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WELCOME NOTE – TRANSFORMING FOOD AND FARMING

Dear friends,

Over the past 15 years, the development and growth of organic production and the organic market in Europe and beyond has given us new opportunities and presented new challenges. Working with other like-minded movements we must continue to lead progressive change. To achieve this we must take stock of what organic has become and what the future holds for us all.

Together, the European organic movement launched its vision for organic in Europe in 2030 at the 9th European Organic Congress on 11–12 June. Watch the official launch of the vision and our interview with Bio-Markt.info.

Entitled Transforming food & farming: An organic vision for Europe in 2030, our shared vision is the result of a one-and-a-half year participatory vision process with contributions from more than 300 stakeholders.

Our vision sees the widespread adoption of a fair, environmentally conscious, healthy and caring food and farming system in Europe by 2030. Achieving this vision means working towards more resilient, productive and environmentally friendly organic farming systems; greater biodiversity; better food quality; more appropriate processing; fairer supplier chains and enhanced animal welfare. The support of and collaboration with policy makers, citizens and other stakeholders will be the driving force for realizing this vision. By embracing a culture of innovation, rooted in holistic principles and using innovative tools, we strive to improve the performance of organic systems and promote trust in the integrity of the supply chain.

At the workshops in Riga we started developing a clear strategy for the movement – a roadmap to make our vision a reality. The workshop participants identified strategic options and actions and tested their robustness against scenarios – possible futures. Keep an eye on the vision page for the final report from the strategy development workshop in Riga or find the vision on social media: #EUorganic2030.

The development of our strategy will continue during 2015 at national and sector-specific meetings, we want to fine-tune the practical implementation of the strategic options and actions.

With the development of our strategic implementation plan for our Vision 2030, we aim to lead through collaboration and partnership in the long term. We look forward to working together with you on the next steps to help achieve our shared vision.

Sincerely,
Christopher Stopes
IFOAM EU President
TRANSFORMING FOOD & FARMING

Our vision for food and farming is of a fair, environmentally conscious, healthy and caring system widely adopted in Europe. The European organic movement continues to lead change, believes in holistic approaches and thrives on interactions with other like-minded initiatives, including fair trade, agroecology and urban agriculture.

Driven by the support of citizens and by building bridges with other stakeholders in the food and farming system, we are committed to achieving more than half of Europe’s agricultural land managed according to organic principles of health, fairness, ecology and care, providing fresh, seasonal, fairly priced as well as minimally and carefully processed organic food to every European home, workplace and institution.

The European organic movement stimulates and rewards the further development of organic systems, improving the resilience and environmental performance of organic production systems, while innovative tools for upholding the integrity of the supply chain promote trust. Policy makers and citizens widely recognise and value the contribution of organic farming to the delivery and support of vital ecosystem services to society.

As we move forward towards our goal of being a model for sustainable farming and food systems, we support a culture of innovation based on holistic principles leading to more resilient and productive farming systems, greater biodiversity, better food quality, more appropriate processing and fairer supply chains. New and indigenous, locally adapted varieties and breeds suited to organic farming practices and local conditions are encouraged and preserved. Farm animals are healthy, live in stress-free conditions and contribute to the sustainability of organic farms.

European farmers and all workers in the organic supply chain are fairly remunerated for their contribution to the health of the environment, communities, local and rural economies, and for providing flavourful and abundant food to contribute to the welfare of our planet and the quality of life of all people.

The organic movement works towards a paradigm shift in education and learning to strengthen the connection between environmentally and socially responsible food choices. People reconnect to food production by actively engaging with short supply chains.

VISION 2030 – AN ORGANIC VISION FOR EUROPE IN 2030
POLITICAL HOTSPOT

NEW ORGANIC REGULATION UPDATE

After 15 months of intense discussions and three different Presidencies (Greece, Italy and Latvia), EU AGRI Ministers have finally reached an agreement on the proposal for a new organic regulation.

IFOAM EU and its members have continuously been active in the Council discussions by providing regular technical input, through face-to-face meetings at national and EU levels and via several events (including the European Organic Congress in Bari and Riga).

This tireless activity had a significant impact on the final outcomes of the Council discussions. Most of the critical areas of the initial proposal had been already neutralised with the halfway compromise reached by the Council in December 2014 under the leadership of the Italian Presidency, however three hot issues – thresholds, controls and imports – remained controversial until the last minute, i.e. the Council meeting in Luxembourg on 16 June 2015. An IFOAM EU delegation present at this meeting was able to play important role on the final rush.

It is worth mentioning how much effort was needed by the ministers to ‘fix’ the initial proposal and how, in many aspects, the final Council agreement is based on the current legislation.

This totally reflects what IFOAM EU has been asking since the beginning: an evolution based on the current legislation rather than a revolution which would have a negative impact on the steady growth of the sector.

Importantly, the risk to have the specific control requirements out of the organic regulation has also been neutralised by the Council deal.

Overall, the adopted general approach and the process of achieving it demonstrates the importance of working with the organic sector, not against it.

Having this agreement reached under the Latvian Presidency also meant that the Commission First Vice President Timmermans was less likely to withdraw the Commission proposal for a new organic regulation as has now been officially announced by the Commission. As part of his re-evaluation of all pending Commission initiatives in December 2014 he said that he would decide on whether to continue work on this dossier or not in six months. “Although the six-month deadline for reaching an agreement on this proposal has not been met, the co-legislators have made significant progress and are working towards conclusion of an agreement on this issue” according to the Commission’s press release.

Now it is up to the Parliament to finalise its position, and afterwards the trilogue negotiations among the three institutions – Commission, Council and Parliament – can be kicked off and a new organic regulation be adopted at the beginning of 2016.

IFOAM EU is looking forward to continue collaborating with all the institutions to reach a final text which is in line with organic sector’s needs and which would allow for the sustainable development of organic production both in and outside the EU.

The Council compromise text took up many of the sector’s concerns and provides important improvements on the initial Commission proposal in almost all critical areas and has neutralised many of the dangerous elements.
In between these discussions, the organic regulation was a hot topic at the 9th European Organic Congress which took place on 10–13 June in Riga. Jānis Dūklavs - Minister of Agriculture of Latvia, Aivars Lapiņš - Head of Agriculture, Food, Veterinary, Forestry and Fisheries Division at the Permanent Representation of the Republic of Latvia to the EU, Martin Häusling – Member of the European Parliament, Rapporteur for the Legislative Proposal for the New Organic Regulation and Christopher Stopes – IFOAM EU President were joined by more than 150 participants. Organic stakeholders expressed what an acceptable compromise could look like and Minister Dūklavs rightly predicted the reaching of an agreement at the Council meeting on the 16 June.

