

# Positioning Thailand as the Asean Organic Hub

# Challenges & Opportunities



### sector



- FIBL & IFOAM The World of Organic Agriculture, Statistics and Emerging Trends 2015
- 43.1M ha certified organic land, 3.4M ha in Asia (7.8%)- 2013
- 170 countries with data on organic agriculture 2013
- worldwide \$72billion 2013 projected \$100billion 2015
- 82 countries with organic standards 2013



## Organics in Holland





# Organics in Holland





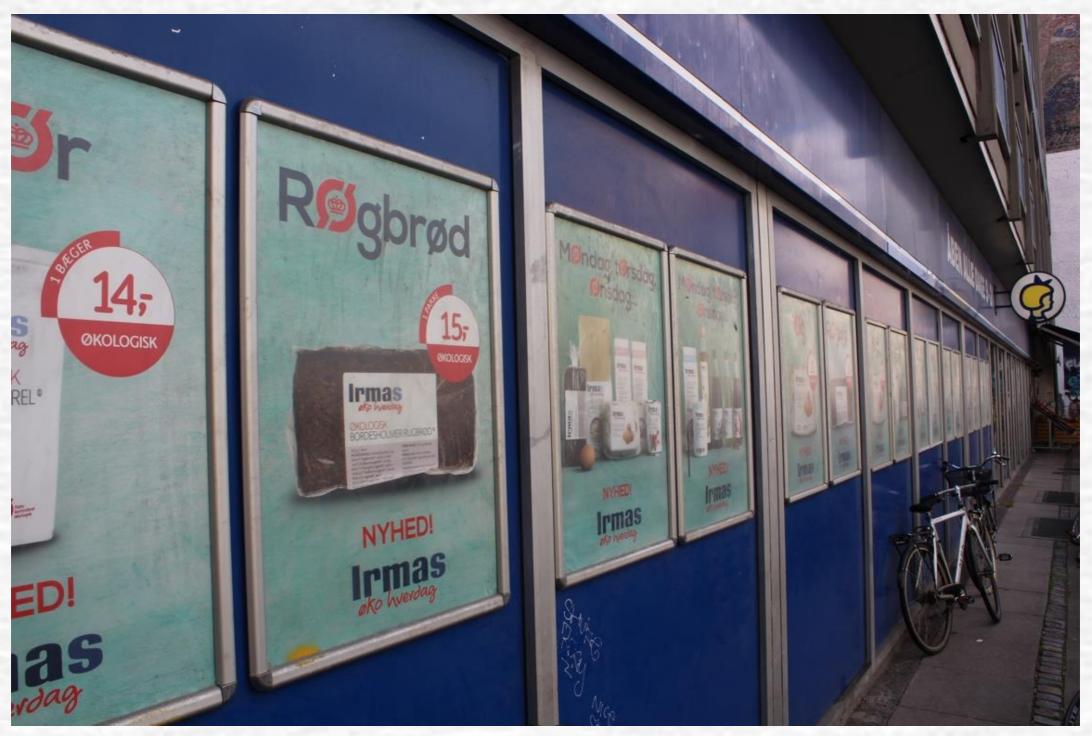
# Organics in Denmark





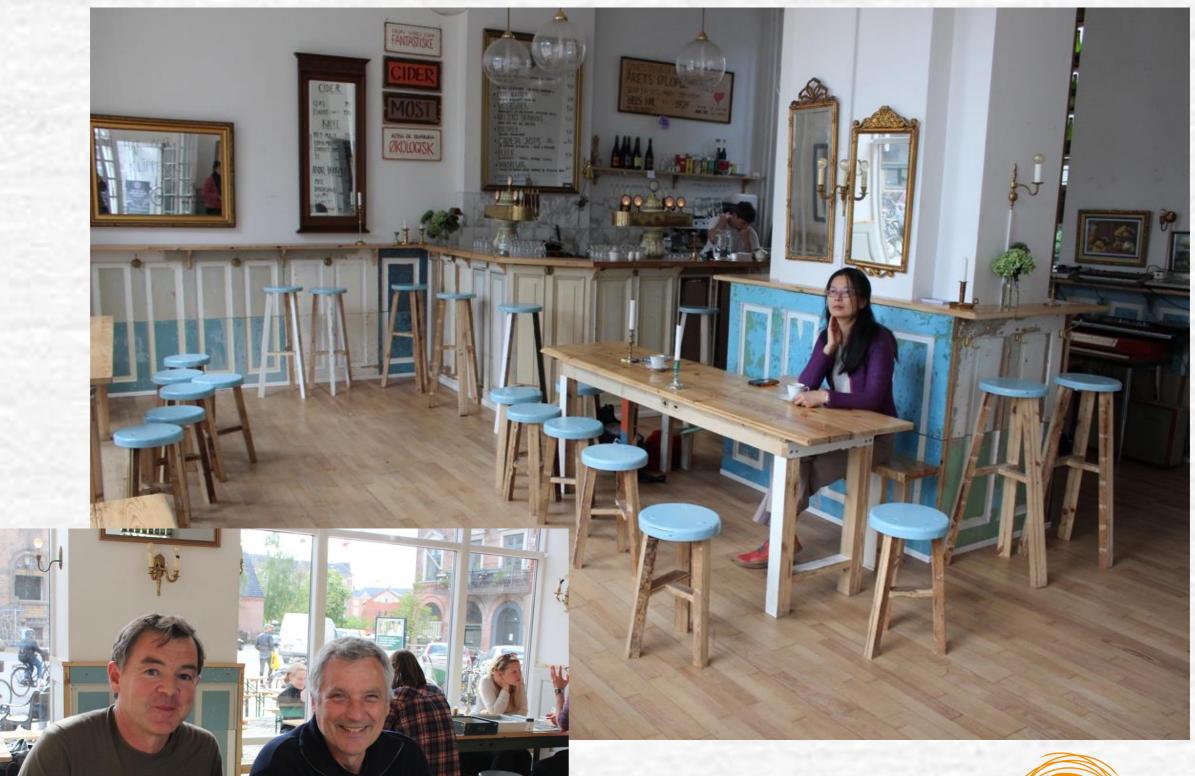


# Organics in Denmark





# Organics in Denmark





# Organics in Sweden





### Organics in Sweden









- Australian Organic Market Report 2014
- 22M ha certified organic land (51% of world's organic land)
- Valued at US\$1.26 billion, 1.25% of conventional production
- Growth 15.4% per annum since 2008
- Exports US\$250 million, imports US\$165 million (13%)
- Domestic supply is 40% undersupplied
- Have a national standard
- Shortages in dairy, grain, fruit & vegetables





"More & more young people buy organic"







"Wwoofing around Australia"











- Bellamy's Organic floated on Australian stock exchange last August 2014
- Share price has moved from \$1.20 to \$5.26 in 11 months (337% increase)
- Now commands 14% of Australian baby food market
- Growth into China has been 30% for last 6 months
- Can't keep up with demand



### Background to Adam Willson

- Chairman of Organic Federation of Australia & Board of National Organic Standards Sub Committee
- Director of Soil Systems Australia
- 29 years experience in organic policy, agronomy, horticulture, soil conservation, soil science, on-farm and commercial composting, farm design and commercial market gardening
- International work Europe, Middle East and China
- Currently working in Greater Mekong Subregion (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, China)







### Organics in Danube, Romania





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# Organics in Kunshan, China





