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Oral presentation submission

Title of presentation	Innovation in training processes on organic agriculture
Subtitle	A pedagogy based on intellectual, practical and artistic aspects
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Session of interest	Practitioner's track: - Building organic bridges between strategies: Agro-ecology
Key words	Pedagogy, education, agroecology

Summary:

Organic agriculture demands new educational processes, to create competences on individuals transforming their lives. It is not about accumulation of knowledge, but it is interpretative, proactive and assertive knowledge and attitudes within the community context and the world movement. Education on organic agriculture should strengthen reflexive consciousness of participants and their life experiences with nature. The pedagogic process should bring tools for internal transformation of mental structures and social tools to modify the surrounding environment. This is achieved by working basic concepts, practical activities and artistic experiences in a dynamic and dialectic way.

Background:

Along the 40 years of the organic movement, it has been developed several approaches and methodologies for knowledge transfer and training. Though, the movement still faces the difficulty in organic leadership to scale-up broadly and holistically. A new approach is proposed for integral education.

Main chapter:

Theory – One of the challenges in pedagogy is appropriation of theoretical concepts. It is proposed that concepts should be discovered through motivating questions along the process

conducted by the facilitator, to be afterwards, applied for a solution in a concrete and real situation.

Action – Practical activities are an essential and imperative element in the learning process to consolidate the theoretical concepts that are incorporated. In the practical sessions, the participant is guided to find out by experimenting knowledge. Action strengthens the personal will and facilitates feedback constantly, generating innovation, validation and self-conquer of the knowledge.

Arts – Art is a didactic necessity and a dynamic activity complementing the learning process while contributing empowerment of consciousness capacity in human beings. Artistic expressions are human beings expressions of their thoughts, feelings and action. Artistic activities should be regarded beyond the recreational objective, they are proposals with a defined pedagogic objective. The artistic activity will allow the participant to understand how organic agriculture looks for integral development of the human being, in its ethic and social conception.

Core messages and conclusions:

This is an innovative approach for organic agriculture aiming to integrate conceptual frameworks, attitudes and human values (ethics), acknowledging that knowledge demands an approach to intellectual aspects, practical activities or action, and feelings or care. The approach as pedagogic proposal has a cultural dimension that brings core values to organic agriculture and sustainable livelihoods of our *campesinos*.