



MAKING EUROPE MORE ORGANIC

▶ A SHORT OVERVIEW OF IFOAM EU'S
PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE WORK

JOIN US!

▶ IFOAM EU IS THE EUROPEAN UMBRELLA ORGANISATION FOR ORGANIC FOOD AND FARMING. WE FIGHT FOR THE ADOPTION OF ECOLOGICALLY, SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY SOUND SYSTEMS BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE – HEALTH, ECOLOGY, FAIRNESS AND CARE.

With more than 190 member organisations our work spans the entire organic food chain and beyond: from farmers and processors, retailers, certifiers, consultants, traders and researchers to environmental and consumer advocacy bodies.

TRANSFORMING FOOD AND FARMING – MAKING IT HAPPEN

The organic movement is setting the stage for fair, environmentally conscious, healthy and caring food and farming systems across the globe. In the EU, we are making our Vision 2030 happen using our Roadmap to Sustainable Food and Farming Systems in Europe.

VISION 2030

- ORGANIC ON EVERY TABLE**
- IMPROVE INSPIRE DELIVER**
- FAIR PLAY FAIR PAY**

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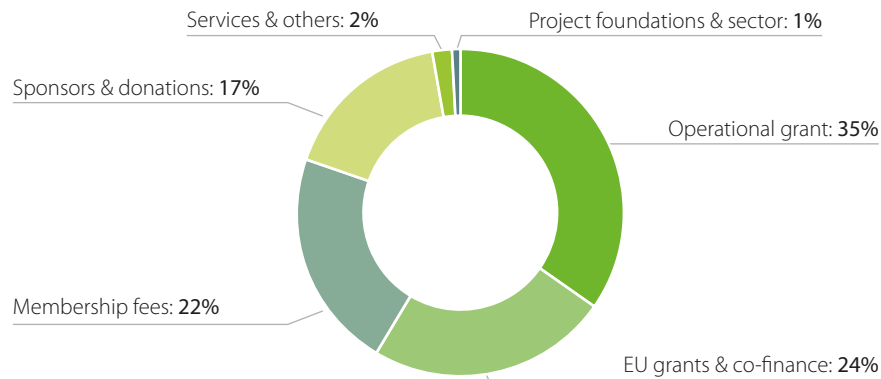


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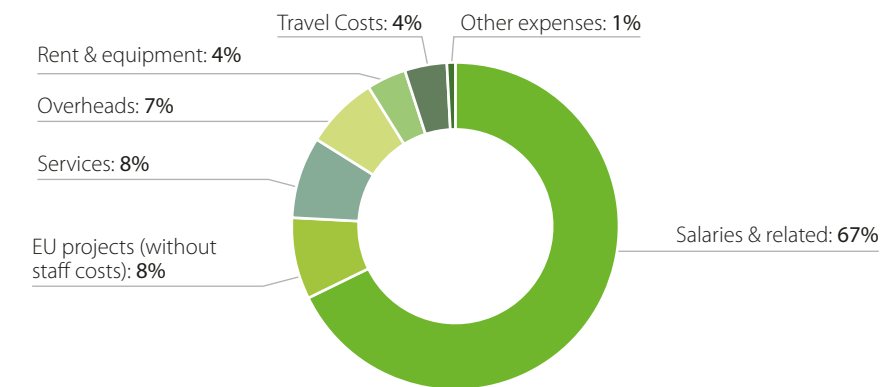
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IFOAM EU OPERATIONS AND ORGANISATION

2016 INCOME



2016 EXPENDITURE



GOVERNANCE AND OPERATING STRUCTURES

- The **General Assembly** is formed by all active IFOAM EU members who hold the ultimate power to change the IFOAM EU statutes
- The **National Assemblies** are organised by IFOAM EU Members in each EU or EFTA country, to elect representatives for the IFOAM EU Council
- The **Board** comprises of 9 people including a president, a treasurer and two vice-presidents, all of whom are selected according to sector-related and regional criteria
- The **Council** transmits national interests and specificities to the European level (one member and up to two deputies per country)
- **Interest groups** are established to provide direct involvement from sectors in the organisation in formulating policies and positions of relevance for their sector
- The **office** grew from one employee in 2002 to 19.7 full-time-equivalent staff in 2016 to manage operations and activities
- **Working & interest groups** bring together the huge expertise of IFOAM EU membership

INTEREST GROUPS

- Organic farmers
- Organic processors & traders
- Organic certification (in development)