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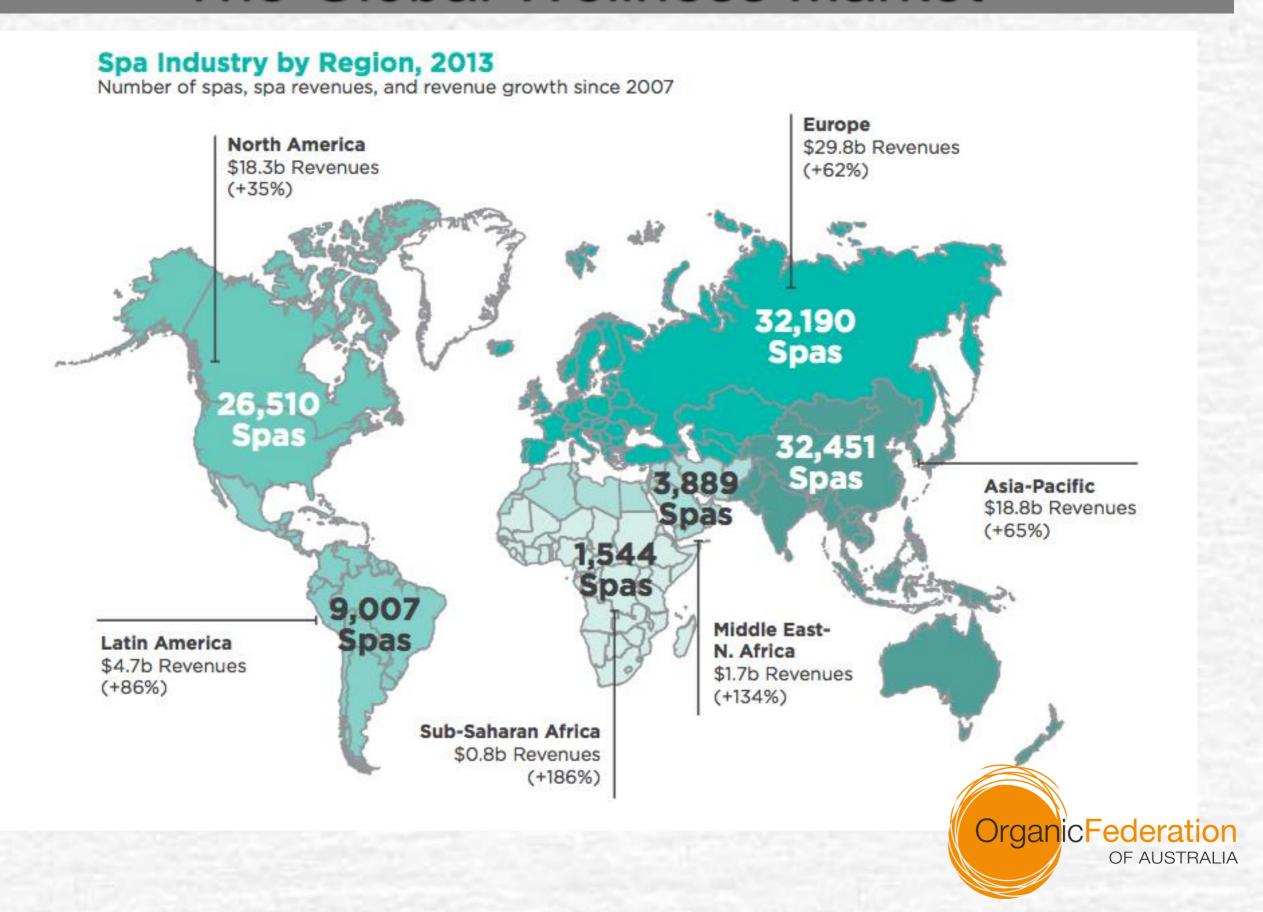
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- Global Spa & Wellness Economy Monitor, September 2014, over 1000 participants
- Globally valued at US\$3.4 trillion in 2013, Organics contributes \$100 billion (2.9%)
- More and more consumers are taking preventative measures to maintain good mind-body health, prevent diseases, age better and live longer, organics is a big part of this lifestyle
- City residents are very stressed and often don't achieve work and lifestyle balance
  OrganicFederation

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- Thailand Spa industry is worth US\$950 million
- Thailand organic industry is worth US\$52million
- 1% of Global Wellness Industry is US\$34 Billion, approximate size of tourism industry (US\$26-37Billion)
- Beauty industry is worth US\$1.0 trillion, Spa US\$94 billion, Healthy eating US\$574 billion, Wellness tourism US\$494 billion. All linked to a growing and profitable organic industry

