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19 4 PHOTO OF THE MONTH AND IMPRINT
DEAR READER,

Every year in February the organic movement has the amazing opportunity to come together from across the world at BioFach in Nuremberg. This year, BioFach was especially important for the IFOAM EU, not just because of the wide-ranging programme of events and meetings we organised in partnership with many others, but also for three special reasons.

First, the European Commissioner of Agriculture and Rural Development Dacian Cioloș met with a delegation from IFOAM EU to exchange views on the current ongoing review of the organic regulation.

Second, a structural change was approved at the IFOAM EU General Assembly (GA), with a board elected by the GA and a council made up of members elected in each country. We are confident that this change will help to continue to professionalise IFOAM EU. I would like to thank all our members, for contributing to this difficult discussion and the clear vote that provided clear guidelines for the future.

The 10-year anniversary celebrations of the IFOAM EU office were kicked off. In that time, we have had many achievements including successfully advocating for organic issues, setting up a research and innovation platform dedicated to organic (TP Organics), maintaining organic support within the Common Agriculture Policy, preventing the acceptance of GMO traces in non-GMO seed, brokering consensus across the European movement and presenting more than 200 common positions – many related to organic processing – to the EU institutions and much more.

All in all, BioFach 2013 was an event that brought the European and the world organic movement together and lays the ground for successful IFOAM EU advocacy in the future. If you’re not already involved, the movement needs you too!

- Become a member and participate in our work groups that contribute to the development of policy, regulation and research
- Give a donation
- Sponsor our work as a whole or a specific project, event or publication

For more details on what you can do, contact us as communications@ifoam-eu.org or +32 808 7991.

What happens in 2013 will have a major impact on organic in Europe, IFOAM EU Group wants 2013 to be remembered as a positive year! By joining together and coordinating efforts, we can make it happen.

Christopher Stopes,
President of IFOAM EU Group
IFOAM EU MET COMMISSIONER CIOLŐŞ AT BIOFACH

A delegation of IFOAM EU met the European Commissioner of Agriculture and Rural Development, Dacian Cioloş, who was at BioFach as his home country, Romania, was country of the year. The meeting with Commissioner Cioloş and members of his team from the Organic Unit gave us the opportunity to openly exchange views and for Commissioner Cioloş to reiterate his support for organic food and farming. We explained our position on the current organic regulation review and on CAP reform. We expressed our concerns on the formulation of the Commission public consultation and the current proposals for revising control procedures. We emphasised the potentially negative impact a major regulation revision could have on the viability of the sector.

IFOAM EU further expressed its support for the general line of the Commission CAP proposal and its efforts on the European Innovation Partnerships.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON ORGANIC FARMING

On 15 January 2013, the European Commission launched an online consultation on organic food and farming, aimed at consumers, operators and authorities. More than 30,000 answers were received by time of BioFach. This initiative forms part of the Commission’s ongoing review of the organic regulations, which may result in a legal proposal to amend the current Council regulation (EC) No 834/2007 by end of 2013.

IFOAM EU always welcomes transparency and stakeholder consultation by the European institutions. However, IFOAM EU regrets that the way some questions are written is misleading and that the questionnaire is inadequately formulated to satisfactorily address the diverse target groups and to allow for an interpretation of the results that adequately accounts for the very wide range of experience, knowledge and understanding of the respondents. Furthermore, the questionnaire could give the misleading impression that organic farming has difficulties with pesticide and/or GMO contamination.

IFOAM EU urges organic stakeholders to answer the questionnaire and to give the movement’s perspective a strong voice.
1 NEWS FROM IFOAM EU WORKING FIELDS

1.1 EU ORGANIC REGULATION 834/2007

LAST STANDING COMMITTEE ON ORGANIC FARMING MEETING: PROPOSED REGULATIONS ON IMPORT AND CONTROL

On 15th-16th January 2013, the 111th meeting of the Standing Committee on Organic Farming (SCOF) took place in Brussels. The main topics discussed were the two draft Commission regulations on controls and imports.

The vote of the SCOF on the document regarding a new regulation to improve controls in the organic sector was postponed to the March meeting. IFOAM EU worked successfully together with Member States to encourage the delay of the vote, as we believe the draft would benefit from some improvements on points that could have a major impact on the operations of the sector. The Commission recently presented a new version to Member States that includes some improvements and seeks a vote in the March SCOF meeting.

