

## Participants' responses to ESD workshops on paradoxes of organic agriculture in developing countries

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Organic agriculture is argued as typical alternative to global food system and productivism, and is expected as an environmentally, socially and economically just and sustainable farming style. However, ironically, due to the commodification of certified organic products, even this sector is under the global food system.

Organic agriculture in Sri Lanka has mainly led by agri-businesses that have organic certification of industrialized countries for exporting. This type is twofold; plantation companies and companies that organize small farmers groups, and they mainly export tea and processed spice/ fruits, respectively. While, NGOs promote organic agriculture mostly for environmental conservation, conservation of traditional cultivation system, motivating farmers' environmental consciousness, and they do not always concentrate their effort to export the products. Despite the strong connection with industrialized countries, the development of organic agriculture in Sri Lanka has been endogenous to some extent and has inter-relationships between relevant actors. Under this situation, Sri Lankan government, which had promoted 'green revolution', has changed the attitude toward organic agriculture. However, organic agriculture in Sri Lanka will continue to develop depending on the export to industrialized countries, because of difficulty in forming domestic organic market.

This structure is ironically located as a part of global North-South issue. To make organic consumers in Japan aware of this issue, the presenter has conducted some participatory workshops from a viewpoint of ESD (education for sustainable development) with elements of geographical education, food and agriculture education, and development education. The participants' awareness are examined.

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