Certifiers' view on the opportunities and challenges in Vanuatu



Jon Merrick
Director of BioGro NZ • 07.10.2017



Content

- What is organic?
- BioGro Background & History
- Certification programme & market access
- Opportunities
- Challenges
- Questions

What is organic?



- Organic agriculture are products produced without;
 - Using Genetic Modification Organisms (GMO's) or technology
 - Using synthetic fertilizers
 - Using nasty pesticides or herbicides
 - Destroying biodiversity
- Consumers increasingly becoming consciously aware of the benefits;
 - Good for you
 - Protects the environment
 - Animal Welfare
 - Traceability
 - Authenticity

BioGro Background & History



- Largest and leading organic certifier in New Zealand
- Non-government organisation & registered charity
- At the forefront of organics for almost 35 years
- Certifies growers, businesses and producers in all sectors
- BioGro logo is well recognised around the world
- 740+ active licensees at current, 22 from the Pacific

"BioGro's mission is to enable a sustainable and ethical future for producers and consumers"

Certification programmes



Market Access
Jnregulated markets (e.g. Aus & NZ)
Jnregulated markets (e.g. Aus & NZ)
Canada
Jnited States
EU
apan
Pacific Islands
Anywhere – most known in the EU

Opportunities



- Rapid growth overseas
- High demand for coconut and cacao products
- Organic certification guarantees a point of interest;
 - Traceability (paddock to plate)
 - No toxic chemical usage on farm and products
 - Social justice
 - Biodiversity
 - Animal welfare
- · Usage of a highly recognised and trusted organic certification logo

Challenges



- Rigorous processes requiring attention to detail
- Verification requires maintenance of paperwork
- Various organic standard requirements need to be met accordingly
- Grower Group certification requires being certified as a group and requires additional paper work such as Internal Control System (ICS)

BioGro are here to assist!



Questions?

For all technical/certification questions please email to Akiko Nicholls (Accreditation and Technical Manager) Akiko@biogro.co.nz