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Welcome to the IFOAM Annual Report 2013.

We are happy to provide you with an overview of the wide range of activities that the IFOAM staff and World Board carry out on behalf of the movement. The year 2013 has many highlights, including the introduction of the concept of Organic 3.0 - the third developmental phase in the global organic movement.

The first phase was initiated by pioneers such as Julius Hensel, Franklin Hiram King, Rudolf Steiner, Sir Albert Howard, Jerome Rodale, Lady Eve Balfour, Hans & Maria Müller, Rachel Carson, Masanobu Fukuoka, Anna Primavesi and Bashkar Save, to name but a few. This phase is credited with the establishment of the farming system we now know as organic farming.

The second phase started in the 1970s and is defined by codifying organic agricultural systems, especially with the introduction of standards and guarantee systems along with government regulations. This initiated the sustained growth of the current USD 64 billion sales in certified organic products. IFOAM norms played a leading role here with, for example, the IFOAM Basic Standard being used as a reference document by many countries and organizations.

The third phase, Organic 3.0, is about ensuring that Organic Agriculture is fully aligned with the aspirations of our movement namely sustainable holistic systems that are consistent with the IFOAM definition and four principles of Organic Agriculture.

One significant project on this journey is the Best Practice Guideline for Agriculture and Value Chains. It is the result of two years of intensive consultation, discussions, debates and revisions by IFOAM and our partners in the Sustainable Organic Agriculture Action Network (SOAAN). It is a consensus on the aspirations of the movement to see a fully sustainable Organic Agriculture in terms of the environment, biodiversity, climate change, energy, gender equity, social justice, workers’ and farmers’ rights and responsibilities, land ownership, indigenous rights, animal welfare and other sustainability issues.

Another important event on the road to Organic 3.0 is the setting up of TIPI, the ‘Technology Innovation Platform of IFOAM’. It was established in February 2013 at BIOFACH in Nuremberg, Germany, when over 100 scientists and researchers from every arable continent came together to form it as the research action network of IFOAM. TIPI helps IFOAM bring together and mobilize the organizations working on Organic research so that we can expand and improve Organic Agriculture worldwide. To date Organic Agriculture has largely been ignored by the research community. TIPI therefore advocates a shift from the current situation where billions of dollars are spent on researching pesticides and GMOs to research focused on a truly sustainable ecologically based agriculture.

Happy reading!

Andre Leu
IFOAM President
THE ORGANIC WORLD IN 2013 AT A GLANCE

The Top 5 Countries with the Largest Organic Agricultural Land, N° of Organic Producers and Organic Retail Sales

Organic food retail sales (Mio €)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Value (Mio €)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USA (2011)</td>
<td>22,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>7,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>4,004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>2,136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>1,950</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Organic agricultural land in million hectares

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Value (mio hectares)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>12.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of organic producers 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Value (thousand)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>189,610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>169,707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>148,610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>134,626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA (2011)</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>1.6</td>
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INDICATOR | GLOBAL TOTALS | LEADING COUNTRIES
---|---------------|------------------
Countries with data on certified Organic Agriculture | 2012: 164 countries | Australia (12 mio. hectares, 2009), Argentina (3.6 mio. hectares), US (2.2 mio. hectares, 2011)
Organic agricultural land | 2012: 37.5 million hectares (1999: 11 million hectares) | Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (36.3%), Liechtenstein (29.6%), Austria (19.7%)
Share of total agricultural land | 2012: 0.87% | Finland (7 million hectares) Zamb (6.1 million hectares); 2009 India (4.7 million hectares)
Further, non-agricultural organic areas (mainly wild collection) | 2012: 31 million hectares (2011: 32.5 million hectares; 2010: 43 million hectares) | India (600’000), Uganda (189’610), Mexico (169’707)
Producers | 2012: 1.9 million producers (2011: 1.8 million producers; 2010: 1.6 million producers) | US (22.6 billion euros), Germany (7 billion euros) France (4 billion euros)
Organic market size | 2012: 63.8 billion US dollars (approx. 50 billion euros) (1999: 15.2 billion US dollars) | Switzerland (189.1 euros), Denmark (158.6 euros), Luxemburg (143 euros)
Per capita consumption | 2012: 9.08 US dollars | Germany: 85; India: 44; USA: 37; China: 34
N° of countries with organic regulations 2012 | 2012: 88 countries (2011: 86 countries) | Germany: 85; India: 44; USA: 37; China: 34
N° of IFOAM affiliates | 2013: 732 affiliates from 114 countries | Germany: 85; India: 44; USA: 37; China: 34

