

## Organic Agriculture and diversity of nutrition

The world gets poorer with and wealthier without genetic engineering! Case Studies, moderated by Markus Arbenz, Bio Suisse

- Peter Zipser, Arche Noah, Austria about: Agrobiodiversity. Peter is concerned about seed/varieties, about farmers' awareness (including organic) for diversity, about supermarket and agriculture structure, about knowledge systems and adaptation of varieties and breeding. He asks for participatory seed breeding and its funding and for money for grassroots action and not just for campaigns. He pleads for 0.0 GMO, 0.3 is too much. (www.arche-noah.at; info@arche-noah.at; peter.zipser@arche-noah.at
- 2. Carlo Bogliotti, Slow Food Italy advocates for pleasure of food in his network covering more than 80 countries. His movie shows impressively the variety of foods and of people at their Terra Madre world gathering in Torino, which included farmers, cooks, scientists musicians and young people. Their products follow the principles of being good (taste, for mind), clean (sustainability) and fair (for farmers and their culture, for the dignity of the south). www.slowfood.it and www.terramadre.org; c.bogliotti@slowfood.it
- 3. Bernward Geier, Consultant and organic farmer, Germany shows that the fate of nature is different than just production of calories. We need clever solutions for the benefit of all. E.g to fight the stemborer in Africa or to use bees "to spray" or to use biodiversity for providing vitamins to people or to breed ducks in paddy fields. He states that scientists/industry "crossed the boarders" and that "we need to rescue the cow". Organic food keeps the diversity on the plates! It's so logic, Bio Logic! <u>bub.geier@t-online.de</u>
- 4. Markus Arbenz, Bio Suisse Switzerland shows how successful Bio Suisse works with its Bud label (Knospe) in Switzerland. The bud has a holistic approach. If Switzerland stays GMO free as a whole it will have a big advantage in marketing its farmers products, since consumer are strongly asking. They don't want GM food and are ready to pay for it. <u>www.bio-suisse.ch</u>; <u>markus.arbenz@biosuisse.ch</u>
- 5. The trailer of the new film: "Percy Schmeiser, David against Monsanto" shows that it is worth fighting for the wealth of people. The film will be available in the next few weeks.
- 6. Participants emphasize the need of networking with the GMO free world and the important role of the internet. It is recognised, that organic agriculture can feed the world. Hunger is a problem of poverty. Organic agriculture is a unique system that manages to provide solutions to global challenges. And it isn't a matter of size, but of local adaptation to the reality of people their ecosystems and their knowledge.