

European Organic Farming Policies: an overview

- >Matthias Stolze and Nicolas Lampkin**
- >Odense, DK; 30.5.2006**

EU OF support: a chronology

- > **Late 1980s:**
 - > with national initiatives in Denmark, Austria and Switzerland
 - > EU Extensification Programme (EU Reg. 4115/88)
- > **Early 1990s:**
 - > legal definition of organic farming (EU Reg. 2092/91)
 - > organic farming as a policy measure in the Agri-environment Regulation (EU Reg. 2078/92)
 - > by 1996 almost all EU Member States had introduced area-based support; continued through EU Reg. 1257/1999
- > **1995: Danish action plan to promote organic food production**
- > **2004: EU Action Plan for Organic Food and Farming**

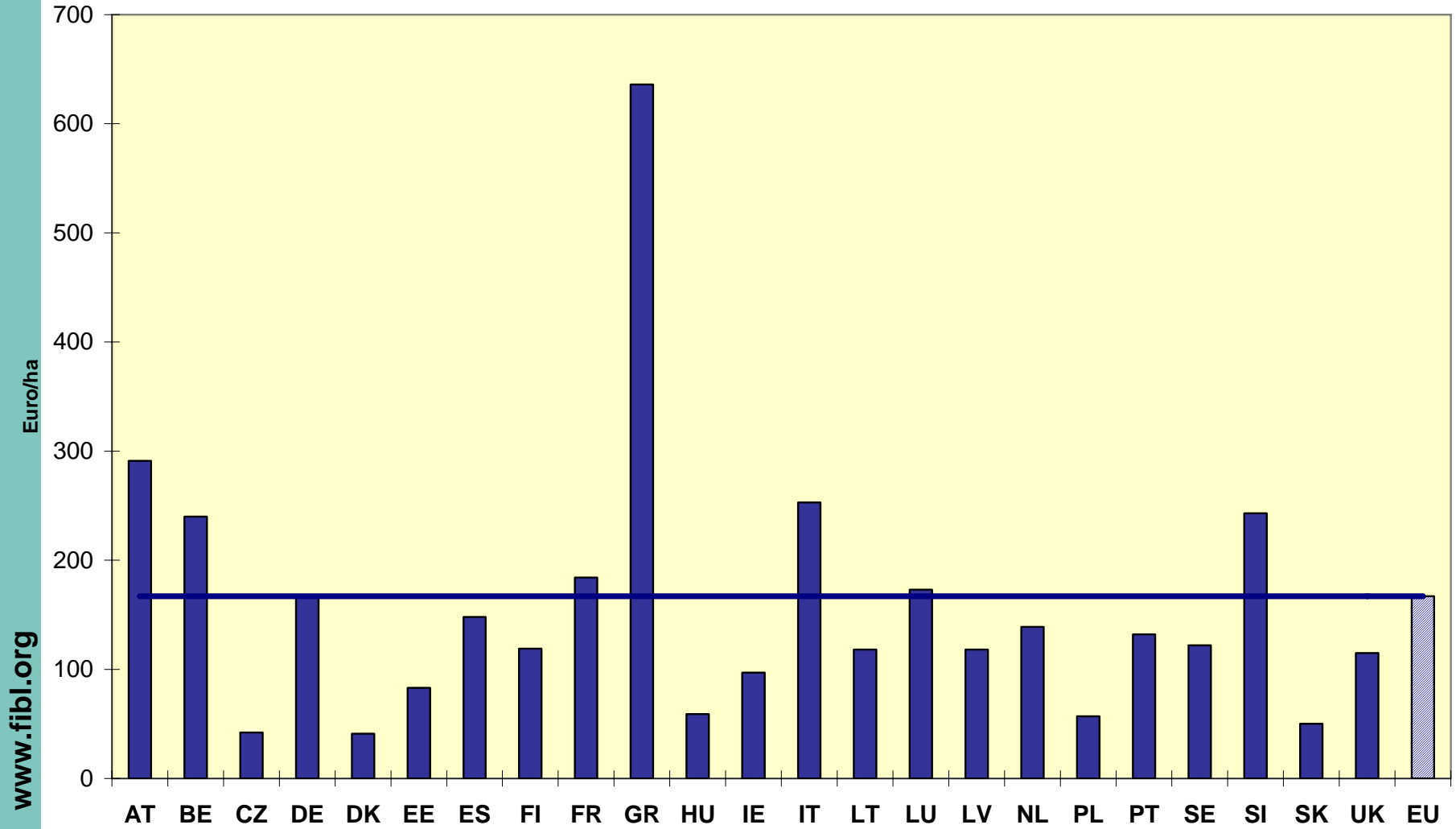
Public Expenditure 2004

Reg. EC1257/1999

in Mio Euro

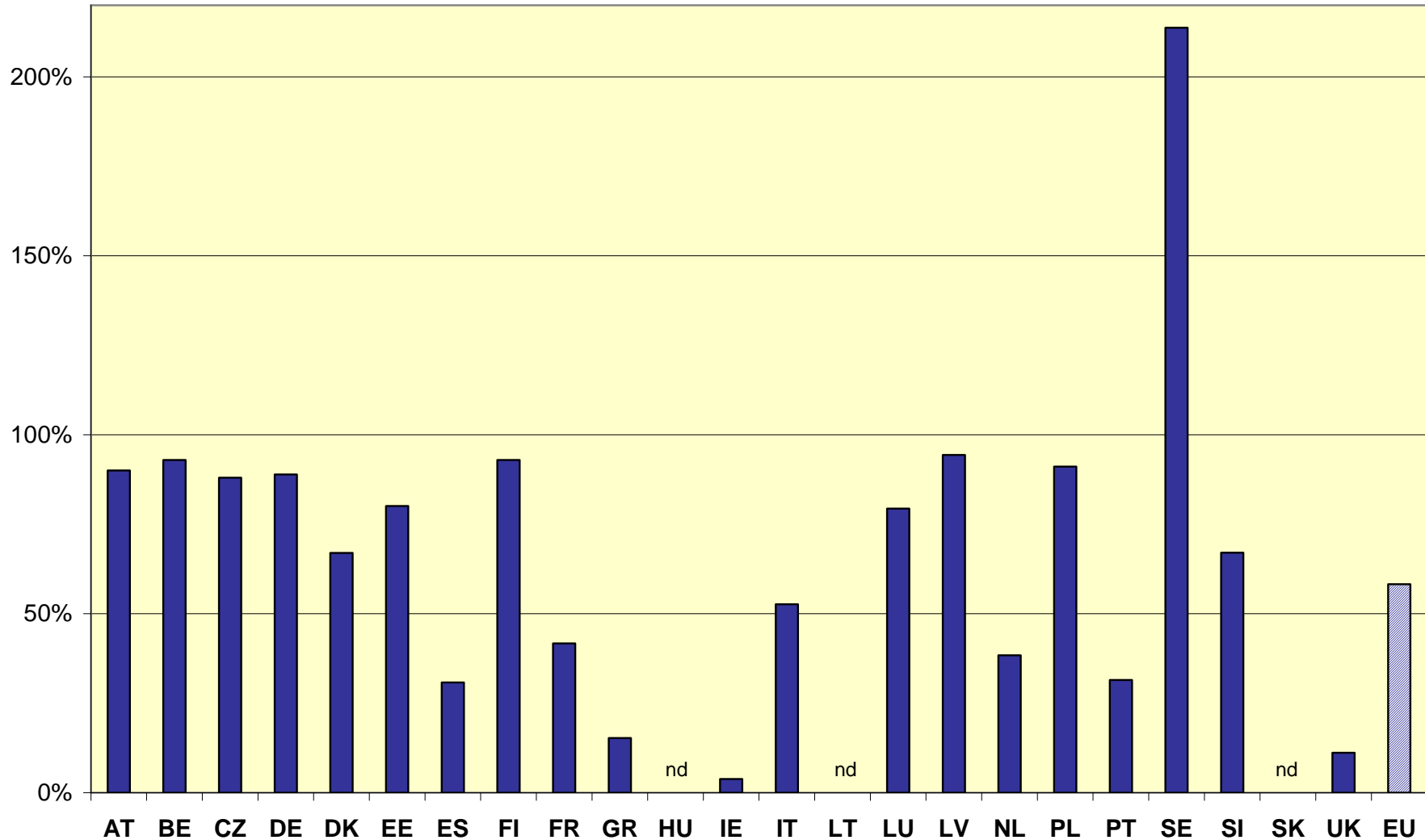
	AT	BE	DE	DK	ES	FI	FR	
Total OF support	90.5	5.2	114	7.2	33.5	18.0	41.1	
Share on Agri-environmental	14%	17%	18%	32%	20%	6%	10%	
	GR	IT	NL	PT	SE	UK	CZ	
Total OF support	24.3	127.0	2.6	7.0	57.8	8.8	9.7	
Share on Agri-environmental	52%	39%	9%	7%	25%	32%	10%	
	EE	HU	LT	LV	PL	SI	SK	EU total
Total OF support	3.1	nd	nd	4.9	nd	3.8	nd	540
Share on Agri-environmental	16%	nd	nd	80%	nd	11%	nd	17%

