



# 50 years of FiBL: a differentiated approach to sustainable research for organic agriculture

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Agroecological Approaches in Times of Fertilizer Crisis

Brussels, 31.05.2023

**FiBL** 50 JAHRE  
ANS  
YEARS

together one step ahead



**FiBL** 50 JAHRE  
ANS  
YEARS

together one step ahead



# 50 Years FiBL or research in organic agriculture

**FiBL** 50 JAHRE  
ANS  
YEARS

Systems Thinking  
Participatory and Transdisciplinary  
Solution oriented



# SysCom - Farming Systems Comparison in the Tropics

## Pro-Eco Africa - OFSA



SysCom Bolivia 



SysCom Kenya 



SysCom India 



 ProEco Africa



UNIVERSITY OF GHANA

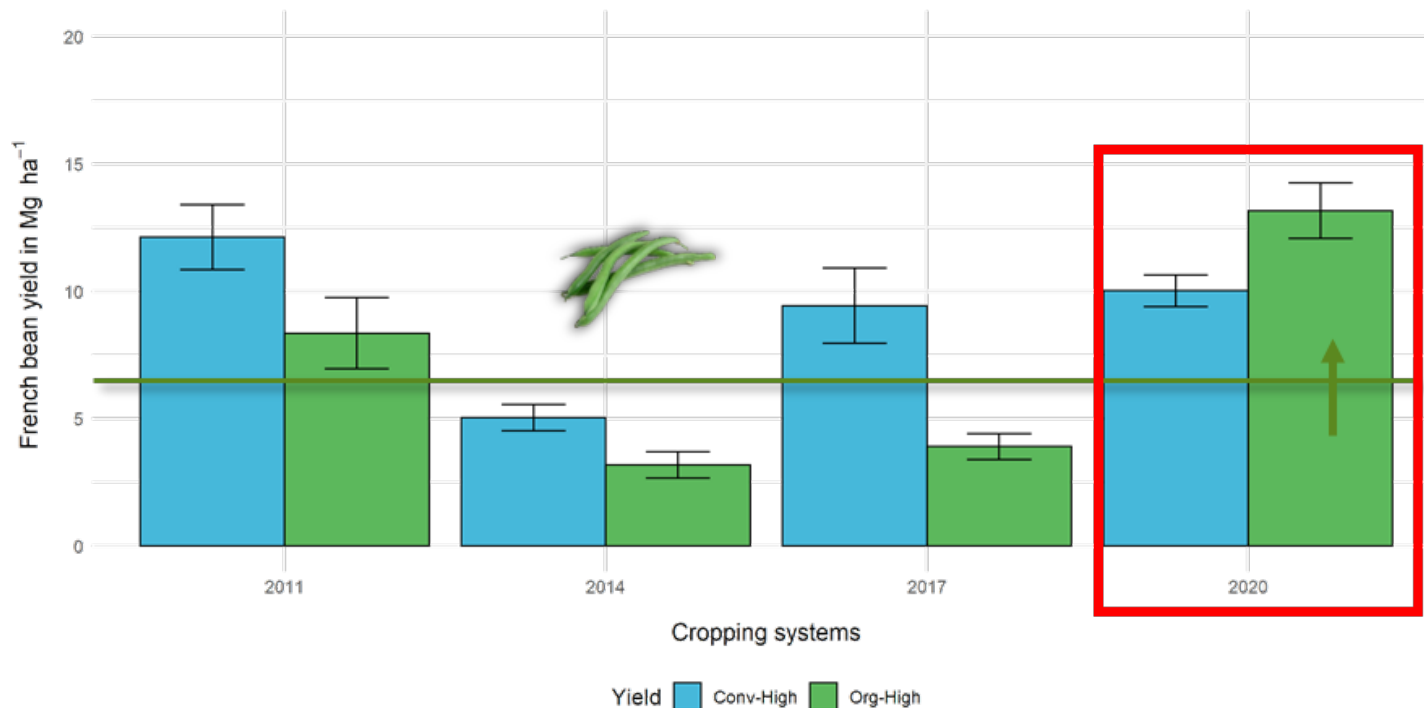


MINISTRY OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE  
REPUBLIC OF GHANA

