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Promoting the Multifunctional Benefits of Organic

This year’s edition shows the wide and varied scope of activities that both IFOAM staff and World Board Members carry out on behalf of the whole organic sector. The year 2012 is one of great momentum, brimming with events and actions, culminating with the arrival of hundreds of people at the Sustainability Camp in Bonn and the celebration of our 40 Year Anniversary. Additional highlights include the Prime Minister of Bhutan’s speech at our IFOAM event at Rio +20, the 2nd African Organic Conference in Zambia, the IFOAM Animal Husbandry Conference in Hamburg, and our IFOAM Academy leadership course in India.

IFOAM advocacy campaigns promoting the multifunctional benefits of organic systems enjoy significant success on a number of levels.

Our Food Security Campaign is based on putting people before commodities. It demonstrates how good organic practices can improve the yields of small holder farmers, the world’s most food insecure population, making them food secure and reducing poverty. Our Climate Change Campaign uses peer reviewed scientific information to show how good organic practices produce resilience and reliable yields in extreme climate conditions such as droughts and destructive rainfall. Crop failure, resulting from increases in extreme weather events induced by climate change, is a food security issue that affects us all.

Our Biodiversity Campaign is based on the concept of Eco-Functional Intensification. This is where we use applied functional biodiversity to provide crops with both nutrition and protection from pests and diseases rather than using toxic synthetic inputs.

We are particularly active in promoting the universal benefits of Organic Agriculture to governments and the main international organizations that influence agricultural policies, funding, and practices such as the United Nations, the European Union, and the African Union.

By actively participating in international events, we ensure that our messages are heard on and delivered through relevant global platforms. This part of the IFOAM strategy plays a fundamental role in taking the organic alternative to the mainstream.

In closing I would like to thank you for your support. I also hope you enjoy reading this and learning more about the activities we undertake on your behalf.

Andre Leu - IFOAM President

Photo: Launch of the balloon at IFOAM’s 40th Anniversary Celebration
# The Organic World in 2012 at a Glance

The top 50 countries with the largest organic agricultural land, number of organic producers & organic retail sales

## Indicator
- **Countries with data on certified Organic Agriculture**: 162 (2008: 154; 2000: 86)
- **Organic agricultural land**: 37.2 mil. ha (2006: 30.7; 1999: 11)
- **Countries with > 5% organic agricultural land**: 25 (2008: 22)
- **Further, non-agricultural organic areas**: 32.5 mil. ha (2010: 43)
- **Producers**: 1.8 million (2010: 1.6)
- **Organic market size**: $US 62.9 bn. (2008: 50.9; 1999: 15.2)
- **Organic per capita consumption per year**: $US 9 (2009: 8)
- **Countries with organic regulations**: 86 (2008: 73)
- **Organic certifiers**: 576 (as of 2012) (2010: 523)
- **Number of IFOAM Affiliates (as of 01.01.2013)**: 766

## Leading Countries
- **Australia**: (12 mil. ha), **Argentina**: (3.8), **US**: (1.9)
- **Falklands**: (35.9%), **Liechtenstein**: (29.3%), **Austria**: (19.7%)
- **Finland**: (7 mil. ha), **Zambia**: (5.9), **India**: (4.5)
- **India**: (574,591), **Uganda**: (188,625 as of 2010), **Mexico**: (169,570)
- **US**: ($US 29 bn.), **Germany**: (9.2), **France**: (5.2)
- **Switzerland**: ($US 250), **Denmark**: (226), **Luxemburg**: (187)

## Source:
The World of Organic Agriculture 2013, IFOAM and FiBL

Note: Data as of 31.12.2011

Available at www.ifoam.org
The IFOAM Action Group in 2012 at a Glance

The IFOAM Action Group

Global IFOAM

Affiliates

General Assembly

World Board

Committees & Task Forces

Offices

Departments

IFOAM Regional Bodies

IFOAM Sector Platforms

IFOAM Daughters Organizations

IFOAM Asia
Dr. Suh Chong Hyuk

IFOAM AgriBioMediterraneo
Charikleia Minotou

IFOAM France
Vianney Le Pichon

IFOAM Latin America
Patricia Flores

IFOAM EU Group
Christopher Stopes

IFOAM Japan
Katsushige Murayama

IFOAM Amenity Agriculture Alliance
Liu Qingdong

IFOAM Animal Husbandry Alliance
Otto Schmid

IFOAM Aquaculture Group
Stefan Bergleiter

Intercontinental Network of Organic Farmers’ Organisations
Moises Quispe

Technology Innovation Platform of IFOAM
Urs Niggli

Organic Trade Forum
Kari Örjavik

International Organic Accreditation Services
Jan Deane

Organic World Foundation
Andre Leu

David Crucefix
RESUMING THE LEAD

Think-tanking and capacity-building - two core functions at IFOAM - take shape. The concept of Organic Agriculture moves center stage in the global sustainability debate.

IFOAM’s mission is to lead, unite and assist the organic movement in its full diversity. Guiding a large and constantly expanding movement, with limited financial resources, remains a major challenge that often seems insurmountable. Yet despite working on a shoestring budget, we were the first to bring organic advocacy to global institutions such as the UN, and, we instigated and led the global organic guarantee system.

The year 2012 sees IFOAM resuming the lead in sustainability and Organic Agriculture as well as capacity building with the IFOAM Academy introducing training for organic leaders.

SOAAN, the Sustainable Organic Agriculture Action Network, based on a motion of the General Assembly in Korea inspired heated discussions throughout the movement, resulting in an initial draft of the ‘Best Practice Reference’. This is the first detailed description of our aspirations on sustainable agriculture and the value chain. The IFOAM membership will vote on it in 2013.