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION LAUNCHES PLANS FOR BETTER REGULATION**

The European Commission has launched plans to overhaul the way in which future EU legislation is developed and applied, as part of its so-called **Better Regulation Package** announced on 19 May. The plans seek to improve how new laws are designed - with a stronger focus on impact assessments of draft legislation and input from stakeholders. The published **Communication** foresees that all impact assessments would consider not only administrative burdens and economic costs but also social and environmental impacts.

Stakeholders would also have eight weeks to make comments on the Commission’s legislative proposals, which would then be considered within the debate before trilogue negotiations between the EU Institutions. There will also be a four week period for stakeholders to comment on the implementing acts that complement primary legislation.
1 NEWS FROM IFOAM EU WORKING FIELDS

1.1 REGULATION

AGRIrish council of eu ministers opinion
on the organic dossier

First attempt
An agreement in the Council of Ministers was supposed to be reached at the meeting of 11 May, however the discussions got stuck on two controversial topics: the decertification threshold for substances not allowed in organic production and the frequency of controls. In the lead up to this meeting, IFOAM EU staff and members worked hard informing ministers about the importance of making the right decision and the impacts the wrong ones would have on organic operators throughout the EU and in developing countries.

IFOAM EU presents to EU agriculture ministers
Discussions between Ministers then continued during the informal AGRIFISH Council meeting in Riga on 1–2 June where IFOAM EU President Christopher Stopes was invited to present. Invitations to the informal Council meetings are highly exclusive and it was a great honour for the president and the director of IFOAM EU to be invited to participate. It was also a very encouraging sign that the Latvian Presidency dedicated an informal Council meeting to discussing how to support the further development of organic in Europe. In addition to discussing the key points of the organic regulation proposal Stopes told the ministers there is an great opportunity to help the sector develop, saying: “What we need is a clever policy mix and better targeted support for organics throughout member states in the EU.”

Making the decision
At the next formal meeting of agriculture ministers on 16 June in Luxembourg, a compromise and a “general approach” on the organic proposal was reached. A number of compromises were proposed from different member states on Art. 26e on decertification threshold and on the frequency of controls.

The Council compromise text provides important improvements on the initial Commission proposal in almost all critical areas and has neutralised many of the original dangerous elements:
- Specific control requirements remain under the organic regulation
- Regional standards have to be considered in trade with third countries
- The number of delegated acts has been reduced
- The scope of the regulation has been clarified and extended
- Bureaucratic, EU-wide rules for retailers have been avoided
- Member states maintain limited flexibility on production rules

In the end the process-based approach to organic was maintained with the decertification threshold that would have punished innocent farmers being deleted.

Regarding annual mandatory controls, the Council has reached a compromise that does not satisfy stakeholders. While IFOAM EU together with COPA-COGECA and EFFAT asked the ministers to maintain a mandatory annual inspection for all operators, the Council decided to introduce a derogation to the mandatory annual inspection for low risk operators; it would allow a period of maximum 30 months between two inspections.

Read the general approach on the Council website

Christopher Stopes, IFOAM EU President, Fernand Etgen, Minister of Agriculture, Viticulture and Consumer Protection and Marco Schlüter, IFOAM EU Director at the informal Council meeting in Riga.
EU PARLIAMENT: STEPS FORWARD ON THE ORGANIC DOSSIER


The COMENVI opinion contains elements that aim to take into account the different geographical conditions across the EU and supplements the initial Commission proposal with stronger animal welfare rules. It also introduces the “polluter-pays” principle in cases of contamination and there is evidence of third party liability.

The COMENVI opinion will be evaluated by the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee (COMAGRI) which is competent for the organic dossier.

During the COMAGRI meeting of May 26, German Green MEP and rapporteur Martin Häusling presented his draft report on the Commission’s proposal. With 353 amendments, this report aims to fix the weaknesses of the initial proposal and also introduces many new elements. In particular Häusling proposes improvements in the control system and in the import regime by bringing back the control requirements in the organic regulation and by proposing an innovative system for international trade. He also proposes to establish a specific EU Organic Agency which would care for the correct implementation of the Regulation. He proposes to delete the very controversial Article 20 on a decertification threshold, which would punish the organic farmers for pollution generated by others, and suggests replacing it with a better procedure on how to deal with suspected or found non-compliances.

The full report can be read on the EU Parliament website

The deadline for other COMAGRI MEPs to present further amendments was 22 June and more than 900 have been tabled.

IFOAM EU and its members will continue to liaise with MEPs to inform them about the implications and impact of the issues at stake. We look forward to providing knowledge and working with the Parliament towards a regulation that improves on the status quo and helps the sector develop.

NEW IFOAM EU POSITION PAPER ON ORGANIC AQUACULTURE

IFOAM EU published a new position paper on the use of non-organic juveniles in organic aquaculture on May 14, 2015. This position paper defends the necessity of reviewing the article 25e(3) of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008, which restricts the use of non-organic aquaculture juveniles to no more than 50% from January 2015 and completely prohibits their use by the end of 2015. The end of this derogation would not take into account the reality of the sector and the technical constraints that the organic aquaculture sector is facing. The organic sector asks the Commission support research for developing a real and efficient network of suppliers that would insure the availability of organic juveniles for organic aquaculture and to provide more time to develop solutions to bridge the gap. The paper also introduces an innovative proposal to enhance the sector by creating a database for the availability of organic juveniles produced in each country.

Read IFOAM EU’s new aquaculture position paper
NEW IMPLEMENTING REGULATION ON IMPORT

A new implementing regulation (EU) 2015/931 amending the organic import regulation (EC) No 1235/2008 was published. The main changes are:

- The deadline for the control bodies/control authorities (CB/CA) wishing to be recognised as “compliant” is postponed from 31 October 2015 to 31 October 2016
- The request for inclusion in the lists of CBs and CAs recognised as ‘equivalent’ or ‘compliant’ will be possible at any moment of the year
- The Australian Competent Authority has changed
- The Internet address of the Korean Competent Authority has changed to http://www.enviagro.go.kr/portal/en/main.do
- The duration of inclusion of Tunisia and US in the list of ‘equivalent’ countries has been prolonged for an unspecified period (it was previously until 30 June 2015)
- The list of control bodies recognised as equivalent (Annex IV) was updated
- The duration of the inclusion of several control bodies in the list – supposed to end on 30 June 2015 – was extended until 30 June 2018.