# Systems Thinking: results from our comparison work

## Productivity

Effect of the System approach on French beans yield

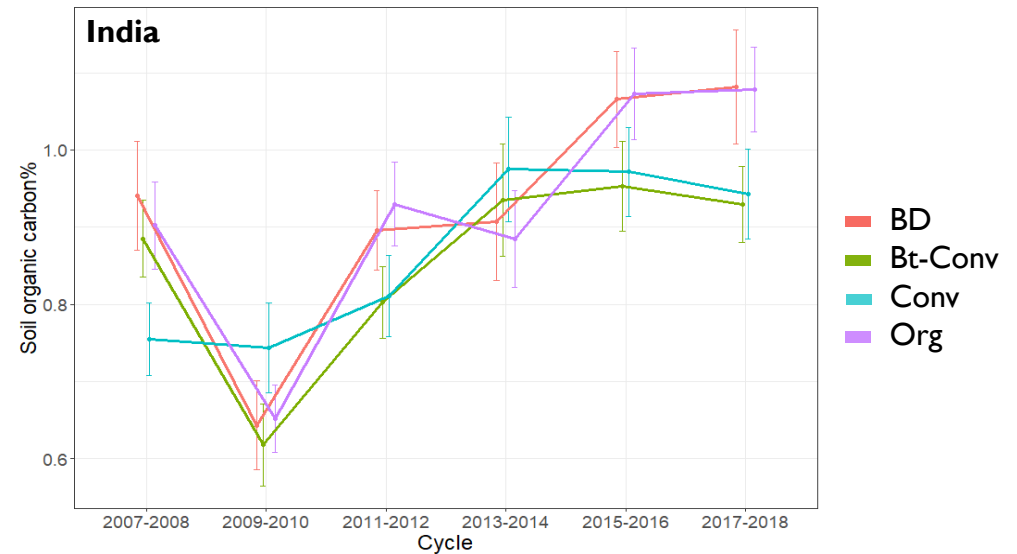


The yield gap between conventional and organic high input systems reduced from 30% to 2.8%.

