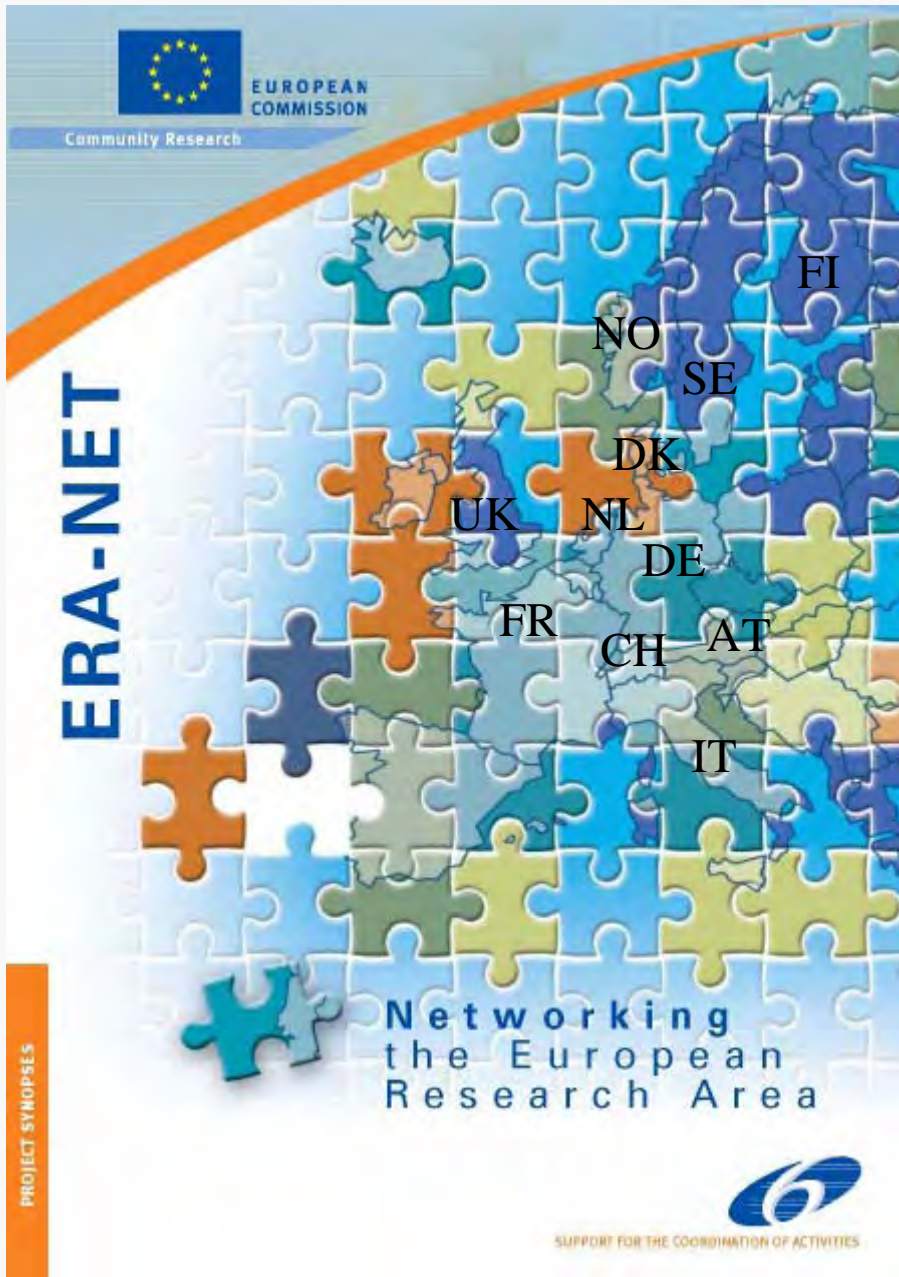


Introduction to Core Organic



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The history

CORE Organic:

→ Coordination of European Trans-national Research in Organic Food and Farming (no. 011716)

www.coreorganic.org

→ Cooperation of 13 national funding bodies and agencies in 11 European countries