Average organic farming payment 2004



www.fibl.org

Uptake of OF area support 2004: share of OF supported area on certified OF area



Policy instruments

1. Legal instruments
2. Financial instruments (economic (dis)incentives)
3. Communicative instruments / self-regulation

Organic farming policy instruments in selected EU countries: 2003/2004:

	AT	BE	DE	DK	ES	FI	FR	GR	IT	NL	PT	SE	UK
Action plan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Conversion payments	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintenance payments	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Advice, training, educ.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Research	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Marketing & processing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consumer promotion	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	-
State logo	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	-	✓	-	-	-	-

	CZ	EE	HU	LT	LV	PL	SI	SK
Action plan	✓	-	-	✓	-	-	✓	✓
Conversion payments	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintenance payments	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Advice, training, educ.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Research	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Marketing & processing	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-
Consumer promotion	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-
State logo	✓	✓	-	✓	-	-	✓	✓

OF Policy instruments

- > Promotion of consumer awareness
- > Enhanced training and advice along food chain
- > Harmonisation of inspection and certification
- > Support of marketing OF institutions
- > More R&D targeted on OF issues
- > Use of organic food in public procurement
- > OF as role model for sustainable rural development
- > OF in regions of high nature value
- > Action Plans
- > Area payments for conversion
- > Investment support for processing of OF
- > Investment support for production of OF
- > Integration of OF in all policy fields
- > Reduced VAT for organic products
- > Area payments for maintenance
- > Explicit consideration in future CAP
- > GMO free zones
- > Support of market cooperation
- > Encouragement of regional food sovereignty
- > Taxes on conventional farm inputs
- > Capacity building at EU COMM for OF
- > Round tables for OF
- > Capacity building for political work
- > Quantitative targets for OF share