# Systems Thinking: results from our comparison work

- Soil Carbon changes after 12 years

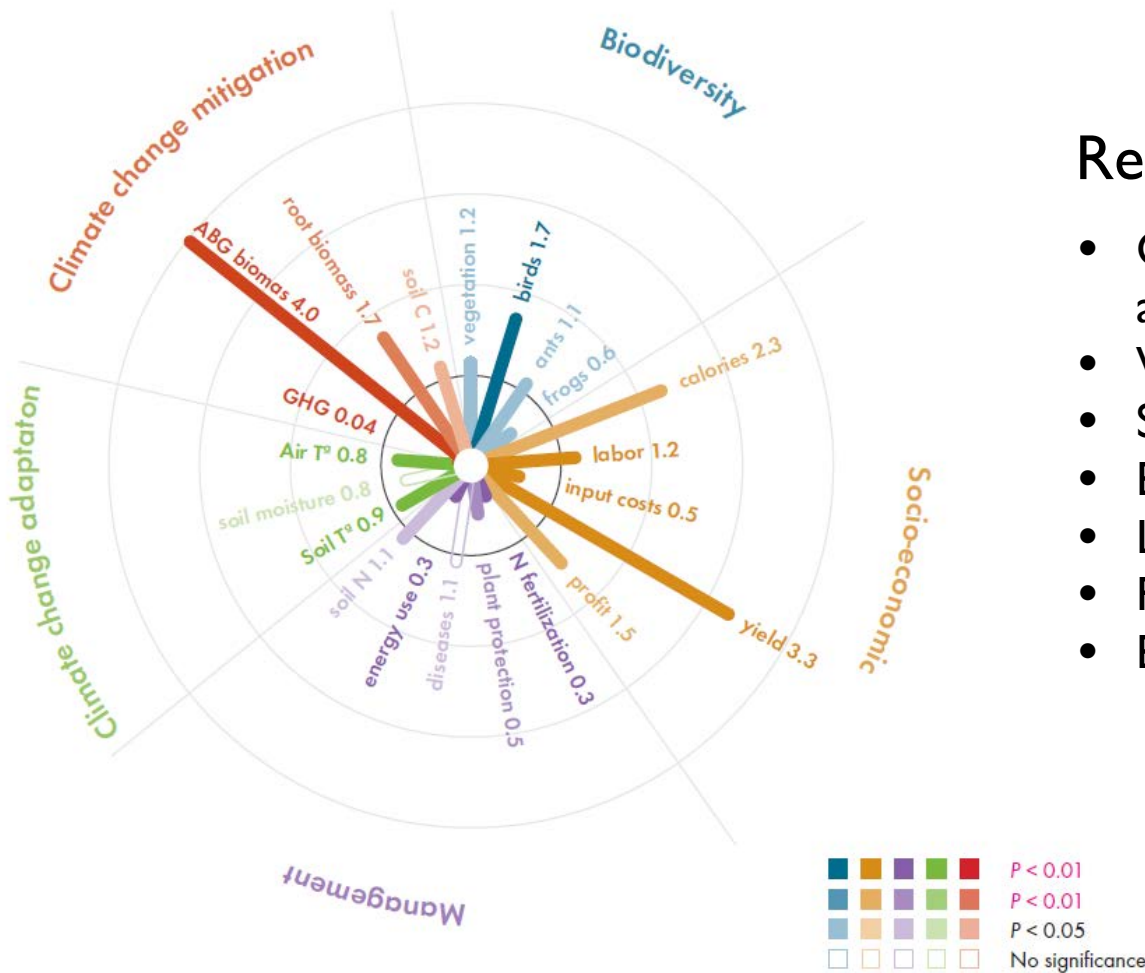
Kenya



- Org High
- Org Low
- Conv High
- Conv Low

# Systems Thinking: results from our comparison work

## ➤ System assessment: agroforestry vs monoculture in Bolivia



## Research in key topics:

- Climate change adaptation/mitigation
- Water-Food-Energy Nexus
- Soil fertility
- Biodiversity
- Land use intensity
- Food security and nutrition
- Etc.