**OrganicFederation** 

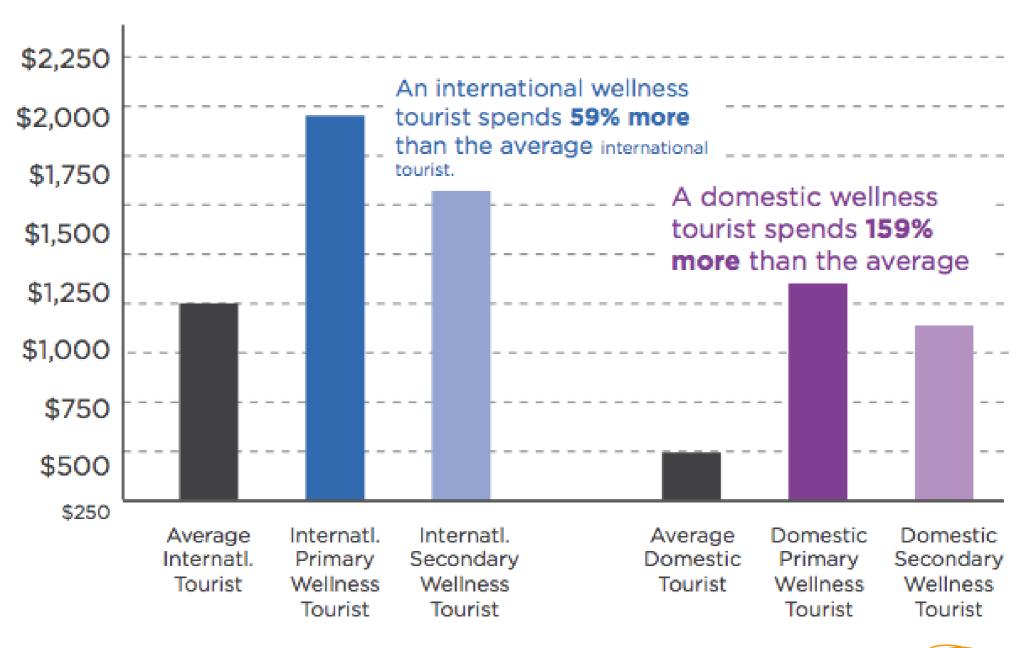
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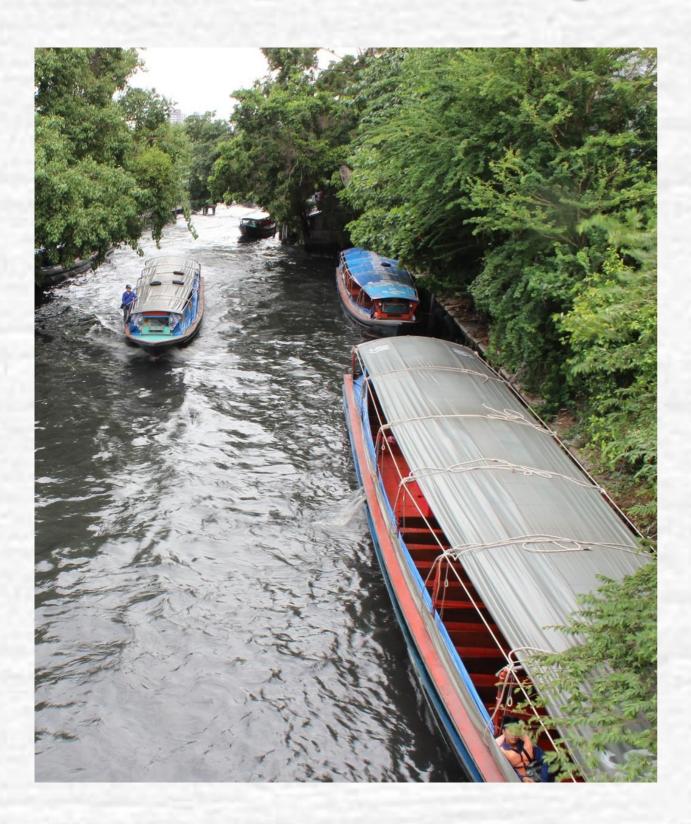
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### Wellness Tourism Spending (2012)