CALCIUM HYDROXIDE: TRADITIONAL ORGANIC SUBSTANCE APPROVED AT EU LEVEL

Following more than two years of strong engagement by IFOAM EU with EU and national policymakers and experts, the European Commission adopted a regulation approving calcium hydroxide – a traditional organic substance – as a basic substance under Regulation 1107/2009/EC which concerns the placing of plant protection products on the market. IFOAM EU submitted the application to register calcium hydroxide as a basic substance to the Commission in 2012.

The requirement to re-register traditional substances is due to the implementation of Regulation 1107/2009/EC and continues to be a significant challenge for the organic sector because the procedures are designed primarily for synthetic substances. IFOAM EU has submitted two pilot submissions for key traditional organic substances: the one for calcium hydroxide and one for quassia (the application which remains ongoing). Similar applications have also been made for several foodstuffs (e.g., lecithin, vinegar, sucrose) and plant extracts (e.g., rhubarb and absinth wormwood) which are deemed to be important substances for organic production. IFOAM EU is continuing to engage in the process to ensure that market availability of these substances remains certain for farmers.
1.2 POLICY

GMOs

OPT-OUT ON GMO IMPORTS TO BE DISCUSSED IN THE PARLIAMENT

On 22 April 2015, the Commission communicated their proposal to make the EU approval system for GMOs more democratic to the European Parliament and the Council.

The proposal includes the review of the current legislation with the aim of granting Member States the possibility to ban imports of GM food and feed. However, it does not include legal grounds on which countries can base their decision. Without such clear grounds, Member States’ bans could easily be challenged by biotech companies.

In addition, this proposal does not fulfil the promise Mr. Junker made to Europeans to make the EU GMO authorization more democratic, since the proposal does not change the current authorization method following which the Commission can authorize GMOs for cultivation and/or food and feed even if a clear majority of national ministers and the European Parliament oppose the authorization.

The proposal is now in the Parliament which has the opportunity to reject the Commission proposal and include the provisions required to change the voting rules and to give Member States a stronger voice in the process. Voting in plenary is expected by October 2015, following the normal legislative procedure.

IFOAM EU, in association with our members and other stakeholders, will continue to advocate for a democratic change to the authorisation procedure and for GMO bans, including among the activities of the “Keeping GMOs out of Organics” project.

NEW GMOs AUTHORISED FOR FOOD AND FEED

Two days after the Commission communicated their proposal to grant Member States the possibility to ban imports of GMOs for food and feed to the Parliament, the Commission adopted 17 applications to allow for the import of GMOs for food and feed, 8 of which are resistant to glyphosate, a pesticide declared as potentially carcinogenic by the WTO.

Among those obtaining renewed approval is Maize NK-603, first approved for import for use in human food and animal feed in 2004. After its approval, independent French scientific research confirmed its possible toxicity for animal health. Nevertheless, it is still currently being tested for cultivation in field trials in Europe.

Every single new GMO authorization in the EU threatens the capacity of the organic sector to stay GM-free due to the increased risk of contamination. Currently, all the burden and all the costs of preventing contamination, including for analysis and controls, is placed on those who want to stay GM-free. As well organic and non-GM operators are not protected from contamination since the EU does not have effective liability measures.

For further information about IFOAM EU’s advocacy work on GMOs and the “Keeping GMOs out of Organics” project, please contact us: alejandro.gil [at] ifoam-eu.org.
IFOAM EU ENGAGE IN EU NATURE LEGISLATION FITNESS CHECK

IFOAM EU has highlighted the contribution that organic farming can make to meet the objectives of the Birds and Habitat Directive as part of input to the Commission’s evidence gathering exercise under the Fitness Check of EU Nature legislation.

The so-called “Fitness Check” seeks to review the implementation of the EU Birds and Habitats Directives and the development Natura 2000 network by looking at successes and weaknesses with regards to implementation from the costs of implementation and non-implementation of the legislation to improving implementation and reducing administrative burdens without compromising the ambition set out in the Directives. In addition to the evidence gathering exercise with stakeholders the Commission has launched a 12-week public consultation due to end at the end of July.

Meanwhile a coalition of environmental and conservation NGOs have launched a Nature Alert campaign to encourage citizens to respond directly to the public consultation. IFOAM EU is also currently in process of preparing its input to the consultation. For more please contact stephen.meredith [at] ifoam-eu.org.

Sign the Nature Alert Campaign to make your voice heard by the European Commission
COMMISSION ADOPTED 24 MORE NATIONAL AND REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

On 26 May 2015 the European Commission adopted 24 more national and regional Rural Development Programmes (RDPs) concerning Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Romania, Spain, Sweden and the UK. This round leaves 70 of the 118 RDPs still to be approved. These are expected to be adopted on a rolling basis throughout the second half of 2015 and possibly into the beginning of 2016.

Commission offer more flexibility for unspent RDP 2007–2013 funds

The Commission has adopted a delegated act on 9 June aimed at Member States facing difficulties spending remaining funds under the 2007–2013 programming period. This provides more flexibility for Member States to transfer up to 5% of their RDP total budget between the different spending areas (known as “axes”). Member States will have until 30 September 2015 to amend their existing programmes.

AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER LAYS DOWN FURTHER DETAILS FOR CAP SIMPLIFICATION AGENDA

Agriculture Commissioner Phil Hogan is moving ahead with the Commission’s CAP simplification agenda following the announcement a number of initiatives on CAP simplification at the May AGRI Council meeting of Agricultural Ministers. A strong focus is placed on easing compliance with the new Pillar 1 greening rules. This includes a new set of technical guidance on the implementing rules in particular with regards to the implementation of Ecological Focus Areas (EFAs) and permanent pasture protection. These guidelines are set to be adopted by mid-June and are expected to already apply in 2015.

