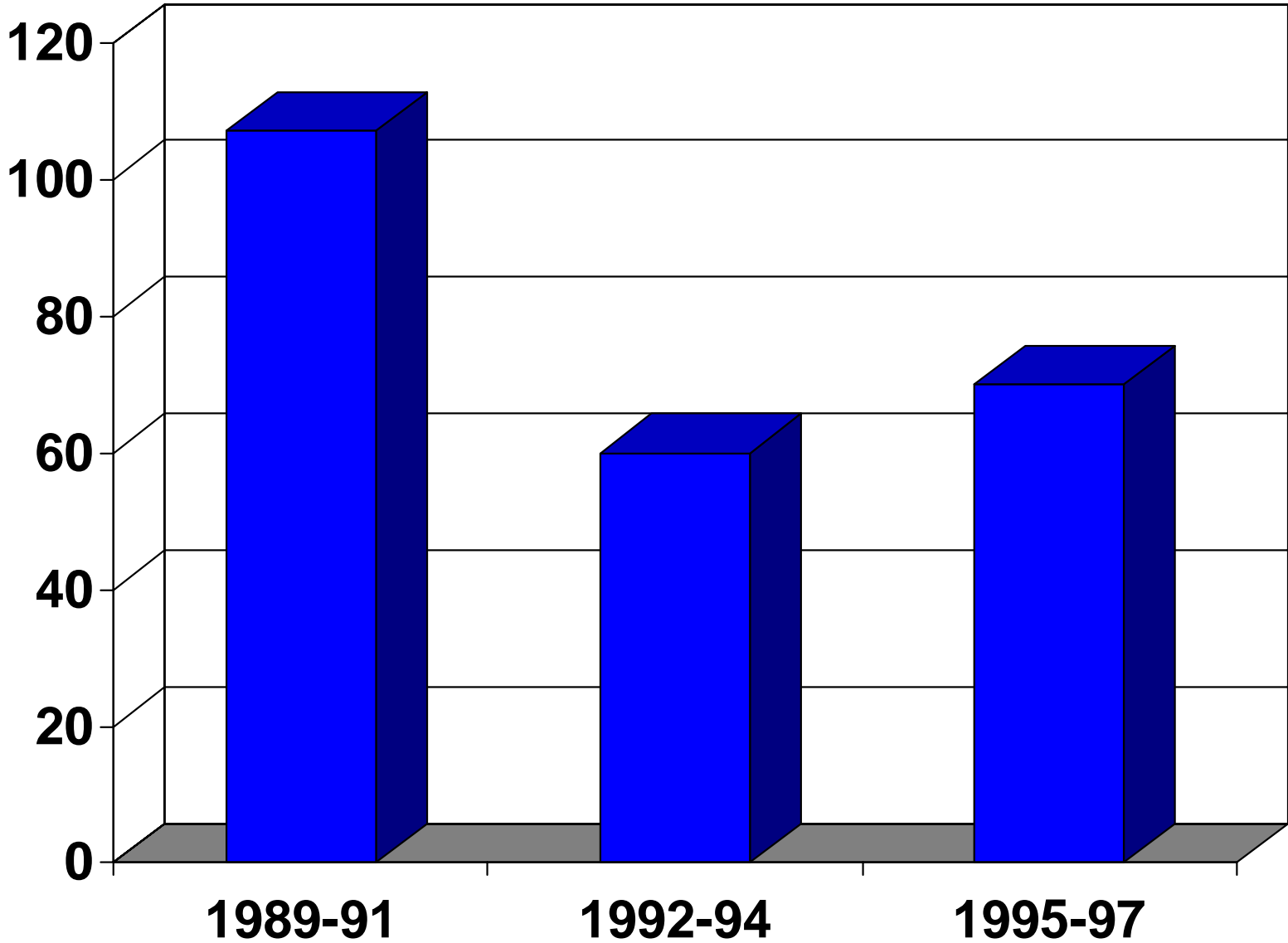
Action Plan

- Follow policy with clear plan
- Formulate clear targets and assign accountability for progress
- Assign lead agency
- Install permanent National Organic Committee
 - Organic stakeholders & government institutions
- Monitor: collect data

To regulate or not to regulate?

- Pre-mature regulation of the term "organic" may hurt sector: first priority should be on promotion
- Use general consumer protection / fair trade practices regs
- For exports it is always quickest to use the standards of the importing countries - this is what is happening today

EU Organic growth rate pre- & post regulation (1992)



What can governments do I

1. Recognition-credibility
2. Domestic Markets i.e. consumer education, local mkts.
3. Public procurement
4. Promote ONE label



What can governments do II

1. Support farmer transition & certifi.
2. Facilitate farmer organization
3. Support market information systems
4. Protect organic from *GMOs*
5. Integrate organics into mandate of TPOs

Extension services

- Integrate organic
- Build on indigenous knowledge



Education



Integrate in curriculum

- agriculture schools
- primary and secondary schools
- higher education in organic
- specialised institutions to drive competency

Research

- Based on priority of the sector
- Participatory
- Integrate traditional knowledge
- Inputs researched and possibly controlled
- Centres of excellence

