

Organic agriculture, legal
harmonisation, transposition,
certification, organic market
development in Bosnia and
Herzegovina

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Overview on organic development in Bosnia and Herzegovina

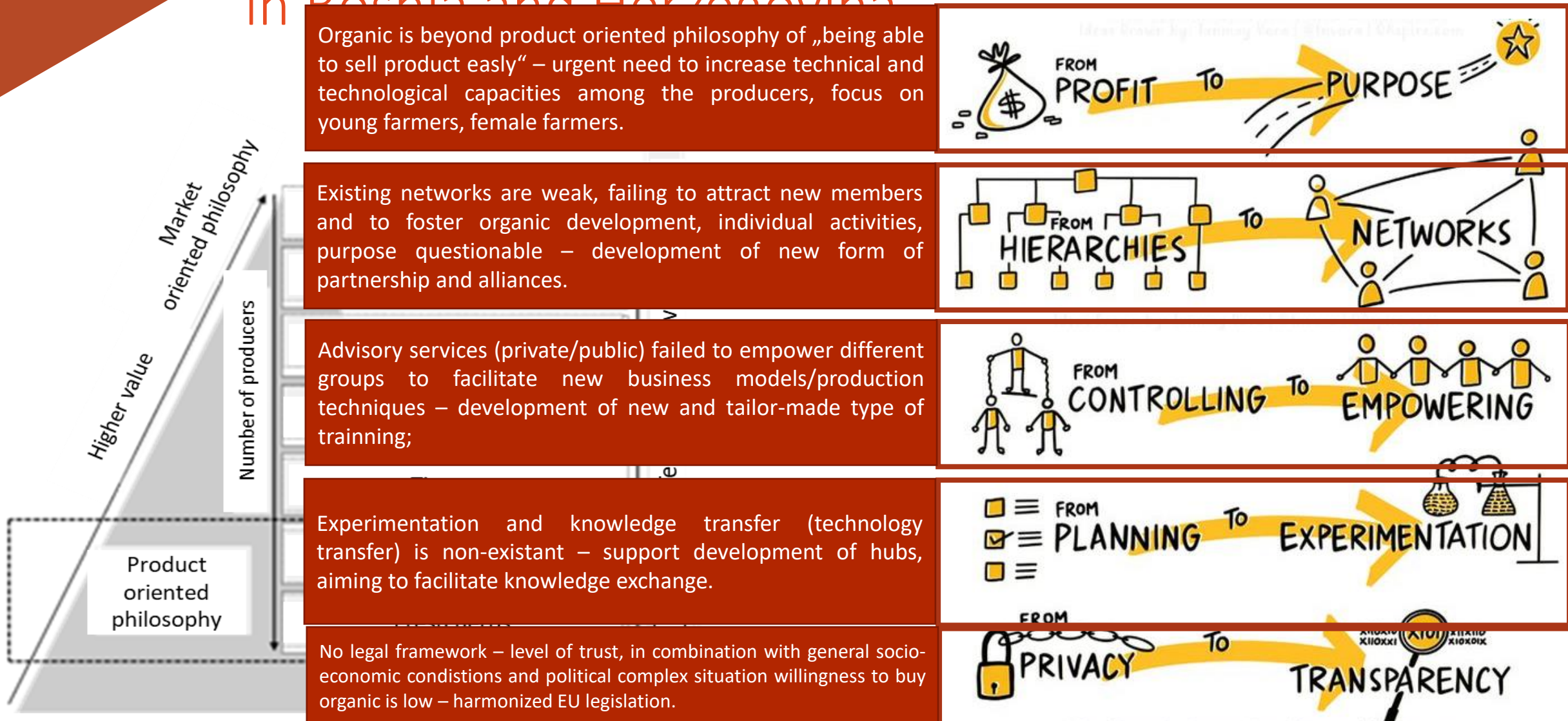
Table 1. Organic in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Willer and Leround, 2011; 2012; 2013; 2014; 2015; 2016; 2017; 2018; 2019; 2020)

Year	2007	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Organic land(ha)*	691	353	576	992	1.273	896
Share of organic land(%)	0,04	0,02	0,03	0,05	0,1	0,04
Producers	n/a	24	36	45	304	251
Processors	n/a	8	8	17	31	23
Exporters	n/a	6	10	13	15	20
Export value (mil EUR)	n/a	1	2	2	4	0,4
Consumption/ person (EUR)	n/a	n/a	0,03	n/a	0,1	0,1
Organic beehives	n/a	561	238	291	293	150
MAP (ha)**	69.310	124.141	50.250	69.310	150.604	62.030

Focus group interview major results (Mujčinović, 2020):

- There are lack of quality seeds and seedling materials;
- Up to 30% losses because of poor quality;
- Low investment in equipment;
- Lack of experimenting;
- Crop rotation limited;
- Lack of communication between farmers;
- When cooperating easier access to the markets;
- Individual efforts only, group work is limited;
- Female farmers still not recognized as viable source for rural development;
- Project (donor) oriented activities;