On the other hand, the regulation proposed by the Commission to amend Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008 on imports was submitted to the SCOF for decision and was approved. Regulation (EC) No 125/2013 was then published on 14 February 2013. Through this new regulation, the supervision of equivalent third countries by the Commission is increased, exchange of information between the Commission and Member States on import authorizations is better detailed, and there are requirements for the provision of information by control bodies and control authorities on the traceability of the production of imported products and involved operators. Annex III and IV of Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008 have been updated accordingly. In particular, starting from 1 April 2013, the EU-Japanese equivalence will also apply to processed food, which is composed essentially of ingredients of plant origin not cultivated in Japan, as long as the ingredients are imported from countries recognised as equivalent by Japan. On the other hand, processed food imported from India will be taken out of the equivalence recognition.

EXPERT GROUP FOR TECHNICAL ADVICE ON ORGANIC PRODUCTION: NEW MANDATE ON ORGANIC GREENHOUSE PRODUCTION

Today there are no specific rules for organic, protected/greenhouse production systems and the general rules for organic plant production are applied. The mandate for technical advice on protected/greenhouse cropping was finalised during the December 2012 meeting of the Expert Group for Technical Advice on Organic Production (EGTOP). This means EGTOP is now mandated to work on a number of related questions, from general definitions to growing media and planting material, from soil fertility management to energy use and CO2. The deadline for the submission of the final report by EGTOP to the Commission is 19 June 2013. In the meantime, IFOAM EU continues to complete its position and, at its December board meeting, confirmed that one of the main principles is that organic greenhouse production must be in living soil.
EU Institutions about to finalise CAP positions

The Council and Parliament are now in the process of setting their negotiating positions on CAP reform: Members of the European Parliament will vote on the future CAP between 11-14 March at their plenary session, on the basis of the Parliament’s Agriculture Committee’s draft position. Agriculture Ministers will finalise their positions during the 25-26 February and 18-19 March Council meetings. After this, the political negotiations between the European Parliament, Council and Commission on the new CAP can start officially. They are expected to begin in April with the aim of having a final document in June.

In a recent press release, IFOAM EU called on MEPs to deliver an ambitious reform that supports greener agriculture post-2013, including effective pillar 2 rural development measures that support organic farming and simulate an overall transition towards greater sustainability. This is in contrast with the draft positions approved by the Parliament’s Agriculture Committee in January, which shows that the Committee is unwilling to put forward proposals that would stimulate a paradigm change in EU agriculture.

EU Leaders weaken greening and rural development funding in CAP budget agreement

Heads of State and governments agreed on the EU financial framework 2014-2020 on 8 February. As part of this agreement, EU leaders weakened the criteria for CAP Pillar 1 greening and significantly cut the Pillar 2 rural development fund from 95.74bn to 85.09bn euro (11.12%) based on the current EU budget 2007-2013, while a number of member states will receive additional once-off lump-sum payments from the overall Pillar 2 fund. The bulk of CAP payments will remain direct payments under Pillar 1, which will be reduced from 322bn to 277.85bn euro (13.71%).

Member States would have greater flexibility to shift up to 15% of Pillar 2 funds to Pillar 1 and member states with direct payments 90% below the EU average would be allowed to move a further 10% of their Pillar 2 funding to Pillar 1. At the same time, there will be greater choice for member states to determine the equivalent measures for Pillar 1 greening.

IFOAM EU strongly disapproves of:
- any disproportionate cuts to the Pillar 2 fund
- weakening of Pillar 1 greening

and calls on EU leaders to deliver a greener and fairer future for European farmers and communities.

The final agreement on the overall EU Budget still requires approval from the European Parliament which is expected put it to vote in April or May.

Take action now for a better CAP!

Contact your MEPs and Agriculture Ministries before they finalise their positions by email, letter or telephone. Better yet, request meeting to highlight core demands for a Greener CAP and support for organic agriculture.

Encourage family, friends and colleagues to “GO M.A.D.”, to go and Meet A Deputy, an EU-wide civil society campaign towards the European Parliament that calls on MEPs to vote for a greener CAP.
GET INVOLVED IN YOUR NATIONAL/REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

You can have an impact on how the EU Rural development framework is applied in your country and region. To assist you in developing your position on how it is implemented, IFOAM EU has published factsheets that explain rural development and organic farming support measures that improve water quality, soil health, biodiversity and climate change mitigation and adaptation. Further training and discussion on the national/regional implementation will be main part of the IFOAM EU Rural Development, innovation and organic farming event in Dublin on 23-25 April.

