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Foreword

IFOAM’s mission is:

“Leading, uniting and assisting the organic movement in its full diversity.

Our goal is the worldwide adoption of ecologically, socially and economically sound systems that are based on the principles of Organic Agriculture.”

That is the new mission statement of IFOAM. Leading refers to our role of not only being a representative of the movement, but also a developer. We should open new frontiers and opportunities, we should take on challenges both internally and externally. Uniting doesn’t need a lot of explanation. IFOAM can’t only take a leading role, running away with its own agenda, we need to have our members with us, and we need to have as members every important actor in the sector. We didn’t include representing as a key word in our mission statement, as we feel that it comes from leading and uniting – if we do that well, nobody will question our role as the international body for cooperation and representation of the organic movement. Assisting means that we should serve our members to help them to accomplish their goals. We have a number of members who are very competent and may not seek any assistance from IFOAM. For them, I think the Leading is what can assist them, to bring in new perspectives and views, to open up new opportunities and the fact that we represent the movement in international fora.

Our mission statement also recognise the full diversity of the movement. Organic agriculture is really a movement, rather than an organisation or a set of agriculture practices (=standards). Organic agriculture is also about business and we should be glad for the markets that have opened up for organic products. But we should keep in mind that it is the movement behind, the people behind that really gives our products credibility in the market place. To reduce organic products to compliance to standards, to a trademark or to government regulations, is to take away the soul of organic. Without soul it is just a marketing concept with little long-term value. Full diversity expresses that even if it is one movement, there are a lot of different aspirations and practices within the movement. In a speech to our General Assembly in Victoria (BC, Canada), I spoke about deep organic, representing the wish to further develop a real organic food system and to incorporate social justice and wide organic, representing the wish to spread organic all over the world, to all farmers, in every supermarket and to public policy. For some these two approaches are not possible to combine, and I can admit that there are a lot of tensions there but for me combining these two perspectives makes organic interesting.

So why are we doing all this? The answer is found in the second part of our mission statement. It is about the Worldwide Adoption of the Principles of Organic Agriculture in our agriculture and food systems. It is not a defensive goal, but expansive and active. It is not “protecting the interest of the organic sector”, or “representing the interest of the organic movement”. We have formulated an ambitious mission statement, which challenges us to look beyond the niche perspective. We must tackle the bigger issues within the sector and outside the sector. How will our systems work when 10, 30 or 50 percent of agriculture is organic?

The reference to the Principles is also important. We need to be humble and self-critical. Organic today is not perfect, we don’t have all answers to all big problems. Organic agriculture in the industrial world is largely built on un-sustainable energy-use. And the food distribution system of organic is to a large extent the same crazy circus of products shipped back and forth. For many farmers (organic or conventional) farming is not economically sustainable and sometimes not socially sustainable. Conversion of farms to organic as we know it today (i.e. following the standards) will not be a silver bullet, a magic solution that brings wealth and sustainability to all. The Principles for Organic Agriculture do have bigger potential. The Principles also allow for a diversity of practices and solutions to be worked out. I don’t believe in “one-size-fits-all” solutions with the exception of my favourite farmer’s cap.

Gunnar Rundgren
IFOAM President
Introduction

IFOAM: Cultivating Organic Communities – in full swing

Probably the shortest possible executive “summary” for the IFOAM Annual Report 2002 could read:

What a year!

Years featuring the IFOAM Organic World Congress (OWC) and General Assembly (GA) are always special years that naturally bring with them increased activities on many levels of the federation. With the very successful IFOAM Congress “Cultivating Communities”, the organic movement and the federation experienced the, but not the only highlight of the year. As a result of the last OWC and GA, IFOAM is now beginning a three-year interval between these world gatherings of the organic movement. Steady feedback from IFOAM General Assembly participants indicated that the federation saw the best and most creative assembly in its history, which resulted in a lot of inspiration, solidarity and harmony, and put the federation its structures (World Board, committees, task forces) and staff “on track” as we move towards our next world congress 2005 in Adelaide/Australia.

The events in Victoria required a lot of energy and resource allocation, but there were more challenges in the international arena to be met. Two world summit events (which actually both have an interval of 10 years) saw an active IFOAM participation: The FAO World Food Summit in Rome/Italy and the UNO World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg/South Africa. The latter one actually overlapped with our Organic World Congress (which was beyond our control because the UNO had changed the date). These events together with a lot more lobbying and outreach activities as outlined in this report were not only platforms to spread the organic message, but also to position IFOAM as leader and engaged representative for the international organic movement and IFOAM network.

The chapters about the activities of the World Board and other IFOAM structures, the HeadOffice team, our membership development, the IFOAM projects and programs, the lobby and outreach activities, the conferences and events and the publications leave no doubt that 2002 was an especially extraordinary year.

The good thing about all the good news of IFOAM is that they are reflecting all the good news about the progress and advancement of the organic movement worldwide. So one can truly say:

What’s good for the organic movement is good for IFOAM

and

What’s good for IFOAM is good for the organic movement.

Bernward Geier
Director for International Relations

Thomas Cierpka
Managing Director
The World Board

Back (left to right): Prabha Mahale (India), Sheldon Weinberg (United States), El Hadji Hamath Hane (Senegal), Gerald A. Herrmann (Germany), Gunnar Rundgren (Sweden), Liz Clay (Australia)
Front (left to right): Antonio Compagnoni (Italy), Pipo Lernoud (Argentina), Kenji Matsumoto (Japan)

The Executive Board

President:
Gunnar Rundgren
Vice-President:
Alberto Pipo Lernoud
Vice-President:
Gerald Herrmann

Every IFOAM General Assembly elects up to ten World Board members. Candidacies must be received at least three months before the regular General Assembly and are endorsed by five member organizations, and the candidates must be presented to the membership at least 60 days before the General Assembly. The World Board chooses an Executive Board from amongst the elected members before the end of the General Assembly.

IFOM’s democratically elected World Board actively supports the interests of the organic movement worldwide. IFOAM benefits from their profound, voluntary and effective leadership. They come from diverse backgrounds and cultures, and provide an astounding breadth of experience and expertise on scientific, legal, fiscal and many other aspects of organizational management.

World Board members play key roles in IFOAM structures, but they also represent IFOAM across the globe at conferences, international negotiations and other forums.

Their passion and commitment to the worldwide development of organic agriculture is helping to create a brighter and sustainable future for the planet. IFOAM is fortunate to have such involved leadership that is setting the stage for the Worldwide Adoption of the Principles of Organic Agriculture (WAPOA).
**IFOAM’s Internal Organisation**

In addition to the main bodies of the Federation (General Assembly, World/Executive Board and Directors/Head Office), the following internal structures may be established by the World Board to carry out IFOAM’s policies:

- Committees (permanent or long term body, highest level of competence)
- Working Groups (long-term, related to specific issues)
- Task Forces (for a limited time, to give advice on a specific issue)
- Ad hoc groups

Apart from bodies established by the World Board, affiliates of IFOAM are invited to organize national/regional or interest (or area of activity) based groups.