Novel IFOAM Organic Leadership Courses seek to empower a new generation of organic leaders. The first candidates celebrated their graduation at BioFach India and are now building an alumni network to facilitate both personal success and the global realization of the organic vision. May these future leaders impact the world in the same way that Ana Primavesi, Brazil, Mayor June, Philippines and their fellow One World Award laureates.

Another highlight is the increased recourse to Organic Agriculture by powerful countries and mainstream organizations (e.g., the African and European Unions) as success stories and forward-looking strategies during the Earth Summit Rio+20. In addition, the announcement by the Prime Minister of Bhutan, at an IFOAM side event, that the country has set a goal of completely converting to organic stirs up huge interest and sends ripples of excitement around the world.

Further to the success celebrated in Rio, IFOAM plays a leading role in events in Lusaka, Hamburg, Nuremberg, Shanghai, Bangalore, Bogota, Dhaka, Quatar, Brussels, Addis Ababa, Rome, Baltimore, Tokyo, Dubai, Seoul, Amman, Bonn, Bishkek and Istanbul.
The Organic Umbrella.
Participants flock from across the globe to attend IFOAM’s conferences and join in discussions that contribute to shaping organic practices.

The year 2012 is in many ways marked by events, which the umbrella department either fully organizes or to which it provides its expertise. Early in the year the ‘Let Good Products Flow’ conference of the Global Organic Market Access Project (IFOAM, FAO, UNCTAD) highlights key issues and challenges for organic market access, attracting 114 participants from over 30 countries.

The 2nd IFOAM Animal Husbandry Conference, organized with the von Thünen Institut in Hamburg, Germany, discusses health and food safety in organic livestock production systems, marketing trends, innovation and livestock breeding strategies.

Under the slogan ‘Addressing our Future Today’, the Sustainability Days and subsequent 40 Year Anniversary round off the year with IFOAM spearheading debates while bringing together the organic movement, with some 200 participants from 41 countries.

In its role of service provider to the broader organic and like-minded sector, IFOAM has been able to continuously improve the services provided to event organizers, nine of which sought support from IFOAM in 2012 to maximize the success of their conferences and fairs.

The patronage agreement with the world’s leading organic trade fair BioFach is also renewed.

Internally, the umbrella works across the strategic pillars to provide diverse communication services, blogging ‘Organic without Boundaries’ and tweeting its way into the world of social media, thus broadening its communication platform. The foundations are laid for the launch of a new website, in conjunction with a comprehensive information platform.
ORGANIC ADVOCACY. IFOAM’s advocacy activities in 2012 aim at positioning Organic Agriculture at the center of the global paradigm shift towards sustainable development, and as a key tool for affordably and effectively addressing food security and climate change.

At the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), IFOAM brings together the European Commission, USDA, key UN agencies and global humanitarian organizations such as the World Food Program and the Red Cross to illustrate the potential of Organic Agriculture (OA) as a means of implementing inclusive sustainable development. IFOAM’s science event in Rio outlines the ecological science required to underpin the transition to sustainable agriculture. Fourteen of the 24 thematic sustainable development priorities agreed by governments during Rio+20 are highly relevant to OA. One was ‘Mountains’. IFOAM organizes an event hosted by the Mountain Partnership, which featured ‘organic green economies’ from mountainous regions of Bolivia, Peru and Sri Lanka.

IFOAM’s invitation to participate in the High Level Panel ‘Feed the World - Protect the Planet’ during the IFAD Governing Council, along with the inclusion of OA in the UN’s overarching policy framework for addressing global food security, indicate the growing recognition in Rome of IFOAM and OA in international food security policy processes. During the UN Climate negotiations in Bonn, IFOAM demonstrates its convening power by bringing together FAO, WFP, UNCCD and the CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security to highlight the importance of affordable and people-centered approaches to food security.
**Organic Value Chain.** IFOAM consolidates its OGS deliverables and ventures into new areas of leadership.

In 2012, IFOAM continues the advancement of its Organic Guarantee System (OGS). The development of the IFOAM Norms is a core area of work, with the completion and membership approval of the IFOAM Standard, replacing the long-standing IFOAM Basic Standards (IBS). A new committee is set up and starts work on a major revision of the IFOAM Accreditation Requirements. The accreditation program for certification bodies, linked to the IFOAM Family of Standards, is re-branded into the IFOAM Global Organic System Accreditation (IGOSA). The first Global Organic Mark contracts are signed.

The Harmonization and Equivalence work continues with a wrap-up of the Global Organic Market Access (GOMA) project. The project has a particularly significant impact in Asia and the Pacific, where 6 government organic standards are assessed against the COROS/IFOAM Standards Requirements. One of them (the Pacific Organic Standard) is approved for the IFOAM Family of Standards, and a new regional standard based on the COROS, is finalized and published: the Asian Regional Organic Standard (AROS).

IFOAM continues to play an advocacy role for the improvement of guarantee systems globally, such as with advocacy activities towards the EU regulation revision process, the Codex organic guidelines and the PGS program for Bhutan.

Welcoming new staff members to the Value Chain team makes it possible for IFOAM to embrace new work areas, the main one being Sustainability and Best Practices. IFOAM and partner organizations launch the Sustainable Organic Agriculture Action Network (SOAAN) and draft a Best Practice Reference document that will serve as an inspiration to the entire organic movement and beyond. Stakeholders hold numerous discussions about this process during the Sustainability Days in Bonn. Another new venture for IFOAM is the exploration of an IFOAM-supported global organic certification database.

