

# Developing the Organic Sector in Fiji

production & research



# What is POETCom?



# What is organic agriculture

Organic agriculture is a production system that sustains the health of soils, ecosystems and people.

It relies on ecological processes, biodiversity and cycles adapted to local conditions.

Organic agriculture combines tradition, innovation and science to benefit the shared environment and promote fair relationships and a good quality of life for all involved.

**Ecology**

**Health**

**Fairness**

**Care**

**Culture**

# POE.com Organic Farming Technologies Promoted

Pacific Organic & Ethical Community

1. Using composts as fertiliser



4. Cover cropping/Green manuring



7. Crop Rotation



2. Mulching soil surface



5. Keeping farm residues on beds



8. Tree legumes as nutrient pumps



3. Minimum tillage



6. Inter-cropping



9. Encourage soil biology



# Current Organics in Fiji

<b>HERBEX</b>	noni
<b>Pleass beverages</b>	water & vanilla
<b>Spices of Fiji</b>	spices
<b>Royal Noni</b>	noni
<b>Vatuwiri</b>	VCO
<b>Agrana</b>	fruit
<b>Wainiyaku</b>	VCO & meal
<b>Mago Is</b>	vegetables
<b>Wakaya Is</b>	Ginger, livestock, spices, salt
<b>Kaibu &amp; Kanacea Is</b>	Mixed vegies
<b>Cicia Island</b>	VCO, all island products
<b>FRIEND</b>	Lemon Grass tea
<b>SOPA</b>	Papaya



# Needs & priorities

- Weed control
  - Mucuna
  - Pinto peanuts
  - Biodiversity
  - Soil balance
- Soil improvement
  - More research into green manures & commercially available inputs
  - Farmer training





- Access to inputs & seeds
  - Current suppliers: Crop & Soil Solutions  
Ag Chem, Natures Way (papaya seeds)
  - Commercial composting is required
- Pest control
  - Biodiversity
  - Biological controls
  - Natural pesticides







- Climate change resilient systems – commercial and subsistence growers

**What we know: Organic systems have higher yields**

than conventional farming systems in weather extremes such as floods and droughts.

*(Drinkwater 1998,  
Welsh R. 1999)*



# Most importantly

Partnership is required

Public +  
Private +  
Producer =  
success



## ***Organics and ethical trade:***

*the key contributor to sustaining our cultures and communities; improving farmer livelihoods, people's health and the environment in the Pacific.*