These groups are part of IFOAM structures and should not be seen as independent entities.

The schematic below illustrates IFOAM’s organisational structure, with additional details regarding internal structures explained on the following pages.

**IFOAM Organisational Structure**
Internal Structures - Year in Review

In 2002, IFOAM’s internal structures transformed and developed substantially. Both World Board established bodies and membership based sector specific groups grew in number and scope. The World Board dissolved two Regional Groups in Africa due to inactivity. Recognizing the special importance of facilitating the development of Organic Agriculture in Africa, the decision was made to create a pilot Service Center for Organic Agriculture in Sub-Saharan Africa. In 2002, the Norms Management Committee and the Government Relations Committee were established. The former will coordinate IFOAM’s efforts regarding standards and criteria for accreditation. The latter will interact with governments in regard to the IFOAM Guarantee System. After the GA in Victoria, Canada, the Standards Committee recommenced with a new team, and the Criteria Committee, also with a fresh composition, took over the responsibilities of the Criteria Revision Task Force.

The World Board approved the new IFOAM Aquaculture Group as sector specific group. The Trade Forum and the Farmers Group had successful meetings in Canada, August 2002 and established new structures to intensify the exchange between members.

Committees

Norms Management Committee
Secretary: Diane Bowen (USA)
Chair: Johan Cejie (Sweden)
Members: Jorge Casale (Argentina); Antonio Compagnoni (Italy); Ong Kung Wai (Malaysia); Mildred Steidle (Germany)

Standards Committee
Secretary: Diane Bowen (USA)
Chair: Rod May (Australia)
Members: Brian Baker (USA); Alexander Beck (Germany); Jorge Casale (Argentina); Eckhard Reiners (Germany); Tali Berner (Israel); Xu Hui Lian (Japan); Richard Plowright (United Kingdom)

Criteria Committee
Secretary: Diane Bowen (USA)
Chair: Ken Commins (USA)
Members: Coen van Beuningen (Netherlands); Mildred Steidle (Germany); Paddy Doherty (Canada); Eva Mattsson (Sweden)

Government Relation Committee
Secretary: Diane Bowen (USA)
Chair: Prabha Mahale (India)
Members: Liz Clay (Australia); Bo van Elzakker (Netherlands); Katherine di Matteo (USA), Peter Einarsson (Sweden)

Program Steering Committee (I-GO):
Secretary: Anne Boor (Germany)
Chair: Liz Clay (Australia)
Members: Oscar Castaneda (Guatemala); Hay Soree (India); Maheshwar Ghimire (Nepal); Joseph Muttera (Kenya)

Development Forum
Chair: Alberto Pipo Lernoud, (Argentina)
Members: René Piamonte (Argentina); Ranjith de Silva (Sri Lanka); Gabriele Stoll (Germany); René Tokannou (Benin); Charles Walaga (Uganda)
Regional, National & Other IFOAM Groups and Their Coordinators

For a number of reasons, the level of initiative and interaction within the IFOAM regional groups is very different. One of the most active Regional Groups in IFOAM, the EU Group, registered as an independent legal entity in order to raise funds for its work. The EU Group is scheduled to hire a full time coordinator in the course of 2003. By creating 4 working groups, the group intensified its work on regulations, policy, research and management and administration.

Regional Groups
- Asia: Vaheesan Saminathan (Sri Lanka)
- German Speaking Countries: Helga Willer (Switzerland)
- AgriBioMediterraneo: Ranko Tadic (Croatia)
- EU countries: Francis Blake (UK)
- Latin America initiative (GALCI): Patricia Flores Piamonte (Argentina)

National Groups
- IFOAM Italy: Ivo Bertaina
- IFOAM Japan: Katsu Murayama

Interest Groups
- IFOAM Forum of Consultants: Birgitt Boor (Germany)
- IFOAM Trade Forum: Maria Gardfjell (Sweden)
- IFOAM Farmers Group: Inger Källander (Sweden)
- IFOAM Aquaculture group: Deborah Brister (USA)

Task Forces

The WB established various Task Forces. The Accreditation Criteria Revision Task Force provided the final draft of the *IFOAM Accreditation Criteria for programs certifying organic agriculture and processing* after intensive stakeholder consultations. The World Board approved the revision in August 2002.


In regard to outside relations the US negotiating team was active in 2002.

The World Board has constituted IFOAM's Task Force for Research with a mandate to agree on a definition for Organic Research and draft a proposal for IFOAM's objectives and role in organic research.

Members: Prabha Mahale- Coordinator (India)
- Gabriele Stoll (Germany)
- Urs Niggli (Switzerland)
- Jürgen Queitsch (Mexico)
- Nicolas Lampkin (United Kingdom)
- Sean Sweany (United States)
- Sri N Sriskandarajaha (Denmark)
Staff at the IFOAM Head Office

The IFOAM Head Office is situated in the midst of the forest on an organic farm in Tholey-Theley, Germany. A dynamic team coordinates the efforts of IFOAM and the organic movement. In 2002, the following people were working for the IFOAM Head Office:

Thomas Cierpka, Managing Director
t.cierpka@ifoam.org

Bernward Geier,  
Director for International Relations  
b.geier@ifoam.org

Monique Fuhrmann, Bookkeeping  
m.fuhrmann@ifoam.org

Laurence Leduc, Membership  
l.leduc@ifoam.org

Karin Rauber, Bilingual Secretary  

Helen Stork, Webmaster  
webmaster@ifoam.org

Anne Boor, Global Programme Coordinator  
a.boor@ifoam.org

Diane Bowen,  
Organic Guarantee System Co-ordinator  
d.bowen@ifoam.org

Christina Westermayer,  
Media and Events Coordinator,  
Since 2003, Neil Sorensen  
n.sorensen@ifoam.org

Detlef Kalus, I-GO Project  
d.kalus@ifoam.org

Nadine Browne, Communications  
Since 2003, Angela Rott  
a.rott@ifoam.org

Cristina Grandi,  
IFOAM Liaison office to the FAO  
c.grandi@ifoam.org

Head Office Intern  
intern@ifoam.org

I-GO Intern  
intern-igo@ifoam.org

Interns have been a great asset for IFOAM for a long time. Coming from all over the world for generally six months, they do important work for the organic movement. In 2002, IFOAM appreciated the dedicated support from the following interns at the Head Office: Christina Westermayer (Austria), Radka Lesova (Czech Republic), Jon Magne Holten (Norway).
**IFOAM Members**

IFOAM affiliates are divided into three categories: members, associates or supporters. Members and associates may be organizations, institutions or companies, and supporters are individuals. The activities of member organizations must predominantly revolve around organic agriculture. Associates are organisations who are working towards becoming full IFOAM members by shifting their focus to organic agriculture activities. As a result of the implementation of a new fee payment policy, affiliation leveled off at around 700 organisations in 2001. Membership is again growing again growing at a rate of 4.7%, reaching 734 affiliates in 2002. 78 new members and associates were approved by the World Board, 5 rejoined IFOAM and 8 organizations cancelled their membership for various reasons. 43 members were expelled due to non-payment of fees. In comparison with the year 2001, the focus of the activities of the IFOAM members and associates shifted from agricultural production to education, followed by consulting, trade and research. IFOAM has added a “legislative” category to its affiliate survey. The membership base of IFOAM encompasses the entire organic chain from farmers’ associations to consumer awareness organizations is building the membership base for IFOAM.

