

Breaking the Toxic Cycle:

A Kenyan Farmer's Mission for
Safe Food and Healthy
Communities"



Sylvia Kuria

Kenya

The Reality of Bio-Control in Kenya

In Kenya, **less than 10% of smallholder** farmers have consistent access to biological control solutions.



Farmers who use biocontrol cite ***reduced pesticide costs, safer food, and better soil health.***

Barriers include ***limited access, lack of training, and weak policy support.***

The majority cannot due to high costs, lack of awareness, and limited availability in local agro-vet shop.

The Toxic Burden of HHPs

In 2020, Kenyan farmers used **310 pesticide products**, 76% of which contained HHPs



These include banned substances like **chlorpyrifos** and **paraquat**, linked to cancer, infertility, and neurological damage

Studies show **residues in tomatoes and kale often exceed safety limits**, making food unsafe for human consumption

The Consequence: Unsafe Food

Without access to safe alternatives, our **food is often laced with HHP** residues.

This creates a **hidden health crisis**, contaminating the local food supply.

Without biocontrol, *our food system remains toxic and unsustainable.*



It is **unjust** that the **most vulnerable** communities bear the highest risk from unsafe food production.

Sylvia's BASKET - Our Mission

FRESH • HEALTHY • CONVENIENT

Sylvia's Basket works with **30+ smallholder organic farmers** from all over Kenya to grow safe, pesticide-free food



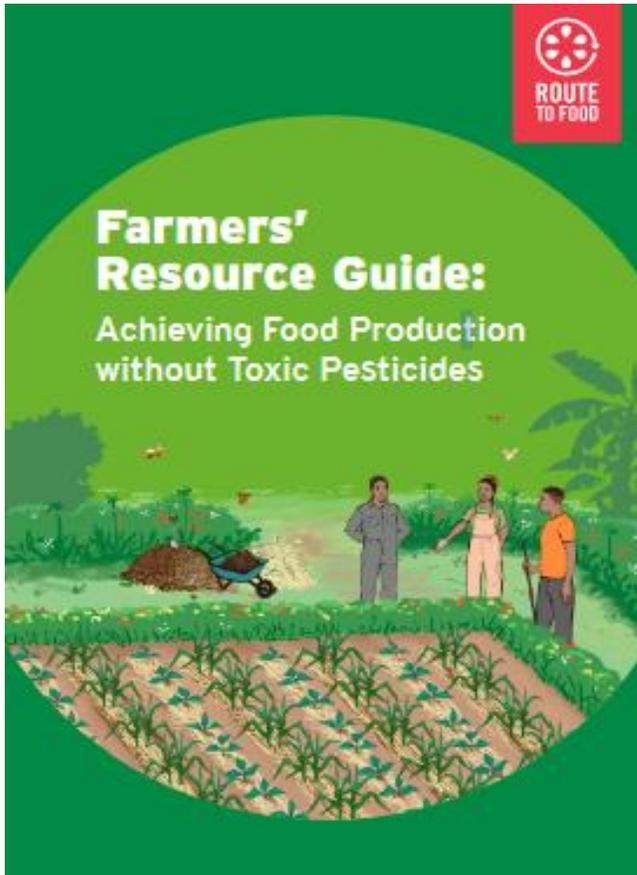
Soon, our **grade 2 produce will feed schools in informal settlements**, promoting nutrition and dignity

We train farmers, aggregate produce, and supply *Greenspoon online supermarket*



The Way Forward

We must invest in **training farmers** on ecological practices.



We need **stronger policy engagement** to prioritize biocontrol and **phase out HHPs**.

Policy Brief

Cultivating an Enabling Business Environment for the Organic Inputs Sector in Kenya

Executive summary

Kenyan agriculture is a cornerstone of the national economy, but high input costs and unsustainable farming practices threaten its long-term productivity and environmental health. Organic inputs offer sustainable and economically viable solutions. However, the organic inputs sector faces significant challenges that hinder growth, innovation and adoption of more sustainable farming practices. Key barriers include administrative hurdles, high costs, technical barriers, and an unsupportive policy environment. Addressing these challenges will create a more enabling business environment, encourage innovation and farmer adoption, and strengthen Kenya's position as a regional leader in organic agricultural inputs.

And we must **build the capacity of local businesses** to manufacture and distribute affordable organic solutions.



It Works!





Sylvia Kuria