In addition the Commissioner outlined his intention to bring forward a package amending the CAP delegated and implementing acts after the summer. The aim is to tweak rules on direct payment elements related to young farmers, voluntary coupled support and administrative and control system rules. It is foreseen that these changes could be applicable for the 2016 or 2017 claim years subject to a green light from the European Parliament and Member States. The Commissioner has also indicated further amendments would be made to the Single Common Market Organisation rules in the foreseeable future. It is understood that Pillar 1 elements will be concentrated on first, followed by the Pillar 2 rural development regulation.

AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS CALL FOR MORE FLEXIBILITY ON GREENING IN NEW COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

Agricultural Ministers called for greater flexibility on new greening rules regarding Ecological Focus Area requirements, crop diversification and the definition of permanent grassland as part of the Council Conclusions on CAP simplification adopted at the May AGRI Council. The Council’s conclusions also seek a more simple control system with less stringent controls for minor infringements particularly in the first year of implementation. Other demands include more flexibility for young farmer support, voluntary coupled support and the small farmers’ scheme.

Elsewhere COMAGRI MEPs decided not to table their own report on CAP simplification despite earlier appeals from Commissioner Hogan to do so. Both COMAGRI MEPs and Agriculture Ministers had already provided individual input to the Commission in early 2015.

IFOAM EU will continue to actively monitor the process. For further information please contact stephen.meredith[at]ifoam-eu.org.
IFOM EU and FERN (an NGO dedicated to the protection of forests) published a study, carried out by the respected Öko-Institut, on the impact of integrating emissions from the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry sector (LULUCF, see previous newsletter) in the upcoming climate and energy package for 2030.

The authors conclude that even the smallest changes in the rules used to account for LULUCF will have a significant impact on the EU’s efforts to reach its 2030 climate target. Depending on how the reference level for forest management will be set up, including this sector in the EU emissions reductions plans would undermine the EU’s climate target by more than 10 per cent, in effect meaning the EU’s target for 2030 would not be at least 40 per cent, as it pledged, but 36 per cent. Merging methane and nitrous oxide emissions from the agriculture sector (currently accounted for in the Effort Sharing Decision or ESD) with LULUCF emissions – one of the options envisaged by the Commission – would dilute a potential 30% reduction target by up to 98 per cent.

IFOAM EU also emphasised that it is possible to meet both the objectives of mitigation/sequestration and food security, provided the EU moves away from subsidizing intensive agricultural production and encourages farming practices that enhance carbon stocks, limits chemical pollution and use of nitrogen fertilizers, closes the nutrients cycle, and safeguards biodiversity and the resources we need to produce food (water, soil fertility, etc.).

The input was also supported by a recent meta-analysis*, which found significantly higher values of soil organic carbon for organically farmed soils.

Some techniques and management measures that can mitigate the impact of agriculture on climate change and already applied by organic farmers include:

- Mixed farms
- Systems based on legume-based forage production
- Increased use of cover crops and green manure
- Biogas digestion of crop residues
- Low-protein animal feeding and phase feeding by using locally produced feed
- Investments in agroecological approaches to improve crop and livestock breeding for breeds better adapted to low external input farming systems and local resources
- For ruminants, using a diet based on grassland containing perennial legumes, which reduces use of imported concentrates/proteins, increases nitrogen efficiency and carbon sequestration
- Organic biogas produced with waste and residues.

Agriculture makes up 10% of emissions in the EU and IFOAM EU considers that the agricultural sector should not be a free rider in the fight against climate change. Agriculture could be part of the solution to climate change provided it has a target and does its share of the emissions reduction effort, like other sectors.

The challenge to keep climate change below 2°C is another reason for the EU to further develop organic farming, which can be a powerful tool to reduce emissions and sequester CO₂.

**SHARING EXPERIENCES ABOUT CLIMATE FRIENDLY ORGANIC FARMING PRACTICES**

SOLMACC’s participating farmers will now put climate-friendly farming practices specifically adapted to the situation on their farms into use for an entire farming year. Implementation of the practices will continue until 2018 together with the continuous support and monitoring on all farms. The SOLMACC project aims to demonstrate that farming can be climate-friendly when applying optimised farming practices.

To find out more about the farming practices and how you can implement them:

- Consult the toolbox for students and teachers
- Read the third SOLMACC newsletter

The project is coordinated by IFOAM EU in collaboration with Ekologiska Lantbrukarna (Sweden), the Italian Association of Organic Agriculture (AIAB, Italy), the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL, Germany) and Bioland Beratung GmbH (Germany).

SOLMACC is a LIFE co-funded project.
EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION BY 2020 AND BEYOND

On 16 June, the European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural development, organised a workshop at EXPO Milano to launch the discussion on the future of European agricultural research and innovation until 2020 and beyond.

The objectives of this workshop were:

• Kick-start the discussion on a long-term strategy for the future of EU agriculture research and innovation which is highly needed to address the challenges of tomorrow in a consistent and efficient way;
• Contribute to the discussion and outcomes of EXPO on 'Feeding the planet – energy for life' by providing views on agricultural research and innovation priorities.

IFOAM EU was represented by Marco Schlüter while Eduardo Cuoco attended the workshop on behalf of TP Organics.

The workshop was a first step towards a process that will end up with a bigger agricultural research and innovation conference which will take place in Brussels on 26–28 January 2016.

Next steps of the process is to participate in a public consultation to comment on the background paper that had been prepared to provide initial food for thought for the discussion at the workshop. TP Organics is already working on a reaction paper.

More info and all presentations

ORGANIC FARMERS, ADVISERS AND RESEARCHERS SET PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE

On 28–29 May, the European Commission gathered over 170 farmers, farm advisers and researchers from all over Europe at a conference at EXPO 2015 in Milano to prioritise needs for research and innovation in the organic food and farming sector.

The priorities defined during the conference can be summarized as follows:

• Improve the understanding of the diversity and complexity of agro-eco-systems in order to reduce dependency on external inputs while maintaining productivity
• Breed plant and animals adapted to low-input conditions and variable environments
• Reduce use of antibiotics and concentrates in animal production
• Improve animal health and welfare
• Design appropriate processing technologies for organic food
• Improve traceability and transparency in the organic food chain
• Foster co-creation of knowledge and farmer-to-farmer learning

The outcomes will be used as input for the implementation of Horizon 2020 and EIP-AGRI.

IFOAM EU and TP Organics are happy with the conference and its results as the Commission has taken up the real, practical needs of day-to-day organic operators, which provides a great opportunity for policy measures at the highest level to support organic development.