Link with energy

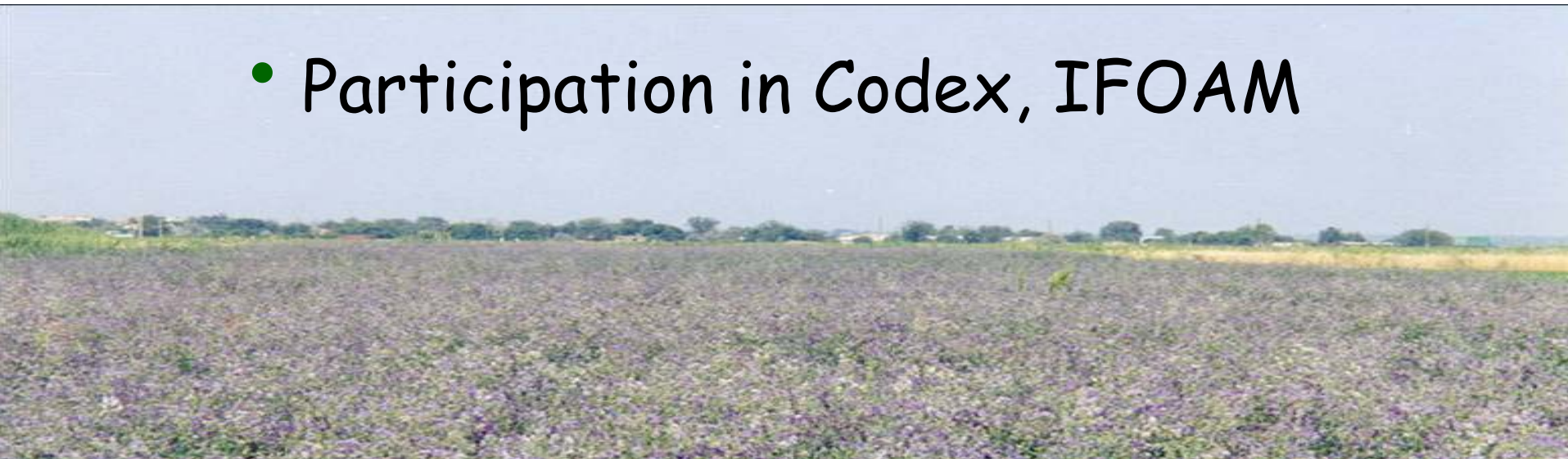
- Explore integration of organic agriculture and renewable energy, particularly biogas

Removing obstacles and disincentives

- No subsidies for agro-chemicals or *GMOs*
- In all agriculture policies & programs consider effect on *OA*

Regional and international

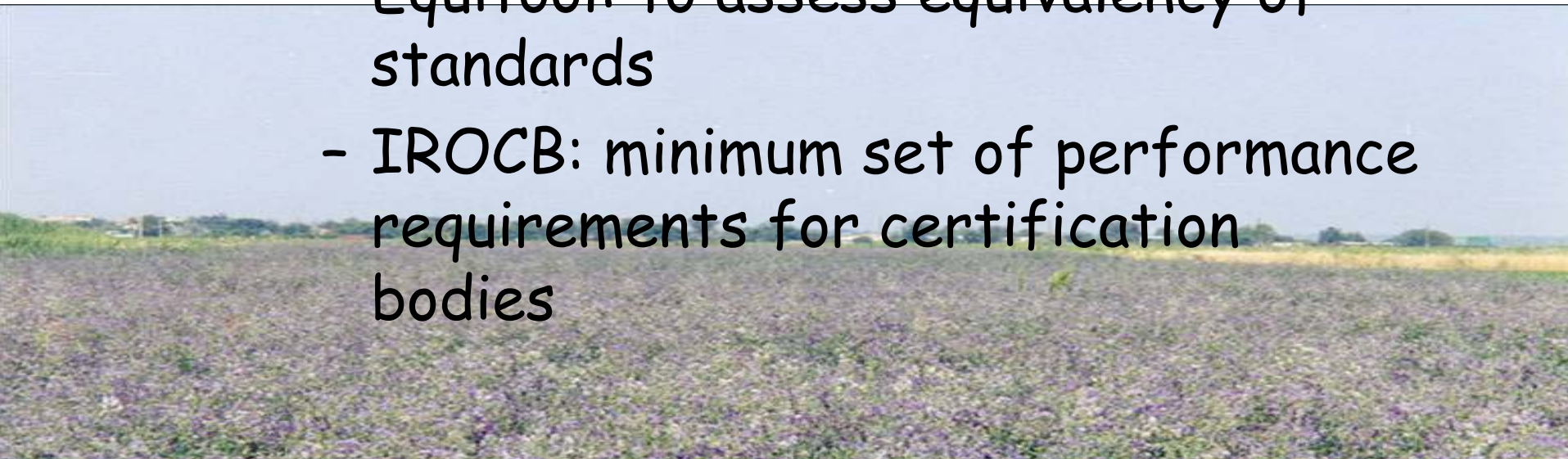
- Regional cooperation
 - Standards, mkting, R&D, info sharing
 - Pacific & East Africa example
- Participation in Codex, IFOAM



Regional and international

Use ITF rec's and tools:

- import approvals based on intl standards and equivalency
- Equitool: to assess equivalency of standards
- IROCB: minimum set of performance requirements for certification bodies



Priority-setting
and proper
sequencing

Private sector
participation is
critical