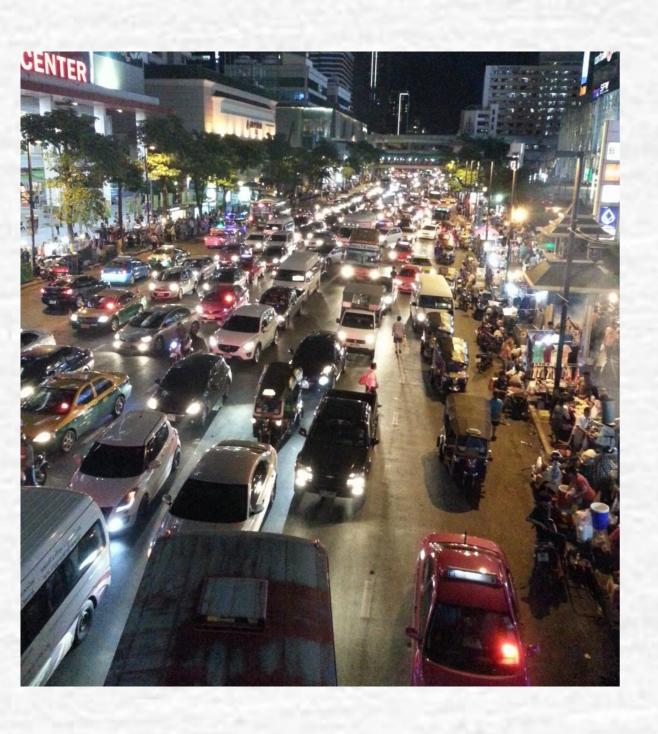
### Challenges for Thailand



- Pollution and the environment
- Transportation & cool chain logistics
- Educating the consumers. labelling, certification & organic branding
- Ministries of Commerce & Agriculture working together
- Education of growers and helping them identify the right market



### Pollution & the environment



- Thailand is not yet a model country for Organics & Wellness
- Air pollution, water pollution, garbage need to be improved
- Plastics should be reduced (eg health issues with estrogens)
- Bangkok needs to become a sister city to Copenhagen, Denmark
- Need more trees, walkways, limit cars
- Waterways shouldn't be a dumping ground, fines
- Agriculture & sewerage should be targeted, Baltic Sea

**OrganicFederation** 

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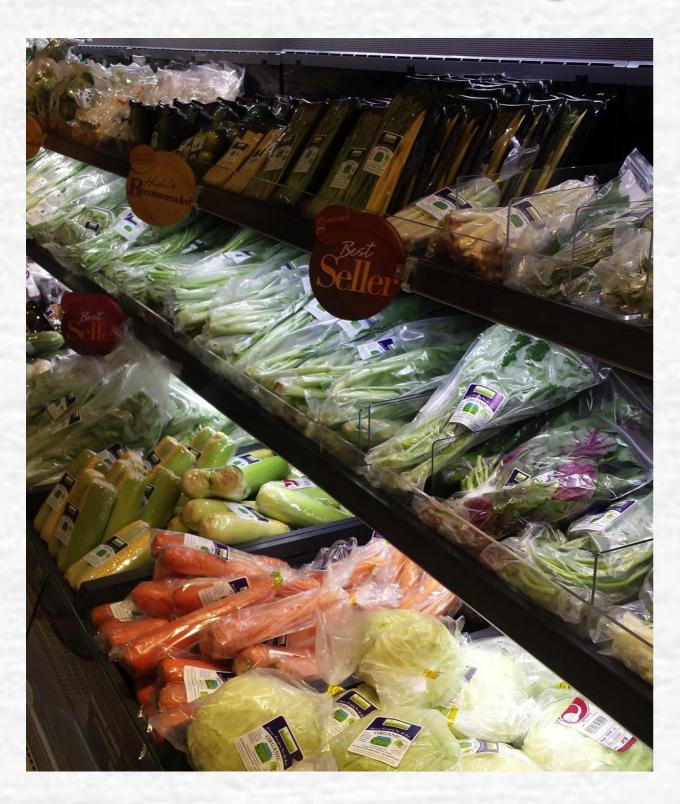
### Transportation & Cool Chain Logistics