The new EU Rural Development framework clearly states that stakeholder involvement plays an important role in improving the quality of rural development programmes. In many Member States and regions, stakeholders are already being consulted on the implementation of the new CAP in national and regional law through the rural development programmes. The factsheets are a tool to help you influence these consultations.

REPORT ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS ORGANIC FARMING

Integrated packages of measures can help to support the development of organic farming systems according to a new report on the Delivery of Environmental Services in CAP post-2013, produced by the European Network for Rural Development Focus Group on the Delivery of Environmental Services, of which IFOAM EU is a member. The report highlights reports and studies which show that there continues to be a lack of coherence between regional and national Organic Action Plans (OAPs) and support provided through rural development programmes despite Action 6 of the EU OAP recommending Member States to make full use of all Pillar 2 measures. The report will feed into the upcoming Environmental Services workshop on Quality design of environmental and climate measures for 2014-2020 RDPs co-organised by the ERDN and DG Agriculture on 4 March.

EUROPEAN FARMERS MEET AT BIOFACH 2013

The IFOAM EU Farmer Sector Group (FSG) held a meeting open to interested farmers at BioFach 2013 to discuss farming issues related to CAP reform and the Review of the Organic Regulation and other regulatory areas. Main topics discussed were the organic regulation’s exemption for tethering cattle for small farmers, the political process regarding the review of the EU organic regulation, the policy debate on the Common Agricultural Policy as well as upcoming events.

The FSG was established in April 2012 to strengthen the voice of farmers within the IFOAM EU Group and to create better connections between organic farmers and increase their involvement in the policy process.

GMOs

FUTURE HONEY DIRECTIVE MUST PROTECT EUROPEAN BEEKEEPERS AND CONSUMERS FROM GMOs

To protect consumers and beekeepers from GMO contamination, it is now of crucial importance to tell policy makers that the current proposals need to be changed.

In reaction to the European Court Case on honey (C-442/09) in 2011, the European Commission has now proposed amendments to the honey directive, including the indication that pollen should no longer be considered to be an ingredient but to be a ‘constituent’ of honey. The proposal in this form threatens to undermine the current GMO labelling regime which requires that honey contaminated with GMO pollen needs to be labelled. Beekeepers demand that pollen stemming from GM plants must be considered as an ingredient under the GMO labelling regime to guarantee freedom of choice to consumers.

The European Parliament Committee for the Environment will vote on the draft report on 20 March 2013 and discussions in the Council working groups and ministries are ongoing.
A MESSAGE FOR GMO-FREE FARM INNOVATION

On 12 February 2013, the Court of Dendermonde (Belgium) judged and sentenced 11 activists from the Field Liberation Movement (FLM) to up to 8 months of prison and to pay a fine of 25,000 euros. The case follows a demonstration and action on a GM-potato field trial in Belgium in 2011. In order to express their concern about the trials and raise the debate about the environmental, health and economic impacts of GMOs, NGOs have sent pictures and messages to show their support for a world free from GM agriculture. IFOAM EU office contributed: “Diversity, crop rotation & organic systems will feed the world. For this: GMO potatoes are not needed, agro-ecological innovation is!”

ENIRONMENT & AGRICULTURE

DOSSIER: ORGANIC FARMING INCREASES CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE

To demonstrate the assets of organic in the context of the ongoing policy debate on how food production can be made more resilient to the effects of climate change, IFOAM EU published a new dossier: “Organic Agriculture - A Strategy for Climate Change Adaptation”. It is full of information for all those seeking scientific data and arguments to promote organic farming as a strategy in the climate change debate.

It will certainly be a useful tool to advocate for organic promotion, as the European Commission plans to publish a strategy on how to make the EU economy more resilient to climate change this year.

FEEDBACK REQUEST FROM ORGANIC FARMERS ON BIOGAS PRODUCTION

Organic farmers are invited to respond to a few questions about their approaches towards biogas production before March 10, as part of the SUSTAIN-GAS project. The aim is to estimate the market and evaluate potential of biogas production on organic farms, which help develop approaches to increase the volume and sustainability of biogas production on organic farms in Europe.

Please forward this information to organic farmers who might be interested to take part in this survey.

Economic synergy between biogas production and organic food production is essential for the success of biogas plants on organic farms. To help farmers achieve this, the Sustaingas project aims is developing a definition, market analysis, economic strategy, sustainability standards, best practices, a handbook and training. Find out more on the Sustaingas website.
THE TOTAL PICTURE OF ORGANIC FARMING

“Organic farming is the normal way of farming if we consider nature.”
“Organic is the only way to grow.”
“The organic market grows faster than the number of organic farms in our country.”
“We have to be open and inclusive to convince more farmers to join organic.”
“We have to think long term...”