**Activities of IFOAM Affiliates**

![Activities of IFOAM Affiliates](chart.png)

The chart illustrates the distribution of IFOAM affiliates across different activities. The total number of affiliates is 734. The activities are categorized into Rural Development, Fair Trade, Legislation, Politics/Lobbying, Public Relations, Consulting, Research, Environment, Certification, Inspection, Education, Nutrition/Health, Trade, Processing, and Agricultural Production. The activities are depicted as bars with values indicating the number of affiliates involved in each activity. For example, Consulting has the highest number of affiliates with 246, followed by Education with 302, and Agricultural Production with 285.

In summary, IFOAM has diversified its membership base with a growing focus on educational and consulting activities, reflecting the evolving needs and interests of the organic agriculture community.
Origin of IFOAM Affiliates

In 2002, IFOAM as the organization for the worldwide organic movement united affiliates from 98 countries under its umbrella.

Half of IFOAM’s membership is located in Europe, a bit more than 20% in Asia, roughly the same in Latin America and Africa together and 10% in North America and Oceania. In comparison with 2001, the proportion of Latin American membership decreased by 1.5% and by 1% in North America. An increase of 2% was registered for Asia, while the percentage of affiliates coming from Europe and Oceania did not change.

IFOAM – Lobbying, Reaching out and International Relations

In 2002, IFOAM substantially expanded its level of involvement in international forums. With the establishment of the IFOAM outreach office in Rome that functions as the IFOAM-FAO liaison office, IFOAM is strategically positioned to increasingly foster the growth of organic agriculture worldwide and gain the support of governments and the FAO itself. The office became operational in January, with Cristina Grandi, originally from Argentina, as the liaison office coordinator. The office became immediately engaged in activities within the FAO and has been integral in helping IFOAM visitors and delegations to effectively participate in FAO events. It has enabled IFOAM to spread information and promote organic agriculture within the FAO and report back to members and the organic movement about FAO activities. A permanent section in IFOAM’s Ecology & Farming magazine has been devoted to this purpose. A focus and highlight of the liaison office’s first year’s activities were those surrounding the FAO World Food Summit. (A separate annual report regarding the FAO liaison office activities is available from the Head Office.)

Once again, funds from the I-GO program were the foundation for the lobby and outreach work, which is based upon the IFOAM lobbying and liaison strategy and priority, which was developed and approved by the World Board.

It was also a unique constellation that two world summits with a usual rhythm of 10 years were held within 4 months in 2002. IFOAM was very engaged in both events.

The FAO World Food Summit (WFS)

This ministerial summit took place between June 10th and 14th at the FAO headquarters in Rome/Italy. IFOAM participated with a delegation composed of IFOAM President Gunnar Rundgren (Sweden), Vice-President Pipo Lernoud (Argentina), the World Board members Annie Kirschenmann (USA) and Prabha Mahale (India) as well as Bernward Geier (IFOAM Director for International Relations). The delegation’s activities were coordinated and facilitated by Cristina Grandi from the liaison office. Apart from classical lobby activities “on the floor”, IFOAM participated in several parallel meetings and activities. The delegates also widely distributed the IFOAM position document on the role of organic agriculture in the context of food security, which was developed in a consultative process and is based on the IFOAM Dossier No. 1 on food security.
A highlight of the federation’s impact at the WFS was the panel discussion IFOAM had organized at the parallel Civil Society Congress. The panel discussion was moderated by Annie Kirschenmann and with the participation of IFOAM member and alternative nobel laureate Vandana Shiva from India, the German minister of consumer protection and agriculture Renate Künast, Nadia El Hage-Scialabba from the FAO, Miguel Altieri (University of California) and Marco Cavani from the Ethical Bank in Italy. IFOAM was represented on the panel by its president. The panel discussion was inspiring and thought provoking for the nearly 200 people that filled the room. After the panel, the exchange and interaction continued during a nice reception after the event with organic food and wines.

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD)

IFOAM provided significant input for the WSSD, which took place in Johannesburg end of August until September 6th in Johannesburg/South Africa. Again, IFOAM developed and agreed upon a position document for the WSSD that was already used as a lobby tool in the two preparatory conferences in which IFOAM was involved.

Gunnar Rundgren participated in January in the Preparatory Committee for the WSSD at the UN in New York. The lobby activities of Bernward Geier in the final “prepcos IV” at the end of May in Bali were supported by the IFOAM Development Forum members, which had organized their meeting in Bali, taking advantage of the situation to include developing country representatives René Tokannou, (Benin), Ranjith de Silva (Sri Lanka), René Piarmonte (Peru), Charles Walaga (Uganda) and Alberto Lernoud (Argentina).

The WSSD conflicted with IFOAM’s Organic World Congress in Canada, and left no choice but to concentrate IFOAM’s participation to the last 5 days, which is when heads of state were in attendance at the summit. The overall outcome of the WSSD was certainly not satisfying, but such a world gathering with its concentration of “power structures and people” as well as the opportunities to liaise and work together with like-minded organizations and activists was another fertile ground for IFOAM’s lobby activities. IFOAM’s position paper for the WSSD was again widely distributed. The delegation was composed of Gunnar Rundgren, Paddy Frayne from South Africa and Brennan O’Hare from New Zealand, and they were actively involved in public panels of the IUCN (the World Conservation Union). The delegates gave a presentation on organic agriculture and IFOAM’s activities. A highlight of IFOAM’s involvement in Johannesburg was a panel discussion with the participation of Vandana Shiva (India), Jeff McNeely (chief scientist from IUCN), Peter Komani representing the organic farmer perspectives from Africa and Gunnar Rundgren, IFOAM’s President. Bernward Geier moderated, and welcomed the participation of Mr. Klaus Töpfer (Director General of the United National Environment Program / UNEP), who joined the panel discussion and shared an intervention. A moving highlight of the panel discussion was the presentation of the SARD-Mallinckrodt Award to the IFOAM member organization Food Gardens from South Africa.

Other activities

IFOAM outreach activities were also brought into a central and eastern European conference on organic agriculture with the participation of the German and Polish agricultural ministers, which took place in the first days of March in Poland. Gunnar Rundgren, Gerald Herrmann, Antonio Compagnoni (World Board), Bernward Geier and Christina Westermayer (staff) as well as IFOAM’s honorary president Hardy Vogtmann participated and contributed to the program on behalf of IFOAM. This event was followed by a workshop, which was organized jointly with IUCN on the topic of organic agriculture and biodiversity. It brought the cooperation between IFOAM and IUCN a significant step forward. Proceedings of this workshop are published and available.