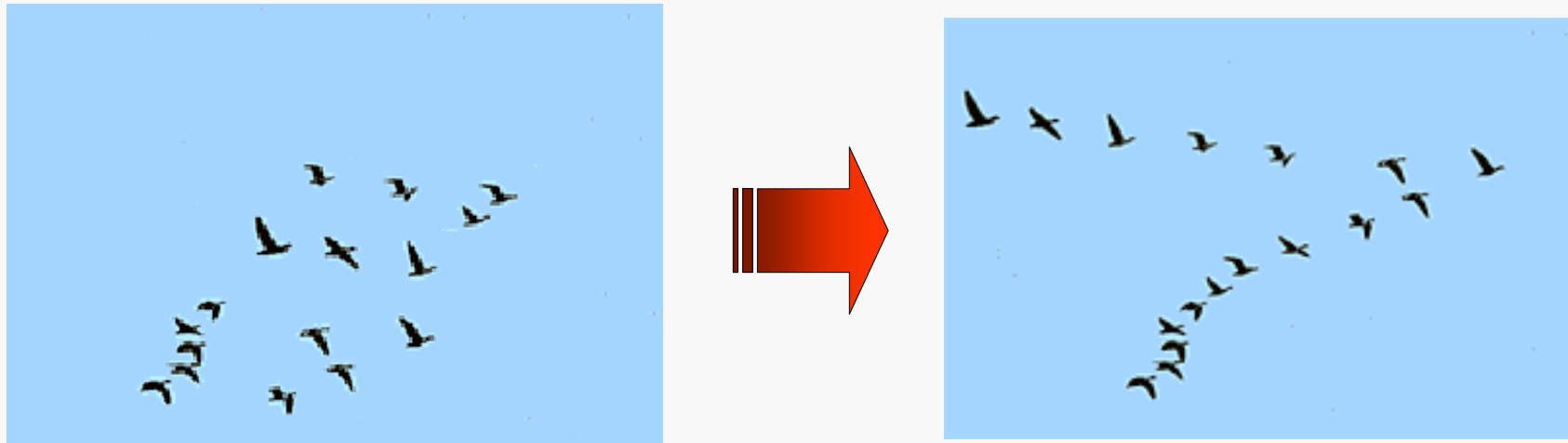
→ Start: 01.10.2004
Duration: 36 months
Budget: 1.200.000 €



The idea

Coordination of national Programmes

Nature shows us the way: Birds coordinating their efforts



71 % gain of efficiency

However, do not forget that coordination is time consuming:

- Birds used many thousand of years to gain 71 %
- How much did CORE Organic manage in 3 years? – a lot !



Strategic objective

To enhance the quality, relevance and utilisation of resources in research in organic agriculture and food systems and its contribution to the development and integrity of the organic sector



Joint pilot call, September 2006 :

- Virtual common pot funding, 9 million €
- Duration of max 3 years, min. 3 participating countries
- 1-stage evaluation procedure, based on peer review

Research topics selected for the common call:

- **Animal** disease and parasite management, including preventative health and improving therapies to reduce reliance on antibiotics.
- **Quality** of organic food – health and safety.
- Innovative **marketing** strategies. Identification of successful marketing methods. Local markets.

Result of the joint trans-national call



	<u>Distribution of proposals on topics:</u>				<u>Total</u>
	<u>Animal</u>	<u>Quality</u>	<u>Marketing</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Mill €</u>
Total applicants	10	18	9	37	35
Above scien. threshold	6	7	4	17	19
Selected proposals	2	4	2	8	9

The 8 trans-nationally funded pilot projects:

1. Agronomical and technological methods to improve organic wheat quality (*France*, [AGTEC-Org](#))
2. Prevention of selected diseases and parasites in organic pig herds – by means of a HACCP based management and surveillance programme (*Denmark*, [COREPIG](#))
3. Quality analysis of critical control points within the whole food chain and their impact on food quality, safety and health (*Germany*, [QACCP](#))
4. Risks and recommendations regarding human pathogens in organic vegetable production chains (*Austria*, [PATHORGANIC](#))
5. Potential improvement of the salutary effect of organic dairy milk by forage species and by supplementation (*Sweden*, [PHYTOMILK](#))
6. Minimising medicine use in organic dairy herds through animal health and welfare planning (*Denmark*, [ANIPLAN](#))
7. Innovative public organic food procurement for youth (*Norway*, [iPOPY](#))
8. Farmer consumer partnership (*Germany*, [FCP](#))

www.coreorganic.org/research

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Bundesprogramm
Ökologischer Landbau

