Organic Agriculture Research: shared vision from Latin-Americans farmers

Carlos A. Escobar F.
Many years of agricultural culture from traditional communities

+ 15 million family farmers
300,000 organic farmers (mostly small farmers) - third party
12,000 organic farmers - PGS initiatives

High biodiversity

400 million hectares of agricultural land
6’8 million organic hectares
Organic agriculture is “good” for farmers and consumers... but what do the national governments think?

There are so much speakers, workshops, projects and more on the organic agriculture than organic products on the table.

Organic products = high prices = “high class” population.
Organic production for international markets needs: coffee, cocoa, banana, sugar, avocado, ... But the offer is over the demand

Universities had worked alone, organic farmers had worked alone. Gradually approach each other to work.

There are more organic rules than nationals agenda/plan for organic agriculture research and promotion
Compromised long term by governments
National policies and rules basis on local context and researches

Traditional knowledge’s recognized, validated and improved
Participatory Investigation System for the organic agriculture: farmers and professionals sharing information, methodologies, results... Dialogue of knowledge

Attractive Organic Agriculture
Validation, investigation and developments about economical, environmental, social and production issues and their impacts
**Our Needs, Our Future**

**Organic food for everything**
Quality food studies in local context including traditional foods.

Domestic markets analysis to improve their development and dissemination

**Materials accessible and compressive (local languages, figures,...)**
Diffusion network by and for farmers and researches about successful organic experiences/participatory investigation
Survival of the Organic Agriculture
Climate Change and Adaptation's studies
✓ Javier Rivera, coffee small farmer, Andean coordinator MAELA
✓ Sandra Montenegro,, ICS’s coordinator small farmer association
✓ Merlyn Hurtado, market coordinator, Indigenous Association
✓ Eminsu (Mincho) David, ONG’s director
✓ Ing. Guerrero, new organic farmer (less than 1 year)
✓ Adrian Cardona, President of small farmer association
✓ Miguel Abadia, adviser in traditional food in afro communities
✓ Jesus Gomez, vegetable small farmer
✓ FUNDESYRAM
✓ Felipe Barney, project official in international cooperation agency
✓ Diego Angel, university teacher/researcher
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