Listen to what organic farmers have to say. Watch Farmer’s voices, a film from the French national federation of organic farmers (FNAB), launched at BioFach 2013.

FOOD

LET’S WORK TOGETHER TO PLACE MORE ORGANIC FOOD IN PUBLIC CANTEENS

Organic food is a perfect product to fulfil the objectives of Green Public Procurement (GPP): the procurement of products and services with reduced environmental impact.

More organic food could and should be purchased by public institutions and served in public canteens and during public events.

Opportunities and obstacles in purchasing and serving organic food in public canteens were discussed by experts during BioFach. At the GPP session (HORECA forum), Mr. Niels Heine Kristensen from Aalborg University presented examples and a success story from Denmark. Mr. Mark Stein from the Salford University Business School has worked in public institutions for many years and presented solutions and approaches which allow organic suppliers to overcome obstacles they face in procurement tenders.

More information on GPP and relevant case studies are available at IFOAM EU Group website.
1.3 EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION POLICY/TP ORGANICS

ERA-NET SUSFOOD OPENS FIRST CALL

9.4m euros in research funding is now available via the ERA-Net SUSFOOD’s (Sustainable Food Production & Consumption) first transnational call for proposals, opened on 15 February 2013. The deadline for submission of pre-proposals is 3 May 3 2013 at 3 p.m. CET. Interested consortia must submit projects covering at least one of the following three topics:

1. Improving input, waste and side flow strategies to increase resource efficiency and provide added value in food products and food processing, manufacture, reducing input (energy, water) in the food chain
2. Innovation in food processing technologies and food products to support a sustainable food chain
3. Understanding consumer behaviour to encourage a (more) sustainable food choice

The call is divided into two sections:
1. “Research”: open to consortia of research organisations
2. “Research and Innovation”: open to consortia of research organisations and industry (enterprises)

A detailed description of the call topics, an overview of the participating countries, the timeline and budget table as well as a list of the national contacts are listed in the Call Announcement.

IFOAM EU PRESENT AT THE HIGH-LEVEL STEERING BOARD OF THE EUROPEAN INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP FOR AGRICULTURE

Christopher Stopes, IFOAM EU President, participated in the High-Level Steering Board of the European Innovation Partnership (EIP) for Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability, chaired by Commissioners Geoghegan-Quinn and Cioloş on 21 February. The aim of the meeting was to discuss the orientation of the EIP Agriculture, the bottlenecks for innovation, the delivery mechanisms of the EIP as well as the commitments of the members of the High-Level Steering Board.

During the meeting Christopher stressed that productivity – in the sense of simply increasing yields – cannot be the core of the EIP. The world currently produces enough food for 12 billion people, but 30-50% of the food produced never reaches a human stomach. While 1 billion people go to bed hungry every night, 1 billion suffer from obesity and other diet-related diseases. These examples make it clear that producing more is not the real challenge. Rather, a holistic approach is needed that connects sustainable food production with sustainable consumption. Therefore, Christopher made a plea for eco-functional intensification: increasing knowledge of ecosystem functioning reduces the need for external inputs, and helps in ensuring healthy diets based on fresh or minimally processed foods including a greater share of plant rather than animal products. After the meeting, Christopher said: “It was encouraging that so many people around the table shared our perspective and that Commissioner Cioloş wants to use the EIP to develop the links between food, citizens and the environment.”

HORIZON 2020

The budget for Horizon 2020, the EU research and innovation framework programme for 2014-2020, was slashed 12% by the Council down to €70.96 billion from €80 billion initially proposed by the Commission.

This is a considerable cut, but the remaining budget is still a big improvement when compared with the current 7th R&D framework programme. If the cuts are implemented linearly throughout, 3.6 billion will remain for the theme “Food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research & the bio-economy”.

Numbers are not yet final. The budget agreement still needs to be approved by the European Parliament, and a number of parliamentarians have said they will block the current deal.
DISCUSSING HOW MEMBER STATES WILL IMPLEMENTING THE EIP FOR AGRICULTURE

IFOAM EU, TP Organics and ARC 2020 organised a workshop at BioFach for people to exchange experiences with the EIP at regional level. A positive example came from Flanders (Belgium) where funds will be made available for operational groups of farmers and researchers to jointly design research projects. Money for the actual implementation of the projects will have to come from other sources. In general, the set-up of the programme is considered open and transparent. However, this appeared not to be the case in many other regions.