IFOAM was involved in the preparation of an international conference on agriculture and biodiversity for the last two years, Organized by the European Council, it brought participants from 30 Pan-European countries together in June in Paris. IFOAM was represented by World Board member Antonio Compagnoni (Italy), Bernward Geier and Christina Westermayer. A. Compagnoni and B.Geier gave presentations on the relationship and interaction between organic agriculture and biodiversity. The newly published IFOAM Dossier No. 2 and the four-color brochure on biodiversity were widely distributed and well received. The conference conclusions and recommendations make significant reference to the contribution of organic agriculture to maintain and enhance biodiversity. The conference in Paris had been organized to prepare for an upcoming Pan-European environmental and agriculture ministerial summit on the same topic in 2004.
Projects and Programs

“IFOAM-Growing Organic” (I-GO)

This is IFOAM’s most important externally funded program. 2002 was its second year of operation. It is funded by HIVOS and the Dutch Government’s Biodiversity Fund.

When described briefly it is often said that it is IFOAM’s program to support the development of organic agriculture in Developing Countries. This is essentially correct, but such a description leads sometimes to the misleading impression that I-GO’s activities are executed in Developing Countries only. The overall goal says: “To strengthen the worldwide organic agriculture movement”. Therefore, a part of the program is also to strengthen IFOAM as an organization and to carry out global activities, e.g. to harmonize the Organic Guarantee System, to lobby international organizations for organic agriculture. These activities are often not carried out in the Developing Countries, but they are very important to set and achieve a positive global, “organic” framework for the growth of organic agriculture in Developing Countries.

To give two examples:
- I-GO financed the participation of Board and staff members at the World Summit of Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg and the preparation conferences for this event. Through these lobby activities IFOAM wants to put organic agriculture more and more on the agenda of international organizations as a viable solution to achieve sustainable development, food security, to minimize soil degradation and environmental problems. Similar lobbying was done at the Word Food Summit (WFS).
- I-GO supported the Harmonisation Conference at BIOFACH, the world’s largest organic fair. The various national standards in Northern countries are severe obstacles for small exporting countries in the South to access these markets. IFOAM’s harmonization efforts are of direct benefit to organic agriculture in Developing Countries.

IFOAM is not a donor organization and therefore I-GO was not set up to fund or to directly support our members’ various local activities in training, marketing, certification, etc. Additionally, the I-GO budget would be by far too insufficient to serve a significant number of IFOAM’s more than 300 members in Developing Countries. Nevertheless, besides the global activities, I-GO also financed member activities with a regional output or a pilot character. The aim of I-GO is to support and strengthen organic agriculture movements in Developing Countries, and I-GO thus supports projects of IFOAM members, where the results of the activity benefit other members or the development of organic agriculture in a region.

Two examples:
- In 2002 I-GO started to finance a project with three organizations in Peru and Bolivia to systemize experiences in production, transformation and commercialization of ecological products from small-scale farmers. One of the expected outputs is the publication of educative, didactical material for small-scale farmers, which will be used for training and technical assistance.
- I-GO financed a survey to map possible donors who are funding organic agriculture and organic certification. The survey describes donor organizations in detail, specifying the target countries’ funding criteria and contacts. This will help our members to access project funding.

Another important part of I-GO activities was the support of members from Developing Countries to take part actively in IFOAM’s various structures. One of IFOAM’s big assets is its democratic, basis-oriented structure. A threat to this is that “democratic” becomes an empty phrase if members cannot participate in decision processes because they cannot afford to go to a meeting while others can easily.

Therefore I-GO supported the participation of 17 members in 8 bodies at 19 events.

I-GO also financed translations and the IFOAM web master in order to improve communication with IFOAM members worldwide.

As the present phase of I-GO is in the middle of its implementation, an external mid-term evaluation and an intensive discussion about the two remaining years took place.
One important result was that the Eastern and Central European countries are no longer in the scope of I-GO. Most of these countries are not on the OECD list of Developing Countries. This list is relevant for HIVOS to give support. A further argument was that the needs of these countries are quite different than those of the Asian, African and Latin American countries.

The key elements and overall structure of I-GO were not changed after the evaluation. But four of the six results, which should be reached through I-GO, were reformulated to make them more precise and realistic, which helps to monitor and evaluate the program in the end.

At the beginning of 2003, IFOAM started to discuss the continuation of I-GO. In a meeting with a donor representative IFOAM received the positive signal that there are good chances to get further funding in the same direction as the present I-GO program. The first step of this follow up program has started: it is the definition of clear and precise objectives.

Social Accountability in Sustainable Agriculture (SASA)

A joint project involving IFOAM, Fair Trade Labelling Organisations International (FLO), Social Accountability International (SAI), and Sustainable Agriculture Network (SAN) started in January 2002 and will go until the end of 2004. The main funding is coming from Sida, Sweden and HIVOS, Netherlands.

The project is managed by Sasha Courville from Australia. IFOAM is involved with one staff member, one WB member and two members of Accredited Certification Bodies, who are part of the SASA Steering Committee. This committee oversees the project, approves the yearly budget and planning, discusses the results and any changes to the objectives.

There are important reasons why this project was set up:

1. The need for cooperation
   With the rise of socially and environmentally responsible consumerism, diverse actors along the product chain from primary producers to final consumers are turning to market-based tools to address social accountability. However, there are signs of increasing confusion on the part of producers, consumers and retailers facing a growing number of different certification and labelling initiatives in the field of sustainable agriculture. Cooperation between the main promoters is paramount in addressing this confusion and frustration.

2. Linking social justice and environment
   The new chapter 8 in IFOAM’s Basic Standards needs to be addressed by most of the Accredited Certification Bodies and new inspection methods need to be developed.

3. Address social justice issues
   Social Justice means different things to different people. It is important for IFOAM to address and discuss this topic in order to develop the IFOAM social standards.

4. Improving social auditing methods
   Social Auditing, as a new area, is recognized as being complex and vulnerable to bias. SASA looks into internal control systems within an external audit for certification, how to address social accountability throughout the entire supply chain, how to adapt the audit to the scale of the farm to producer country specific needs and realities.
In 2002, The SASA project carried out four pilot audits in:
- Costa Rica, large banana plantation (SAN certification)
- Italy, medium scale, mixed production, supply chain included (SAI certification)
- Brazil, orange juice, medium scale cooperative (FLO certification)
- Thailand, small scale rice cooperative (IFOAM –ACT certification)

These exercises mainly served the goal of shared learning. One of the four partners was the leading inspection organization to show the others a concrete example of how their inspection works in the field. A further objective of the first inspections was to identify the critical social auditing issues in the respective production system.

The second phase, which started in February this year, will focus on possibilities of cooperation between the organizations: joint inspections, developing common inspection templates etc.

The SASA steering committee decided in November to cut down the pilot audits from twelve to nine. After gaining the practical experiences it was seen as necessary to bring together senior level people from the project partners to discuss cooperation in standards and policies. Instead of the audits, additional workshops are planned in 2003.

