

# Smallholder access to supermarket shelves

Eva Mattsson Grolink

Comparative study on  
GLOBALGAP Fruit and  
Vegetables Standard and the EU  
Organic Agriculture Regulation

Commissioned by UNCTAD  
United Nations Conference on Trade  
and Development

# Background

- The demand for organic products is growing both in the supermarkets shelves and in the food processing industry
- Producers and especially smallholder farmers have problems to comply with multiple standards requirements (ICS, GLOBALGAP and organic)
- High costs, both certification costs and compliance costs

# The study

## The comparison

### GLOBALGAP

- Control points and compliance criteria for fruit and vegetables

### EU Regulations

- Council Regulation 834/2007
- Commission Regulation 889/2008



# Study 2

## Interviews

- Supermarkets and wholesalers
- Certification bodies
- Other standard setters for smallholder groups
- Experts, consultants

## Studies

- Documents, reports and homepages



# Benchmarking

- Original idea
- Different styles of the compared programs
- GLOBALGAP – benchmarking have to comply with all requirements
- EU regulation on organic is not easy to change
- Interviewed persons were rather negative

# Add on module

- Several of the areas are equivalent
- Functionally equivalent
- Not equivalent
  - Hygiene
  - Contamination
  - Workers health, safety, welfare
- Benchmarking for equivalent areas
- Add on module to certified organic operators
- 70 requirements



# Add on module 2

- Further trim down the 70 requirements
- Document in "organic" style
- Organic + add on module
- Ownership of the add on module
- Solution both for smallholder groups and for individual operators



# Other proposals

- Simplified GLOBALGAP version for organic producers
- Use the same group certification criteria
- Specific ICS guidance
- Merged inspection protocols (for GLOBALGAP and organic)
- Merged inspections (for GLOBALGAP and organic)
- Merged quality management systems
- Risk based systems
- **Merging smallholder farms into one farm unit is not recommended**



# Expert meeting

- Wide representation
- Two partners, main stakeholders identified IFOAM and FoodPLUS
- Two possibilities to be explored:
  - add on module
  - adapted GLOBALGAP for organic producers
- Consultations internally
- Next step is public consultation
- First draft for an add on module

- Session on Saturday 14-15, room Prag, Welcome!
- Report on the UNCTAD homepage
- Problems to find the report or want to get involved in the consultation - send an email to [eva@grolink.se](mailto:eva@grolink.se)