IFOAM EU demands that the EIP be open for all stakeholders, including civil society, both at EU and regional level. To strengthen this demand, IFOAM EU would like to know what the situation in your Member State or region is.

• Are you involved in the design of operational groups?
• Have you been in contact with your Ministry for Agriculture or Research?
• How will the EIP be implemented in your region?

Send your information to bram.moeskops@ifoam-eu.org. Your information might be very instructive for people throughout Europe.

FORUM FOR DISCUSSION AND NETWORKING ON ORGANIC MARKET DATA

Partners of the European project “Data network for better European organic market information” invite all actors directly and indirectly involved in organic market information services to participate in the recently launched OrganicDataForum to exchange and discuss topics related to organic market. This forum provided opportunities to all actors to actively participate in the network by proposing topics and issues to be considered in order to make organic market information more accurate, more relevant, and more available.

Currently, the discussion is focused on the identification of current organic market data problems. Forum will contribute towards the workshop of the organic farming sector stakeholders which is being organised in Newbury, UK on 13 March 2013.

Please register also at the project website for the OrganicDataNetwork newsletter.

The importance of having organic market data
At a panel discussion on “The European Market for Organic Food - Recent statistics and how to improve data quality” during BioFach, IFOAM EU Director Marco Schlüter gave a presentations on the importance for better and comparable data on organic. This availability of this information is important for:
• The sector to assess business opportunities
• Operators to assess the risks of conversion to organic
• Policy makers, e.g. in the current review and potential update of the EU organic action plan

Partners of the European project “Data network for better European organic market information” invite all actors directly and indirectly involved in organic market information services to participate in the recently launched OrganicDataForum to exchange and discuss topics related to organic market. This forum provided opportunities to all actors to actively participate in the network by proposing topics and issues to be considered in order to make organic market information more accurate, more relevant, and more available.
**IMPROVING EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY SYSTEMS**

“Prospects for farmers’ support: Advisory services in European Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems” is a project to thoroughly review international literature on Advisory services in European Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS) and make an inventory of advisory systems in Europe.

The project should help European advisory systems to tackle following challenges:

- Giving small-scale farmers access to relevant and reliable knowledge
- Bridging scientific research and farmers’ demands
- Offering support to rural innovation networks.

IFOAM EU recently participated in the 1st International Stakeholder Board of the project, where we stressed the need for better exchange of organic and agro-ecological knowledge and asked for research to provide a better understanding of the reasons that prevent (small-scale) farmers from becoming active in research & innovation projects.

**SUSTAINABILITY TRAINING FOR ORGANIC ADVISERS (STOAS)**

The current developments in sustainability requirements for organic farming – increasingly aware consumers and demanding food companies – is a challenge to organic, as well as their advisers and certification bodies. These new societal demands are urging organic advisers to develop new tools to assess and improve the sustainability of organic farms across all fronts.

Funded by the EU’s Leonardo da Vinci programme, the STOAS project aims to familiarise organic advisers, organic organisation managers and inspectors with some of the recently developed tools and to provide practical training on sustainability to those working with farmers. IFOAM EU is one of the 8 project partners and is responsible for the dissemination of the project results. More information is available on the [STOAS website](#).

**EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF ORGANIC PROCESSING COMPANIES (EDUOFP PROJECT)**

Organic food processing companies are invited to provide their input on their educational needs in processing. A European concept for training on organic processing will be defined and developed by the EduOFP project partners using this input.

Please give us your input by filling in the [online survey](#) by 28 February.
1.4 INTERNAL MATTERS

STRUCTURAL CHANGE APPROVED AT THE IFOAM EU GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA)

The 2013 IFOAM EU GA was held on 12 February. The major point of discussion and decision was a motion to initiate a new structure with a view to increasing transparency, the efficiency of position taking and member participation. After a lively, democratic debate, there was a strong vote in favour of the motion – 136 out of a total of 172 votes cast.

Starting in 2014, IFOAM EU Group structure will be as follows:
• a board made up of 9 representatives elected by the GA
• a council made up of national representatives elected locally in each EU + EFTA country by IFOAM EU members in that country
• the council members’ votes will be weighted between one and three votes, according to the total number of members votes in a country
• sectoral interest groups will have a stronger mandate to develop policy positions

The IFOAM EU Group in particular thanks Bernward Geier of Colabora and Beate Huber of FIBL for independently chairing the assembly, Francis Blake of the Soil Association for providing expertise on statutes, and Marian Blom of Bionext for taking on the role of referee.
2 SPONSORSHIP

SUPPORT IFOAM EU GROUP!