# Participatory and transdisciplinary: results from our comparison work approach

➤ Effects of participatory approaches and capacity building to yields

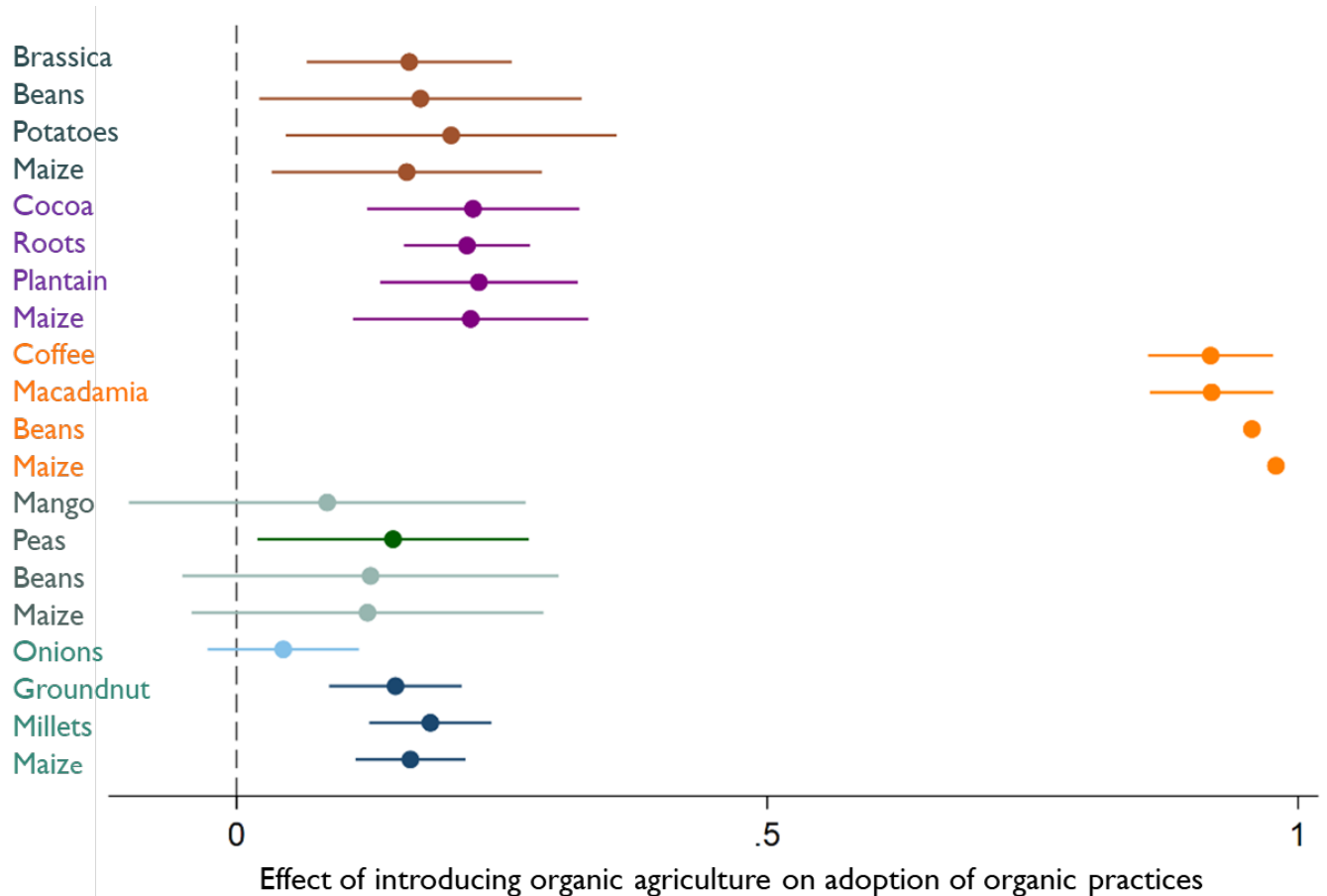
Cabbage  
Case Study

Cocoa  
Case Study

Macadamia  
Case Study

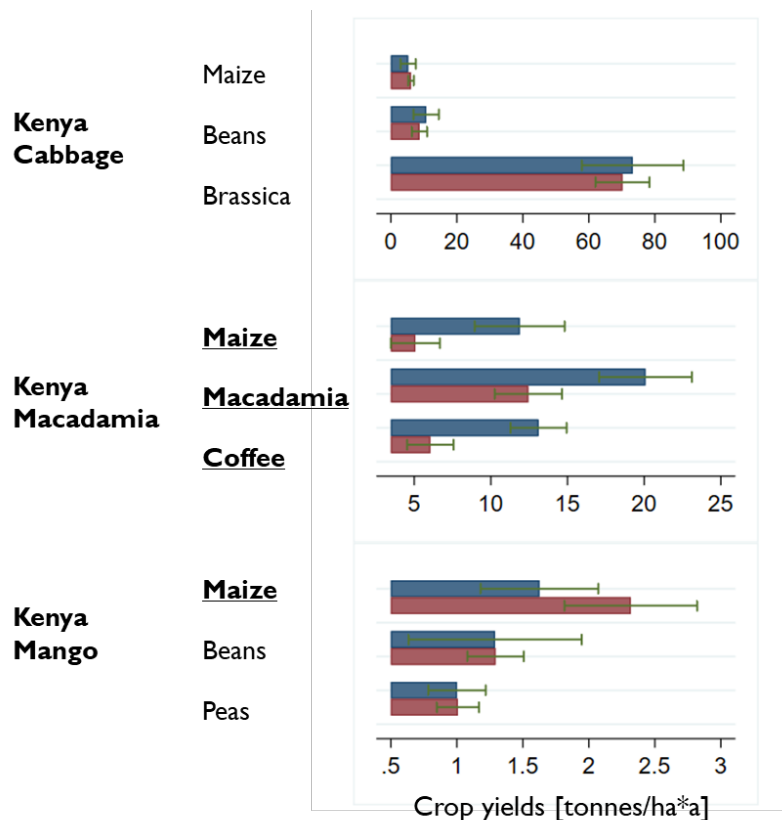
Mango  
Case Study

Onion  
Case Study



# Participatory and transdisciplinary: results from our comparison work approach

- Effects of participatory approaches and capacity building to yields



*Organic*  
 *Conventional*

Schader et al., in preparation; preliminary results, do not cite

