

Building Bridges & Taking Action



Cultivating Organic Capacity: Organic pioneers inspired and led the emergence of modern Organic Agriculture in the early 20th century. Actors in the organic sector today share their vision of a fairer, healthier and more sustainable world, but sometimes lack the required knowledge, skills and attitude to contribute effectively to organic development. At the Organic Academy, both present and future leaders come together to learn, share experiences, develop innovative strategies, and build like-minded networks.

Our world urgently needs organic solutions to address its environmental and social challenges

The Organic Academy has been serving this need over the past 6 years, through effective and comprehensive training programs, developed to support the strategy of our organization and the needs of our movement. The Academy offers high quality, purpose-built training, with an inclusive approach, ensuring a balance between theoretical content and active participation.

We offer three different courses to address the diverse needs of participants and organizations:

- **Organic Leadership Course (OLC)**, an intensive OA training and networking course
- **Organic Foundation Course (OFC)**, popular with organizations requiring a shorter, but still comprehensive course
- **Tailor-made Trainings**, developed with our clients, to serve their specific needs and unique circumstances

We have a team of committed and qualified trainers, capable of delivering our curriculum in a range of languages, across the world. Currently we offer our training in English, French, German, Mandarin, Portuguese, and Spanish.



What you will learn

- Management theories and leadership skills
- Advocacy and policy-making
- Organic Agriculture production
- Processing, trade and consumption
- Organic Guarantee Systems (OGS)

Course overview

The OLC entails a kick-off and closing residential session as well as monthly webinars and assignments where you:

- **Actively engage in all residential training sessions.**
- **Attend monthly webinars consisting of lectures and discussions with subject experts**
- **Conceive and create your own personal development plan to lead the organic sector in your region, organization or enterprise, with guidance from the lead trainer and peer feedback**
- **Perform a public appearance e.g. as a conference speaker or in an interview for the mass media**

In total, the course offers 150 hours of intensive training. This consists of 16 days in person in a class of 20-25 participants, and 10 half-day webinars in the same group.

Upon successful completion of the course you will be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, and membership to our growing alumni network – probably the greatest asset of the OLC.



“The greatest benefit of enrolling in the Organic Academy’s Leadership Course is the network that you will be connected to - not only during the training, but for the rest of your career in the organic world. This growing group of peers are already making an impact on the world of Organic Agriculture, and you can proudly be part!”

– Konrad Hauptfleisch,
Head: Capacity Development





The Organic Academy provides a unique global learning experience. To date, we have welcomed participants from all continents to courses in India, Korea, Mexico, Switzerland, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the Netherlands, Brazil, Croatia, Germany, Uganda and the Philippines.

The OFC assists

in providing space for learning and for developing innovative strategies and strong networks. The course is targeted at present and future actors in the organic and sustainable agriculture sector. It guides them through a 4-day program that empowers them to actively assume greater responsibility, armed with a comprehensive overview of the organic value chain.

Tailored training

The Organic Academy is closely attuned to the needs of the sector and has been developing training courses tailored to the specific needs of a wide range of clients for the last 6 years. These tailor-made trainings vary from extensive training programs with 2 or more residential sessions and monthly webinars similar to the OLC, to one day topical trainings delivered at conferences or workshops.

Examples of tailored trainings:

- The Organic Agriculture Academy for Extension Agents (OAAEA): A 5 years partnership with the Rural Development Administration of Korea. It consists of two residential trainings every year, developing the capacity of Korean Extension Agents to advise organic farmers
- The Nutrition in Mountain Agro-ecosystems (NMA) Project Capacity Development Program: This course was developed as part of the NMA Project to train rural service providers in Nutrition Sensitive agriculture practices



Foundation course

The true value of this Academy has always been in people, and their capacity for growth and change, especially when inspired by their peers in a space where growth and discourse is not only allowed, but actively promoted. The OFC provides:

- An intensive, practice-centered further education course
- Tuition by IFOAM-Organics International-endorsed trainers
- Short, intense residential course
- Global outlook, regionalized approach

This course has been implemented successfully in the last 2 years in Bangladesh, China, Japan, Mongolia and Korea, and was attended by over 120 participants. This foundation course is increasingly attractive to organizations, and has been delivered in collaboration with recognized institutions like the Asian Productivity Organization (APO), FAO and IFOAM Asia.

Benefits

- The full picture: Organic Agriculture from field to plate
- Sustainable strategies tailored to individual needs
- Deepened understanding of the principles of Organic Agriculture
- Inspiration for organic development
- An action network of likeminded peers

What participants have to say:



“One of my favorite parts about the OLC is the ability to learn from others with diverse perspectives and expertise that I would not have met otherwise. Our time together shaped who I want to be as a leader as a result.”

Monique Marez
USA

“The OLC was an enlightenment process and extraordinarily satisfying experience. The interactions with organic leaders from different countries widened my horizon.”



Sabyasachi Roy
India

“Spending time learning and sharing with some of the most passionate of people in the organic sector was such an enriching experience for me.”



Rushongoka Wa-mpiira
Uganda

Established in 2012, the **Organic Academy** has provided training to scientists, researchers, certifiers, auditors, producers and traders from around the world.

For more details on the Organic Academy and information on how to apply for an Organic Leadership Course, please visit: www.ifoam.bio/academy

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 ifoam.organic

“At the OLC I have learned from the wisdom and work of and with others; and experienced at its core what it is to live and breathe the organic movement. Every moment had its nugget of wisdom and I went home bearing with me, ‘organic movement’ seeds to plant back home.”



Paula Aberasturi
Philippines