Jan Plagge, IFOAM EU Board Member speaking at the European Commission’s meeting on research and innovation in the organic food and farming sector at Expo Milano
OK-Net Arable present
Stimulating knowledge exchange was a main theme of the conference. The IFOAM EU-led OK-Net Arable project was presented as a good example of how farmers and researchers work together to share knowledge and identify the best ways to do so.

All conference presentations are available online

Award Ceremony “Organic Best Practices”
At the conference, TP Organics organised a ceremony to award two success stories of innovation in the organic sector, namely the Duchy Originals Future Farming Programme and a project on the multipurpose use of neem cake. The initiatives were selected from applicants which responded to the call for “Best Sustainable Development Practices for Food Security” that was launched in the context of Feeding Knowledge Programme of EXPO Milano 2015.

EIP-AGRI UPDATE

“Participatory approaches for agricultural innovation”: new brochure
The EIP-AGRI Service Point has published a brochure on participatory approaches for fostering innovation in agriculture. The brochure introduces several methods that can help to bring different types of people together to develop new projects and solutions. It also highlights several successful projects from all around Europe, ranging from open field days and communities of practice to digital platforms.

New call for Focus Groups
A call for experts for three new Focus Groups is expected on 7 July. The new Focus Groups will address following themes:
- Mixed systems combining animal and plant production
- Emissions from livestock
- Benchmarking farm performance (in terms of sustainability and economics)

The EIP-AGRI website and newsletter will announce the opening of the call. The Focus Groups will start their activities in autumn.

Focus Groups are temporary groups, consisting of 20 researchers, farmers and farm advisers, who explore innovative practices and identify research needs in specific areas. Each group should draw on the experiences gained in useful, related projects. In brief, an EIP-AGRI Focus Group has the following objectives:
- Take stock of current practices in its specific area, and list problems and opportunities
- Take stock of current research in that area, summarising possible solutions to the problems identified
- Identify needs based on current practice, and provide guidelines for further research
- Highlight priority areas for innovative action, suggesting topics for the Operational Groups to work on, as well as new project formats for testing and disseminating innovative approaches

Focus Groups can have a big impact in terms of setting the agenda for the EIP-AGRI. For more information on how to get involved please contact: bram.moeskops[at]ifoam-eu.org
NEW MANUAL ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ORGANIC CAPACITY-BUILDING AND COOPERATION UNDER THE CAP LAUNCHED

IFOAM EU in partnership with seven organic farming organisations has developed a manual for organic stakeholders for making full use of the new EU Rural Development Policy for the period 2014–2020 to stimulate organic cooperation and capacity-building. Targeted at organic farming associations, advisors and educators the publication entitled Organic Cooperative Approaches to Rural Development: A Manual for Stakeholders provides:

• An overview of EU Rural Development Policy options from support for knowledge transfer and advisory services to the establishment of producer groups and community-led development
• Best practice examples of how European organic farmers and other stakeholders are pioneering production and market development cooperative approaches at national and regional level
• Recommendations for successful organic cooperation – from the importance of farmer-led involvement, to setting appropriate common goals and objectives and ensuring the right expertise are available
• Details of different European and national organisations and platforms where stakeholders can find out more information about rural development policies and opportunities to support organic cooperation and innovation.

Manual key elements and messages

EU Rural Development Policy and Organic Cooperation

An overview of the rationale for EU Rural Development Policy under the Common Agricultural Policy is set out. This includes details of the latest CAP reform - which took place between 2010 and 2013 and forms the basis for the establishment of new national and regional RDPs. As a number of measures suitable for organic cooperation and capacity-building are available to Member States for inclusion in their RDPs, specific details of the different measures are provided. This takes account of the most relevant measures that can facilitate:

• Skills acquisition, vocational training, demonstration activities and information campaigns
• Development of farm advisory services and training of advisors
• Support for promoting and providing information on produce and production methods
• Investments in farm infrastructure, processing and marketing
• Establishment of producers groups to strengthen producer’s bargaining power
• Collective approaches to environmental delivery and climate action
• Multi-stakeholder community-led development in rural areas

Best Practice Approaches to Organic Cooperation in Rural Areas

In an agri-food sector dominated by conventional food and farming systems, organic farmers have traditionally needed to work together and innovate to ensure the long-term viability of their farm businesses. The seven best practice examples outlined in the manual demonstrate how different stakeholders across Europe use or could use their RDPs to support the development of the sector through greater cooperation. Each example provides highlights and background information on the specific initiatives as well as results, lessons learnt, funding and contact details. The best practice approaches to organic cooperation in rural areas include:

• Supporting the development of winter vegetable growing (Austria)
• Promoting farmer-led knowledge exchange and research (Belgium)
• Developing an organic grain silo (France)
• Group marketing and adding value to organic milk (Ireland)
• Coordinating stakeholder-led research and knowledge transfer (Netherlands)
• Promoting organic farming conversion through farmer to farmer exchange (Spain)
• Local production of organic protein fodder in response to climate change (Sweden)
Recommendations and further information

Whilst cooperative initiatives come in different shapes and sizes, each adapted to the local needs of organic farmers, there is a number of specific ingredients that are necessary for their success and to stimulate innovative approaches. To this the Manual puts forward recommendations – based on the outcomes of discussions and exchange of best practices during the course of the project. These are outlined below:

Farmer-led Involvement

- Farmers should have a strong stake in efforts to build cooperation in their locality, region or country, based on a bottom-up approach. It is often a prerequisite for success that they have a minimum degree of control in joint initiatives with other agri-food stakeholders, or that they take a leading role.
- As farmers are usually the first to experience the threats or opportunities affecting their sector, farmer-led initiatives create a sense of ownership. They are essential in the medium to long term, and help to secure greater buy-in from farmers.
- To help meet farmers’ expectations and enable those involved to share their experiences and acquire new knowledge for the duration of their cooperation, a collective space or forum is essential. These spaces could be established either through a farming association or as an informal group.
- Policy support can be critical for prompting cooperative projects. However, investments by the farmers themselves, and by other stakeholders, can go a long way towards achieving common goals and objectives.

