



International Federation
of Organic Agriculture Movements
EU Regional Group

PRESS RELEASE

ORGANIC CITIES & IFOAM EU JOIN FORCES TO BRING ORGANIC ON EVERY TABLE IN EUROPE

NÜRNBERG, 15 FEBRUARY 2018 – As of today, Europe is one step closer to transforming food and farming. The ‘Organic City Network Europe’ and IFOAM EU signed a Memorandum of Understanding at Biofach to give a strong foundation to their collaboration to work together towards a fair, environmentally conscious, healthy and caring food and farming system. The ‘Organic City Network Europe’ and IFOAM EU will cooperate on the future of the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP), regional and local food supply chains, Green Public Procurement (GPP) policies, research and innovation, the true cost of food, increasing the transparency of supply chains, and access to land for new organic farmers.

Claudio Serafini, Director of the ‘Organic Cities Network Europe’, is enthusiastic that cities are increasingly recognised as important players in contributing to transforming the European agricultural policy: “Since the turn of the century, European cities, towns and regions have played an increasingly important role in promoting organic agriculture, the organic industry and organic food. Cities hold a wealth of expertise and experience on how to contribute to a European agricultural policy that pursues food security and sustainable development, improves the quality of life of local and regional residents, and contributes to achieving the objectives and targets set out in the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and in the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact.”

“The European organic movement wants to take the lead in transforming the food system to a sustainable system – both in Europe and globally;” says Eduardo Cuoco, Director of IFOAM EU “Such a transformation must be a joint effort by the entire food sector and the policy-makers. Local authorities will play an important role in guaranteeing to that European citizens have access to organic food. Policies such as green procurement in public canteens will stimulate sustainable diets, the development of local and regional organic supply chains and increasing public awareness of organic food products. We are sure that this collaboration will help make our shared ‘Organic Vision for Europe to 2030’ a reality.”

Ends.

For more information please contact:

Magdalena Wawrzonkowska, Communications Manager
+32 (0)2 808 7991, magdalena.wawrzonkowska@ifoam-eu.org
Or visit www.ifoam-eu.org

Notes for editors:

To make the European organic movement’s shared ‘Organic Vision for Europe to 2030’ a reality, IFOAM EU published [a roadmap to sustainable food and farming systems in Europe](#) – including a publication and website with inspiring initiatives. The roadmap is accompanied by a website – euorganic2030.bio – featuring initiatives leading the way. Get inspired by others’ examples visiting [the website](#), submitting your own initiative, and posting about your initiative using #EUorganic2030!

The organic cities network consists of eight pioneers in organic food and catering – Paris (France), Nürnberg and Lauf (Germany), Vienna and Seeham (Austria), Correns (France), Poreč (Croatia), Växjö (Sweden). By forming a formal network, these cities hope to deepen public engagement with organic by expanding organic farming and

strengthening organic supply chains at the city level. This initiative was established in January 2018 and is backed by IFOAM EU, the European Commission, various MEPs, and the United Nations Development Program.

IFOAM EU represents more than 190 member organisations in the EU-28, the EU accession countries and EFTA. Member organisations span the entire organic food chain and beyond: from farmers and processors organisations, retailers, certifiers, consultants, traders and researchers to environmental and consumer advocacy bodies



Rue du Commerce 124 - 1000 Brussels - Belgium - Phone: +32-2-280 12 23 - Fax: +32-2-735 73 81 - Email: info@ifoam-eu.org

Registered in Söderköping, Sweden under organisation number 817606-9436