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`Moments Forts`
- Launch of SOAAN
- Approval of the AROS
- PGS well featured in Rio+20 conferences
- Approval of IFOAM Standard
- Sustainability Days in Bonn

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One Earth, One Future: Resuming the Lead
Organic Programs. Capacity-building and serving the sector where it matters.

The IFOAM Programs Pillar has the vision and strategy to deliver services and expertise in strategic partnerships with members worldwide. The principle of creating measurable impact across the organic value chain is foremost in our mind. Projects where we achieved this kind of impact include:

- **OSEA II**: The aim of the Regional Cooperation for Organic Standards and Certification Capacity in East Africa (OSEA) is to take Organic Agriculture and trade to the next level in East Africa: not only export of products – which has been a success story for the last number of years, especially in Uganda - but the promotion of local markets, alternative guarantee systems like PGS, and the increased awareness and use of the East African Organic Products Standard and Kilimohai organic mark. Training, promotions and capacity building of organic movements took place, successfully linking regional stakeholders, producers and consumers to growing local markets and increasing the acceptance and consumption of locally produced organic products.

- **BOKK project**: The first year of the Bridges for Organic Knowledge in Korea (BOKK) project was successfully implemented, despite many challenges and obstacles in 2012; cooperation with our Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) counterpart the Pyongyang International Information Center for New Technology and Economy (PIINTEC) is strengthened; activities such as a study tour in China lead to a better understanding of the organic sector among the target group and to opportunities for networking with Organic Agriculture stakeholders from the region, and outside the country.

- **OFIA Award**: IFOAM and the Korean Rural Development Administration (RDA) initiated the Organic Farming Innovation Award (OFIA) in remembrance of the Organic World Congress (OWC) 2011. OFIA honors organic innovations and is awarded every three years at the OWC. In 2012, the first OFIA summit takes place in Hamburg and publishes a declaration on suggested research priorities. The Programs pillar aims to continue its impact-focused approach in 2013, with new projects ready for implementation, and other, current projects reaching a conclusion.
The IFOAM Academy concludes its initial year with the graduation of the first Leadership Group at Biofach India in December 2012. The Organic Leadership Course (OLC) is the first project launched and implemented by the Academy, and resulted in 14 participants from seven South Asian countries successfully graduating from this course.

The OLC utilizes a participatory methodology, coupled with the inclusion of regional experts across the value chain. This provides a diversity of approaches and a variety of views to challenge and inspire the next generation of leaders. OLC participants conclude their training by presenting their development plans, flowing from personal research coupled with the knowledge gained during the training. Their plans cover a wide range of topics: Training and research activity in India, local market development in Nepal, advocacy in Sri Lanka and online knowledge system access for Indian farmers, to name but a few. This training and development has its feet on fertile ground and the potential to make an impact in the real world of Organic Agriculture development.

An important aspect of this training is not just the gaining of knowledge, skills and leadership attitude, but the network created by this group of OLC Alumni. This network building augurs well for key activities such as regional advocacy, co-operation, knowledge sharing and strengthening our strong and effective regional footprint.

The IFOAM Academy also developed a curriculum for the training of extension officers in South Korea (in partnership with the Korean Rural Development Agency). In tandem with further OLC Courses in regions across the globe, this pillar is fulfilling its vision to strengthen our network’s capacity to lead, assist and unite the global organic world.
The IFOAM Action Group Takes OFF

The year 2012 sees the concept of Self-organized Structures (SoS) greeted with great interest by the organic world and marks the expansion of the IFOAM Action Group into new sectors and regions. Located in China, the IFOAM Amenity Agriculture Alliance (IAAA) is established as a SoS. World Board approval is also given to the setting up of IFOAM Asia with offices to be based in Korea and India as well as the IFOAM Animal Husbandry Alliance (IAHA) and the Technology Innovation Platform of IFOAM (TIPI).

In addition, several other initiatives find themselves at various stages of the decision-making process in setting up an SoS. Two membership meetings take place in the Middle East namely in Jordan and the UAE. The suggestion for two new offices, in Abu Dhabi and Tehran, is put forward for World Board consideration with a decision expected in 2013.

The membership in Southern Africa discusses the possibility of building a regional body, which would qualify as a SoS. Other initiatives such as Community Supported Agriculture and Young Organics are also appraising the opportunity of becoming a SoS.

At the same time a harmonization of SoS names takes place accompanied by the signing of new contracts with Global IFOAM. IFOAM France, previously known as the ASAFI initiative, is the first body to confirm its name change and status, followed by IFOAM Latin America, previously known as GALCI, and IFOAM AgriBioMediterraneo, previously known as AgriBioMediterraneo.

Following intense deliberations about its scope and resources, the Organic Retailer Association (ORA) decides, unfortunately, to disband.

Further changes in 2012 include the implementation of a new membership fee structure where funds are collected specifically for regional development. This ensures proactive and targeted financial support throughout Global IFOAM, the impact of which will be compiled in a report for the next General Assembly.

Yet, these are only the first steps in the realization of the SoS concept and the IFOAM Action Group looks forward to welcoming more Self-organized Structures into its network.
IFOAM’s Regional Bodies

IFOAM AgriBioMediterraneo (ABM). ABM is an IFOAM regional body, founded in 1997 and made up of 17 Mediterranean countries. 2012 is an active year for ABM consisting of several exhibitions and competitions.

AgriBioMediterraneo (ABM) started in 1990 as a voluntary initiative, became an official IFOAM regional group in 1997, and a Self-organized Structure in 2012. It brings together 17 Mediterranean countries: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Macedonia, Morocco, Palestine, Portugal, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey. In 2012, ABM participates and presents in the Ecofestival exhibition in Athens, Greece and also attends the ‘Organic Days in Cyprus’. Once again ABM is involved in the promotion of the BIOL prize, a competition dedicated to the best extra virgin organic olive oils as well as the BIOLMIEL competition, an international competition for organic honey. Promotion of BIOLMIEL was particularly successful with an unprecedented number of organic beekeepers participating.