Appropriate Common Goals and Objectives

- Common goals and objectives should be clearly defined and understood before cooperation begins. Building capacities is not easy, so time and patience are needed, especially if the goals and objectives are ambitious.
- Farmers should recognise what they want to achieve and agree on the amount of commitment needed, taking into account their different expectations. It is important to remember that they often enter into cooperation in order to solve a problem or to take advantage of a new opportunity.
- Building cooperation can be difficult, due to the differing aims of the various stakeholders. Farmers should be aware of the need for effective governance, good group dynamics and the ability to deal with individualistic behaviour and competing aims outside the scope of a project.

Different Areas of Expertise

- Expectations can vary from partner to partner. Farmers must therefore be able to recognise clearly what is actually achievable in the short to medium term, bearing in mind that new opportunities and challenges will also emerge.

Exchanging, selecting and discussing best practice examples in Galway, Ireland at a meeting organised by the Irish Organic and Growers Association in March 2015.

Finally the manual provides information on where to find more about organic cooperation and rural development that can help to support the development of the capacities needed to make Europe more organic.
About the KSC4farmers project
The Manual is one of the main deliverables of an EU project called Closing Knowledge Gaps and Improving Skills & Competence for Sustainable Farming Enterprises (KSC4Farmers). The aim of the project was to raise awareness and increase understanding of the opportunities available to support cooperative approaches for the development of organic production through new national and regional rural development programmes (RDPs). It also sought to facilitate greater knowledge exchange between farming associations. The launch of the Manual follows a final meeting of the project held in Saint-Jean-d’Angély in France on 25 June 2015 which brought project partners and invited farming experts together to exchange and provide advice on the outcomes of the project, so that the participants could disseminate information and ideas for supporting cooperation activities and capacity-building using the RDPs. Throughout the course, other project meetings have been held in Belgium (November 2013 and June 2014), Spain (November 2014) and Ireland (March 2015) – supported by two working groups – in the frame of the IFOAM EU Farmers Interest Group. Each project meeting gave project partners and other expert participants the chance to look at best examples of capacity-building across Europe with meetings often taking the form of excursions to organic farms and businesses in addition to expert discussions on cooperation and capacity approaches in the context of the ongoing implementation of RDPs under the CAP.

KSC4farmers is a 2-year Leonardo da Vinci Partnership Project which is part of the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Union. KSC4farmers is a 2-year Leonardo da Vinci Partnership Project which is part of the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Union. The project comprises 8 partners from across the EU working with organic farmers including IFOAM EU (BE), Irish Organic Farmers and Growers Association (IE), Biohuis (NL), Fédération nationale d’agriculture biologique (FR), Sociedad Española de Agricultura Ecológica (ES), Bioforum Vlaanderen (BE), BIO AUSTRIA (AT) and Ekologiska Lantbrukarna (SE).

This manual was elaborated as part of the Leonardo da Vinci Partnership Project Closing Knowledge Gaps and Improving Skills & Competence for Sustainable Farming Enterprises (KSC4farmers) supported by the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Union. The sole responsibility for this communication lies with the authors. The European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information provided.
VISION & STRATEGY

How do we remain a driver of change in decades to come? At the 9th European Organic Congress in Riga together with over 140 participants we looked into the present and the future, exploring the new organic regulation developments and the paths to reaching our shared vision.

Entitled Transforming food & farming, the common vision is a result of one-and-a-half year participatory vision process with contributions from more than 300 stakeholders. Our shared vision sees a wide adoption of a fair, environmentally conscious, healthy and caring system in Europe in 2030; continued leadership to promote change in food and farming systems; belief in holistic approaches; and thriving interactions with other like-minded initiatives, including fair trade, agroecology and urban agriculture.

The vision process was based on a clear need: organic has been, is and must continue to be a leader in food and farming systems, but there has been a lot of development and growth in organic in the last 15 years and this has led to new opportunities and challenges. The organic movement needed to take stocks of what organic has become and what the future holds for us all. The IFOAM EU Vision 2030 process involved a broad range of stakeholders, to reflect about where we are and where want to be in 2030, and to translate this into a shared vision.

This in turn provides a clear way forward, but the work continues. At the 9th European Organic Congress, the vision was launched and we started working on a viable, future-proof strategy to achieve it for the entire sector.

The 9th European Organic Congress was the starting point to work out strategies for the organic movement in Europe to make this vision a reality. In the first round of the workshops the participants identified critical challenges that the organic sector in Europe is currently facing and reflected on the relevant objectives that would help to address these challenges. The focus of the second round of workshops was on developing and prioritizing strategic options and actions that different movement actors could use in the long-term. In the final step of the process the participants checked the robustness of the selected strategic options against future scenarios to identify the most viable options across multiple possible futures. The outcome of the workshops was a set of concrete strategies that would allow the movement to focus its energy on transforming the food and farming systems in Europe.

In the next stage of the strategy process IFOAM EU will facilitate discussion of the workshop outcomes as well as the uptake and fine-tuning of the strategies on the national level and in the sector interest groups. Get involved by sharing the vision in your networks and developing effective strategies for your organization!

With the Vision 2030 and strategy development, we are giving ourselves the tools to succeed and lead in the long term. Keep an eye on the vision page for the final report from the strategy development workshop in Riga or find the vision on social media: #EUorganic2030!
NEW COLLEAGUES

Andra Korb
I spent my last few years studying Politics and International Relations in the United Kingdom and in Romania. Even though I came from a different field of study I am passionate about the organic sector. I grew up in a family of bee-keepers and I have always cherished the value of healthy, organic, sustainable agriculture. I intend on bringing my passion for both International Relations and the organic sector together in the policy unit.

I have worked with BIO Romania, ECOCERT and Apicola Deva and I will continue to support the organic sector in Romania. I believe that being in the Policy unit at IFOAM EU can help me gain a better understanding of EU policies and regulations and how organic farming can be a solution.

Helena Procházková
My name is Helena Procházková and I am 22 years old. I am from the Czech Republic and I study at University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, Faculty of Agriculture. I recently finished my bachelor’s degree and my specialization is Sustainable Development in Landscape. I will continue studying and will do a specialization in agroecology.

At IFOAM EU I would like to obtain experience, improve my English, meet some new people and help them. In the future I would like to apply the knowledge I have gained to provide more information on organic and its possibilities in my country.

