



Supporting the development of climate resilient organic raspberry production in the Brus area of Serbia

In the region of Brus, climate change and changing demographics pose increasing challenges and pressure on organic berry producers. Urbanization is challenging the farming sector of the region and makes it unattractive for youth. The project supports farmers investing in climate-resilient farming systems that increase their yields and reduce risks of crop failures, ensure sufficient high-quality raw material and make the farming sector again attractive for youth.

Objectives

- 90 small-scale organic farmers adapt climate-resilient farming system including drip irrigation and protection net
- Increase the yield and the product quality in order to increase household incomes
- Increase the competitiveness of the Serbian raspberry in the increasingly demanding international markets
- Reduce the risk of crop failures through know-how transfer
- Guarantee stable supply base of high-quality fruit for organic processor Midi to enable further product innovations and secure jobs



Main activities

- Design most efficient irrigation system and shade netting based on local farm condition
- Facilitate supply chain for irrigation system and shadow nets
- Supervision of installation of irrigation system and protective nets and provide advice to farmers on demand
- Evaluate the impact of the investment with special attention to yield, product quality, environmental effects and engagement of youth
- Design trainings on irrigation and shade nets for winter school program in collaboration with the agronomic team
- Organize field visits for demo plots for organic farmers and other interested farmer in the region

Country/Region

Serbia/Brus

Project partners

Private business:

Tradin Organic Agriculture
B.V.

Midi Organic D.O.O.

Research or public
institution:

Local extension service

Duration

01.02.2022 – 31.12.2023

Total budget

200'000 CHF

SECO contribution

100'000 CHF

Consortium contribution

100'000 CHF



A public good for the organic sector of the country

- With piloting the irrigation and shading system, relevant experiences and recommendations can be shared with farmers in the region, which contributes to a more climate resilient berry production sector in the light of climate change.
- Knowledge will be disseminated through the extension team and integrated in the winter school curriculum.
- With lower crop failure and lower percentage of damaged berries due to extreme weather conditions through the implementation of project activities, it will continue to position the organic raspberries from Serbia as premium product in the international and EU market also for other producers.



Picture 1: Installation of the irrigation system



Picture 1: Drip irrigation



Picture 3: Farmers training

Contact information

Midi Organic D.O.O.

www.midiorganic.com

Tradin Organic Agriculture B.V.

www.tradinorganic.com

Organic Trade for Development Program

www.organictrade4development.org