Source: The World of Organic Agriculture 2014, IFOAM & FiBL  
Note: Data as of 31.12.2012  
Available at: http://shop.ifoam.org/bookstore
The General Assembly: IFOAM’s Decision-Making Body

Affiliates

Members
Associates
Supporters

World Board Election

Motion Approved

World Board Executive Board

Motions

Task Forces/Committees

Regional Groups

INOFO

http://www.ifoam.org/ga
GLOBAL IFOAM IN 2013: OUR ACTIVITIES

The impacts we presently experience are the realization of innovations of the past. Current innovations will impact on our future. Best practice for sustainability and Organic 3.0 are in focus.

Equivalence over compliance has been a hot issue with substantial investments for over a decade. We are now starting to see the impacts of mutually recognized regulations with a decreasing need for certification. An external evaluation carried out by Hivos on the impacts of IFOAM projects in Africa concludes that the organic sector has developed best, where important (IFOAM) projects are implemented e.g. in East Africa.

The evaluation report recommends adopting this approach in other parts of the continent. Our statistics show that the organic world is larger and stronger than ever before; the same applies to IFOAM internally. Despite financial challenges, IFOAM recorded for the first time a turnover of more than €2 million (a trifle when we consider that this accounts for a mere 0.004% of organic sales).

2013 is the year when the message of innovation in Organic Agriculture takes center stage: at the FAO/IFOAM conference in Bangkok, the first Science Day at BIOFACH in Nuremberg under the auspices of TIPI, the OFIA (Organic Farming Innovation Award) Summit, the IAHA Seminar in Lima, the IFOAM East African conference in Dar es Salaam or the first General Assembly of IFOAM Asia in Seoul – these are but some of the occasions on which IFOAM takes a lead in shaping the future.

Today’s innovations guide us through the entire year. IFOAM members are called upon to share their opinions in consultations, motions and votes. The IFOAM Best Practice Guideline, developed by the Sustainable Organic Agriculture Action Network (SOAAN) and unanimously approved by IFOAM’s membership, becomes a new landmark for sustainability. It holds the potential to transform our culture of debating standards and exclusion criteria into aligning our visions, thus facilitating innovation.

Organic 1.0 is the world of our organic pioneers. Tomorrow’s Organic 3.0 has already begun and is on the agenda of all the BIOFACHs around the world, as well as at the Organic World Congress in Istanbul.
Communication platforms are broadened, IFOAM’s social media presence strengthened and additional services enhance the visibility of Self-organized Structures.

The long awaited launch of the revised IFOAM website and a complementary information repository for all things organic branded the ‘Organic Info Hub’ are among the priority work areas of the umbrella. The two interfaces provide space for IFOAM-related information and content on and from the organic movement.

Self-organized Structures are actively integrated into membership-related processes and communications materials and channels are designed to support their work. The joint invoicing procedure now encompasses Global IFOAM, IFOAM EU and IFOAM Asia, and logo proposals are presented to all regional bodies and sector platforms.

Membership remains stable with the highest representation in Europe, closely followed by Asia. Global representation of the organic movement is ensured through our presence at all worldwide editions of BIOFACH (Germany, China, Latin America, USA, India and Japan), as well as through our contributions to discussions in the congress sessions.