OF Policy instruments

Communicative instruments

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OF Policy instruments

Legislative instruments

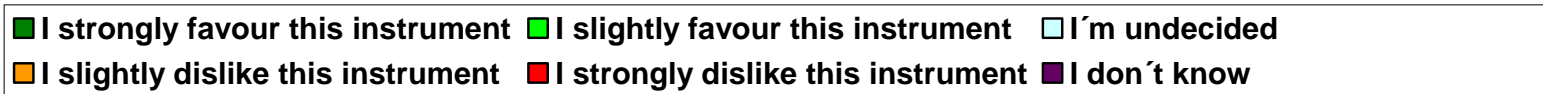
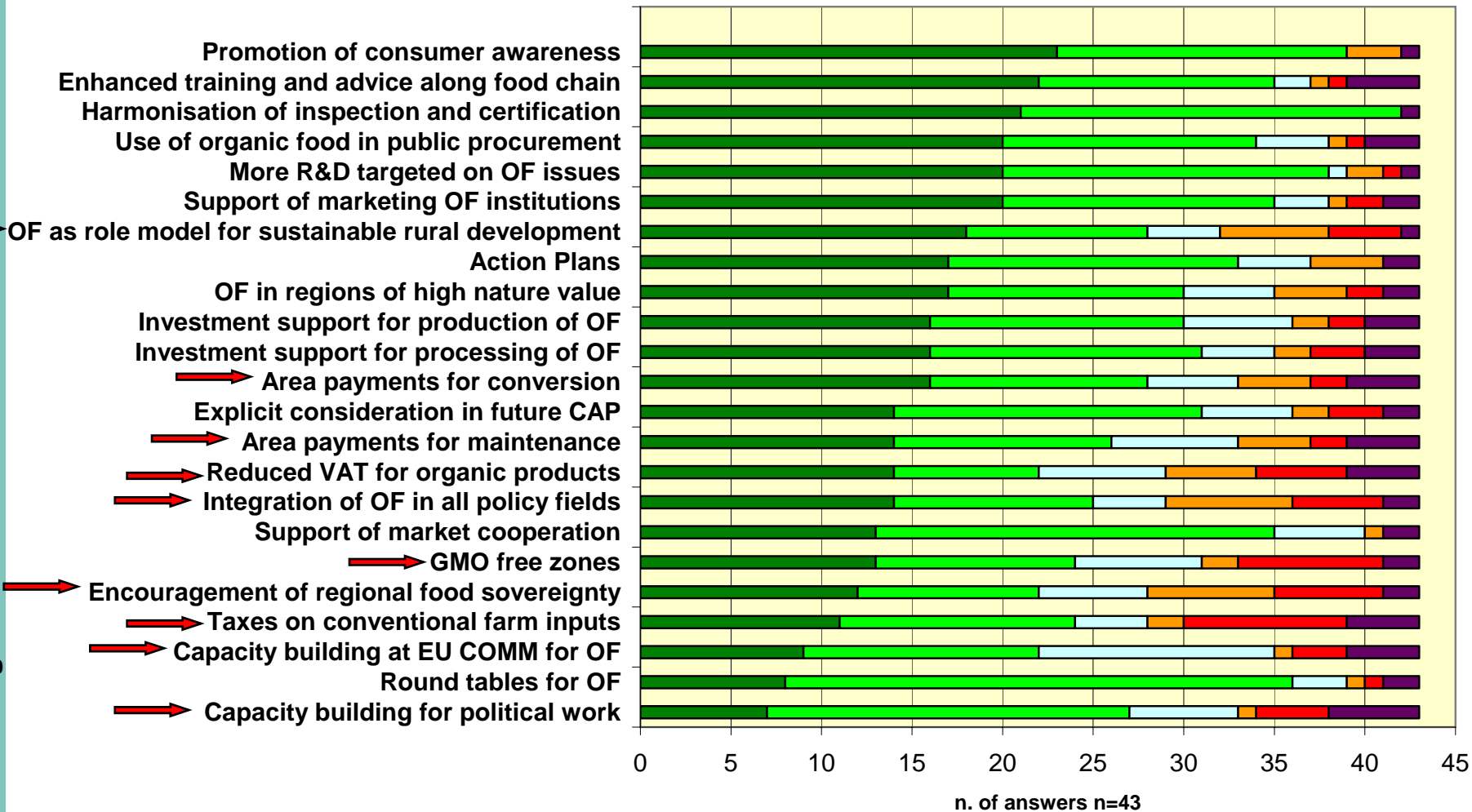
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OF Policy instruments

Financial instruments

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Acceptance of OF Policy Instruments



Factors effecting acceptance of policy instruments

- > **Supply measures:**
 - > **higher acceptance on national than on EU level**
 - > **higher acceptance with organic sector associations than with the EU institutions**
- > **Low to medium correlation with respect to organic farming attitude**

but

- > **High correlation with respect to supply and market instrument and specific OF policy targets instruments and taxes**
- > **Organic farming supporters accepts a higher number of instruments than opponents to organic farming**
- > **Policy instrument acceptance is independent from specific knowledge about organic agriculture**

Conclusions I

> New Member States

> Increased area support in 2004

(CZ by 26%, EE by 166%, PL by 136%, SI by 60%).

> Broad range of OF policy instruments implemented but lack of support for

> marketing initiatives

> processing

> Consumer information

Conclusions II

- > **OF policies have developed from one-dimensional area support instrument to a more integrated approach**
- > **Action Plans became a target oriented instrument on national and regional level**
- > **Low uptake of OF area support in Mediterranean countries, UK, FR, NL**
- > **OF support now reflects more OF's dual role:**
 - > **land management for public goods and**
 - > **organic food marketing to meet consumer demand**

- > **For more information about the project please visit our website at**

www.irs.aber.ac.uk/EUCEEOFP/