

# The World of Organic Agriculture: Regulations and Certification Emerging Trends 2009

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# Organic Regulations by Continent (2009)

Country	Countries with regulations	Contries per continent	Percentage
Europe	39	41	95%
America and Carribbean	16	35	46%
Asia and Pacific	13	62	21%
Africa	3	55	5%
Total	55	193	33%

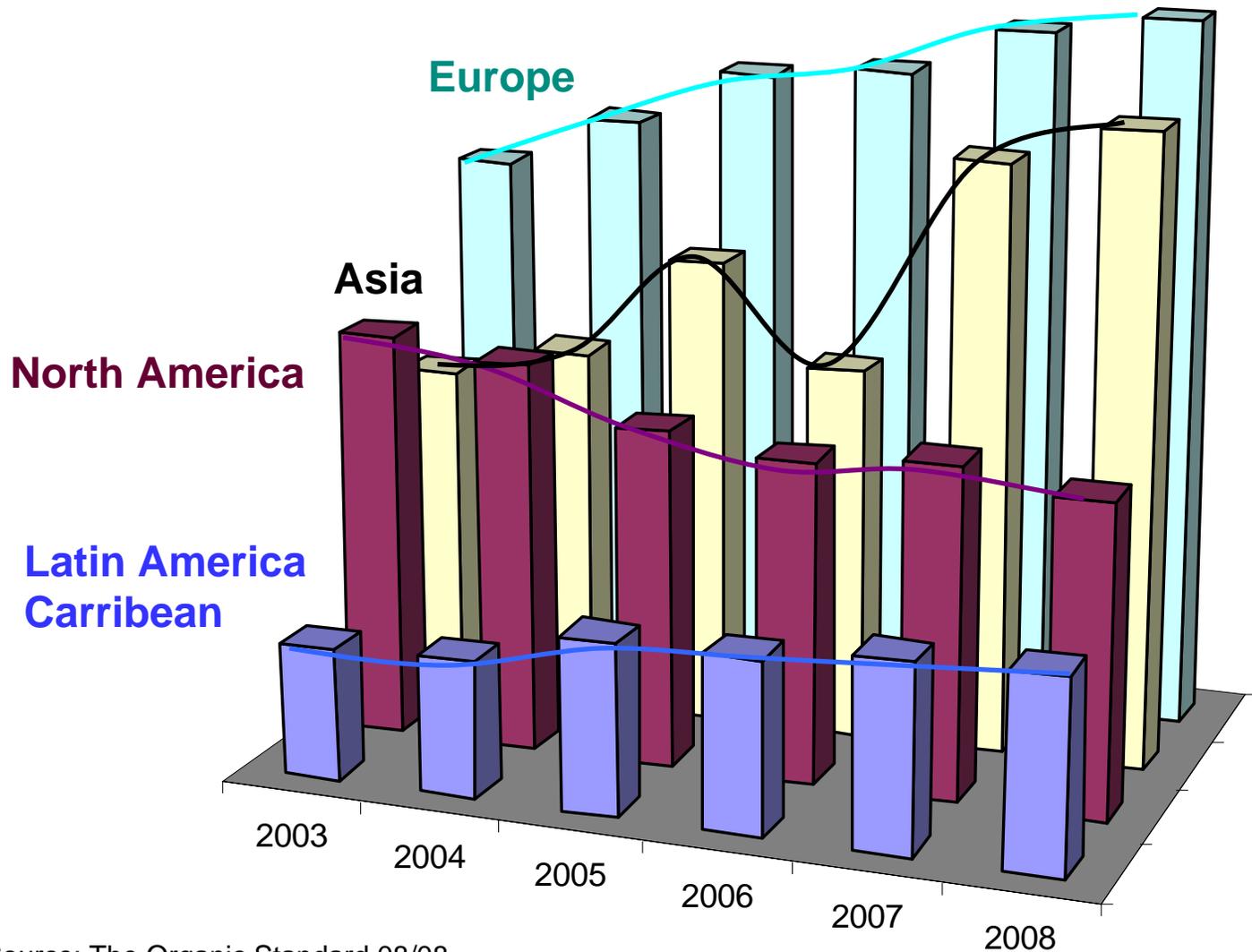
# Countries Drafting Regulations

- **Europe: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Russia, Ukraine**
- **Armenia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Vietnam**
- **America and Carribean: Cuba, Nicaragua, St Lucia**
- **Africa: Cameroon, Egypt, Kenya, Madagascar, Marokko, South Africa, Tanzania**