IFOAM Asia. Representation of the organic movement throughout Asia becomes a reality.

In June 2012, 18 leaders of the organic movements in Asia from 13 countries met to discuss the need for the formation of a regional organic alliance in Asia. After a two-day discussion consensus was reached that the regional alliance would be a Self-organized Structure under the umbrella of IFOAM and be known as ‘IFOAM Asia’.

IFOAM Asia is then formally approved by the World Board on November 24th, 2012. The inaugural General Assembly of IFOAM Asia will be held on June 28th, 2013 at the Namyangju Organic Museum in South Korea.

Working in synergy with Global IFOAM, IFOAM Asia’s vision is to more effectively further the organic movement. It is open to all IFOAM affiliates and other stakeholders of Organic Agriculture in Asia.

Projects in 2013 include the hosting of the IFOAM Academy East Asia and Southeast Asia.
**IFOAM France**. 10 years of concerted action for organic.

Established in 2004 under the name AsAFI, the association of French members of IFOAM brings together the full spectrum of stakeholders of the French organic sector. Its mission is to strengthen interaction between French organic players in order to better defend their vision of agriculture in their exchanges with other countries. In 2012 AsAFI is formally recognized as a Self-organized Structure, under the name IFOAM France. IFOAM France is actively involved with other European countries in the development of organic regulations and policies. Through IFOAM EU, French representatives take part in many meetings to build together positions based on the principles and interests of Organic Agriculture to be presented to the European Commission. Pressure groups are numerous and agreement with other European countries is often difficult to find. In the context of the revision of the regulation on organic greenhouse production in 2012, IFOAM France strongly defended the methods commonly adopted in Southern Europe. In line with this, debates around technical, economic and social topics are ongoing to limit the use of heating and fertilization, following organic principles.

IFOAM France aims to strengthen its position at a national level, increase international visibility and promote the Organic Agriculture to a greater audience.

**IFOAM EU Group**. Busy and successful on the legislative scene.

The primary objective of IFOAM EU is to advocate for the interests of the organic movement and help mobilize organic advocacy in EU States.

8 IFOAM EU representatives are invited by the European Commission (EC) to speak at hearings to evaluate a review of existing EU Organic Regulations. IFOAM EU urges the EC to focus on improving specific areas such as controls and imports, and ask for a new EU organic action plan. They make clear that a full regulation review would only lead to uncertainty, given that a regulation ((EC) No 834/2007) came into force in 2009.

IFOAM EU proposes amendments to Horizon 2020, the EU research and innovation framework program. IFOAM EU and TP Organics – the technology platform for organic food and farming in Europe – work together to strengthen organics in the next framework program and increase funds allocated directly to organic research.

The EU Group welcomes an EC declaration of organic farmers as “green” by definition in its proposal to Council and Parliament for the post-2013 Common Agriculture Policy.

Another key success is the adoption of rules for organic wine processing, allowing organic wine labeling in the EU – and implementing IFOAM EU’s recommendations 100%.

Advocacy is most effective when there is strong sector support. Therefore, IFOAM EU starts additional efforts to increase visibility of its work, further engage European organic stakeholders and expand membership in the lead up to its 10th anniversary (2013). Together, we are *Making Europe More Organic.*
IFOAM LATIN AMERICA. Towards diversity.

The Latin American organic movement aims for a diverse landscape to produce healthy and diverse staple food as a reflection of its cultural and biological diversity. In line with the implementation of the concept of Self-organized Structures, GALCI is renamed to IFOAM Latin America in 2012. IFOAM Latin America continues supporting Participatory Guarantee Systems, and local market development within the framework of Family Agriculture (Smallholder Agriculture).

IFOAM Latin America takes full advantage of Rio+20 actively taking part in discussions and conferences, and advocating to a large and diverse audience the several opportunities Organic Agriculture offers to the world.

Looming GMO liberalization is also high on the organic agenda with many but not all governments giving in to political pressure. IFOAM Latin America is and will continue to work hard with national multi stakeholder platforms to bring GMO liberalization to a halt.

IFOAM JAPAN. Still battling the effects of the Fukushima fallout.

Though no longer omnipresent in the public eye, the impact of the earthquake and subsequent nuclear reactor accident is of course still very much part of daily life for many in Japan.

Numerous organic producers face serious financial problems since consumers do not want to buy products from farms with a certain proximity to Fukushima. IFOAM Japan is active here on a number of levels. They advise producers and organic specialized distributors to invest in equipment so that they can test the levels of radioactivity in their products. As soon as results show that the products are safe to eat, they are involved in communicating this all-important message to consumers. Building consumer confidence is a mammoth task and failure to restore consumer confidence is very likely to endanger the livelihoods of numerous farmers.

Yet it is not only here that farmers need assistance. Compensation for losses incurred is also a major issue. A national congress examining just this is also called into action, and IFOAM Japan is one of the few organic sector representatives to have a seat here.

From a training perspective, IFOAM Japan hosts a seed seminar offering new organic farmers insight on the importance of and methods used to preserve home grown seeds. Facilitating the extension of Organic Agriculture in such seminars plays a crucial role in keeping Japan free of GMO seeds. On a policy-making level, IFOAM Japan continues its efforts to improve the standing of Organic Agriculture in Japanese legislature so that it is no longer seen in the same vein as conventional agriculture.