The year ends with a sold out three-day Symposium on Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Organic Farming in Bangkok, boasting attendance of around 120 participants from over forty countries.
IFOAM’s advocacy campaigns strengthen the position of Organic Agriculture at the center of UN processes on sustainable development and in the search for a new agricultural model. Organic Agriculture is presented as key to securing the livelihoods of the most vulnerable farmers as well as a viable solution to tackling climate change and biodiversity loss.

At the 19th Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), IFOAM wins over skeptics who, for the first time, see evidence of how the conversion to Organic Agriculture can have a major impact in the battle against climate change.

In recognition of its efforts to initiate the UN International Year of Family Farming 2014, IFOAM gets a seat on the World Consultative Committee for IYFF-2014.

At the Global Landscapes Forum IFOAM brings together UN agencies in a panel discussion with allies such as Biovision, FiBL, TEBTEBBA and Misereor to stress the importance of affordable and people-centered approaches to food security.

IFOAM’s advocacy alliance platform is further solidified through a memorandum of understanding with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies on joining efforts to advance an agenda on food and nutrition security, climate resilience and sustainable household livelihoods.

At the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) meeting, IFOAM partners with the World Food Program and Red Cross to illustrate how Organic Agriculture contributes to building resilience for farmers exposed to severe conditions and the effects of climate change.

The CFS High Level Panel of Experts report ‘Investing in Smallholder Agriculture for Food Security’ recognizes the role of agroecological approaches, mentioning Organic Agriculture initiatives as positive examples.

Hivos’s funding of the next two years of organic advocacy is an acknowledgement of the importance of IFOAM’s work on environmental social intensification.
Organic Programs

IFOAM Programs have always had two main objectives: support IFOAM in performing its core functions, and assist IFOAM and its partners in growing and developing the sector towards the vision of a 100% organic world.

OSEA II ends with a positive evaluation and a number of notable achievements in 2013:

- Number of farmers involved in Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS) increase from 1,382 to 5,100;
- Increased recognition of East African Organic Mark revealed through consumer and retailer survey;
- Progress in mainstreaming Organic Agriculture into East African policies and agricultural development agenda;
- Number of local organic outlets increased from 21 (2010) to 44;
- The project was an excellent platform for collaboration between local and global stakeholders, leading to knowledge transfer for public policy, local market and institutional development.

Through the Bridges for Organic Knowledge in Korea (BOKK) project, IFOAM also continues its work in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, developing networks, sharing knowledge and supporting change in production systems in order to achieve nutritional and food security in a resource-poor environment.

Achievement in innovation and research is rewarded through the Organic Farming Innovation Award (OFIA) project, where the annual summit was held in Peru, with the Award ceremony scheduled for 2014 at the Organic World Congress.

The AgroEco Global Comparative PGS completes its research and compilation activity, and a final report will be published before the OWC in Turkey. This is an eagerly awaited report in the world of adaptive organic guarantee systems.

2013 is also successful in the submission and approval of projects. Out of six submissions, four were approved, two in which IFOAM is the main implementer.

Activities range from value chain development and support in Asia, to research in the Mediterranean and capacity-building in Africa and Latin America.

Programs continue to support IFOAM’s activity and help grow the organic sector.

The Programs Pillar remains a key generator and catalyst in the global IFOAM network.
Following the success of the first Organic Leadership Course (OLC) in South Asia in 2012, the IFOAM Academy quadrupled its output by launching four more courses in 2013 and commencing with the development of two more in major regional languages.

The Academy follows up on the South Asia 2012 Organic Leadership Course (OLC) with a second one in the same region. The first residential session takes place in Delhi, succeeded by a series of webinars, and concludes successfully in November 2013 during BIOFACH India in Bangalore. The first European regional course, in Dornach, Switzerland, takes place during the summer of 2013 with a conclusion date in February 2014 during BIOFACH Nuremberg. Towards the end of the year two more courses are launched: OLC East Asia in the Republic of Korea and OLC Latin America, conducted in Spanish in Mexico. All three courses count on the strong support of our regional structures: the IFOAM EU Group, IFOAM Asia and IFOAM Latin America, respectively.