- Issues with grading & fungal contamination in grains
- Long distance from market
- If mineral level in plants is low, cool chain is critical
- Quality assurance needs to be improved
- For tourists, missing an integrated transport system



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### Educating the consumer



- Not easy to identify Organic Food and who it is certified by
- Some food labelled organic or natural without certification
- Dependance on other organic certification like USDA, JAS and EU on some product lines
- In order not to create confusion and build trust with the consumer it is better to have a clearly defined meaning of certified organic



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### Ministries of Commerce vs Agriculture

- Ministry of Commerce has identified importance of organic farming
- Ministry of Agriculture not often aware of the changing economic trends driven primarily by women
- Different ministries don't often get the chance to share their perspectives
- Conventional agriculture lobbied by developers, seed, fertiliser, chemical and logistics companies
- Ministry of Commerce set targets for organic growth at 10% but Ministry of Agriculture may not have expertise or understand how to deliver - lag effect



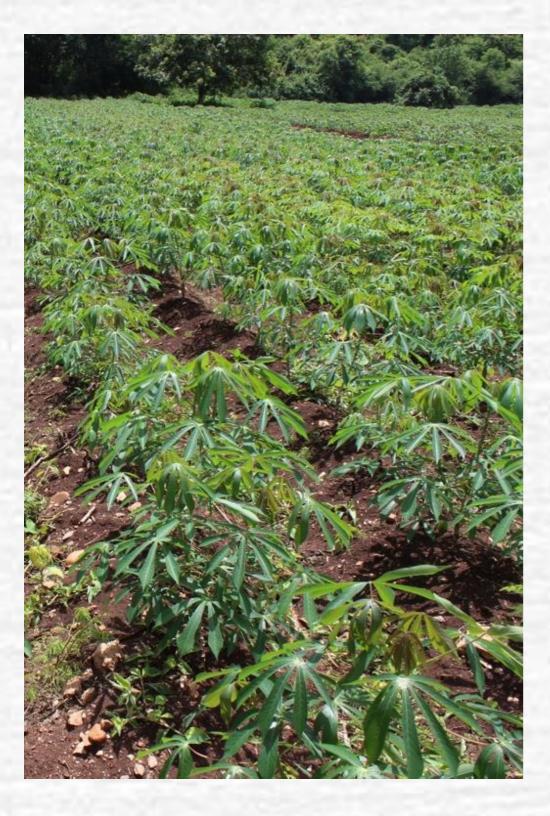
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#### **Education of Growers**



- Many producers unaware of marketing options outside traditional associations. An example is the demand for organic food in China where 16-20% of their soils are contaminated with heavy metals.
- Best management practice is not commonly known in organics. Historically based on zero inputs and chemical free with low yields
- With urbanisation of workforce, many women have not been exposed to the information that is available
- Many growers don't see the importance of diversified crops
- Quality not consistent



