COHERENT POLICIES DRIVING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS IN EUROPE

Webinar - 20 May 2019, 14:00 CEST



Presenter and co-author:
Jürn Sanders, Thünen Institute



Guest speakers:

Iman Boot, Senior Expert, DG-Agri, European Commission



Moderator: Nic Lampkin, Thünen Institute



Paul Holmbeck, Policy Director, Organic Denmark



Nic Lampkin Researcher, Organic Farming Policy Thünen-Institut, Germany



Moderator

Programme

Presentation by:

Dr. Jürn Sanders (Thünen Institute): Co-author of the paper 'Sustainability in global agriculture driven by organic farming'

Responses from:

Iman Boot (DG Agri, EU-COM), Senior Expert of Directorate C "Strategy, simplification and policy analysis"

Paul Holmbeck (Organic Denmark), Policy Director

Q&A/Discussion

Technical tips



Your microphone will be muted during this webinar



If you have comments or questions during presentation, post them in the chat. We will address them in the Q&A session. Clarification questions may be taken after each presentation.



If you can't hear or view the presentation: leave and re-join the webinar



This webinar is being recorded and will be available on the Helvetas website

Jürn Sanders Researcher, Environment, Sustainability & Organic Farming, Thünen-Institut, Germany



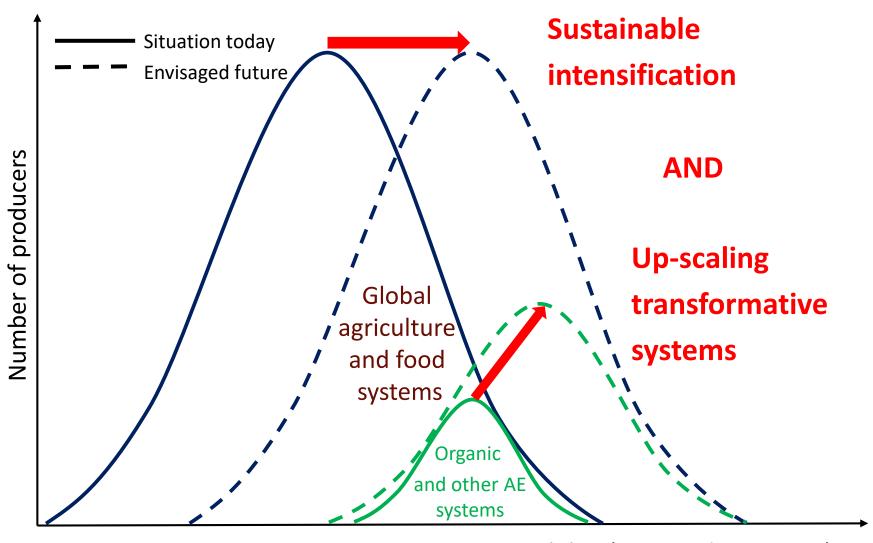
Presenter and co-author of the Nature Sustainability paper

Food systems provide a key lever for change



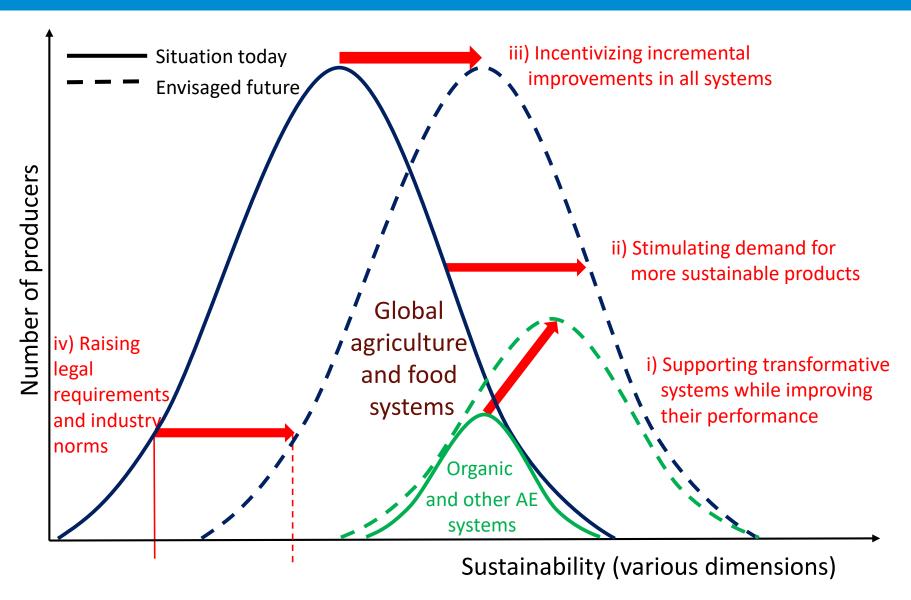
Contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Reconciling competing narratives



Sustainability (various dimensions)

Policy levers to drive sustainability



1) Support and enhance transformative systems

Push-measures:

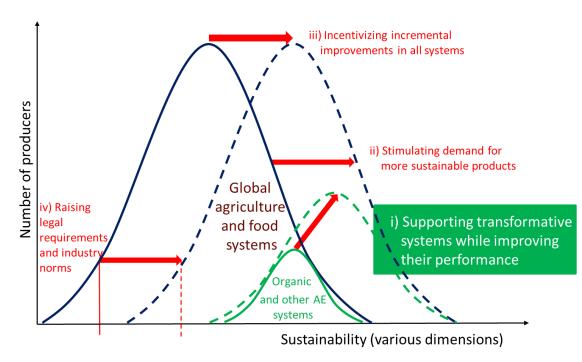
- Education & advisory services related to organic farming
- Area-based payments to support organic conversion

Pull measures:

- Promoting organic products / label
- Green PP

Enabling measures:

- Collecting data
- Research



Public benefits of organic farming

Water protection				Soil fertility					Biodiversity				Climate protection							Climate adaptation						Resource efficiency					Animal welfare											
					(pu	(د		Phosphor	Penetration	Flo	ora	Fauna			Sc	oil /	l / Plant			Cows				ty										Dai: cow		'		Pigs	igs		Poultry	
Nitrate	Nitrate		Veterinary drugs	Phosphor	Earthworm (Abund)	Earthworm (Biom)	Soil acidification			Species number	Abundance	Species number	Abundance	% OOS	SOC stock	C-sequestration	N ₂ O-Emission	CH ₄ -Emission	GHG-Total	CH₄-Emission	GHG-Total	C-Factor	Corg	Aggregate stability	Bulk density	Infiltration	Surface runoff	Soil loss	N-Input	N-efficiency	N-balance	Energy input	Energy efficiency	Health	Natural living	Affective states	Health	Natural living	Affective states	Health	Natural living	Affective states
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Quantitative analysis of the literature

Organic farming provides clearly more benefits
Organic farming provides clearly comparable benefits
Organic farming provides clearly less benefits

Qualitative analysis of the literature

Organic farming provides expectedly more benefits

Organic farming provides expectedly comparable benefits

Organic farming provides expectedly less benefits

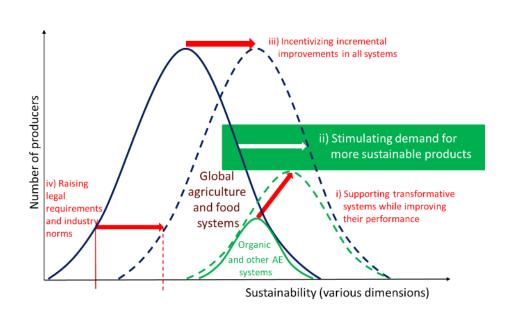
Reference unit used in studies

A Area Y Yield

H Herd / Animal

Source: Sanders & Heß (2019)

2) Foster the demand for sustainable products



Raising consumer awareness on the linkages between agriculture, environment, health and social wellbeing:

- Support informational campaigns on "good food"
- Include "food literacy" in educational curricula

Enhancing the commitment of market actors to offer sustainable products:

Encourage businesses to promote sustainable options to consumers

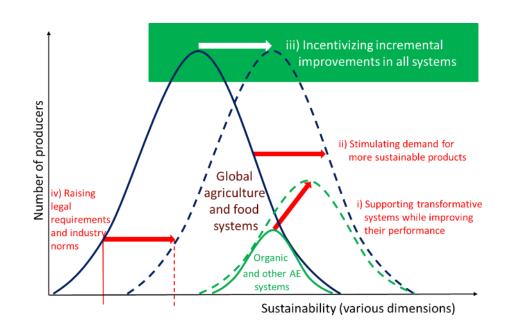
3) Incentivize improvement of mainstream systems

Incentivize sustainable practices:

 E.g. payments for ecosystem services

Dis-incentivize unsustainable practices:

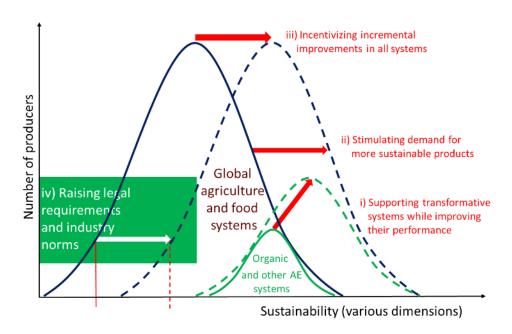
 E.g. taxes on harmful pesticides or on external nitrogen input



4) Raise legal requirements and industry norms

Rule-out particularly unsustainable practices:

- Ban highly hazardous pesticides
- Prohibition of clearing primary forests
- Etc.



Key market players agree to adhere to minimum requirements:

 Referring at least to standards such as the Round Table on Responsible Soy or the Round Table on Sustainable Palm Oil.

Ways forward – What governments could do

- Coherently align policies with the CAP goals
 - Public funds for public goods!
 - Problem relevance > policy targets > financial allocation
 - Strengthening / revising the regulative law
- Recognizing that transformative systems like organic agriculture are important drivers for:
 - Developing more sustainable options
 - Changing consumer demand
 - Inspiring / innovating mainstream systems

Iman Boot Senior expert, DG-Agri, EU Commission Brussels



Guiding questions:

- 1. To what extent are these approaches, including support for systems like organic farming to deliver public benefits, reflected in the new CAP proposal?
- 2. What are the limitations/barriers to implementing the different approaches in the EU, and how might they be overcome?

Common Agricultural Policy



THE 9 CAP OBJECTIVES and main policy principles



















ENSURE FAIR INCOME

INCREASE COMPETITIVENESS

POWER IN FOOD CHAIN

CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION

ENVIRONMENTAL CARE

PRESERVE LANDSCAPES & BIODIVERSITY

SUPPORT GENERATIONAL RENEWAL

VIBRANT RURAL AREAS

PROTECT FOOD & HEALTH OUALITY

KNOWLEDGE & INNOVATION





Reduce administrative burden PERFORMANCE BASED SYSTEM



Ensure policy results

BETTER TARGETING



Rules with better links to local realities

KEEP STRONG
COMMON ELEMENTS



Keep a level playing field

Enhanced ambition



Paul Holmbeck Policy Director, Organic Denmark Denmark



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Thank you for participating!



Jürn Sanders
Thünen Institute



Nic Lampkin
Thünen Institute



Iman Boot DG-Agri



Paul Holmbeck Organic Denmark