One Earth, One Future: IFOAM’s Self-organized Structures
Recreation agriculture takes center stage.

On May 25, 2012 in Shanghai, China, 55 people were welcomed to the launch and signing ceremony of the IFOAM Self-organized structure, the IFOAM Amenity Agriculture Alliance (IAAA).

This event marked the realization of an idea first voiced in 2009. Amenity agriculture covers all forms of agriculture used for parks, gardens, sporting fields, golf courses, resorts, hotels, roadsides and other public areas where plants are grown. The IAAA, which now builds the platform for worldwide recreation agriculture, extends the concept of eating pesticide free to relaxing in pesticide free environments. On a regional level it provides more work for local organic farmers and entire communities benefit from spending their free time in cleaner parks and leisure facilities. The IAAA also initiated the Amenity Agriculture Fund, which should get full approval in March 2013. The year 2013 will be the first complete year of operation for this new alliance which is headquartered in Beijing and supported by the Chinese Government. Approximately 300 members from around the world are expected to join.

It builds working forums initiated by core group members or other IAAA participants to address certain issues. The core group compiles the results of the working group and makes them available to interested parties.

One key activity in 2012 is the 2nd IFOAM Animal Husbandry Conference, in Hamburg where questionnaires are distributed to gather information which is subsequently published in a report. Planning also gets underway for an IAHA newsletter, which plans to discuss a wide range of topics including breeding concepts, alternatives to antibiotics treatments, and more outcome oriented animal husbandry control and monitoring.
**IFOAM Aquaculture Group. A voice for protecting aquatic resources.**

The IFOAM Aquaculture Group is a Self-organized Structure (SoS) bringing together members interested in organic aquaculture. It represents IFOAM Affiliates working in aquaculture within and beyond IFOAM and aims to facilitate the exchange of information between Affiliates.

The year 2012 sees the IFOAM SoS prepare contributions to the Codex Alimentarius which was established by FAO and WHO. This process continues into 2013.
**Technology Innovation Platform of IFOAM (TIPI).** The establishment of TIPI is announced at Rio+20 and brings together over 35 members.

An initiative welcomed by the entire organic sector, TIPI already has over 35 research institutes as members. It aims to encourage more global research projects on the impact Organic Agriculture can have on issues such as food security and ecosystem degradation, as well as social and economic discrimination of farmers. TIPI is a platform for all who benefit from research and who want to become involved in the further evolution of organic farming research: farmers, rural communities, food processors and traders, and of course scientists. It makes the power of organic research concepts and the diversity of activities more visible on a global level.

TIPI will hold its first board meeting in 2013.

**The Intercontinental Network of Organic Farmers’ Organisations (INOFO).** At the heart of the Rio+20 debates.

The Intercontinental Network of Farmers’ Organizations (INOFO) was called into action to represent farmers from the five continents and facilitate inter-organization consultation.

From Rome to Rio, the year 2012 is filled with activities where INOFO plays a significant role. Rome sets the scene for the fourth global meeting of the farmers’ forum. The official INOFO side event is a great success with networking opportunities galore.

The participation in Rio+20 of a small delegation of farmers is made possible thanks to financial support from FAO via La Via Campesina and Associazione Italiana per l’Agricoltura Biologica (AIAB). The delegation engages in dialogue with several other organizations and builds important relationships.

INOFO also participates in a EU call for proposals titled ‘Participation for Governance in Food Security’. The application scores high but unfortunately it is not enough to guarantee the award of the grant.

Throughout the year INOFO is kept busy confirming or renewing the mandates of conveners and delegates of organic farmers’ organizations for the Organic World Congress 2014. These delegates will represent their organization(s) at the INOFO General Assembly and present to Congress the best practices of organic farmers from around the world.
IOAS. Celebrating 15 years of success with over 50 certifiers worldwide.

Since its establishment by IFOAM in 1997, the International Organic Accreditation Service (IOAS) has enjoyed consistent and sustainable growth. It continues to build a strong and credible reputation worldwide and is a sought after partner in the organic sector and beyond. One major landmark set in 2012 is the establishment of core values, which underlie how IOAS works.

The IOAS believes in:
- contributing to the well-being of people and our planet
- quality of work
- integrity
- innovation

These values reflect how IOAS services are evolving in the sustainable agriculture sector and the new partnerships they are entering, for example with the Sustainable Agriculture Network (SAN)/Rain Forest Alliance and COSMOS AISBL. Over a period of 2 years IOAS worked with SAN/RA to develop an accreditation system that met both the needs of SAN/RA and complies with international guidelines on accreditation.

Since June 2012, IOAS is the designated accreditation body assessing and monitoring certification bodies wishing to provide certification in line with the SAN standards.

The COSMOS scheme is a further addition offered by IOAS in 2012. The scheme extends activities into the fast developing organic and natural cosmetics sector.

The Organic World Foundation (OWF).

The Organic World Foundation is a fully owned subsidiary and registered charity, actively supporting IFOAM in securing funding for core activities as well as increasing awareness of the benefits of organic production the world over.

The year 2012 sees some changes in the Board of Trustees. The OWF bids farewell to Katherine De Matteo, Urs Niggli and Jacqueline Haessig and welcomes Frank Eyhorn, Volkert Engelsman as well as Andre Leu as Chair of the Board.

The Four Spheres of Activity are defined as: Leadership Capacity Building; Research & Extension; Global Advocacy; and Media Outreach. These spheres will play a role in promoting the solutions Organic Agriculture can bring to the diverse challenges faced by humankind, nature and the environment by providing education, organic facts and figures, ensuring the organic voice is heard and building relations to promote accurate media reporting of Organic Agriculture. The OWF is committed to assisting IFOAM realize its vision and is grateful for donations, pledges and bequeaths.
Organic Producers. Global advocacy discussions may seem virtual and abstract. In the long run they are relevant and have an impact on farming. We give two examples of IFOAM’s commitments.