The Academy also launches the Organic Agriculture Academy for Extension Agents (OAAEA) in the Republic of Korea. This initiative, as a joint partnership between IFOAM and the Korean Rural Development Administration (RDA), is a great success: A total of 20 extensionists complete the training and over 50 apply for the course in 2014. The Academy proved to be effective in potentiating the personal and professional development of future organic leaders worldwide. We look forward to welcoming new alumni into the upcoming editions of the OLC!
The IFOAM Family of Standards draws the line between organic and non-organic. In 2013, six new standards were approved and included in the Family. Increasingly, programs and organizations use the Family as a criterion for what is a trustworthy organic standard.

The IFOAM Standard is a reliable global organic standard. In 2013, the Standard Committee worked to further improve this Standard, including aspects of social justice and protected cropping. Further work is underway on aquaculture.

IFOAM also leads on the aspect of verification, including 3rd party certification and Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS). For third party certification, IFOAM’s Accreditation Requirements are considered a reference. Throughout the year the Accreditation Requirements are revised and a new draft put forward for member motions.

IFOAM remains global leader in PGS. Three new PGS initiatives are granted IFOAM recognition and two donor-funded PGS projects are completed. In 2013, IFOAM compiles the most accurate global PGS statistics ever: the number of known PGS initiatives reaches 110!

The direction organic should take is formulated by IFOAM under the new Best Practice Guideline, which will be the basis for the organic movement’s contribution to the global discussion on sustainability.
SECTOR PLATFORMS

IFOAM’S ACTION GROUP

IAHA - ANIMAL HUSBANDRY ALLIANCE

- Publication of the first newsletter focusing on development and research in animal husbandry in Europe.
- Preparation of the second IAHA newsletter a special focus on animal husbandry in Latin America and Caribbean.
- Preparation of a pre-conference and a special session in the Practitioners Track on Organic animal husbandry for the Organic World Congress in Turkey in October 2014.
- Representation of IAHA at the SOCLA Congress in Latin America.
- Symposium on livestock in agro-ecological food production.
- Representation of the IAHA at Organic animal husbandry conference in Bursa, Turkey.

IFOAM AQUACULTURE

- Group meeting at BIOFACH to discuss the latest developments in EU Organic Aquaculture Regulation.
- Concerns raised about deadlines on the use of juvenile fish and application of nationally recognized organic aquaculture rules set to expire.
- EU commission reacts to a communication describing the negative consequences of the current regulation and implementing rules. Deadlines officially postponed but still not satisfactory.
- Organic Aquaculture Meeting at European Seafood Exposition well attended, featuring the participation of Mr. Richard Bates, Directorate General Maritime Affairs and Fisheries.
• Delegates mandated to represent their organizations at both the INOFO GA and the Organic World Congress.

• European part of INOFO confirms two delegates and they attend a meeting with colleagues from Africa, Asia & Australia.

• INOFO delegation attends a week of consultations in Istanbul with delegates of the nine ‘Major Groups’ (one of which is the Farmers’ Group) from Europe & Central Asia, and with UN agency staff members.

• Focus on the Post-2015 Development Agenda that the UN system will set and promote.

• Primary producers organizations hope to improve capacity to participate in public policy setting and in re-establishing food sovereignty.

• First Science Day at BIOFACH focusing on global organic food and farming research.

• Develop strategies to increase funding and extend activities.

• High interest results in fast growing membership.

• Board Meeting held in Bonn in October.

• Initiation of plans to set up a joint venture for inspection and certification of organic food and for food safety in Macao in 2014, using EU, USA NOP, Japan JAS and China standards. The aim is the facilitation of the entrance of organic products into the Chinese market.

• ‘Organic Traditional Medicines & Culture’ group set up. Participating universities include Peking, Harvard, Hong Kong, Macao and the People’s University of China.

• HEYDAY SITO Fund Management Co., Ltd. is set up for global investment in agriculture. It is a joint venture with US and Chinese capital.