It is important for the SASA project to involve stakeholder of the country where the pilot audits take place. NGO’s, Governments, unions, members of the project partners are invited to take part in email discussions and meetings before and after the audit to discuss which social issues should be audited in the respective country and production system. All reports and results are also published on a website: http://www.isealliance.org/sasa. Comments are most welcome.

**Greenhouse Gas Project**

The project idea was developed after discussions in Victoria. The linkage between Greenhouse Gases, in particular CO$_2$ emission, and climate change is increasingly evidenced and accepted. As a consequence, the trading of CO$_2$ emission rights and payment for Emission Reductions (ER) may become common practice in the near future. Organic Agriculture (OA) has a large potential in sequestering CO$_2$; soils under OA have higher humus content, farming and cropping systems have a higher biomass above the soil and their use of fossil energy is much lower than in conventional agriculture. To combine two ideas: CO$_2$ sequestration and extension of organic agriculture is a convincing win-win strategy, which might find ample acceptance. This applies in particular to Developing Countries.

For IFOAM there are a number of reasons, which makes this subject highly interesting:
- The Clean Development Mechanism or other emission reduction payments can assist farmers to convert to organic agriculture, especially in Developing Countries, where there are no subsidies for organic farming.
- A payment for carbon fixing helps organic farmers to focus more on organic matter management, improving the sustainability of the organic farming systems.
- The relevance of organic agriculture from an environmental perspective will get another boost.
- Alternatively, it is possible that the GHG argument can be used against the organic movement as some practices may lead to higher emissions (For example composting causes important emissions of CO$_2$, CH$_3$, and N$_2$O). IFOAM needs to be prepared to answer these allegations with scientifically based methodologies and to make necessary recommendations to its members for improved practices.

Based on these discussions an IFOAM Task Force was created, which submitted a proposal to HIVOS (accepted in March 2003) to finance a scoping study. The main work packages in this study are:
- Analyze who, within and outside the organic movement, have been/are working in the GHG-agriculture field.
- Collect and review the scientific evidence of the potential of OA to sequester CO$_2$.
- Elaborate a certification system, which can monitor and verify actual sequestration.
- Identify suitable pilot projects (case studies) in which the system can be applied and elaborated further.
- Provide information on the reduction of Greenhouse Gases to IFOAM members and the public.
Communications and Public Relations

IFOAM took significant steps in 2002 to improve the information exchange and communication inside the federation as well as to the “outside” world. The introductory **information folder** has not only been updated with a new text, but was also completely redesigned. The federation has found its “colors” with a solid green and a soft “earthy” orange, which enables the organization to present its publications with a modern and appealing look. The information folder is printed so far in four languages (English, French, Spanish and German). This basic information is also available in a number of additional language translations.

Three issues of the IFOAM magazine “Ecology & Farming” with a total of 114 pages were published. Focus themes covered science, the social agenda of organic agriculture, and soils and fertility. The regional themes covered Canada and Africa, and the last issue of the year featured the Organic World Congress.

Three issues of the former “Internal Letter” were published in 2002 under its new name “IFOAM – In Action”. This information tool for the IFOAM membership achieved an unusual magnitude in 2002. Issue number 78 came out as an 8 page folded newsletter, and numbers 79 and 80 were special issues. Issue 79 presented on 64 pages all the relevant information for the IFOAM General Assembly followed by another 52 page publication reporting with all details (including the minutes) of the General Assembly. IFOAM translated and published all versions of IFOAM-In Action in Spanish as well as in French. Furthermore, additional regional newsletters were produced by IFOAM regional groups.

The publication “Organic Agriculture Worldwide” (IFOAM directory of member organizations and associates) came out in its 2003 version for the World Congress and continues to be our best selling publication.

The **IFOAM Basic Standards** continue to be the most important publication for the federation. After its substantial revision at the last General Assembly, IFOAM published the IFOAM Basic Standards as well as the IFOAM Norms for Accreditation for the first time in one book (148 pages). The Spanish version is meanwhile also available.

2002 saw a new record in terms of books published by IFOAM. In the beginning of the year, the printing presses were kept hot with 7 different projects running at the same time. IFOAM (In cooperation with FAO and UNCTAD) produced a 68-page reader for the IFOAM Organic Guarantee System Conference in Nuremberg, which has been extended, amended and published as a 146-page book in 2003.

IFOAM’s colorful and attractive 20-page brochure on GMO’s titled “Genetic Engineering Versus Organic Farming” is very well received. The interest in language translations is great for this publication, which already needed to be reprinted after two months. IFOAM is grateful to the German Schweisfurth foundation for their financial support of this publication.

The **Training Manual for Organic Agriculture in the Tropics**, which IFOAM produced together with the FIBL organic research institute in Switzerland, is a useful and informative tool for the development of organic agriculture in Southern countries.

The conference proceedings of the 14th IFOAM Organic World Congress 2002 titled “Cultivating Communities” are an impressive 328-page publication.

Funded by IFOAM project funds from I-GO is a Spanish publication put together by the group Eco-Lógica of Peru, which is titled “Bio Mercardo Peru oferta y demanda de productos ecologicos”.

Last year saw also the start of a new series of thematic and “to the point” publications on priority topics for the organic movement and its federation. The series of dossiers began with number 1 looking at “Organic Agriculture and Food Security” followed by dossier number 2 on “Organic Agriculture and Biodiversity”. The dossiers include a wealth of information and inspiration concentrated on 20 pages each.
A number of IFOAM publications are meanwhile produced on CD Rom like the tropical training manual and a CD produced in 2002 entitled EU-USDA-Organic Regulations Comparison, which actually puts the equivalent of 488 pages onto a disc.

IFOAM has also now become involved in the production of videos. With support of I-GO funds, a video was produced by the AgroBioMediterraneo regional group entitled “Organic olives in the Mediterranean basin”. Another video vividly shows “Local Organic Marketing in Lima/Peru”.

A project that took quite a while to get funded and produced is the video that premiered on the occasion of our Organic World Congress in August 2002 in Canada. It’s the “IFOAM” video titled “The world grows organic”, which introduces the activities of the federation, but in its 30 minute duration focuses on the fascination and the many facets of organic farming around the world. IFOAM graciously thanks the sponsor BioFach/Messe Nürnberg for its contribution, which finally enabled IFOAM to realize this video project and spread the message of and positive imagery of organic agriculture.

All IFOAM videos are available in PAL as well as in NTSC format. The local marketing video from Lima is also offered as DVD and the IFOAM video can be ordered also as CD Rom.

Finally, IFOAM has also entered the world of merchandising to promote the federation and generate some additional income. IFOAM produced for the World Congress a new set of organic cotton T-shirts promoting the fact that IFOAM is “uniting the organic world”. The IFOAM logo pins as well as the attractive alarm clock with world time, the IFOAM logo and the slogan that “it’s always time for organic” have proved quite popular.

The Executive Board presents the “Always Time for Organic” alarm clock to Professor Uli Koepke

From its very beginning, part of IFOAM’s mission has been to disseminate information, which began 30 years ago with its first and very humble “hand printed” information folders and leaflets. The federation has come a long way since then, and the unrivaled publication activities of the federation in 2002 supported the ambitious goal to lead the organic movement also as it comes to promotion, positioning and information exchange.