#### Opportunities for Thailand





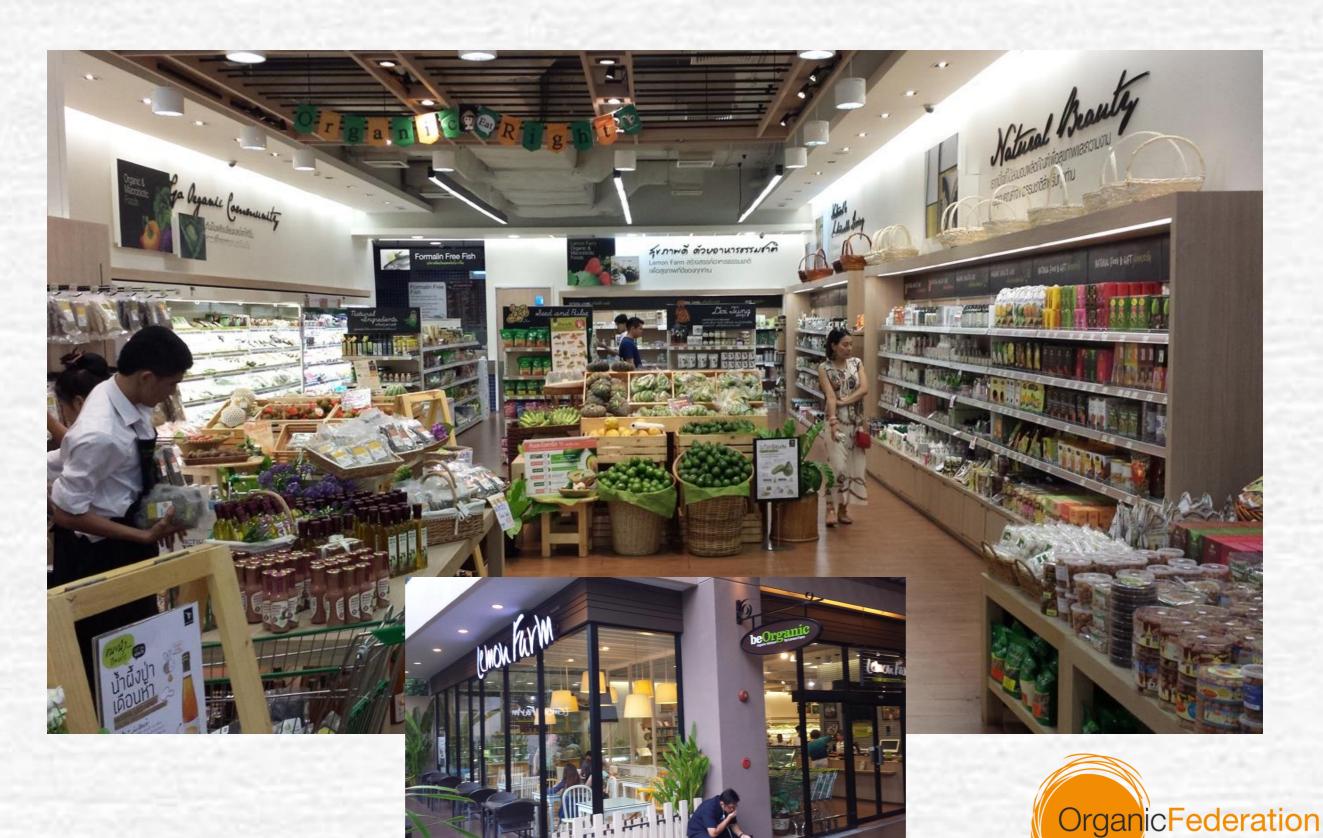
#### Opportunites for Thailand

- Develop National High Value Wellness and Organic Business Policy
- Closer links between Commerce and Agriculture Ministries
- Buy local campaign
- Supply organic food directly to China and other high value Asian markets
- Expand the export of rice, coconut, Thai spices to world, export/import data codes
- Link with Australia to develop education & extension for farmers
- Boost high value wellness-tourism
- Focus on mineral rich organics
- Value add Thai Cuisine
- Organic Market Report





#### Opportunites for Thailand



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#### Value adding Thai products

















- Modern society is time poor, look for quick easy to prepare meals
- Italian is great as it is easy to prepare
- Thai is also a unique food style
- Can be built around regional Thai foods spice mixes with eco packaging
- Opportunity to expand the development of organic cosmetics using local ingredients









- Europes second largest organic fair held in Bologna, Italy
- Regional celebration emphasising food variety in September
- 1500 international buyers, 600 merchants, 45,000 visitors
- Huge selection of Italian produce from all over Italy focussing on regions, flavours and biodiversity
- Fresh, processed, branded and private labels
- Superb cafeteria with new menu daily
- 10.3% land is organic, export focus, \$US2.17B, 45,969 growers



































#### Building the Thai Organic Hub

- Strategies required to build local, regional and international markets
- How to educate village farmers with production, networking and marketing skills. To increase rural wealth
- Build a good public transport system with integrated ticketing & connections
- Target environmental improvements, remove plastics & rubbish, recycling, eco packaging, clean up the rivers, change rules for how fertilisers are used
- Thai Organic & Natural Expo is great for building the industry







# Thank you

