

## Working towards continental conference in Zambia 2012

Working Group Report

EA Organic Conference  
Nairobi Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010

## Background

- World OC conference in Italy: decided to organize an african organic conference one year after the world organic conference;
- 1<sup>st</sup> African Organic Conference in May 19<sup>th</sup> 2009 at Kampala; where we agreed that the 2<sup>nd</sup> will take place in Zambia in 2012;
- So, what is done so far by OPPAZ and what are the inputs from the group members: see next slides.

## Briefing from OPPAZ

- To start working/moving:
  - Physical team, Electronic team and Program team
  - since in place in May 2009, they met 2 times and worked on following issues:
    - **Venue:** Lusaka (near airport and are many organic activities to visit and availability of hotels ...)
    - **Period:** April-May-June 2012 (this will allow to see crops on land or harvests);
    - **Theme:** "How organic wins in Africa" (to come up with successful stories, and links with update topics like climate change...)
    - **Translations facilities** (French and English);
    - **To organize parallel exhibitions with Conference;**
    - **Special website** for the conference;

## Briefing from OPPAZ (cont.)

- **Conference stakeholders contacted by OPPAZ:**
  - **Zambian Ministries:**
    - Agriculture and cooperatives;
    - Livestock and fisheries development;
    - Environment;
    - Natural resources and tourism;
    - COMESA and industry.
  - AU,
  - COMESA;
  - NOAMs
  - IFOAM.
- **Potentials donors contacted by OPPAZ:**
  - ITC; SSNC; Oikos, Swedish cooperative center; ACTESA; UNCTAD;

## Inputs from the Group Members

About the Theme:

- To look at some gaps that we want this conference to contribute to solving (e.g: to strengthen organic research Network; Demystify OA; to enhance Government commitment - can make it a LUSAKA declaration which different governments can sign?)
- To organize a ministerial conference organized together with AU (2days before the conference at LUSAKA) and that resolution can be presented at a forum where we will all be.
- Theme (what we want to achieve must be reflected through the theme):
  - "How organic wins in Africa"
  - OA as a panacea for Africa Development;
  - Mainstreaming OA in the African Development Agenda.

## Inputs from the Group Members (cont.)

- **The participants in the group agreed with 3teams formed: physical, program, electronic**
- **Venue: OK;**
- **Time: OK;**
- **Budget: 250,000USD:**
  - we suggest to base this on the real needs
  - and then make aggressive funds mobilization: organize fundraising sessions with broken-down budget lines;
- **The method of combining Exhibitions and Conference:**
  - It worked in Kampala; but needed to be improved in order to allow participants to have time for visiting stands... not seating in conference room long hours.
- **Days: 3days;**
- **Publicity: The web site for the conference, link it also other NOAM websites, IFOAM website, send emails, Magazines, NewsLetters, Radio and TVs, ...**

### **Inputs from the Group Members (cont.)**

- **To ensure a balanced participation from Africa Continent;**
  - Will depend on budget availability;
  - To focus on key stakeholders so that they could make their zones moving in the vision of the conference (specially in strengthening NOAM and regional networks);
  - To avoid languages barriers; we support the ideas of translations French/English.
- **Emphasize on OA research findings in order to influence decision makers.**

### **List of Group Members**

1. **Dr. Charles Ssekyewa (Chair Person)**
2. **Jean-Marie Irakabaho (Minutes-Taker)**
3. **Jane Albert;**
4. **Lise Chantal Dusabe;**
5. **Shem Mecheo**
6. **Munshimbwe Chitalu;**
7. **Kiari Eustace.**