The IFOAM Webpage

Visits to the IFOAM webpage increased impressively in 2002, which demonstrates growth in interest about organic agriculture in general and an increased reliance upon the information IFOAM provides.
Conferences, Fairs and Other Events

With a year so rich in highlights, the 14th IFOAM Organic World Congress in August was undoubtedly the organic “mega” highlight, which took place in Victoria, Canada. The event had the timely title “Cultivating Communities”, and was well organized by the IFOAM member organization Canadian Organic Growers (COG) and the very dedicated conference coordinator Anne Macey and her team.

Some 1,200 people from about 90 countries came together to exchange information and success stories, to learn the “latest”, to network and liaise and above all to have a lot of fun. When such a diversity of people and cultures, visions and strategies, knowledge and expertise come together, it is not only a melting pot of creativity and ideas, but also a great platform to form partnerships and to make new friendships.

Apart from the actual congress, which covered the broad and holistic range of issues from the organic movement very well, the 7th International IFOAM Organic Wine Conference was also organized in Victoria. It brought some one hundred people together. Apart from the usual conference related activities, the participants of this conference surely enjoyed the organic banquet, where wine is such an excellent ambassador of quality and good taste. The Congress was not limited to the convention center, but reached out once again via the IFOAM Organic World Exhibition to the people in the region. With the beautiful setting of St. Ann’s Academy and a brilliant sun on a crystal blue sky, this fantastic outdoor event attracted 12,000 visitors in just two days.

Meetings of IFOAM structures like the World Board, committees, regional groups and task forces are always part of the Organic World Congress. They all focused on the event for our federation: The General Assembly. A number of innovative and participatory elements contributed to the fact that this was an extraordinary assembly for IFOAM. Many returning assembly participants rated it as the best ever. The debates and the decisions taken gave IFOAM not only a new World Board, but also the necessary guidance and instruction to continue moving the organic movement internationally on the road towards progress and achievement (for more details about the World Congress, General Assembly and related events is reference made to the Ecology & Farming magazine No. 31).

In 2002 IFOAM also organized for the first time the International Conference on Harmonisation of the Organic Guarantee System. This was a “premier” undertaking as the federation worked for the first time with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the United Nations Committee on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to jointly organize this conference, which took place in February right after the BioFach fair in Nuremberg, Germany. Some 250 participants and stakeholders from the private as well as the public sector came together to discuss a lot of important and “hot” issues around the organic guarantee system and paved the road for increasing harmonisation activities. The conference led to important conclusions and resulted in the establishment of a task force that now develops concrete strategies on how to harmonise the organic guarantee system and to protect the private sector’s interest in this context. The conference was organizationally well managed by the newly appointed conference and event manager Christina Westermayer, and benefited once again from significant financial support from the I-GO project.
Another first time IFOAM international conference took place in May in Spain, when some 200 people got together in Spain for the First International IFOAM Organic Olive Conference organized by ECOLIVA. World Board member Antonio Compagnoni as well as Christina Westermayer and Bernward Geier from the staff participated on behalf of IFOAM at this event. The conference was also the meeting place for the general assembly of the AgroBioMediterraneo regional group and for a regional meeting of the IFOAM European group.

Bernward Geier was invited and gave presentations at a number of events in the course of this year, which included a conference in the Czech Republic on organic agriculture and an international conference on horticulture in Cape town, South Africa as well as a conference on the common agriculture policy review in October in Denmark.

The world leading organic fair BioFach in Nuremberg is not only continuously and rapidly growing, but remains the most important get together of the organic industry, which is also demonstrated by its 1,200 exhibitors and close to 30,000 professional visitors. Apart from the fair related activities, BioFach features an impressive side program to which IFOAM contributes significantly. The booth at the fair moved to a new and excellent location in the international hall and featured for the first time an IFOAM restaurant. The “Osteria Armonia” was under the command of the Italian organic chef Giovanni Montanari and offered a great setting for people to meet, eat (organically) and even dance (at the IFOAM reception).

The excellent partnership and cooperation established with BioFach/Messe Nürnberg is also carried on in the cooperation for the international BioFach activities organized by Nürnberg Global Fairs. IFOAM was engaged and participated in the BioFach pavilion at the “All Things Organic” show and congress put together by our member Organic Trade Association (OTA) in Austin/Texas, which took place in May. Together with the newly established national Japanese regional group, IFOAM raised its flag in December at the BioFach in Tokyo, Japan, where IFOAM was represented by its World Board member Kenji Matsumoto and the Organic Guarantee System Manager Diane Bowen.

IFOAM also cooperated with the BIOL organic olive oil award in Italy in April, where Bernward Geier participated as a jury member.

The interest and demands for IFOAM cooperation and participation in conferences, seminars and fairs continues to grow significantly. The involvement of the federation with its activists and staff is a very important outreach activity, which always comes along with great lobby and liaison opportunities.

**Organic Guarantee System Gets a Make-Over**

In the business of beauty and fashion, the term “make-over” refers to bringing a person’s looks up to date and making them more attractive. In this frame of reference, 2002 was a year for head-to-toe makeover of the Organic Guarantee System (OGS). Not only were both the IFOAM Basic Standards (IBS) and Accreditation Criteria (IAC) revised, but some new accessories were added. Policies and Procedures for how the OGS functions will give the OGS a more sophisticated look, and new committees for developing and managing the system will reshape it. There are new teams of individuals in the committees and on the staff. And more attention is being paid to harmonizing the OGS with other systems internationally.

**New Staff:** In April, Diane Bowen joined the IFOAM staff as the Organic Guarantee System Manager, replacing Tim Marshall. Diane’s prior work and experience in the field standards setting and certification, plus a management background, was quickly put into practice in managing the 2002 OGS makeover.

**New Norms:** During the first half of the year, the Standards Committee (SC) prepared the final draft of the Revision of the 2000 IBS. This final draft emerged from the foundation of two earlier drafts, and two rounds of comments from IFOAM members and other stakeholders. The final draft was approved by the General Assembly after some constructive debate on a few issues, such as the new draft standards for plant breeding and multiplication. The first revision of the Accreditation Criteria since 1998 was also achieved in 2002. Although the content of the IAC were only moderately revised, its structure was substantially altered to make it more streamlined and easy to follow. Some elements were added to bring the IAC more in line with ISO 65 Guidelines (which relate to how certifying bodies should operate). The IFOAM World Board approved the new criteria in August after considering motions to the final draft from key stakeholders such as the IOAS and the IFOAM Accredited Certification Bodies (ACBs).
New Policies and Procedures: The World Board invested a considerable amount of energy into the 2002 makeover. During the year, it gave final approval to five new policies/procedures, which are aimed at making the process for norms development more expertly managed and the norms themselves more flexible and attractive to all kinds of international stakeholders. The five policies are the following:

New Work Items: The Policy for New Work Items describes how an IFOAM member can bring up new areas for standards setting or areas for significant revision.

