



Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture in Africa

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES?

Humanity is facing the **challenge** of ensuring food security for all, while respecting the earth's **ecological boundaries**. Organic agriculture makes a valuable contribution here.

In Africa, certified organic farming is limited to just 0.2 percent of agricultural land – compared to all other continents, the smallest share worldwide. The potential for expanding organic agriculture is great, because it is economically viable in the long term, preserves human, animal and environmental health and conserves soil resources.

Putting organic agriculture into practice requires an in-depth understanding of the complex interrelationships of ecological issues and extensive knowledge of how organic products are produced, processed and marketed locally. This knowledge is, however, often very limited.

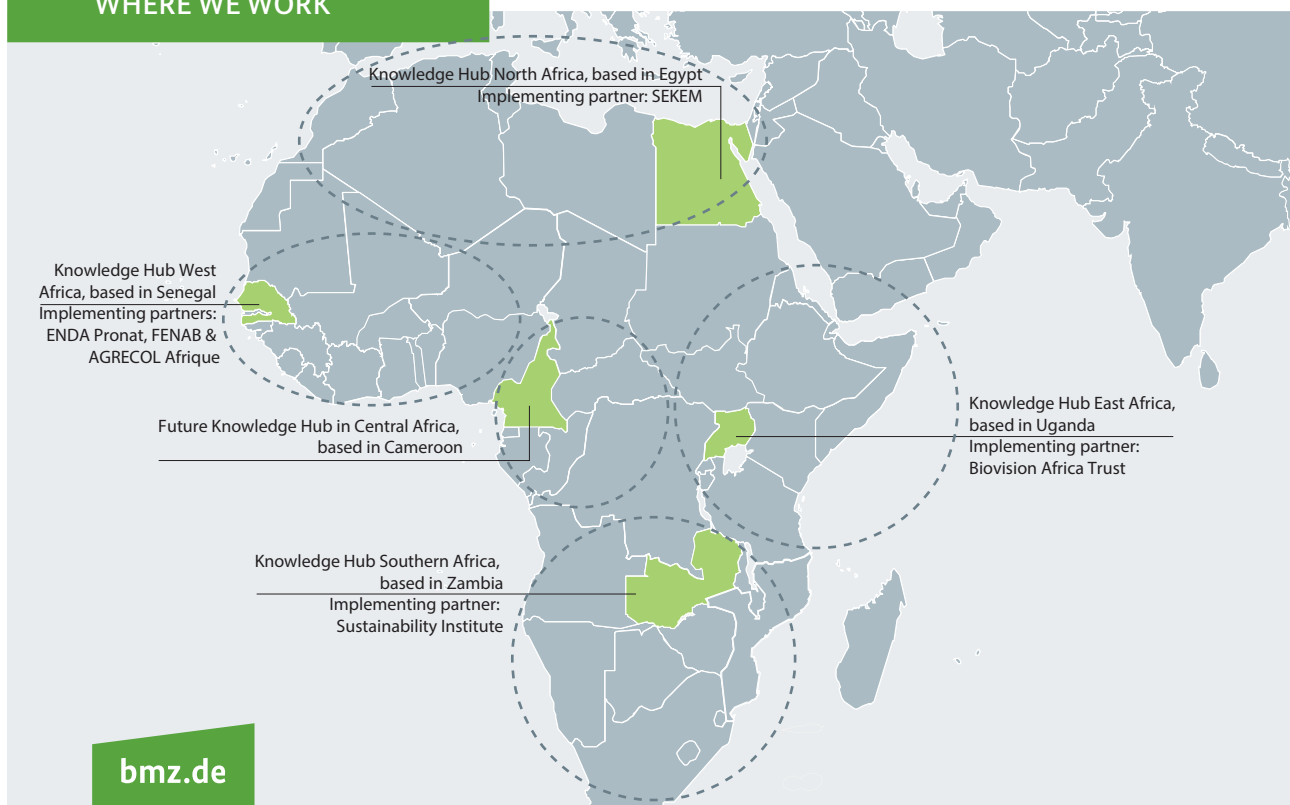
DID YOU KNOW THAT ORGANIC AGRICULTURE...

- ➔ ... preserves natural resources, such as soil and water, in the long term?
- ➔ ... mainly relies on renewable resources?
- ➔ ... is safer for farmers because no chemical synthetic pesticides are used?
- ➔ ... strengthens the resilience of agriculture to climate change?
- ➔ ... significantly boosts productivity and yield stability, especially for those farmers that do not use external inputs at the moment?

The programme helps achieve the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):



WHERE WE WORK



→ WHAT WE DO

In the framework of the Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture in Africa project, we are establishing **five regional knowledge hubs** – in North Africa, West Africa, East Africa, Southern Africa and, in the future, Central Africa. The aim of these knowledge hubs is to close knowledge gaps that slow down the dissemination of certified and non-certified organic agriculture in Africa.

The GIZ steers the project from Germany while local non-governmental organisations implement it in the regions. In co-operation with German and international organisations, GIZ supports the implementing partners in preparing technical and methodological knowledge – on organic production, processing and marketing.

Objectives of the dissemination of organic agriculture

- ✓ Ensure food security
- ✓ Conserve and regenerate natural resources
- ✓ Increase employment and income
- ✓ Create prospects for women and young people

→ AT A GLANCE

The implementing partners create technical and methodological **knowledge products** in English, French, Arabic and selected local languages in the countries involved in the project.



The project develops an online platform to disseminate **knowledge about organic farming** in Africa.

The implementing partners are selected **non-governmental organisations** in the five knowledge hubs.



Duration: 2019 to **2024**

Budget: approx. **€23 million**



→ KENYA: AN ORGANIC FARMER PASSES ON HER KNOWLEDGE

Sylvia Kuria is a successful farmer and multiplier in Kenya. She has regenerated the soil on her plot of land using agro-ecological methods, thereby preparing it for organic farming. She cultivates various types of vegetables and herbs on two hectares of land. She sells her products to the capital Nairobi, 30 kilometres away. She has learned much of what she knows about organic farming through her own research and testing. She sees organic farming as an opportunity to cultivate her land sustainably and to earn well. Sylvia also helps out at the school garden at the village school, where she passes on her know-how to the pupils and their parents. Through the regional knowledge hub in East Africa, Sylvia will be able to access tested knowledge on organic farming. This will enable her and the people in her village to soon produce more sustainably, more diversely and more profitably.



Multiplier and farmer Sylvia Kuria © GIZ / Mara Lindtner