Maria Ruggiero
Maria Ruggiero joined the IFOAM EU team in June. She will be the project coordinator for the new CAP information measure project which aims to help rural actors improve their capacity to efficiently use and fully participate in CAP and to inform citizens about sustainable food production in the framework of CAP. Before joining IFOAM EU, she worked for almost 10 years on human rights, rural and sustainable development projects in the Balkans. She is currently working on a master’s degree in governance and policy development with a focus on analysing the challenges for sustainable development on the basis of current social economic issues such as population growth, shortages of traditional energy resources, impact on climate change and environment.

I believe that joining IFOAM EU is an excellent opportunity to gain an in-depth understanding of the organic sector while contributing to the implementation of its mission using my skills and experience from other sectors.
Katerina Taleva
I am from Bulgaria and I have just finished my bachelor’s degree at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” where I studied journalism. In the future I would like to get my master’s degree. Even though my study is not about agriculture, I feel really passionate about it, because in my home country we have good perspective for development in that area.

At IFOAM EU I would like to expand my knowledge about everything that is in some way connected to the organic sector. I have worked at the Bulgarian Organic Products Association for more than a year, and now I want to learn more, so I can be useful in our attempts to develop the organic sector in Bulgaria even more.

Zane Zake
I come from the beautiful and historical capital city of Latvia - Riga. I have a master’s degree in environmental science, in these studies I decided to take a closer look into environmental governance and decision-making processes. My latest work experience was related to policy administration at national level and I was looking to widen my experience in decision-making processes in an environmental institution at European level and IFOAM EU seemed like a really great opportunity to accomplish that. I also have volunteer experience in my hometown with the environmental NGO “Homo ecos” where I participated in activities aimed at increasing social awareness of environmental issues.

I am interested in organic agriculture as it has a great impact in Latvia’s economy. I hope that during my time in IFOAM EU I will increase my knowledge about organic agriculture and after that maybe I will be able to start my own business based on sustainable principles.
3 EVENTS

3.1 PREVIEW OF EVENTS

8TH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIC AND REGIONAL FOOD FAIR NATURA FOOD

On 2–4 October 2015 NATURA FOOD Fair takes place in Lodz, Poland. Natura Food is an industry event and the biggest event dedicated to organic food in Poland. It is also an ideal place to familiarize yourself with international trends in the development of organic agriculture and related industries, as well as an excellent opportunity for direct contact with companies functioning in the market.

Every year, nearly 300 exhibitors and 12,000 visitors participate in the event: enthusiasts of bioproducts, organic food, regional and traditional products and products made from environmentally friendly materials. Over 50% of visitors are representatives of the managers, farmers, producers, processors, distributors and store owners. Among the visitors to the event are also a large group of consumers from Lodz, the Lodz region and other regions of Poland.

NATEXPO

18–20 October 2015. Natexpo, the trade show for organic, health food and ecological products takes place in Paris Nord Villepinte, Hall 7, France. A strictly trade-only show, NATEXPO reveals the new organic trends emerging in a buoyant market where actors have to provide responses to the demand for quality and new products from buyers in all categories. For quick and simple access to the latest innovations, the show has been divided up into 4 easily-identifiable sectors.

With 14% of exhibitors from 19 countries, a year-on-year increase of 23%, and 12% of non-French visitors from 64 different countries, NATEXPO continues its international deployment with the aim of helping trade professionals in their growth ambitions, whether searching for new export markets or widening their product sourcing channels.

NATEXPO closely espouses the needs of professionals in specialist retail, mass retail, catering, import-export, etc.

NORDIC ORGANIC FOOD FAIR

The Nordic Organic Food Fair is an essential industry event for trade buyers who are looking to source the very best in organic food and drink, from wholefoods to vegetarian, from artisan to speciality – the show attracts nearly 4000 trade buyers. Returning to Malmö, Sweden on 1–2 November 2015 for its third edition, The Nordic Organic Food Fair will feature the very best the region has to offer with over 200 leading suppliers – including big brands, exciting start-ups and best-sellers from around the world! Register today for your FREE entry badge.
ORGANIC INNOVATION DAYS: 1–2 DECEMBER 2015

On 1 and 2 December TP Organics will organise Organic Innovation Days, with the aim of demonstrating the innovation potential of the organic food and farming sector. Soon a call will be launched challenging researchers, companies and farmers to propose innovative solutions for one of the following needs of the organic sector as identified by the TP Organics Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda:

- Innovative machinery for pest management in organic cropping systems
- New organic processing concepts and technologies
- New business models for value addition at the farm level

The event also intends to explore opportunities and potential risks of innovations developed outside the organic sector, such as bio-plastics, Internet-of-Things, proteins derived from insects and algae, and the recycling of urban and human waste. Should these innovations be taken-up by the organic sector and under what conditions?

Finally, the results of the event will be discussed with policy makers in order to contribute to the implementation of the EIP-AGRI.

Save the date!

ORGANIC INNOVATION DAYS – CALL FOR INNOVATIONS IN THE ORGANIC SECTOR

TP Organics therefore launches a call challenging farmers, researchers and companies to propose innovative solutions to one of the following needs of the organic sector:

1. Innovative technologies for pest management in organic cropping systems
2. New organic food processing concepts and technologies
3. New business models of value addition at the local level

After a pre-selection of the submitted innovations by the TP Organics Secretariat, a TP Organics member will be asked to select the most promising submission. The proposer of the selected innovation will be invited to present it at the Organic Innovation Days. A lump sum will be provided to cover travel costs. All innovations submitted will be promoted through the website of TP Organics.

Send your innovation to info@tporganics.eu. The deadline is 6 September.
3.2 REVIEW OF EVENTS

9TH EUROPEAN ORGANIC CONGRESS

The 9th edition of the annual European Organic Congress took place in Riga, Latvia on 11–12 June. More than 150 people from 23 countries joined the Latvian Minister of Agriculture, Jānis Dūklavs, Green MEP Martin Häusling, Aivars Lapinš from the Permanent Representation of the Republic of Latvia to the EU, and other policy makers and leading organic experts to discuss the future of the organic sector at the congress organised by IFOAM EU in collaboration with the Latvian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, the Latvian Ministry of Agriculture and the Latvian Association of Organic Agriculture. This year’s edition was dedicated to designing the future of the European organic movement.

The congress took place between two significant events for the organic movement and facilitated communication between the relevant policy-makers and sector representatives, or as Martin Häusling, Green MEP and rapporteur on the dossier said: “The organic regulation proposal is a very important dossier for the European Parliament and this conference comes at a crucial moment, before a likely vote in the Council and while my colleagues in the agriculture committee are drafting their amendments. Here at the international Conference of the movement of organic producers in Riga we will have a forum for policy makers and leading organic stakeholders to publicly discuss and work towards better solutions”.