Revision: The Policy for Revision of the IFOAM Basic Standards lays out the process for development of draft standards, for public comment on the drafts, and for approval of these revisions. This new policy allows for more flexible and rapid revision of standards when needed. Although standards are still voted as before, by the IFOAM membership, they need not wait until a vote in IFOAM’s General Assembly (now held only every three years) in order to be approved.

Implementation: Revised standards must be implemented within the OGS, with consequences for ACBs and their clients. The Policy for Implementation of Changes to the IFOAM Norms provides for a two year time period for ACBs to require compliance with revised standards from their clients.

Interpretation: Occasionally, the IOAS or ACBs need an interpretation of either the Standards or the Accreditation Criteria during the course of the certification and accreditation processes. The new Policy Regarding Interpretation of IFOAM Norms provides a mechanism for formal interpretation when needed, and is administered by the new Norms Management Committee.

Accommodation/Approval: The IFOAM Basic Standards are “standards for standards” which function in a world of other government and private certification standards, many of which are adapted to particular regions or specific applications. IFOAM’s new policy for Approval of Other Standards provides for a way for these other standards to become part of an IFOAM “family of standards” within the framework of the IBS. The policy establishes a mechanism for review and evaluation of another standard for consistency with the IBS. The scheme provides for variations from the IBS, but only if these variations meet criteria for variations, which are elaborated in an annex to the Policy. The vision underlying this Policy is for a network of standards that are regionally adapted and achieve both the goals of unity (basic standards) and diversity (local/situational adaptations).

New Structures: The formation of the new Criteria Committee (CC) in 2002 brings the expectation of consistent, continuous development of the IAC, similar to the way in which the IBS have been continuously developed and improved. The World Board appointed the following members to the Criteria Committee in 2002: Coen van Beuningen (Netherlands), Mildred Steidle (Germany), Paddy Dougherty (Canada), Ken Commins (USA), Eva Mattsson (Sweden). The World Board also approved the Terms of Reference for the new Norms Management Committee (NMC), which states that the committee is appointed from the ranks of other key committee structures. WB appointments to this Committee for the first term are: Antonio Compagnoni (WB), Ong Kung Wai (IOAS), Mildred Steidle (CC), Jorge Casale (SC), Johan Ceijie (ACBs). The NMC oversees the administrative functioning of the SC and CC, provides interpretation of the Norms upon request, and identifies possible enhancements to the Organic Guarantee System. The World Board also decided to appoint new members of the Standards Committee in 2002: These appointments are Rod May (Australia), Brian Baker (USA), Huilian Xu (Japan), Eckhard Reiners (Germany), Jorge Casale (Argentina), Tali Berner (Israel), and Alex Beck (Germany). The three OGS committees are staffed by the Organic Guarantee System Manager.

Stepping Out in 2003

With its new structure, personnel, and policies, the OGS is poised to implement new work in 2003. Also on the horizon from 2002 forward is the prospect of IFOAM’s leadership in efforts to achieve international harmonization of government and private organic standards and conformance assessment systems. As 2002 ended, a Steering Committee of IFOAM/IOAS, UNCTAD, and FAO prepared for the startup of an International Task Force on Harmonization, which is envisioned as a joint effort of the government and private sectors to seek a joint and multilateral model for achieving equivalence and fostering trade of organic products.
International Organic Accreditation Services (IOAS)

2002, IFOAM Accreditation Program’s tenth year of operation, was an extremely busy and productive year. The IFOAM Accreditation Program is the practical enforcement mechanism behind the IFOAM Norms and forms the global private guarantee system. The program is implemented under license from IFOAM by the International Organic Accreditation Service, an independent non-profit organisation with headquarters in the USA.

The level of activity was in part related to the high number of applications in late 2001 and early 2002 coinciding with a relatively high number of re-evaluations. 2002 ended with 21 certification bodies IFOAM Accredited with a further 9 at various stages of evaluation. Fourteen full evaluation visits were conducted during the course of the year with a further seven short annual surveillance visits and several foreign operator visits and special investigations.

Geographical spread of IFOAM Accredited Certification Bodies as at December 31, 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Western Europe</th>
<th>Eastern Europe</th>
<th>North America</th>
<th>South America</th>
<th>Asia &amp; Pacific</th>
<th>Middle East</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accredited</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applicant</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As a result of the increasing workload, IOAS took on two new full time staff in February 2002 (Stephanie Goldfinch and Amaia Aldana) bringing their total staff level to six. IOAS now have a presence in the USA, United Kingdom, Spain and Australia.

Personnel changes also took place on the Board and the Accreditation Committee. Franz Rivetti of Italy left the Board and Beate Huber of Germany joined. Meanwhile Denis Paul Bouffard from the Quebec Accreditation Agency (CAQ) and Frank Rumpe of the Swiss certification body Bioinspecta joined the AC, the technical decision making body of the IOAS.

IOAS Personnel as at December 31, 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board of Directors</th>
<th>Accreditation Committee</th>
<th>Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boudewijn van Elzakker (Netherlands)</td>
<td>Michael Sighl (USA)</td>
<td>Ken Commins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Duxbury (UK)</td>
<td>Roberto Ugás (Peru)</td>
<td>Jan Deane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roger Blobaum (USA)</td>
<td>Ahmed El Arably (Egypt)</td>
<td>David Crucefix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ong Kung Wai (Malaysia)</td>
<td>Denis Paul Bouffard (Quebec)</td>
<td>Stephanie Goldfinch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sampsa Heinonen (Finland)</td>
<td>Frank Rumpe (Switzerland)</td>
<td>Amaia Aldana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vitoon Panyakul (Thailand)</td>
<td>Jochen Neuenroth (Germany)</td>
<td>Susan Hepper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beate Huber (Germany)</td>
<td>Vitoon Panyakul (Thailand)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the course of 2002, the IOAS staff has contributed significantly to the efforts of IFOAM for harmonisation at the February 2002 Harmonisation conference and as part of the Task Force for Harmonisation in conjunction with FAO and UNCTAD. A number of other projects relating to Norms comparisons contracted both by IFOAM and governments as well as the launching of other review and accreditation services have used the proven expertise of the program to good effect establishing the IOAS as a clear leader in terms of technical services to the industry.

Meanwhile the IFOAM Accreditation Program has extended its links with the regulatory sector working more closely with national accreditors and in 2002 initiated two processes for peer review - an evaluation by the US based National Institute of Science and Technology and membership of the International Accreditation Forum. The results of both will become clear in 2003.
Financial Report 2002

Budgeting finances seems like a gardener in early spring: he knows what he is sowing, but he does not know how much exactly he will harvest. Nor does he know what specific investments are to come during the course of the year to ensure a proper yield.

Again in 2002 IFOAM was able to obtain a positive overall financial yield. This merely is a result of the economically sound management: conference overhead income, a positive balance of the Harmonization Conference and also a slight increase in membership fees led to a reasonable income increase. Economic investments ensured a positive yield, and were slightly lower than expected.