WORKING GROUPS

- **Policy**
 - CAP & rural development
 - Climate Change
 - Fertilisers & plant protection products
 - GMOs
 - Seeds
- **Research**
 - Hosts the secretariat of the TP Organics research platform
- **Organic Regulation**
 - New organic regulation
 - Aquaculture
 - Cosmetics & textile
 - Greenhouses
 - Import & control
 - Poultry
 - Wine
- **Communications**
 - Knowledge Network

IFOAM EU'S ADVOCACY WORK



TRANSFORMING FOOD & FARMING - MAKING IT HAPPEN

AN ORGANIC ROADMAP TO SUSTAINABLE
FOOD AND FARMING SYSTEMS IN EUROPE

VISION 2030

**ORGANIC
ON EVERY
TABLE**

**IMPROVE
INSPIRE
DELIVER**

**FAIR PLAY
FAIR PAY**

The middle pages of this
publication are a poster. Take it out
and help us to transform food and
farming systems in Europe!

MAKING OUR VISION FOR ORGANIC BY 2030 HAPPEN

ORGANIC ON EVERY TABLE

VISION 2030

Policy makers & citizens widely recognise the contributions of organic and promote it

Citizens continue to choose organic food and have easy access to it

Organic and agroecological practices are employed on more than half of EU farmlands



FOOD & FARMING ACTORS



POLICY-MAKERS

- Engage and create links with actors beyond the organic sector
- Build sustainable value chains to ensure economic viability and avoid dependence on subsidies
- Improve communication about the benefits of organic production for society and the environment

- Reform the CAP to ensure that environmental and socio-economic outcomes delivered by farmers are fully incentivised and rewarded
- Use green procurement to stimulate sustainable diets in public canteens and private sector mass catering
- Prioritise access to land for new organic and transitioning farmers

To transform food and farming successfully, high quality food must become more widely available. This can be achieved by increasing production, while also raising the level of recognition among consumers and policy-makers of the economic, environmental and social benefits provided by organic production.

To make this happen, the organic sector needs to reach out to food and farming actors working both within and beyond organic. Engaging with conventional farmers, community leaders, citizens' initiatives, companies and NGOs dealing with sustainability, as well as with schools, chefs and health advocates, will ensure the recognition and support needed in order to put organic food on every table. Creating links with these actors requires improvements in the way we communicate, and the use of diverse channels to tell the story of the benefits of organic food for society and ecosystems.

The success of organic food and farming also depends on their economic viability. This means that farmers, companies and the whole

value chain need to invest to increase the production capacity, to support conversions and raise the profitability of organic, and to reduce the dependence on subsidies.

Policy-makers also play a key role. A lot can be achieved with appropriate incentives and coherent policies to support the ecological and social services that farmers provide. One example would be to change the focus of the CAP to ensure fundamental support for farmers whose approaches inherently work towards the socioeconomic and environmental sustainability of their farms and their regions. Moreover, through the choices made in the canteens of schools and hospitals, and in the catering for offices and restaurants, public bodies and the private sector alike also play a vital role in shaping how we eat. Finally, access to land is critical for the development of sustainable farming. We need policies that address the phenomenon of land grabbing, limit land concentration, foster generational renewal and support new farmers.

LEADING BY EXAMPLE



A support programme for young people to take over a farm or found organic businesses in Germany

To support start-ups and farms in the organic sector, Demeter Academy and partners offer young farmers and entrepreneurs knowledge, a biodynamic network, free space, feedback and support for legal, economic and social aspects of running organic businesses. The program consists of five modules, each focussing on different aspects of funding a business

LEADING BY EXAMPLE



An evidence-based programme that impacts on health and well-being, education, sustainability and inequalities across communities

Soil Association Food for Life works with public and private sector leaders to make good food the easy choice for everyone, wherever they are. The programme takes a whole system approach to food, changing both the food environment and food culture within which people make choices. The programme incorporates the Food for Life Served Here scheme, which provides an independent endorsement that food providers are taking steps to improve the food they serve

LEADING BY EXAMPLE



An organic grass-fed beef quality scheme that aims to give more added value to the products and offer better prices to the producers

Liivimaa Lihaveis created a government-certified quality scheme that unites organic beef farmers in Estonia. The scheme ensures welfare of the animals, sustains the biodiversity of the country's diverse grasslands and offers the highest prices to the producers

IMPROVE – INSPIRE – DELIVER

VISION 2030

Organic food & farming systems are resilient, continuously improve their performance & inspire change

A paradigm shift in knowledge, education and learning reconnects society with food & farming

