Organic people can be organic leaders. Our world needs organic leadership to take the next much-needed steps towards true sustainability in agriculture. The IFOAM Academy blends global skills and innovation to deliver a relevant and topical leadership training package.

Course participants will acquire new knowledge and skills, developing their leadership abilities while gaining a comprehensive picture of the development of Organic Agriculture. The training will facilitate network-building and innovation, through interaction among participants.

We will share current information about the latest developments in the organic world. The latest trends in local and export markets, research, science and institutional development form part of our content, delivered in a participatory, hands-on training environment. It will place you at the forefront of organic thinking and creative problem-solving in the world of Organic Agriculture.

**DATES**

First residential session: **15-26 October 2013**. It will take place in the Republic of Korea, at a venue conducive to learning and experiencing the organic agriculture sector. This will be followed by monthly webinars, and will conclude with a 5-day residential session in Korea at the end of May 2014.

**MORE INFORMATION**

For more information on the course structure and methodology, download our Academy Brochure from: www.ifoam.org/en/academy/organic-leadership-courses.

**FEES**

A fee of **€ 1,200** covers tuition, training materials, meals and accommodation on a twin sharing basis. Not included are travel costs to and from the training venue. IFOAM will consider full or partial scholarships on a case-by-case basis.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Download the application form at www.ifoam.org/en/academy/organic-leadership-courses. Submit the completed form along with a letter of support from the participant’s employer to academy@ifoam.org no later than **30 August 2013**.

Places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. The maximum number of participants is 26.

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**The IFOAM Organic Leadership Course**

**East Asia 2013/14**

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**Course Objectives**

The course will be led by Konrad Hauptfleisch, the Academy Manager. He brings experience in sector development, training and management skill to the course. Completing the training team will be eminent international and regional leaders providing insights into their areas of specialization. In general the curriculum will focus on:

- **Understanding the Organic World**: You will gain an in-depth understanding of the fundamentals of the organic sector and the ability to apply this knowledge in your work in promotion, communication and advocacy.

- **Institutional Management**: You will hone leadership skills and develop strategies that are effective and consistent with the ethics of the organic sector. You will develop skills for organizational development, professional project management, and the ability to forge strategic alliances for cross-sector collaboration.

- **Communication**: You will gain up-to-date knowledge and the appropriate skills to communicate effectively within your organization and sector, as well as outside.

- **Organic Value Chain**: You will gain an increased understanding of the organic guarantee system underpinning the organic value chain. This will enhance your ability to drive and support Organic Agriculture and trade development.

- **Advocacy and Lobbying**: You will gain and enhance your skills to develop effective advocacy strategies, as well as the ability to identify and effectively target and lobby stakeholders and decisionmakers, both locally and internationally.

**Eligibility**

The course is aimed at individuals in a position to further develop the organic sector from within or to support its growth from outside. Farmer or farmers’ organizations, organic trade and certification companies, processors, traders, officials in governmental structures, rural development professionals, campaigners etc. - you are all welcome to apply.

The participant must have the backing of his or her employer. While the contents of the course will focus on the East Asian region, applicants from other regions might be considered on a case-to-case basis. Participants must be able to communicate in written and spoken English to fully participate in the course activities.

Access to a high-speed Internet connection is needed.

**Requirements**

The whole course spans a period of 8 months. This is conveniently split into two residential sessions of 10 and 5 days respectively, and 9 online webinar sessions of approximately 3 hours each.

Each participant will prepare a country or thematic report and a separate presentation of three to five pages. As a tangible outcome of their participation in the course for themselves and their organization, participants will develop an action plan for a concrete project they will start upon completion of the OLC.

During the training period, the participant will also make one public contribution in the form of an article in a publication, a conference paper, a published interview or panel participation.