Global Organic Market Access

Farmers exporting their products as organic have to comply with both domestic rules and those of the country of destination. If the same farmer wants to sell products to several export markets, the situation can become very complicated: multiple certifications to multiple standards, while the certifier needs multiple accreditations. This is costly and the farmer foots the bill. Over a decade ago, IFOAM and partners (e.g. FAO and UNCTAD) began lobbying governments for the harmonization and acceptance of each other’s rules based on equivalence instead of compliance. This activity, now known as the GOMA project and financed by Norad, concludes in 2012 with a major conference. More recently, major players such as the EU, USA, Canada and Switzerland are reaching agreement on equivalence. Australia and the EU now accept imports based on equivalent systems from anywhere in the world. Largely as a result of GOMA’s work (37 out of 83 countries with organic regulations participated in the process), the attitudes of regulating countries and their approach has shifted, but more is still needed to make life easier for farmers, certification more affordable, and, organic farming more adapted to local conditions. In 2013, the United Nations is launching a Forum on Sustainability Standards (UNFSS) where GOMA will be taken as a shining example of reducing non-tariff trade barriers for the benefit of producers.

Organic Africa Center Stage to Hivos Evaluation

Hivos, a long-standing IFOAM supporter, has made unparalleled investments in our work. Using an external evaluator, they wanted to see how effective IFOAM is and examined the work carried out in Africa, particularly in Kenya and Zambia. They came to 44 outcomes (defining an outcome as a visible change supporting the development of Organic Agriculture), which are representative of our achievements in 2008-2012. They concluded, amongst others, that where IFOAM obtained funding to support a project such as OSEA—in five East African countries—rapid development of the organic sector with buy in from governments to develop policies supporting Organic Agriculture can be noted. They also recommend that this success be repeated in Western and Southern Africa.
Short supply chains and local food are now the object of various campaigns and initiatives, particularly in the US and Europe, the strongest organic markets. Such campaigns are often supported by governments and public authorities. In the US, the USDA hosts the campaign ‘Know your Farmer, Know your Food’, while the EU Commission organized in April 2012 a conference on ‘Local agriculture and short food supply chains’.

The organic movement is well positioned in this trend, with the concept of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) being most often associated with organic practices. This concept is spreading rapidly, both in terms of growth within established markets (e.g. US, France, Germany), and in terms of new initiatives developing in other regions of the world (e.g. Eastern Europe, Africa). Urgenci, the international network of CSA is particularly active in 2012 and is among the finalists of the Food Sovereignty Prize 2012.

Urban gardening, perhaps the most consolidated approach to short supply chains, attracts much interest, and is increasingly associated with the Organic Agriculture movement. Particularly in Asia, urban agriculture is a growing topic, while the first ‘Urban Agriculture Summit’ took place in Canada. The Transition Towns movement, spreading rapidly across the globe, is another catalyst of organic urban agriculture initiatives.

In Korea the Hansalim Coop has an annual income of $200 million and enables several thousand smallholder farmers to receive incomes that are higher than the average Korean income and around 300,000 families (1,200,000 consumers) to receive the best quality, fresh, local, organic food at prices that are the same or lower than conventional food in supermarkets.

Within the organic movement itself, the value of short supply chains and local food is being better acknowledged, particularly in the context of SOAAN sustainability discussions. SOAAN’s draft reference document describing best practices that lead to sustainability already states: “A more locally self-sufficient production-consumption system is more sustainable”. IFOAM’s continued work to support Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS) is also particularly relevant to supporting this trend with effective and accessible organic assurance, focusing on local markets and stronger links between producers and consumers.

Changes in individual preferences and priorities, supported by collective initiatives, are the main factors influencing this trend. However, in some contexts regulatory changes may also reinforce it. This could be the case with the new Chinese organic regulation, which makes formal organic certification so difficult to access for smallholders that the move towards alternative marketing mechanisms and assurance systems such as CSAs and even PGS becomes necessary.
Organic Services and Development. IFOAM, its strategic pillars, global action network and great diversity of affiliates worldwide represent a cross-section of Organic Agriculture. We reflect a diversity of approaches, areas of focus and scopes of activity.

Apart from representing this diverse network, spearheading new initiatives to mainstream Organic Agriculture, bringing the world to recognize the importance of sustainability as well as conscious and responsible agricultural development, 2012 also sees IFOAM establishing its Academy for Leadership, increase its activities in services in Central Europe by assisting the Kyrgyzstan organic movement in developing a National Action Plan and advising the Azerbaijani organic sector in export strategy for commodity crops to the EU.

In order to make a difference, to improve livelihoods, develop a real alternative to the incumbent paradigm of industrialized agriculture and offer support to emerging and established farmers, IFOAM remains involved in grassroots activity.

The further development of the regional and Self-organized Structures has taken a front seat since OWC 2011.

By strengthening our regional offices, and supporting the development of Self-organized structures, the impact of a global organization is becoming more relevant and substantially more measurable on a local level.

By developing an integrated advocacy strategy and partnering with not only organic and organic-minded organizations, but also with partners outside of our traditional sphere of influence, we are becoming more relevant and at the same time more effective in moving towards the goal of 100% adoption of Organic Agriculture.

By focusing on projects that create real and measurable impact on production, markets, locally relevant standards and livelihood improvement, we can improve our visibility and our desirability as a productive and relevant partner to our affiliates and supporters worldwide.