Organic contributes to delivering healthy & sustainable diets



FOOD & FARMING ACTORS



POLICY-MAKERS

- Improve how we grow and process food
- Promote sustainable diets and the consumption of healthy food
- Engage in knowledge generation and sharing

- Increase research funding and support development of formal education and advisory systems with an organic focus
- Develop and implement organic action plans
- Ensure coherence between policies related to food, farming, health, education and the environment

Organic farming and production work with nature to achieve the best possible results for people, animals and the planet. A systems perspective and a spirit of continuous improvement are inherent parts of the organic model, making it a key driver of transformation. To inspire further change in our food and farming systems, organic producers need to continue reducing the use of resources at all levels, while increasing productivity, recycling and reusing inputs, improving animal health and welfare, and avoiding waste. As processed food plays an ever bigger role in our lifestyles, organic actors also need to improve the quality of such foods, using healthier recipes and adopting minimal processing techniques. By promoting greater consumption of plant proteins and fewer, better quality animal products, the organic sector will contribute to healthier diets with a smaller carbon footprint. There is a direct link between improved performance in organic systems and increased know-how for organic food production. Therefore, organic food and

farming actors need to get actively involved in research and innovation projects, and to share their knowledge across the value chain and all around Europe.

To close the knowledge gap that exists between organic and conventional food production, policymakers need to provide more funding for organic research and innovation. Such research should be based on participatory, system-oriented approaches. There is also a need to develop formal education and advisory systems with an organic focus, to ensure the spread of practical knowledge and skills.

Policymakers need to develop and implement organic action plans that enable organic actors to improve and innovate, and inspire others to follow suit. Finally, the thorough transformation of our food and farming systems can only happen if there is complete coherence between all policies related to food and farming, health, education and the environment.

FAIR PLAY – FAIR PAY

VISION 2030

Farmers and workers are paid fairly: value and power are equally distributed across the system

New business models and communications foster trust between all actors

The environmental, social and public health costs and benefits of farming are reflected in payments to farmers and in the cost of food



FOOD & FARMING ACTORS



POLICY-MAKERS

- Inform citizens about the true cost of food, its origin and how it is produced
- Develop or adopt new tools to create transparency from farm to fork and enhance dialogue between all value chain actors
- Develop and adopt a code of conduct for fair pricing and fair relationships for value chain actors

- Develop a unified framework of indicators for true cost accounting and value pricing, which helps reward practices that deliver public benefits
- Develop comprehensive production and market information systems, and encourage exchanges of price and production data
- Promote cooperation between value chain actors and support (local) approaches to rural empowerment

It is a good time to be organic. Never before has the market been as big, nor has it grown as rapidly. But while the sector begins to expand beyond the niche market, the supply chain actors must retain their organic spirit and should play a role in finding solutions for fairer and more transparent food systems. They should do so in cooperation with entrepreneurs and economic actors outside the sphere of food and farming. For food systems to be transparent and fair, all actors need to work together to ensure that value and power are fairly distributed among all the operators in the system, and that the costs and benefits of food production are accounted for. In the organic sector, a continuous dialogue between producers, traders, certifiers and distributors would benefit the whole chain. There is a need for business models and supply chains that generate more added value for the primary producers, and which connect citizens with producers – both physically and virtually. The organic sector should also capitalise on technological developments, such as the Internet of things or block-chain technology, which promise to greatly enhance

transparency about the origin, true value and production methods of food we buy.

Policymakers also play an important part in maintaining balance in the value chains. Accommodating the costs and benefits of food production is complicated. It can be done in various ways, such as taxes on pesticides and fertilisers, or rewards for beneficial environmental practices. Europe needs to develop and adopt a basic set of key indicators showing the impacts on soil quality, water use, waste production, energy and suchlike. A conducive environment for sustainable food and farming also depends on the availability of information on production and market trends, as this helps inform future investments. Policymakers must create incentives to encourage operators to exchange price and production data. At the same time, promoting local approaches, such as community-supported agriculture, bio-districts and city food networks, will encourage rural revival and build trust in the food systems.

