



TOWARDS ORGANIC AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT IN ZLATIBORSKI, RASKI AND PODUNAVSKI DISTRICTS IN SERBIA

PROJECT COORDINATOR:
FENOMENA Association (Serbia)



AIMS

The overall objective was **to contribute to development of sustainable agriculture** by strengthening NGOs and other key actors' capacity in Zlatiborski, Raški and Podunavski districts to advocate for public policy enhancement at the local and national level.

The specific objective was **to promote and support organic agriculture development in Serbia** by advocating for introduction and consistent application of research-based public policies, support measures and subsidies in Raški, Zlatiborski and Podunavski districts, targeting decision makers, farmers and consumers.

ACTIVITIES

- 1.1 **Scientific research** - cost benefit and competitiveness analyses of organic agriculture production in Central and Western Serbia
- 2.1 **Facilitated advocacy meetings of local stakeholders** about the benefits of conversion to organic and sustainable agriculture
- 2.2 **Advocacy campaign in villages** and local communities for promotion of organic agriculture in Central and Western Serbia
- 3.1 **Training in organic agriculture** for local farmers from Central and Western Serbia
- 3.2 **Peers presentation in local communities** with trained farmers presenting information related to organic agriculture
- 4.1 **Final National Event** in the framework of the National Convent for following the Chapter 11
- 5.1 **Visibility activities of the project** including press conferences, booklet for decision-makers and farmers, leaflets, etc.

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS



Photographs: FENOMENA Association

RESULTS

1. **Memorandum of understanding committing to allocating 3% of the local agricultural budget to organic agriculture** was signed by four local self-governments: Kraljevo, Užice, Velika Plana and Arilje.
2. **Increased knowledge of local farmers about conversion to organic agriculture**, organic production methods, networking of farmers, and organic food market through trainings and peer presentations that had widened the number of informed farmers.
3. **Produced evidence, in a form of a scientific research**, about benefits of conversion to organic agriculture, which was used in project advocacy efforts at local level.
4. **Local community was involved in all stages of the the project** including research and advocacy efforts to amend local policies.
5. **Sustainable agriculture principles and organic production positioned higher on the National Convent's Agenda**, within the working group for following Chapter 11 (WG11) Agriculture and Rural Development, and among local and national stakeholders.

PROJECT "IN NUMBERS"

- 12 farmers participated in focus group regarding organic agriculture perspectives
- 200 consumers from targeted territory filled in online questionnaire
- 8 public servants / decision makers from targeted territory participated in research related interview
- 30 pages minimum of Study report produced, with summary and abstract
- 4 local governments signed Memorandum of understanding about support to organic agriculture development
- 10 media reports about project results broadcasted on local media and social networks
- 6 meetings with farmers held in local communities across Serbia
- 1 Training curriculum produced and implemented - 3 days of learning at organic farm "Agrikultura Orlovic"
- 30 farmers and interested persons participated at training

PROJECT SUPPORTED BY