By continuing the path towards global organic market access by harmonizing standards, creating tools to facilitate equivalence, and by assisting organic sectors globally to develop regionally appropriate and trade-friendly standards, our Organic Value Chain pillar is having a real and valuable impact on the capacity of the organic world to contribute to the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of people and societies.
One World, One Future: Organic for Sustainability.

Organic Agriculture offers a holistic perspective on agriculture, land use and their societal and cultural settings; it represents a serious and necessary alternative to the dominant agricultural paradigm.

In November 2012, IFOAM celebrated its 40th anniversary on the back of the four-day ‘Sustainability Days’. The positive turnout for this event - some 200 registrations and 40 attendees from over 40 countries via livestream - bear witness to the strong interest in partaking in an in-depth discussion of sustainable agriculture guidelines and policy recommendations for the sector. The discussion rounds on sustainability are broken down into multiple expert workshops, keynote speeches and a field trip, before transitioning to a public discussion forum, where renowned international leaders of sustainability share their practical experiences in close-up, personal meetings with participants. The forum culminates in a Declaration of the conclusions of these four days of exchange.

With ‘sustainability’ increasingly used as a buzzword by non-organic mainstream players, the articulation of the qualitative difference that sets the organic approach to sustainability apart from the conventional approach becomes a necessity. Sustainability, from an organic perspective, offers a holistic approach on agriculture, land use and their societal and cultural settings. It advances the cultural element, which seeks to address diversity, inspiration and knowledge capital as a key differentiating aspect.

The reference document worked on by the Sustainable Organic Agriculture Action Network (SOAAN) and other organic expert practitioners during the ‘Sustainability Camp’ is intended to become a reference document for interested parties in the organic world and beyond. Sustainability is dynamic, open to permanent improvement, and context-specific: the way it is applied may depend on who is applying it, where and when it is applied.

With the Sustainability Days, IFOAM took the lead to bring the organic movement into the global discussions on sustainability, reaching like-minded opinion makers...
beyond our organic family and celebrating the diversity of our movement.

The 40th Anniversary Celebration provides an opportunity to look back on the road IFOAM has travelled and look forward to the road that lies ahead.

IFOAM has come a long way since its first Assembly in Versailles, held during the 1972 congress of the Nature et Progrès association, where five organizations signed the founding of IFOAM: In 1972 organic practitioners were regarded as a fringe element, in opposition to modern, scientific agriculture. Now, with ever-increasing amounts of costly inputs needed to maintain yields, many of our pioneering methods such as composting, green manuring, crop rotations and mulching are being adopted.

In 40 years IFOAM has continuously worked towards the attainment of a number of milestones – the Definition of Organic Agriculture, the articulation of the Principles of Organic Agriculture – and has set the benchmarks for organic standards, with most national standards having used the IFOAM Basic Standard as a reference. But without the dedication of the members of our movement who participate on committees, task forces or serve on our World Board, the achievement of these milestones and benchmarks would simply not have been possible.

Our movement has grown, standing today for a sector worth over $60 billion. Still, it continues to actively define the development of IFOAM and the organic sector worldwide, as seen in the strong interest in the redefinition of the complex area of sustainability in organic systems during the Sustainability Days.

IFOAM’s role as the organic lighthouse, identifying areas that require attention, reassessing old values and premises, and serving as a catalyst for change, is still as valid today as it was 40 years ago. And in this context, the importance of participatory processes that seek to draw on the expertise and experience of organic and like-minded stakeholders remains unaltered.
One Earth, One Future: Our Messages

Sustainability in agriculture is our vision. Worldwide. We have achieved a lot. Now is the time to initiate the next steps for continuous improvements on all levels: From local farms to global coordination.

Organic pioneers passionately set out to change the world. Decades later, organic farming can look back on considerable success with 80 million ha certified land, 1.8 million certified farmers and US$ 63 billion turnover. Beyond these figures there is also a substantial amount of non-certified organic production. We have established standards and verification systems that are recognized and respected throughout the sector. Our labels have won the trust of billions of consumers who are willing to buy organic despite higher prices. We have examples of systems in which biodiversity is enriched, carbon is sequestered, nutrient and energy cycles are closed, people’s welfare is ensured, universal wealth creation is on the rise and cultural expression is rich. However, fraud is an issue, soil fertility stagnates in some places and organic operators have to make compromises to be able to compete in the market. Conventional agriculture improved and copied certain organic practices. It even adopted some of our language. What’s more non-organic labeling schemes – even though none of them are considered equally ambitious – now promise customers sustainable production.

We actively contribute to solutions that tackle international, environmental and social challenges (e.g. food security or climate change). Our goal is the global uptake of Organic Agriculture (presently < 1%) and the achievement of the functional integrity of our systems. Therefore, Organic Agriculture must expand and improve its own sustainability. Organic farming has to remain affordable and, at the same time, credible. The price premium for organic products is a key element in balancing development priorities. Excessively high production requirements, driven by too fast standard developments, result in too high prices. If the pace of sustainability development, driven by innovations and standards, is too slow, Organic Agriculture will come under public pressure and lose its position as a credible alternative to conventional production. The optimal balance needs to be defined locally. The higher the uptake of Organic Agriculture and the less wealthy a society, the less prominent price premiums can be.

The expansion of Organic Agriculture largely depends on its attractiveness to farmers who may adopt organic systems for many reasons including: market demand; economics; health; necessity, food security, sustainability & ideology; and policies. The Earth Summit Rio+20 with its 50,000 participants was highly disappointing, but the case for organic received a behind the scenes push.
IFOAM AWARDS. The alternative systems we advocate do exist. Be inspired by IFOAM’s awardees. Innovate to scale up.

