

**Inštitut za trajnostni razvoj –
Institute for Sustainable Development**

***Procurement of Organic Foods in
Primary Schools and
Kindergartens in Slovenia
(results of a survey)***

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Background and Method

Project: “**LEAP AHEAD** – Implementation of the (national) Action Plan for Organic Farming”

Area 2: Preparation of expert support for the green public procurement of (organic) foods

Questionnaire for Primary schools and Kindergartens – ordering of OF:

- Current situation
- Experiences
- Plans for future

Assistance in distribution: MES

Questionnaires

Primary Schools

Sent to 485 schools, Nov. 2008

Received: 115 filled-in query sheets (1/4)

Respondents: organizers of school nutrition

Kindergartens

Sent to 105 KG, Dec. 2008

Received: 56 filled-in query sheets (> 1/2)

Respondents: organizers of kindergarten nutrition

Results

History of organic food (OF) ordering

	PS	KG
Already ordered OF	27%	61%
Never ordered OF	54%	20%
Partly ordered OF	13%	16%

Other: no answer

Results

Identification of main obstacles (1)

- Insufficient supply / suppliers don't apply for public tenders
- Higher prices
- Low awareness / knowledge of procurers - PS

	PS	KG
Insufficient supply	35%	75%
Higher prices	34%	59%
Low awareness of procurers	12%	0%

Results

Identification of main obstacles (2)

- No suitable offer (more than 1/2)
- Too expensive (almost 1/2)
- Dislike
- (School/KG) Management opposition
- Lower quality

Results

The New Law on Public Procurement (identification of main obstacles)

- **Kindergartens**

No obstacles: 16%

Organic certificate (quality of food) –
requirement and not one of criteria: 11%

Quality prior to price

- **Primary schools**

No relevant answers

Results

Would (partial) ordering of OF inevitably cause higher prices of meals?

	PS	KG
NO	44%	0%
YES	41%	57%

Other: no answer

Results

Frequency of ordering

	PS	KG
Never	42%	0%
Very rarely (4-8x/year)	20%	32%
Rarely (1-3x/year)	0%	16%
Often	10%	34%

Other: no answer

Results

Most frequently ordered OF

- Fruits
- Dairy products
- Vegetables

Types of suppliers

- Wholesalers
- Dairies
- Organic farmers

Results

Attitude to OF amongst stakeholders

- Dislike organic food
- Not interested
- Would like to have organic foods
- Have probably never thought about it*
- Don't know

	PS	KG
Nutrition organizers	77%	75%
Management	66%	78%
Teachers, guardians	56%	61%
Kitchen staff	50%	64%
Parents	44%	64%

*Pupils, children

Assume: High % due to interest in "organic" amongst respondents

Results

**How often would you like to order OF
in 5 years time?**

1 per year

1 per month

More than once per month

More than once per week

Primary schools: 42%

Kindergartens: 66%

Conclusions

Main obstacles:

- Insufficient supply
- Suppliers don't respond to public tenders (farmers are not organized)
- higher prices of OF (also / especially domestic production)
- Partly: lack of awareness/knowledge (PS)

General data on the Project

Institute for Sustainable Development

Project “Leap ahead - Implementation of the
(national) Action Plan for Organic Farming”

Duration: July 2008 – December 2009

Web page: www.itr.si/skok_naprej

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