CORE organic



Member countries of the Core Organic Network



Members involved since the first Core Organic Era Net in 2004 (11):

Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom

New members:

Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Spain, Ireland, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovenia, Turkey

CORE Organic next phase



- Follow existing 8 projects
- Develop ERA net CORE II: Proposal April 2009
- New joint calls from 2010
- Develop long term strategy
- Still open to new partners (funding bodies)
- Next meeting: December 4-5 2009 in Bonn

Details on CORE Organic II

Call text to be proposed to the Commission in April 09:

CORE Organic II

A new ERA-net on organic/sustainable food and farming building on the results of the successful FP6 ERA-net CORE Organic with the aim of broadening the Funding Body Network, opening up for new countries within and outside the EU, deepening the collaboration of the national funding bodies and launching of a new trans-national call



Potential impact of further trans-national research



For the European organic sector

- Improved access to new knowledge for the European organic sector across countries
- Sustainable growth in the organic sector while improving the organic integrity
- Developing quality products based on increased knowledge of health and consumers demands
- Harmonised regulation and development in conjunction with consumers expectations, European market conditions and the organic principles

Potential impact of further trans-national research (cont.)



For the European societies

- Improved knowledge on the potential of using organic agriculture in agricultural and environmental policy
- Secure that organic agriculture may contribute to rural development, preservation of soil, water and biodiversity resources, reduction in climate gas emissions, animal welfare and consumer satisfaction
- Secure that organic agriculture may be a real alternative for consumers in the future

Vision for long term collaboration



The trans-national framework for research and development of organic farming and food systems will have significantly enlarged and improved organic agriculture's role in fulfilling European public demands in terms of high quality products delivered by farming and food systems which combine sustainability with animal welfare and rural development.

Vision for the new Era Net - Core Organic II



The ERA-Net CORE Organic II can through joint efforts successfully address by excellent research and innovation the most important areas where organic farming and food systems need improvement in order to fulfil important objectives in terms of sustainability and food quality

Strategic Objective of the trans-national cooperation



To enhance the quality, relevance and utilisation of resources in research in organic farming and food systems and its contribution to the development and integrity of the organic sector by establishing a *Strategic Research Agenda* as a basis for long-term collaboration between partner countries



Overall objectives of the trans-national coordination

1. To consolidate and strengthen the on-going research collaboration between existing CORE Organic partners under the umbrella of a *funding body network*
2. To involve other countries in Europe –and to consider the invitation of countries outside Europe with significant interests in research in organic farming and food systems in joint trans-national research and development programmes
3. To establish a second generation ERA network (Core Organic II on deeper and broader trans-national research cooperation).



Overall objectives of the trans-national coordination (cont.)

4. To develop a trans-national framework for a Strategic Research Agenda encompassing the multiple objectives for supporting research in organic farming and food systems in partner countries
5. To inspire the EU research system to give high priority to themes and research needs within organic farming and food systems in future calls under the Research framework programmes and to collaborate with the Commission in identifying research needs and coordinate research in organic farming and food systems.

Research topics / ideas of trans-national relevance for Core Organic II

- improved agro-ecological cultivation practices
- soil fertility & carbon sequestration
- plant & livestock breeding
- livestock husbandry, incl. health, feeding & environment
- landscape management
- energy use & greenhouse gas emissions
- biodiversity & birdlife



Research topics / ideas of trans-national relevance for Core Organic II

- organoleptical qualities of organic foods
- life cycle assessment of organic food chains
- health claims & reduction of additives
- technologies for organic food processing
- wrapping material & packaging
- automatisisation & robotics
- transportation & food miles
- economics