THE ORGANIC FARMING INNOVATION AWARD.
Recent developments show dynamic growth in organic markets yet with a fairly slow new uptake of organic by farmers. Organic Agriculture yes, but how can organic methods solve farming problems, such as fertilization, plant protection or animal health? To encourage creative thinking, IFOAM and the Rural Development Administration (RDA) of South Korea initiated the Organic Farming Innovation Award (OFIA) with its annual OFIA summit (2012 in Hamburg, 2013 in Lima).

ONE WORLD AWARD: SUSTAINABILITY IN PRACTICE.
The One World Award (OWA) winners prove implementation is possible. Ana Primavesi (92, Brazil) received the Lifetime Achievement Award for her decisive, pioneering role in promoting Organic Agriculture and agroecology in Latin America. Without Ana, the organic world would be deprived of several insights into the relationship between healthy soil and a humane agriculture.

Nacianceno M. Pacalioga, known as Major Jun from the Philippines is the OWA winner 2012. His visionary commitments to promoting Organic Agriculture and rural development in his municipality are groundbreaking and he is a perfect example of ‘good governance’. The other OWA finalists were Nazmi Ilicali from Turkey, Premanjali Rao from India, Elba Rivera from Nicaragua and Humberto Rios from Cuba.
We thank all our Affiliates, Donors, Clients, Supporters and Volunteers.

**Strategic Partners:**

- Weingut Bäcker, Yerlim

**Projects**

- **Over 500,000€**
  - Sida, Sweden
- **Over 250,000€**
  - Norad, Norway
- **100,000-250,000€**
  - EU Commission
  - Hivos, Netherlands
- **50,000-100,000€**
  - RDA, South Korea
  - SSNC, Switzerland
- **10,000-50,000€**
  - BLE, Germany
  - Migros, Switzerland
  - Stiftung Umwelt und Entwicklung NRW, Germany
  - Stiftung Internationale Begegnung der Sparkasse in Bonn, Germany
- **5,000-10,000€**
  - CFC, Netherlands
  - Rapunzel, Germany
  - Zukunftsstiftung Landwirtschaft, Germany
- **1,000-5,000€**
  - AIAF, Italy

**Clients**

- **50,000-100,000€**
  - Biologische Bundesanstalt für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Germany
- **10,000-50,000€**
  - BNS, Switzerland
- **5,000-10,000€**
  - Federation of Organic Development, Kyrgyzstan
  - Inner Mongolia Yili, P.R. of China
  - Organic Valley, USA

**In kind donations:**

- **Sida, Germany**
- **Zukunftsstiftung Landwirtschaft, Rapunzel, Germany**
- **CFC, Netherlands**
- **RDA, South Korea**
- **UNALM, Peru**
- **der Sparkasse in Bonn, Germany**
- **Stiftung Internationale Begegnung NRW, Germany**
- **Stiftung Umwelt und Entwicklung NRW, Germany**
- **Sida, Sweden**
- **500,000€**
- **RDA, South Korea**
- **SSNC, Switzerland**
- **BNS, Cyprus**
- **Inka Boehncke, Germany**
- **S. Dahal, India**
- **Sidavuna Abalimi Dev. Centre, South Africa**
- **Slices Restaurant and Cafe, U.A.E.**
- **Donations**
  - **1,000-5,000€**
    - Alnatura, Germany
    - Aurora, USA
    - BioSuisse, Switzerland
    - Biovision, Switzerland
    - Helvetas, Switzerland
    - Tradin, Netherlands
  - **100-1,000€**
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    - CCOF, USA
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    - Henry Short, Australia
    - Inka Boehncke, Germany
    - Inka Sachse, Germany
    - Lebensbaum, Germany
    - Lizzie Jespersen, Denmark
    - One World ace (P Ltd.), Nepal
  - **Up to 100€**
    - Kamut, Germany
    - Slices Restaurant and Cafe, U.A.E.

**Financial & Thanks**

**NATURE OF COST**

**Income & Expenses (€ x 1000)**

**Income**

- Contributions & fees: 376
- Donations: 11
- Other income: 251
- Project income: 1,315
- Interest Income: 2

**Expenses**

- Personnel expenses: 812
- Administrative expenses: 203
- Internal structures: 24
- Self-organized Structures: 43
- Other expenses: 56
- Depreciation: 7
- Project expenses: 801

**Income before taxes:**

- 1,918

**Taxes:**

- 125

**Annual Net Income:**

- 118

**Retained Earnings brought forward:**

- 53

**Liquidation from appropriated reserves:**

- 130

**Transfer to appropriated reserves:**

- 35

**Net Retained Earnings to bring forward:**

- 53

**BALANCE SHEET (€ x 1000)**

**Assets**

- **A. Fixed Assets**
  - 20
- **B. Current Assets**
  - Trading stock: 7
  - Other current assets: 53
  - Bank accounts: 1,206
- **C. Prepaid Expenses**
  - 5
- **1,292**

**Equity & Liabilities**

- **A. Equity**
  - Appropriated reserves: 283
  - Net Income: 28
- **B. Provisions**
  - Tax Provisions: 7
  - Other Provisions: 11
- **C. Liabilities**
  - Trade Payables: 132
  - Other liabilities: 17
- **D. Deferred Income**
  - 813
  - **1,292**
IFOAMorganic 2012: selected tweets

@IFOAMorganic:

"Organic for young girls & women: each girl has the right to lead a healthy & full life! #IFOAM40 #FOSS #MWM."

"Organic food & systems for #foodsecurity, #nutrition & #environment. #IFOAM40 #GM."