• Examination of blue ocean area is started. 1,500 ha sea area made available for study and research.
• Call to the EU Commission for a new action plan is now envisaged in the current review of the political and legal framework.
• Participation in the EU Commission’s organic regulation review and controls system processes providing proposals to improve the current legal framework.
• EU Commission recognizes TP Organics.
• IFOAM EU and other civil society groups develop a CAP implementation toolkit to support efforts to salvage it.
• 10 years IFOAM EU! The celebration closes with the vision ‘Organic 2030’. The message: the organic sector must be the leader of its own development.

• Celebrated its 15th birthday in 2013
• Launched a new accreditation scheme in conjunction with NATRUE AISBL bringing the number of schemes in which the IOAS performs assessment and accreditation to 10.
• Provided accreditation and assessment services to nearly 60 certification bodies.
• Published core values and, to aid transparency, minutes of its Board meetings on its website.
• Appointed Debbie Miller of Canada to the Accreditation Committee and took on its first staff member for communications.

• Election of a new Board at the General Assembly.
• Contribution and participation in events related to PGS and preparation of the International Year of Family Farming.
• Coordination and cooperation with authorities on organic regulation and law enforcement in different countries such as in Mexico, Colombia, Peru.
• Organic Leadership Course in Mexico, with the strategic cooperation of SOMEXPRO, member of the regional group.
• Publication of Latin American PGS experiences, of which three are from regional members.

• Continuous exchange among members to build common positions in IFOAM EU on regulation and political issues.
• National workshop with stakeholders on group certification.
• Participation in European meetings in Germany, Lituania, Belgium.
• Formerly AsAFI, IFOAM France is now officially part of the IFOAM network.
• Activities bring attention to how organic can nourish the world.
• Fundraising efforts intensified in Switzerland, Germany, Netherlands and USA.
• Present at Expos West and East in the US.
• Publication of new brochure.

IFOAM JAPAN
• IFOAM JAPAN support IFOAM’s P.R. activity at BIOFACH Japan.
• Participation in IFOAM Asia’s establishment preparation meeting and its first GA.
• Contribution to discussion on the renewal plan of growing area and production for the next five years based on the Organic Farming Promotion Law.
• After the equivalency agreements on organic requirement and certification systems between Japan and the United States, IFOAM JAPAN, together with its members of certification bodies, makes provisions for the increase of import and export of organic products.

IFOAM AGRIBIO MEDITERRANEO
• Establishment as official legal entity.
• Participation in the 2nd International Conference Biocitrics and at the Herbs workshop.
• Support the BIOL competition (olive oil) and the BIOLMIEL competition (honey).
• Organic farming presentations, workshops, seminars, dissemination activities, and environmental educational training, as well as organic farming training provided to 300 employees of DIO in Greece.

IFOAM ASIA
• Inaugural General Assembly with 86% of the membership representing 11 countries in Asia. Seven board members elected and the Secretariat to be based in Korea.
• Focus on expansion of Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS); the Korean organic cooperative model; community-supported agriculture; and the implementation of bio-villages.
• Co-hosting of events e.g. Organic Leadership Course East Asia, Asia-Pacific Symposium on Entrepreneurship & Innovation in Organic Farming and the International Symposium, BIOFACH India.
• Growth of membership to 97 affiliates.
THE ORGANIC MOVEMENT IN 2013: OUR IMPACTS

ORGANIC PRODUCERS

Smallholder farmers grow 70% of the world’s food, yet 50% of the world’s hungry are small-scale farmers. In the United Nations International Year of Family Farming (IYFF-2014), IFOAM advocates for concerted action to support and strengthen family farming.

As a result of joint advocacy activities by IFOAM and its allies, the UN designates the year 2014 as the Year of Family Farming (IYFF).

