

ORGANIC AGRICULTURE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN ETHIOPIA

EAST AFRICAN ORGANIC CONFERENCE

SAFARI PARK HOTEL
NAIROBI, KENYA

Compiled by Lema Gebeyehu

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Land Holding and Soil of Ethiopia

Population: around 80 million of which 85% are based in rural areas.

Cultivable land-18.32 million hectares;

10.99 million hectare cropped area;

62.29 million hectares pasture

✦ According to the Central Statistical Agency (CSA), in 2008 the average Ethiopian farmer holds 1.2 hectares of land, with 55.13% of them holding less than 1.0 hectare

Predominant soil types

✦ Red-to reddish-brown Clayey loams(Neto Sol)

✦ Brownish-to-gray and black soils with a high clay content (Verti Sol)

✦ Agri.Chemicals (fertilizers and pesticides)are costly, hence their consumption is very low-default organic

Ethiopia

Land: Fertile, Arable, Rain fed and Irrigated

Climate

✦ Kolla (Tropical Zone) –average annual temperature 27 degree Celsius; annual rainfall about 510 mm.

✦ Woina dega (Subtropical Zone)-average annual temperature 22 degree Celsius; annual rainfall between 510 and 1530 mm.

✦ Dega (Cool Zone)-average annual temperature of about 16 degree Celsius; annual rainfall is between 1270 and 1280 mm.

Ethiopian Seasons

✦ Kiremt or Meher (Summer)-June, July, and August are the summer season. Heavy rain falls in these three months.

✦ Tseday (Spring)-September, October and November are the spring season sometime known as the harvest season.

✦ Bega(Winter)- December, January and February are the dry season with frost in morning specially in January.

✦ Belg (Autumn)- March, April and May are the autumn season with occasional showers. May is the hottest month in Ethiopian.

Ethiopian

- GDP:\$33.92 billion (2009)
- Agriculture Sector's Share=43.8%=\$14.86 billion
- Exports=\$2 billion (2009)
- Imports =\$2.722 billion (2005)
- Agriculture Export:\$380 Million (19% of total export; and 25.6% of total Agri. Share in GDP);Coffee;\$350 Million (90-95% from wild source)

ACTORS

- Farmers , Unions & Cooperatives
- Exporters
- Private Organizations, NGO's
- GOV't
- Universities & Reserch Institutions

Colaboraters

- Swedish CIDA through SSNC,
- Government of Austria through UNCTAD_CBTF
- SNV
- CORD AID,
- TWN
- GTZ_ecbp

Ethiopia agriculture: Opportunities

OPPORTUNITY: DUE TO DEMAND WORLD WIDE

As per soil, climate and seasons there is huge opportunity for the organic farming for;

- Cultivation of Cereals (Corn, Barley, wheat, etc)
- Cultivation of beans (Peas, Kidney, white, horse, chick peas, lentils etc)
- Cultivation of Oilseeds (Sesame, Sunflower, Groundnut, Rapeseed, Linseed, Safflower etc.)
- Cultivation of Cotton.

Ethiopia agriculture: Opportunities

- Cultivation of Vegetables namely Potato, Okra, Mellon's, Onion, Leeks, Carrot, Capsicum, Tomatoes etc.
- Cultivation of flowers namely Alliums, Carnations, Roses etc.
- Improvement of plantations crops namely tea, Coffee, Sugarcane and orchards of Oranges, Grapefruits etc.

Ethiopia agriculture: Opportunities

- Cattle 52 million,
- Shoat 63 million,
- Camel 2.5 million.
- etc

Organic Agriculture

Organic product in the Ethiopian context means a product which is produced, processed or handled with out the use of synthetic chemicals and genetically modified organisms.

Organic Agriculture Data

Organic land area

- **Certified area**
- **15000 ha certified**
- **148812 Farmers**
- **Is one of the 30 leading country in the world**

Organic Production data

- ✓ Honey from SNNP region (Bonga and Sheka), Tigray, Oromia and Amhara Regional states;
- ✓ Coffee and cotton from Oromiya, and SNNP;
- ✓ Sesame from Tigray (Humera), Amhara (metema) and Oromiya (Wollega) Regions;
- ✓ Essential oils and herbs from SNNP Region;

Organic Agriculture Data

Certified Organic Production quantity of

Coffee	88%
Sesame	11%
Honey & beewax	1%

Organic market

Main products exported

- ☼ (coffee,
- ☼ Sesame
- ☼ and Honey)

*Coffee takes the largest share

Organic export of Coffee, Sesame and Honey in Tons

✓ Coffee	88%
✓ Sesame	11%
✓ Honey and Bee wax	1%

Organic export trends

- Has shown growth every year,
- Price for organic products vary from crop to crop
Premium price for Organic coffee is 15-25 % high
- For Organic Sesame 5-10% high

Current Organic Certifiers are

- Started in 2002 by BCS a foreign company.
- Control Union Certification
- BCS
- CERES and
- IMD

Organic certification

• Others are

- Fair Trade :Which are responsible for all farmers under the Farmers Cooperative Union.
- Afri-cert- which is based in Kenya & works on Global Gap Certification
- UTZ - Certified coffee
- Rain Forest Alliance Funded by USAID operates on Environmental Issue, Social Issue & Farm Management (GAP)
- Based on the above principle also develop standard

Organic Proclamation , Standard and certification

- The Ethiopian Organic proclamations was gazetted in march,2008. but non operational.
- Since then no standard & regulation was developed by the Ministry of Agriculture.
- Lack of technical know how and financial stress are reasons for delay, in fact support was requested from UNCTAD, etc.
- EAOA is pressing the MOA to expedite the regulation, so that, users will have a standard and workable directives on their operation.

Opportunities

- Favorable Agro climate & wide genetic diversity.
- Long history of low input production system.
- Growing interest for organic due to health Issue & environmental concern.
- Premium price advantage
- Donors and NGOs are becoming more supportive.
- Concern & support by the Gov't increased

Challenges

- Inadequate knowledge of organic techniques
- Inadequate marketing information and support to farmers /Pastoralists
- High Organic certification cost
- Seasonal Product supply and demand
- Undeveloped Local markets
- Lack of adequate organic research & higher learning institute.
- Inadequate funds to boost the activities of the sector
- High cost of organic input supply.
- Limited knowledge in certifying Live stock products

Way forward

- Awareness creation at various levels including higher government officials & parliamentarians;
- Follow up & organize the stake holders to work together with MoA to expedite the regulation.
- Develop the OA in building the capacity in the field of
 - Education
 - Research
 - Extension
 - Regulatory bodies

Way forward

Research should focus :

- in addressing the current problems of OA as regard to Inputs & developing the indigenous knowledge of use of botanicals to control pests.
- Inclusion of OA curriculum in the higher learning institutions & training centers
- Improving linkage between GOV'T, NGO's & all others stake holders

Culture of Success