VISIT EUORGANIC2030.BIO FOR MORE ABOUT THESE EXAMPLES

AND SUBMIT YOUR OWN





SUPPORTERS:



**NEED INSPIRATION? HAVE AN INITIATIVE?
VISIT EUORGANIC2030.BIO**

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IFOAM EU is recognised by the EU Institutions as the leading advocate on EU policy for organic food and farming

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Executive body of the EU

- Strong contacts with the European Commission at all levels, especially with the Organic Unit, as well as other Units in the Directorates General for Agriculture and Rural Development, Environment, Climate Action, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, Research & Innovation, Health & Food Safety
- Participation in diverse consultations and European Commission advisory groups (e.g. on topics related to organic farming, CAP, food chain and animal and plant health, quality and promotion, environment and climate change, research and innovation and the European Structural and Investment Funds)

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Legislative body of the EU

- Cooperation with Council Presidencies: events such as the European Organic Congress with Dutch and Estonian Presidencies in 2016 and 2017 respectively
- Invitation to informal meeting of the Agriculture and Fisheries Council in Riga, 2015, and other high-level Presidency conferences

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Legislative body of the EU

- Good relationships with key Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) on organic regulation, CAP reform, GMOs, climate change, and other environmental issues
- Many political events organised with support from MEPs of key committees including Agricultural and Rural Development, and Environment, Public Health and Food Safety
- Invitations to speak in the European Parliament on Horizon 2020 and on the EU Organic Action Plan, CAP and seed legislation

▶ THAT'S WHY IFOAM EU HAS ALSO FORMED ALLIANCES

with environmental, animal welfare and development NGOs and other civil society groups on the CAP, climate change, GMOs and research & innovation policy, including Via Campesina, Friends of the Earth Europe, European Environmental Bureau, BirdLife Europe, Greenpeace, Slow Food Europe, Compassion in World Farming, ACT Alliance and many more.

MAKING EUROPE MORE ORGANIC MILESTONES

ORGANIC PRESENCE AT THE HEART OF THE EU

- High level of influence on relevant EU policies
- Unified organic voice now heard at all levels of the European Institutions
- More than 190 member organisations spanning the entire organic food chain: farmers & processors, retailers, certifiers, consultants, traders, researchers, and environmental & consumer advocacy bodies
- Strategic alliances with other NGOs

All reasons to be proud

ENSURING SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AGROECOLOGICAL APPROACHES AND ORGANIC FARMING

under successive CAP reforms. In the 2014–2020 CAP reform, the environmental performance of organic farming under direct payments was secured, and a minimum legal spending requirement for Member States to invest in the environment including organic production under their Rural Development Programmes was safeguarded

WINNING EU FUNDING FOR ORGANIC DEVELOPMENT

through extensive work on the EU research and innovation schemes for agriculture, together with TP Organics. Organic farming is mentioned in the legal texts of Horizon 2020 and for 2016–2017, about 33 million euro is directly allocated to organic topics and about 174 million euro goes to calls explicitly mentioning that organic farming should be addressed

SHAPING THE NEW EU ORGANIC REGULATION

by working with the European Commission, European Parliament and Council to reach a new organic regulation that stimulates development and matches the needs of the sector. The Council's opinion and Parliamentary debates largely matched IFOAM EU's position and addressed many concerns brought up by IFOAM EU about the European Commission's initial proposal

AVOIDING AN EU ECO-LABEL FOR FOOD IN 2012

which would have caused consumer confusion and unfair competition for the organic label. Maintaining recognition of the most environmentally friendly and sustainable food system available was key to this success

FIRST IFOAM EU CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION ADVISORY GROUP ON ORGANIC FARMING

was former IFOAM EU President Francis Blake, elected in 2004, and current President, Christopher Stopes, was elected Chair in 2011. Currently IFOAM EU representatives act as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Agriculture and Rural Development Civil Dialogue Groups on Organic Farming, and CAP respectively

FOUNDING A RESEARCH & INNOVATION PLATFORM

2017 marked the 10-year anniversary of what has become an influential advocacy platform for organic research & innovation, TP Organics, with more than 90 organisations involved, and since 2013 officially recognised by the European Commission as an European Technology Platform

KEEPING PRIVATE STANDARDS ALIVE

by ensuring EU Organic Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 agreed in 2007 allowed private standards to continue to be the frontrunners they are

DEVELOPING ALMOST 200 COMMON POSITIONS

for decision-makers, founded on the diversity of organic producers and operators. This is the movement's and IFOAM EU's strength!