Using organic farming techniques in soil, water and biodiversity conservation, as well as integrated and sustainable farm management, smallholder farmers can be productive, achieve family food security and improve their incomes. The high-level panel of experts’s report to the Committee on World Food Security titled ‘Investing in smallholder agriculture for food security’ recognizes the importance of the role of agroecological approaches and showcases examples of Organic Agriculture.

Capacity-building of smallholders and family farmers is essential to empower them to improve their yields through ecological intensification instead of resorting to external inputs with adverse effects. Empowerment is also achieved through the provision of alternative certification schemes like group certification or Participatory Guarantee Systems that match smallholders’ needs - in particular in developing countries - linking them to both international and domestic markets. Thanks to such initiatives, hundreds of thousands of family farms in India, Uganda, Mexico, Tanzania and Ethiopia have shifted to organic farming and improved their livelihoods.

IFOAM, sitting on the World Consultative Committee for IYFF-2014, will take every opportunity to highlight the essential role that families and small-scale farmers play in food production, sustaining rural economies and the stewardship of biodiversity.
Starting with Denmark’s regulation of organic labeling in 1987, a sea of government regulations now must be navigated by traders in order to access various international organic markets. Not only traders are impacted by this environment but also producers who supply them, as well as certification bodies that provide organic product guarantees. Multiple compliance requirements restrain access to markets and stifle growth of Organic Agriculture. Recognizing this, IFOAM has long promoted the concept of equivalence among those organic standards and technical regulations that meet common objectives for Organic Agriculture. The earliest government equivalence approaches by the European Union, Japan and Taiwan were unilateral, but the current focus is on bilateral arrangements.

As of 2013 seven bilateral equivalence arrangements are in place for the trade of organic products between countries that regulate organic labeling. These arrangements relieve the burden of multiple accreditations on certification bodies and multiple certification on operators. For example, under the US National Organic Program the number of accreditations have decrease over 20% in the wake of bilateral equivalence arrangements. During the year speculation around transforming some of these bilateral arrangements into a multilateral agreement starts. Although these trends bring greater efficiency to equivalence, the arrangements are mainly among major trade partners in highly developed countries. Still, more work lies ahead in the organic sector to include developing countries and their producers in the exercise of equivalence for trade.

**BILATERAL EQUIVALENCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ORGANIC TRADE AS OF 2013**

- Canada ↔ United States
- Canada ↔ European Union
- Canada ↔ Costa Rica
- Canada ↔ Switzerland
- European Union ↔ Switzerland (part of a general trade agreement)
- European Union ↔ United States
- United States ↔ Japan
Africa has always been a frontier continent with adversarial positions. Trade and aid. Employment and exploitation. Policy and politics. Power and empowerment. Projects on the ground have the potential to effect a shift towards organic farming practices while empowering farmers and developing organic sectors.

An independent external evaluation about the impact of IFOAM activities in Africa establishes that as a result of the OSEA II project, awareness of Organic Agriculture has increased across the board with 17% of surveyed consumers now recognizing the East African Organic Mark. An organic policy for Kenya is in an advanced stage; an organic action plan is adopted in Rwanda and organic is recognized in mainstream policy. The draft national agriculture policy of Tanzania has a section on Organic Agriculture and the organic policy is approved by the top management and is awaiting cabinet approval in Uganda. Organic stakeholders in Burundi and Rwanda are organized into national organic movements and membership in these movements continues to grow steadily.

Where IFOAM has obtained funding to support a project like OSEA II in a defined geographic area there has been a rapid development of the organic sector with buy-in from governments to develop policies supporting Organic Agriculture, as well as an affordable and locally adaptable system for groups of smallholder farmers to obtain organic quality assurance through Participatory Guarantee Systems. In OSEA this integration has also benefitted from five countries using a common system for organic certification: the East African Organic Products Standard supported by the widely recognized East Africa Organic Mark, ‘Kilimohai’.

Projects, advocacy activities and consultancy services contribute to the vision of mainstreaming Organic Agriculture in Africa and around the world. The OSEA II project highlights the strong interest there is in embracing sustainable farming practices with 4,086 female and 1,003 male farmers becoming part of Participatory Guarantee Systems. As smallholders demonstrate how organic can increase yields while at the same time reducing the cost of external inputs and the risk of crop failure, other farmer groups follow suit.