# Participatory and transdisciplinary: cotton breeding

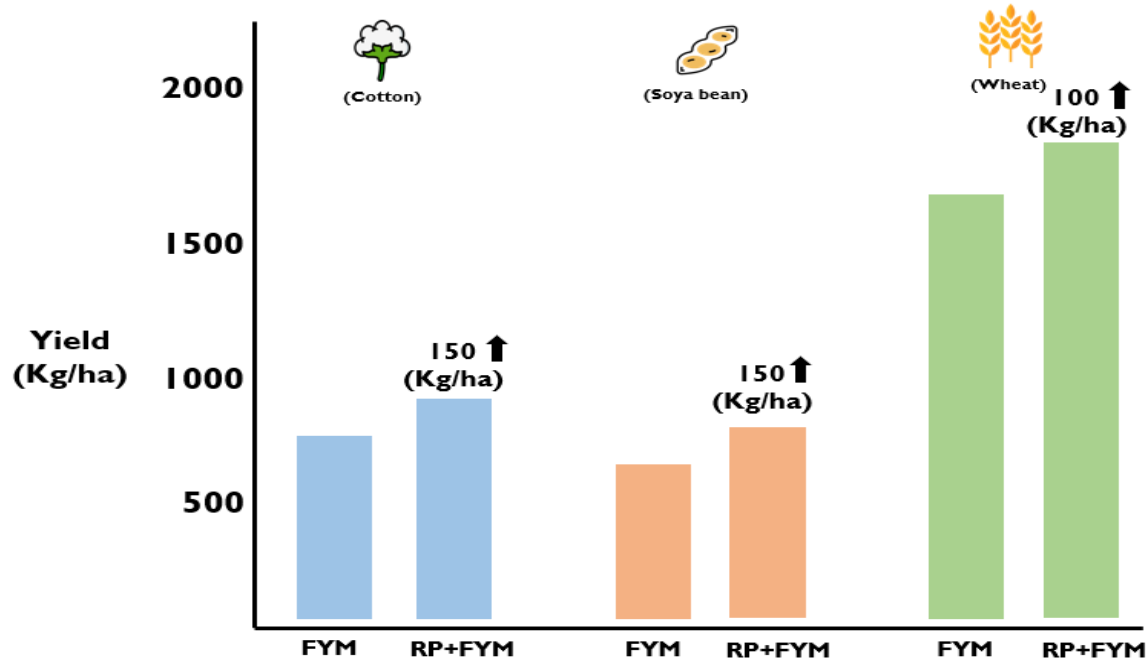
- India: Cotton breeding from a participatory approach



First ever release of organic cotton varieties in India in 2022.

# Solution-oriented innovations

- Compost enriched with buttermilk acidulated Rock Phosphate



# Uptake of SysCom findings



**FIBL FORUM**

**Can organic agriculture improve yields and incomes for smallholder farmers in Africa?**

Friday 24 September

Speakers:  
 Christian Schuler / FIBL  
 David Bourke / FIBL  
 Gilroy Fagotley / FORAM - Organic International  
 David Amundson / Research Africa Trust

