

Organic Agriculture

FARMERS' PROBLEMS, RESEARCH NEEDS & CHALLENGES

P.A. Joseph, [Wayanad Social Service Society](#), INDIA

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BACKGROUND

- Certified Organic Farmer from Wayanad District of Kerala, India
- Last 12 Years Practicing Organic Farming
- Working as General Co-ordinator in Wayanad Social Service Society (WSSS) an NGO since 1994.
- Co ordinting Organic Program of WSSS



ABOUT OUR ORGANIC PROGRAM

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Total Farmers | : 10380 |
| Certified Farmers | : 2486 |
| Total Area | : 5120 Ha |
| Certified Area | : 2095 Ha |
| Total Farmer Groups | : 390 |

MAIN CROPS

Coffee, Tea, Pepper, Ginger, Turmeric,
Cardamom, Cinnamon, Nutmeg,
Vanilla, Cocoa, Cashew Tubers,
Vegetables, Fruits and Rice



Started the Program in 2002 with 80 Farmers in one Village

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HOLISTIC APPROACH



PROMOTIONAL PROGRAMS

1. Training and Capacity Development Programs
2. Exposure Visits
3. Demonstration Programs
4. Field Visits
5. Dissemination of Knowledge through own Community Radio Station



PROMOTIONAL PROGRAMS

- 6. Soil and Water Conservation Measures
- 7. Promotion of Biogas Plants
- 8. Promotion of Vermi Compost Units
- 9. Promotion of Varanasi Compost
- 10. Promotion of Organic Seedling Nurseries



PROMOTIONAL PROGRAMS

- 11. Promotion of Milch Animals
- 12. Promotion of Backyard Poultry
- 13. Promotion of Bio control Agents
- 14. Promotion of Bio inputs
- 15. Promotion of Traditional Crops



PROMOTIONAL PROGRAMS

16. Promotion of Self Help Groups and Farm Clubs

17. Promotion of Group Farming

18. Formation of Children's Club

19. Introducing Labour Bank

20. Formation of Farmer Producer Company

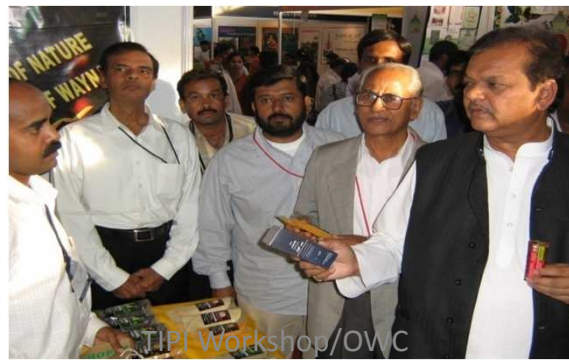


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PROMOTIONAL PROGRAMS

21. Introducing Small Holder Group Certification (NPOP, NOP, EU , Jas, Fair Trade)
22. Up keeping Records
23. Procuring Certified Farm Produces from Farmers
24. Processing and Value Addition of Organic Produces
25. Marketing of Organic Produces- Domestic and International



INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES AVAILABLE



WSSS ADMINISTRATION OFFICE



FARMERS TRAINING CENTRE

INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES AVAILABLE



SPICES PROCESSING CENTRE



SOIL TESTING LAB

INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES AVAILABLE



Radio Mattoli- Own Community Radio Station

INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES AVAILABLE

BIOWIN AGRO PROCESSING CENTRE

TIPI Workshop/OWC

DIRECT VISIT BY BUYERS TO ORGANIC FARM

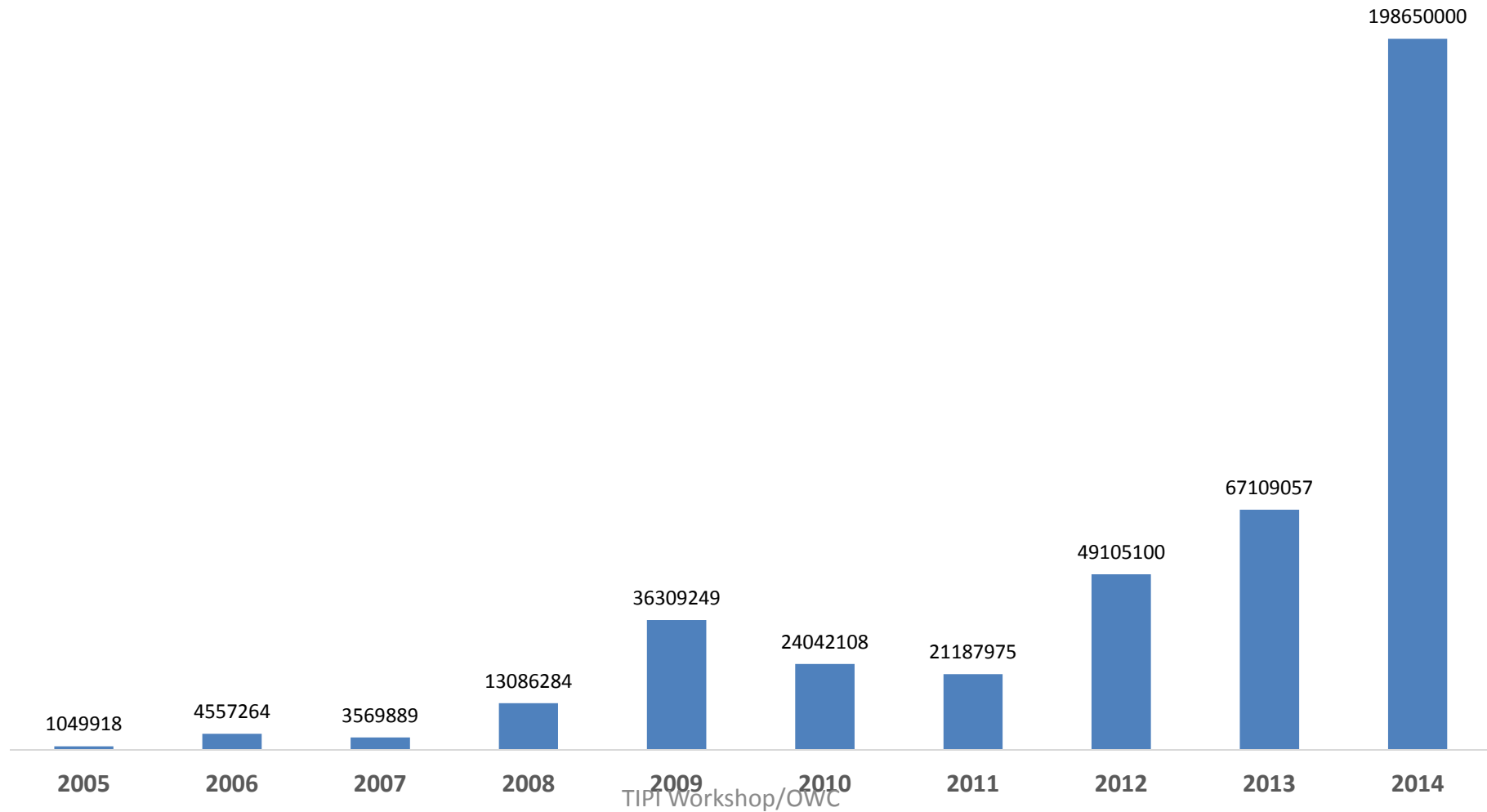




A TRIBAL FARMER IN HIS ORGANIC FARM

TPI Workshop/ONIC

SALES OF ORGANIC PRODUCES (IN RUPEES)



USDA TEAM VISIT



LAST YEAR GOVT. OF INDIA SELECTED WSSS ICS IS THE BEST ICS

PROBLEMS IN ORGANIC FARMING

1. Poor research support in organic farming
2. Poor Extension Support, No person/department for promoting organic farming
3. Poor Support from Government/ Agriculture Universities
4. Poor technology base for nutrient management, pest and disease management.
5. Poor facilities for quality analysis of Organic Inputs
6. Complex system in Third party certification (Small Holder Group Certification)



PROBLEMS IN ORGANIC FARMING

7. More Export oriented, not yet developed domestic market
8. Less availability of quality inputs like organic seeds, manure, pest and disease control agents
9. Reduction of Yield
10. Less knowhow on organic package of practices, different types of certification, value addition and marketing

Organic standards = “DOT USE”

Research Needed = WHAT CAN USE IN ORGANIC FARMING

OA RESEARCH IN INDIA

- Research Related to OA started in 1950's on the name of eco-friendly farming
- Most of research institutions, work is being done on integrated use of eco-technologies with chemicals
- In 2004 Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) started a network project on OA at 13 centers all over the country
- Some Agriculture Universities started course of farming systems in which OA is a topic. (no full time/part time course till now)

MAINLY PRIVATE INPUTS COMPANIES ARE CONDUCTING RESEARCHES IN INDIA

ORGANIC AGRICULTURE SECTOR

SUPPORT NEEDED FROM TIPI

1. Training and Capacity Building

- Training Need Assessment
- Training Syllabus Preparation and Training Module Development
- Developing Package of Practices for each crops
- Training Materials Development



ORGANIC AGRICULTURE SECTOR

SUPPORT NEEDED FROM TIPI

2. Organic Inputs

- Quality Analysis of Organic Inputs (Mainly Bio control agents)
- Alternative organic inputs development (Especially for Nutrient Management and Pest and Disease Management) **Eg. Alternative for Potash**
- Standardization of Organic Inputs (Soil health promoter, Plant health promoter, Bio pesticides etc.)

ORGANIC AGRICULTURE SECTOR

SUPPORT NEEDED FROM TIPI

3. Technology Development

- Revalidation and Documentation of traditional technologies/System
- Participatory Action Research/ Participatory Action Research in Organic Farming
- Dissemination of proven technologies



ORGANIC AGRICULTURE SECTOR

SUPPORT NEEDED FROM TIPI

4. Certification

- Common Standard for Third Party Certification
- Support for introducing PGS, Demeter Certification, Rain Forest Alliance Certification etc.
- Software for Internal Control System Management
- Documentation
- Skill Training support for ICS Personal



ORGANIC AGRICULTURE SECTOR

SUPPORT NEEDED FROM TIPI

5. Processing and Marketing

- Appropriate technologies for Processing and Value addition
- Market Analysis
- Brand Development
- Package Designing
- Domestic Market Development



ORGANIC AGRICULTURE SECTOR

SUPPORT NEEDED FROM TIPI

6. Organic System Research

- Study of Productivity, Soil Health , Organic Product Quality
- Study of Economics of Organic Farming practices
- Develop Crop based organic protocol
- Development of organic farming models for each sub agro-ecological zone
- Assessment of Economic and Ecological returns from organic V/s Chemical farming



SUPPORT NEEDED FROM IFOAM-TIPI

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Thank you all...