Notwithstanding the positive impacts on the ground that such projects bring, much remains to be done.

A lack of understanding among policy makers of the benefits of Organic Agriculture for the development of the agricultural sector persists.

A better understanding of the benefits of organic will translate into the implementation of policies that can cement the commitment to sustainability.

IFOAM will continue to contribute to offering an organic alternative for Africa by facilitating grassroots development.
ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION, ENTWINED IN ORGANIC FARMING.

Entrepreneurial spirit, innovative thinking and a vision for the future define the beginnings of many a success story. Results and impacts of innovative practices must be shared and replicated.

Initiated by the government of Korea, the Organic Farming Innovation Award (OFIA) was called into life precisely to celebrate and acknowledge entrepreneurship and innovation. It is awarded every three years, the next being in October 2014 during the Organic World Congress in Turkey. In the years leading up to the awarding of OFIA, the secretariat and committee hold annual ‘Innovation Summits’ to explore areas in need of solutions. The second OFIA Summit takes place during the 4th Latin American Congress on Agroecology in Lima, where 250 participants gain insight into how to create innovation-friendly environments. Success stories come from around the world, particularly Cuba, Bolivia, Kenya and Korea. The Summit culminates in a declaration expressing concern over the obstacles faced by organic farmers. Complemeting their dedication to sustainability in agriculture, farmers need to implement competitive production systems in order to secure a decent livelihood for their families. Thus, scientific institutions should tailor their research policies to address these needs, consult with farmers and deliver innovations that are ready to be used.

Held in Thailand, the Asia-Pacific Regional Symposium Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Organic Farming offers the space for the organic sector to showcase the many innovative solutions that can contribute to food and yield security, supply chain development and the strengthening of knowledge management networks.

Initiated by the government of Korea, the Organic Farming Innovation Award (OFIA) was called into life precisely to celebrate and acknowledge entrepreneurship and innovation. It is awarded every three years, the next being in October 2014 during the Organic World Congress in Turkey. In the years leading up to the awarding of OFIA, the secretariat and committee hold annual ‘Innovation Summits’ to explore areas in need of solutions. The second OFIA Summit takes place during the 4th Latin American Congress on Agroecology in Lima, where 250 participants gain insight into how to create innovation-friendly environments. Success stories come from around the world, particularly Cuba, Bolivia, Kenya and Korea. The Summit culminates in a declaration expressing concern over the obstacles faced by organic farmers. Complemeting their dedication to sustainability in agriculture, farmers need to implement competitive production systems in order to secure a decent livelihood for their families. Thus, scientific institutions should tailor their research policies to address these needs, consult with farmers and deliver innovations that are ready to be used.

Held in Thailand, the Asia-Pacific Regional Symposium Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Organic Farming offers the space for the organic sector to showcase the many innovative solutions that can contribute to food and yield security, supply chain development and the strengthening of knowledge management networks.

It is often the juxtaposition of increasing productivity and generating sufficient income while still adhering to the principles of Organic Agriculture that calls out
for the resourcefulness of eco-entrepreneurs and the realization of their sustainable innovations.

Presenters draw on very different experiences in the organic sector, ranging from pest management, soil health and rice cultivation, to short food supply chains, access to finance and knowledge management. Several issues that need urgent addressing are raised and recorded in the ensuing symposium declaration. It is noted that a disproportionate amount of global research resources are dedicated to conventional chemical based farming i.e. €6 per capita per annum compared to €0.005 per capita per annum for research on organic farming.

Without access to finance, entrepreneurial concepts may never leave the drawing board. Yet agricultural lenders seem to cater more for conventional farmers by offering predefined loan packages for chemical inputs calculated on a per hectare basis. Here the onus is on financial institutions to broaden their knowledge base and document the profitability of organic production systems so that loan appraisals for organic farming entrepreneurs have a positive outcome.