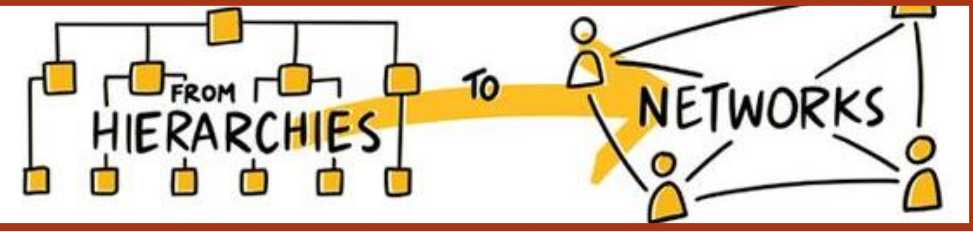
Overview on organic development in Bosnia and Herzegovina



Organic is beyond product oriented philosophy of „being able to sell product easily“ – urgent need to increase technical and technological capacities among the producers, focus on young farmers, female farmers.



Existing networks are weak, failing to attract new members and to foster organic development, individual activities, purpose questionable – development of new form of partnership and alliances.



Advisory services (private/public) failed to empower different groups to facilitate new business models/production techniques – development of new and tailor-made type of training;



Experimentation and knowledge transfer (technology transfer) is non-existent – support development of hubs, aiming to facilitate knowledge exchange.



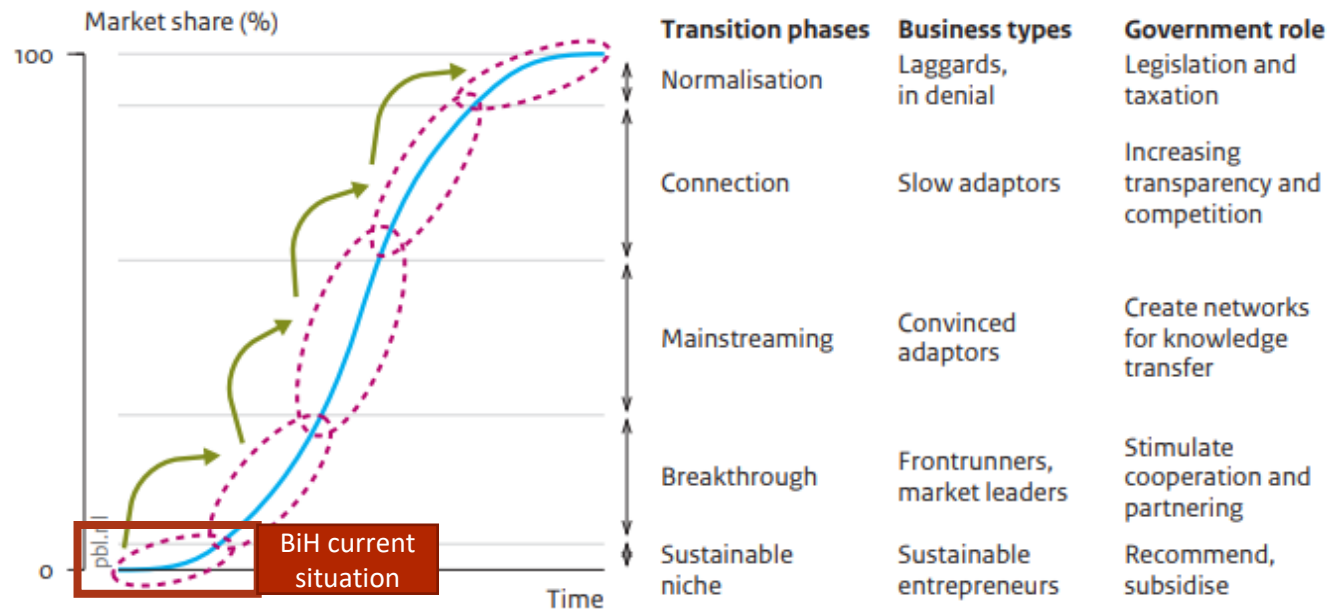
No legal framework – level of trust, in combination with general socio-economic conditions and political complex situation willingness to buy organic is low – harmonized EU legislation.



Figure 1. Value pyramid and current production capacity in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Mujčinović 2020)

Recommendations – future activities

- Harmonization of EU legislation supported by set of promotional activities among different stakeholders;
- Actual recognition of organic production in Bosnia and Herzegovina is low, stronger promotional activities (i.e. like in 2008-2013) should be implemented;



Source: PBL, 2013

- New form of events have to be facilitated, current organic fairs are not planned well, with limited offer – have to be considered consumer behavior and lifestyle patterns (i.e. German case from Corona situation and changes in organic consumption);
- Promotional activities aimed at strengthening consumer awareness of organic agricultural products limited to fairs and a very small number of TV/radio appearances. As a result, labeling schemes may lose their communication role as well as their role in building customer trust and loyalty;
- Create or/and become a member of an association/cooperative and contribute to the creation of a "new type of agricultural association", in which autonomy, trust and transparency are guaranteed;