Income 2002:
IFOAM’s main source of income is the yearly membership fees of it’s affiliates which slightly increased. Book sales are unchanged. Quite a decrease in sales of advertisements was noted in 2002. Noticeable funds were also acquired by the different sponsorship programs for the Harmonization Conference (Nürnberg, February 2002), as well as for the 14th IFOAM Organic World Congress (Canada, August 2002). The I-GO program has successfully accomplished its set goals for the second year of operation and has significantly contributed to the financial stability of the Federation.

Expenses 2002:
A new staff position was established within I-GO, which was filled starting 1st of June 2002. World Board (WB) meeting costs have increased by about 30%, whereas the Executive Board (EB) meeting costs have dropped by almost 50% for 2002. WB and EB Meetings are still significantly sponsored by IFOAM members and partner organizations.

Balance sheet outlook:
In 2002 the WB decided to hire a full time person for project development and donor communication with the objective to increase the financial basis for IFOAM significantly in the years to come.
### IFOAM Income Statement

(€ x 1000)

#### INCOME

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<thead>
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<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>members</td>
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<td>supporters</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Subtotal Fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Services</td>
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<tr>
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<td>booksales + subscription magazine</td>
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<td>advertising Dir+E&amp;F</td>
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<tr>
<td>overhead services</td>
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<td>honorarium &amp; patronage</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
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<td>Projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL INCOME</td>
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#### EXPENDITURES

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</thead>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Norms Management Committee incl. SC + CC</td>
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<td>travel OGSM</td>
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<td>printing costs + book purchase</td>
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<tr>
<td>travelling HO &amp; representation</td>
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<td>move costs</td>
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<td>bank charges</td>
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<td>miscellaneous (ngo membership, ...)</td>
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<td>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</td>
<td>1,057</td>
<td>1,157</td>
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</table>

Operational result
- 93
- 15

Dissolution of reserves
- 12
- 0

Staff reserve
- 90
- 0

Net Result
- 15
- 15
### IFOAM YEAR END BALANCE SHEET

(€ x 1000)

<table>
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<td>TOTAL LIABILITIES</td>
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Monique Fuhrmann, IFOAM's dedicated accountant and bookkeeper
IFOAM’s mission is:

“leading, uniting and assisting
the organic movement in its full diversity.
Our goal is the worldwide adoption
of ecologically, socially and economically
sound systems that are based on the
principles of Organic Agriculture.”
What is organic agriculture?

Organic agriculture is an agricultural system that promotes environmentally, socially and economically sound production of food, fibre, timber etc. In this system soil fertility is seen as the key to successful production. Working with the natural properties of plants, animals and the landscape, organic farmers aim to optimise quality in all aspects of agriculture and the environment. Organic agriculture significantly reduces external inputs by avoiding the use of chemical or synthetic fertilisers, pesticides and pharmaceuticals. Instead it works with nature to increase both agricultural yields and disease resistance. Organic agriculture also includes social considerations in its holistic approach recognising that people are as important as the organic system. Organic agriculture adheres to globally accepted principles, which are implemented in specific social, economic, geo-climatic and cultural contexts. The principle aims of organic production and processing are outlined in the IFOAM Basic Standards. These set out an international framework for organic production and processing.

About IFOAM

With its 750 member organisations in 100 countries, IFOAM unites and represents the worldwide organic agriculture movement. The federation’s main function is to coordinate the international organic movement. IFOAM is a democratic federation with all fundamental decisions taken at its general assemblies, where its World Board is also elected. Members organise themselves according to geographic regions or sector interests. The federation’s activities are also carried out in various committees, working groups and task forces.

Major aims and activities are:
- To provide authoritative information about organic agriculture, and to promote its worldwide application.
- To exchange knowledge (e.g. via conferences, trade-fairs, and publications).
- To represent the organic movement at international policy making forums (IFOAM has for example consultative status with the UN, FAO, UNCTAD, and ILO).
- To establish, maintain and regularly revise the international “IFOAM Basic Standards” (translated so far into 21 languages!) as well as the “IFOAM Accreditation Criteria for Certifying Programmes”.
- To make an agreed international guarantee of organic quality a reality.
- To build a common agenda for all stakeholders in the organic sector, including producers, farm workers, consumers, the food industry, trade and society at large.

What IFOAM has to offer

IFOAM offers many platforms for information exchange e.g. at the Organic World Congress and numerous other international, continental or regional IFOAM events. The magazine “Ecology & Farming”, conference proceedings and other publications are also important information and networking tools. IFOAM’s international lobby activities give the organic movement a voice and influence. IFOAM is implementing a four year project programme known as “I-GO” (IFOAM - Growing Organic) supporting organic movements in developing countries.

Some benefits for IFOAM members and associates

IFOAM, as a federation of organic “movements”, offers affiliate status to associations, institutions, traders etc. that are active in the organic sector. Organisations, whose activities are predominantly organic, are granted voting rights. Others may join as associates while individuals are invited to join IFOAM as supporters.

Some general benefits:
- To participate in IFOAM’s internal organisation
- To benefit from and contribute to IFOAM’s international lobby activities
- To influence and contribute to the standard setting process for the IFOAM Basic Standards and the Accreditation Criteria
- To increase market access via the IFOAM International Organic Guarantee System, which includes the Accreditation Programme and the IFOAM Seal

Direct benefits:
- Subscription to one of the IFOAM’s magazines (English or German)
- The Newsletter “IFOAM-in Action” (English, Spanish or French)
- 20 % discount on IFOAM publications and discount at IFOAM events
- Listing in the IFOAM Directory and a free copy
- Free copy of the IFOAM Basic Standards

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www.ifoam.org  Tel.: +49-6853-919890  Fax: +49-6853-919899  headoffice@ifoam.org
Our Sponsors and Special Supporters

We are grateful to the Canadian Organic Growers (COG), who not only perfectly organized the 14th Organic World Congress, but also hosted a complete World Board meeting in Victoria, Canada. In November, the WB had the pleasure to attend the ‘Go Organic Conference’ in India, its meeting being hosted by the BioDynamic Association of India and the National Government of India. The EB enjoyed Italian Food during its meeting near Vignola, sponsored by AIAB.

IFOAM is grateful for the contributions received by HIVOS and the Biodiversity Fund of the Dutch Ministry for Foreign Affairs, both The Netherlands, for making our I-GO program possible. Thanks to CTA (the Netherlands), BfdW, DÜ and Misereor (all Germany) for sponsoring participants from developing countries to attend the 14th IFOAM World Congress in Canada. And again thanks to CTA for their financial input to our Harmonization Conference (Nürnberg, February 2002). Generous support was also received by Sida, (Sweden) for establishing the International Task Force on Harmonization and Equivalency in Organic Agriculture, a joint initiative by FAO, UNCTAD and IFOAM. Funding from the Schweisfurth-Stiftung made the publication of the GMO brochure possible, and Messe Nuernberg supported the development of the IFOAM video “The World Grows Organic”.

[Logos of sponsors and supporters]