A further challenge is connecting farmers to consumers. Collaboration and coordination on national and sub-national levels is needed here to establish an efficient and effective supply chain.

Regardless of the topic of presentations and discussions, one key message resonates throughout: there is a great need to share among all organic stakeholders the results and impacts of our work.

Farmers, traders, financiers and researchers draw on a wealth of information and opportunities to share and learn. In its role as global organic umbrella organization IFOAM will continue to facilitate dialogue and provide the space for such exchanges.

During the field trip to the Thai Organic Farm a participant wades through a paddy field.
IFOAM is involved in compilations for Latin America and Asia. UNCTAD’s publication ‘Wake Up Before It Is Too Late’ highlights best practice for policy setting.

Best Practice Debates: The Organic World Congress and the Global Organic General Assembly in Turkey are THE platforms for exchange, inspiration and feedback. Participants can expect high-level plenary speakers, strategic discussion sessions, the latest scientific findings, as well as insights on practitioners’ experiences.

Best Practice Community: IFOAM encourages and facilitates leading standard setters, operators and sustainability assessment schemes to innovate together. The IFOAM Best Practice Guideline is a reference that can guide future development and innovation in the organic movement.

Best Practice Cases: The Organic Farming Innovation Award (OFIA) and the One World Award will soon announce their next winners. Inspiring examples of organic success are documented in the FAO book ‘African Experiences in Resilience and Sustainability’ and IFOAM’s organic info hub offers virtual sharing of knowledge and positions.

Best Practice Learning: The IFOAM Academy is a space for personal development for (future) leaders, for agricultural extension agents and for institutional development. Courses are offered in South Asia, East Asia, Europe, Africa and Latin America.

Best Practice Available for Download: IFOAM’s organic info hub offers virtual sharing of knowledge and positions.

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We thank all our Affiliates, Donors, Clients, Supporters and Volunteers

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- EU Commission, Belgium
- FiBL/Seco, Switzerland

50,000-100,000€
- Hivos, Netherlands
- Migros, Switzerland
- RDA, South Korea
- Common Fund for Commodities, Netherlands

10,000-50,000€
- Zhejiang A&F University, PR. China
- UNALM-AGROECO Project, Peru
- SOMEXPRO, Mexico

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- Zukunftsstiftung Landwirtschaft, Germany
- FiBL and SDC, Switzerland/ Hivos, Netherlands

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- Rapunzel, Germany
- Bugday Association for Supporting Ecological Living, Turkey
- COLEACP/PIP, Belgium
- Federation of Organic Development (Helvetas), Kyrgyzstan
- Asian Productivity Organization (APO), Japan

1,000-5,000€
- Menope, U.A.E.
- BioSuisse, Switzerland
- ICCO, Netherlands
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- NOPE 2014, P.R. China
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- Tracy Wathen-Jones, Ireland

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- Alnatura, Germany
- BioSuisse, Switzerland

5,000-10,000€
- Lebensbaum, Germany

1,000-5,000€
- Kamut, USA
- FiBL, Switzerland
- Organic Services, Germany

100-1,000€
- Association of Latvian Organic Agriculture, Latvia

Up to 100€
- Helga Willer, Switzerland
- S. Darvizeh, USA
- W Jennissen, Bolivia

In kind contributions: AgroEco, City of Bonn (office); Hanspeter Schmidt (legal advice); André Leu, Frank Eyhorn, Matthew Holmes, Volkert Engelsman (travel); AGRICASIA ‘2013, Prof. Metin Turan (travel & accommodation); Allos, Bionade, Byodo, Ecovin, Guayapi, Mayka, Neumarkter Lammsbräu, Rapunzel, Riedenburger Brauhaus, Vinos Cambronero, EcoWellness, Lebensbaum (food & drinks).

NATURE OF COST

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Annual net income 11

(Whole statutory statement audited by PwC, Cologne, Germany)

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BENEFITS

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Liabilities

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