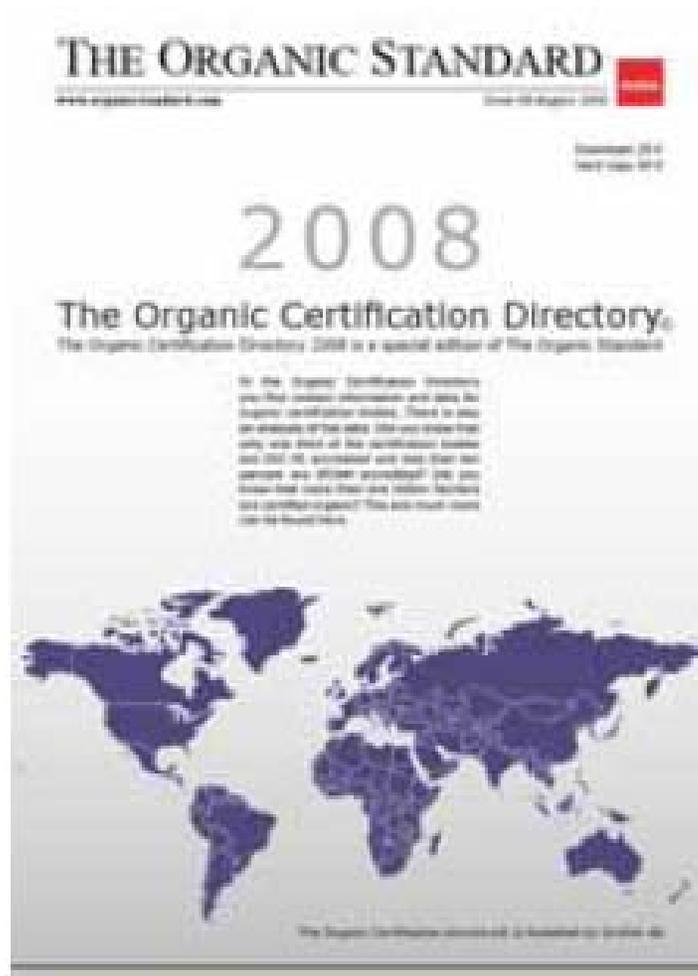
# Certification Bodies by Continent

Region	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
Africa	10	8	8	7	9	7
Asia	157	147	93	117	91	83
Europe	177	172	160	157	143	130
Latin America and Carribbean	48	47	43	43	34	33
North America	78	83	80	84	97	101
Oceania	11	11	11	11	11	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>364</b>

# Certification Bodies by Continent



# The Organic Certification Directory



# Trends in Regulations:

## Strong markets keep control on imports

- **Direct approval of foreign certification bodies**
  - **US, Japan, EU (from 2011?), Canada (from 2009?)**
- **Trend to delegate surveillance of (foreign) certification bodies to accreditation bodies and to be flexible in recognition of accreditation bodies**
  - **EU: „recognition“ of IOAS**
  - **Canada: various recognition schemes**
- **No progress in bilateral agreements between countries**
  - **EU Third country list: 7 countries listed**
  - **No other bilateral agreements between countries**
  - **Canada is negotiating agreements with US and EU**

# Trends in Regulations: Alternative control schemes

**Third party control with annual control visits is very expensive for smallholders**

- **Group certification with Internal Control Systems:**
  - **Recognition in statements or guidance documents**
  - **US: interim policy, new policy in preparation**
  - **EU: covered in guidelines on import**

# Trends in Regulations: Alternative control schemes

## › Participatory Guarantee Systems

- › Participatory Guarantee Systems are locally focused quality assurance systems.

They certify producers based on active participation of stakeholders and are built on a foundation of trust, social networks and knowledge exchange.