Following the publication of the Latvian Presidency Council’s compromise, we know that the negotiators took up many of the sector’s concerns and provides important improvements on the initial Commission proposal in almost all critical areas and has neutralised many of the dangerous elements.

On the first day during workshops featured high-level speakers such as Martin Häusling; Monique Faber-Decker, Chief Officer of Plant Health Service of the Ministry of Agriculture of Luxembourg; Inese Pastare Irbe, Attaché on Common Agricultural Policy of the Permanent representation of the Republic Latvia to the EU; Martin Häusling, MEP; Rapporteur for the Legislative Proposal for the New Organic Regulation and Andrea Ferrante, AIBA President at the congress workshop on the organic regulation © John Portelli

Throughout, the European Commission maintained that a new organic regulation is needed and that the proposal will not be withdrawn, the process will go on. This was reiterated by the upcoming Luxembourgish Presidency. Ms Faber-Decker stated that the organic regulation has been and will be a priority and she is optimistic about finishing the trilogues before the end of the Luxembourgish Presidency. Organic stakeholders argued that the compromise document to the proposed regulation is much better than it was, but strongly opposed rules that would punish organic farmers, such as
The second day was entirely dedicated to making the vision 2030 a reality. Using a workshop-based set-up, participants were able to give their input and help design strategies to achieve the European movement’s shared vision - from farmers to processors. Read more about the vision in this welcome note or dedicated article and keep an eye on the vision webpage for a report about the results of the conference’s strategy workshops.


This year’s conference focused on promoting alternatives to the demand of certified sustainable soya to supply GMO-free, regional and sustainable products operators. For this reason, Danube Soya organised the Danube Soya East West Protein Forum, in which they discussed the main challenges regarding the design of sustainable value chain and key elements to manage the protein transition in EU.

IFOAM EU contributed to the debate on GMOs by organising different workshops that aimed to develop key elements for a strategy to avoid the contamination of unauthorised GMOs in our food, feed seed. The increasing costs of analysis and controls that the introduction of these unauthorised GMOs in the supply chain would generate, also showed once again that the prevention of contamination is a burden borne by the GM-free sector.

GM-FREE CONFERENCE

IFOAM EU AT GM-FREE EUROPE CONFERENCE

From 6–8 May, policy makers, economists, scientists and civil society from all over Europe – as well as guests from America, Asia and Africa – discussed a future without genetically modified plants and animals in the GM-free Europe conference that took place in Berlin.

10 years after the first conference during which 190 participants signed a manifesto in which they emphasized that “The regions of Europe […] have the right to decide about the use of genetically modified plants and animals in their agriculture and ecosystems”, 400 participants from 60 countries signed the Berlin Manifesto in which they vowed to continue and intensify their cooperation to keep the European Union free of GMOs by reinforcing the fruitful ongoing collaboration with GMO-free movements around the world.

Participants of the GM-free conference celebrating 10 years of a GM-free Europe © Dieter H. Engler
ORGANIC EXPERTS DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF ORGANIC SEEDING AND BREEDING

IFOAM EU’s seed expert group met on 28 and 29 May 2015 in Brussels to discuss the future of organic seeds and breeding, with a focus on seed legislation and new breeding techniques. This meeting took place as part of the annual programme of the seed group which seeks to exchange updates and discuss the current situation on EU policies related to seed following the withdrawal of the Commission 2013 proposal on the revision of EU legislation related to seed and plant reproductive material in December 2014.

SUSTAINABLE FOODS SUMMIT HIGHLIGHTS KEY INDUSTRY CONCERNS

The food industry needs to take greater steps towards sustainable development. This was one of the key messages from the Sustainable Foods Summit, hosted in Amsterdam on 4–5 June. Soil fertility, carbon management, regulatory framework, and sustainable food production were stated as major areas of concern.

According to IFOAM EU sponsor Wessanen, the future of the food industry lies with sustainable foods. By the use of food pyramids, Laurence Beck showed how the healthiest food has the lowest environmental impact. She stated the strategy of her company was to focus on organic and health foods. As part of this strategy, it had acquired Clipper, Alter Eco and Isola Bio in recent years, and was looking for similar such companies.

The food industry needs to act if it is to avert a carbon crisis. This was the message from Craig Sams, founder and president of Green & Black’s, in his keynote. He said 125 million hectares of fertile soil is lost each year. He believes carbon pricing is inevitable if we are to maintain agricultural land.

In another paper, Coop Denmark showed how private labels can be successful with sustainable products; its Anglamark private label is recognised by 70% of Danish consumers. Apart from organic foods, it represents natural baby care products, personal care products and home care products.

The complexities of sustainable packaging were also debated.

This 7th European edition of the Sustainable Foods Summit brought together over 130 senior executives from the food industry. Organised by Organic Monitor, the aim of the Sustainable Foods Summit is to explore new horizons for eco-labels and sustainability in the food industry by discussing key industry issues in a high level forum.
4 MAKING EUROPE MORE ORGANIC – SUPPORT IFOAM EU

IFOAM EU KEY SPONSORS 2015

The contributions of sponsors allow IFOAM EU to focus on its most important work – representing organic stakeholders. This funding is a means to co-finance IFOAM EU events, projects and publications and is a highly valued contribution to our work.

WORKING IN THE ORGANIC SECTOR?
COMMITTED TO MAKE EUROPE MORE ORGANIC?

DONATE NOW!

Protect your interests and help us make Europe more organic by:
• Ensuring that EU regulations match the reality of organic producers
• Ensuring that EU and national legislation do not discriminate against organic and traditional seed production
• Fighting the expansion of GMO use in Europe and protecting organic farmers and producers from contamination

You can help MAKE EUROPE MORE ORGANIC

Join our current partners and make your donation!
5 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2–4 October 8th International Organic and Regional Food Fair NATURA FOOD Lodz, Poland

14–17 October 5th International Conference on Organic Agriculture Sciences Bratislava, Slovakia

18–20 October Natexpo Paris Nord Villpinte, Hall 7, France

1–2 November Nordic Organic Food Fair 2015 / Natural Products Scandinavia Malmö, Sweden

1–2 December Organic Innovation Days More information to be announced

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