



Civic Observers for Health and Environment: Initiative for Responsibility and Sustainability COHEIRS

Pula, 03rd February 2014

CROATIA

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Croatia should adopt *model of subventions* similar to the other EU countries (for example Austria) where, instead of giving subventions by the number of acres that producer handles, subventions are given regarding the effects that are achieved (according to crops that are cultivated, yields, quality, the way of treatment, etc.)
2. Every producer should be enabled equal access to high-quality seeds or indigenous varieties of seeds.
3. The procedure for starting organic production and education of people for seed preservation should be simplified.
4. Regulations for organic agriculture should be made by taking into account local/ regional specificities, or according to the requirements of specific territory. A list with the most convenient species for the specific locality should be created.
5. Considering that initial investments in organic farming are high and expensive, it is recommended to apply new models of risk dispersion such as *consumer cooperatives* where more people would be involved in taking risk, so the responsibility it is not carried by individuals. This consumers unions could also represent new markets for organic products.
6. The establishment of the plant gene bank should be financially supported.
7. Support the grouping of organic producers who are still dispersed among them, despite the increasing number of agricultural associations and cooperatives.



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8. Include education on health, food and healthy production already in kindergartens and encourage children to adopt healthy habits from the very beginning.
9. Introduce regulations on the use of organic products as standards for nutrition of children in kindergartens and other public institutions.
10. Encourage small local producers and Community supported agricultural groups
11. Encouraging of selfemployment of youth in organic production
12. Emphasize the role of media in forming of citizens' values and attitudes. To strengthen the promotion of ecology and organic agriculture through media campaigns and programs.



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