## › Legislation in

- › Bolivia,
  - › Brazil,
  - › Chile,
  - › Costa Rica,
  - › British Columbia
- › Discussed in other countries,
- › e.g. India



# Trends in Regulations: Extension of scope

- › Aquaculture
  - › Wine
  - › Yeast
  - › Petfood
- 
- › **Extension to non-food only on private level**
    - › Standards on textile, fibre processing, cosmetics and social standards from private organizations

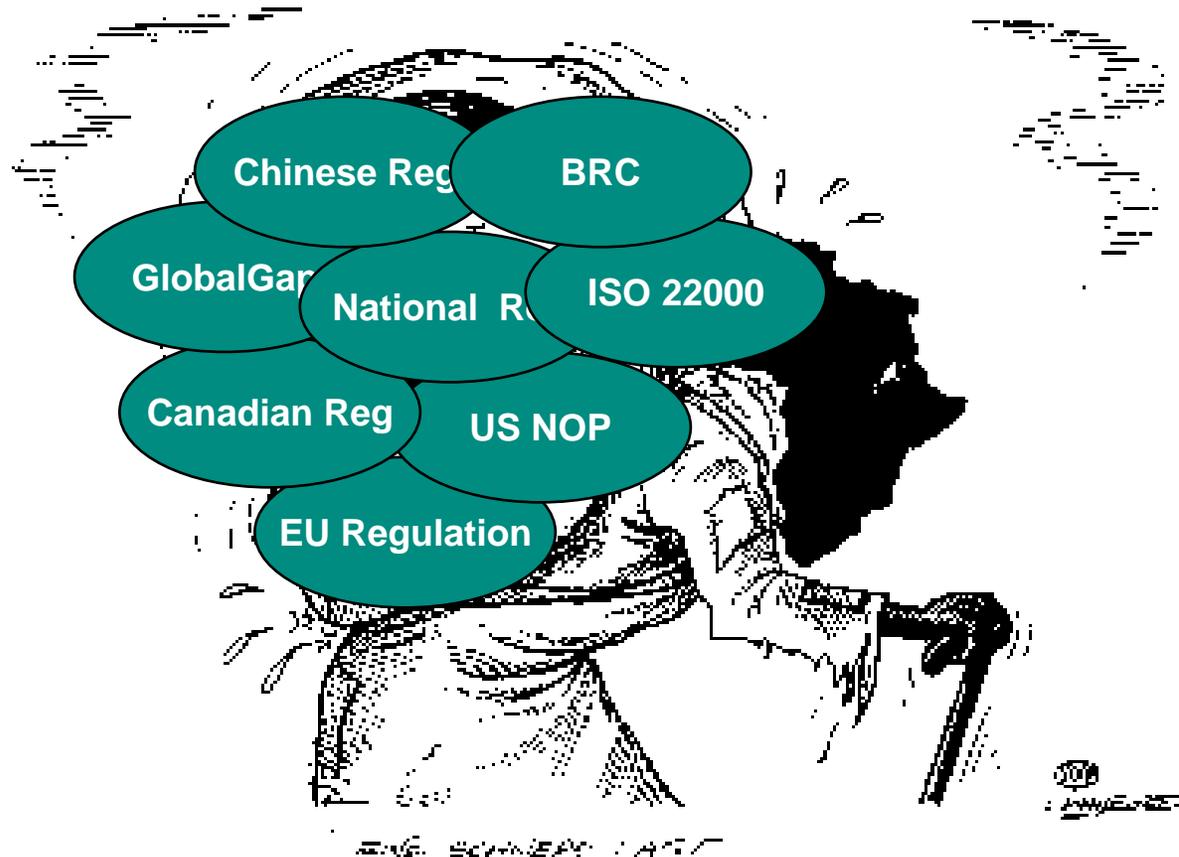
# Harmonization

- **International Task Force on Harmonization (FAO, IFOAM, UNCTAD)**
  - **Accepting diversity in organics by equivalency approach**
    - **no unified organic standard**
    - **Mutual and multilateral recognition on basis on equivalence assessment**
  - **Elaboration of Equitool**
    - **Procedure to assess equivalency among standards**
  - **Adoption of the International Requirement for organic certification bodies (IROCB)**
    - **Norm for organic certification bodies**
    - **Not yet applied by governments**

# Progress in Harmonization?

- **No progress in mutual recognition of governmental systems**
- **Increase of national approval schemes (US, Japan, EU, Canada...)**
- **More flexibility for recognition of surveillance bodies (EU, Canada)**
- **Reference to Codex Alimentarius in EU Regulation**

# Increasing Diversity of Norms



**Certification Body**