GIVING ORGANIC PROCESSORS AND FARMERS A VOICE

within IFOAM EU, and making sure that they have the space to form positions on issues relevant to their unique needs, by setting up interest groups for organic processors (2006) and farmers (2012)

EUROPEAN ORGANIC CONGRESSES AND PROCESSING CONFERENCES

attended by high-level policy makers and authorities, and recognised as key events for being informed of Europe-wide developments, for providing input to IFOAM EU positions and for networking

PREVENTING THE ACCEPTANCE OF GMO TRACES IN NON-GMO SEED

together with civil society and environmental NGOs in 2005. The fight to make Europe GMO free continues through IFOAM EU's "Keeping GMOs out of Food" project running from 2014 to 2017

LEADING ORGANIC PROCESSING

by calling for environmental performance standards to be introduced for organic processing and trade, and pushing for stricter definition of additives used in organic production, e.g. by asking for the revision of the requirements and specific standards for organic flavours

HOT TOPICS FOR 2018 AND BEYOND

EUROPEAN ORGANIC VISION 2030

The challenge to transform our food and farming system is a big one. The organic movement is setting the stage for fair, environmentally conscious, healthy and caring food and farming systems across the globe. In the EU, we are making our Vision 2030 happen using our Roadmap to Sustainable Food and Farming Systems in Europe. To see how we will shape the agri-food systems that we want to see in Europe and beyond, and to get inspired by existing examples, visit euorganic2030.bio

REVISION OF 'ORGANIC' REGULATION (EC) NO 834/2007

IFOAM EU is the voice of organic for EU legislators and is working tirelessly with the European Commission, European Parliament and Council to make the challenge of a new organic regulation workable in practice. We are therefore advocating on a wide-range of topics important to farmers, processors, certifiers and other stakeholders

CAP IMPLEMENTATION AND FUTURE REFORMS

One of IFOAM EU key priorities is ensuring a supportive environment for the development of organic farming using the CAP. IFOAM EU actively works with member organisations to support good implementation with a special focus on Rural Development Programmes. In addition, IFOAM EU is working to ensure that future CAP and reforms by the EU Institutions support a greater uptake of agroecological food and farming practice based on the principle of public money for public goods

SEEDS

There is an urgent need to develop the production and use of organic seeds, as the organic market is constantly growing. Organic farmers need more varieties that are adapted to low input farming conditions, to local climatic conditions, and to different markets. To this aim, IFOAM EU is closely following the relevant legislations, i.e. the European seed legislation and the new organic regulation and is also coordinating a research project aiming to develop the organic breeding sector and to increase the uptake of organic seeds

GMOs AND NEW GENETIC ENGINEERING TECHNIQUES

IFOAM EU, its members, likeminded NGOs and experts have established a strategic roundtable working on political advocacy and developing new practical strategies to protect the organic food production chain from GMO contamination. We want to achieve two goals: obtain a GMO-free food chain with binding European rules and national & regional GMO bans to protect GMO-free farming and obtain the inclusion of all new genetic engineering techniques into the GMO legislation

'ORGANIC' IMPLEMENTING RULES (EC) NO 889/2008

IFOAM EU is focusing on four main aspects: leading sector-wide initiatives to update and develop implementing rules on many areas as organic processing, greenhouse and aquaculture; advocating to maintain a process-based approach in organic certification and control; lobbying the European Commission on IFOAM EU positions and recommendations; and ensuring that organic farmers can continue using relevant natural plant protection products

EUROPEAN INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP FOR AGRICULTURE

As a key stakeholder, IFOAM EU is influencing the selection of innovation priorities, enabling the organic movement to tackle its innovation needs and demonstrating relevance of organic practices for the whole agricultural sector

COUNTERING CLIMATE CHANGE WITH ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

IFOAM EU's work revolves around facing the agricultural challenges brought on by climate change and showing that the organic sector can be part of the solution; influencing policy making so that the whole agriculture sector contributes its share to reduce GHG emissions; demonstrating organic's value as a frontrunner in the fight against climate change thanks to practices that help farmers to mitigate climate change, increase carbon sequestration in soils, and to adapt to its impacts

SHAPE THE FUTURE OF EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION FUNDING

With up to €80 billion being made available in Horizon 2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research & Innovation, IFOAM EU, with TP Organics, is advocating to give high priority to the systemic approach and value provided by organic food and farming systems

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE IN ORGANIC FARMING

IFOAM EU is promoting the exchange of knowledge among organic farmers, farm advisers and scientists. For example, IFOAM EU and partners have built the OK-Net Knowledge Platform (www.farmknowledge.org) that provides access to a wide range of tools that can help improve organic farming



JOIN THE EUROPEAN ORGANIC MOVEMENT

Send me more information on how I can:

- Become a member
- Participate in IFOAM EU working groups
- Be an ambassador
- Attend IFOAM EU events
- Donate to make Europe more organic
- Sponsor one of IFOAM EU's projects
- Receive more information

Name:

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