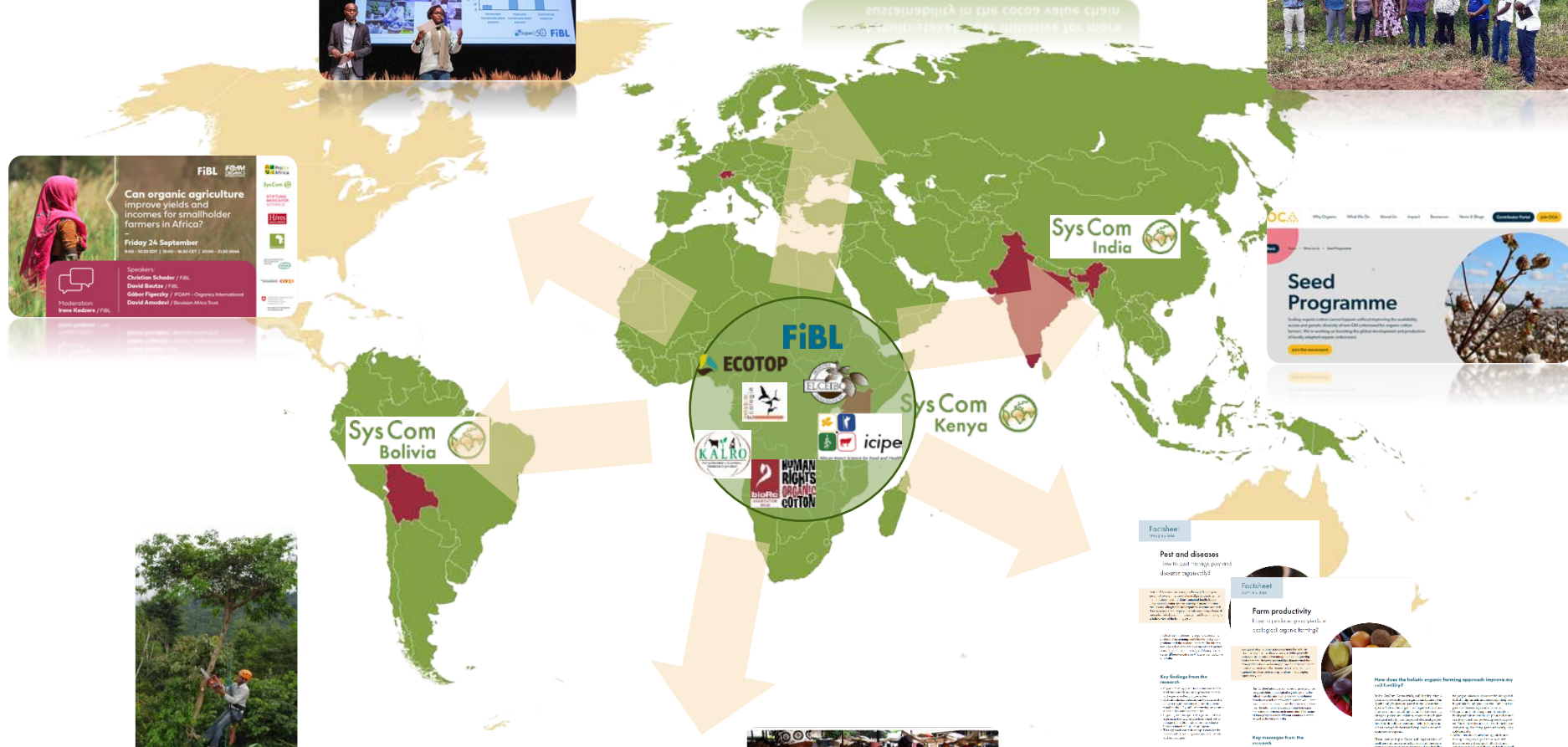
Moderation:  
 Irene Kibara / FIBL

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**Seed Programme**

Builds the capacity of smallholder farmers to produce quality seeds and genetic diversity of their own (improved) organic cotton hybrids. This is helping to revitalize the global high-growth organic cotton market. [Visit the website](#)



**Facilities**

**Pest and diseases**  
 How to just manage pests and diseases organically?

**Farm productivity**  
 How to improve gross value added of organic farming?

**Key findings from the research**

**Key messages from the research**

**FIBL**

**FIBL**

**How does the holistic organic farming approach improve my soil fertility?**

**Agroecology – The economic case**

Wed afternoon 20th October 2011 | 14h-16h (GMT)

**giz** | **KFW** | **ix** | **KfM**

# The projects have been supported by

This project is supported by the  
**Coop Sustainability Fund.**



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MERCATOR  
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and Cooperation SDC

LED LIECHTENSTEIN  
DEVELOPMENT  
SERVICE



Thank you very much!

**FiBL**

SysCom 

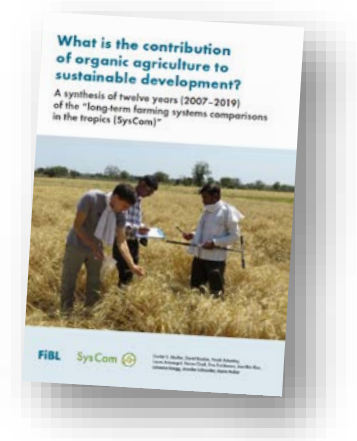


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# FiBL online



**SysCom**   
systems-comparison.fibl.org



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