Next to membership fees, sponsoring is the only other financial input that can guarantee the carrying out of independent advocacy work and a proper presentation of the organic movement in Brussels.

To gain a wide number of sponsors, the IFOAM EU Group offers a variety of sponsorship options – there is at least one that will fit your needs!

The IFOAM EU Group will be pleased to jointly develop with you the best sponsoring option with you. Get in contact with us to fine-tune your sponsor ideas:
Laura.Ullmann@ifoam-eu.org
Tel: +32 2 808 79 91

KEY SPONSOR PRESENTATION

IFOAM EU key sponsors 2013:
- ARIZA
- Ecovalia
- Wessanen

ARIZA, Ecovalia and Wessanen show their support for the work of IFOAM EU by a financial cooperation with IFOAM EU throughout 2013. Their money will be used to co-finance IFOAM EU events, projects and publications and is a highly valued contribution to our work.

IFOAM EU SPONSORSHIP IN ACTION!

Sponsorship awards at the 6th European Organic Congress

5th European Organic Congress
3 EVENTS

3.1 REVIEW OF EVENTS

BIOFACH: WHERE ORGANIC PEOPLE MEET!

41,500 trade visitors from 129 countries (international share 43%) attended this year’s edition of BioFach and Vivaness. The top five countries in terms of number of visitors per country were Germany, Italy, Austria, France and the Netherlands.

Romania was the focus of the World Organic Trade Fair with 55 exhibitors representing this country with strong growth in organic and the potential to continue increasing the organic share of production.

IFOAM EU had a strong presence, especially in the conference side. In addition to a members-only event on the Organic Regulation Review process and the biannual general assembly, IFOAM EU organised and/or participated in 13 open seminars and workshops.

The focus was on developing policy recommendations and strategies for the development of organic production. Key topics included:

- EU Organic Regulation
- Representatives from the DG Agriculture’s Organic Unit, the Thünen Institute (leaders of the consortium in charge for the external ex-post evaluation of regulation), IFOAM EU Group and EOCC discussed the ongoing regulation review process. The Commission pointed out that another main objective for 2013 is the review of European Action Plan for Organic Food and Farming of 2004.
- Preparing the organic and agro-ecological sector for the new EU Research & Innovation Policy
- The EU/US equivalency agreement
- Organic strategies against climate change
- Farming practices, organically managed soils, decreased energy consumption, green energy, CO2 reduction projects
- GMO – a trade obstacle in the food chain
- Pesticide residue guidelines
  Differing guidelines and the difficulties of accurate testing
- Introducing an environmental management system for organic processors and traders
- Implementation of the 2012 organic wine regulation
  Results after one year, potential inclusion of organic wine in equivalency agreements between EU and third countries, and development of certification of organic wine in third countries

Presentations can be found on the IFOAM EU website.
IFOAM EU PART OF CIVIL SOCIETY DEMO FOR GREENER AND FAIR FARMING IN BERLIN

Over 25,000 people from Germany and across the EU took part in a demonstration against industrial farming in Berlin on 19 January at the start of the International Green Week. With the motto “We’ve had enough! Good food. Good agriculture. Now!” farmers, bee-keepers and citizens marched from the main Berlin railway station to the office of the German Chancellor Angela Merkel. IFOAM EU’s Bulgarian board member, Albena Simeonova, speaking on behalf of members of the Good Food Good Farming Campaign, addressed demonstrators. She called for organic farming to be prioritised in the CAP reform with spending specifically dedicated to organic farming, in order to help develop and expand agro-ecological approaches. The IFOAM EU Group was also represented by Vice President Dorota Metera, Director Marco Schlüter and Policy Coordinator Stephen Meredith. The following day the IFOAM EU Group participated in an Internal Good Food Good Farming Campaign Strategy Meeting ahead of the launch of the Go M.A.D, which urges citizens to meet members of the European Parliament and express their desires for a greener and fairer CAP.
3.2 PREVIEW OF EVENTS

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ORGANIC FARMING

The IFOAM EU Group will host a programme of events during the Irish EU Presidency, on 23-25 April. The 3-day programme co-organised with Irish IFOAM EU members from the Irish Organic Farmers and Growers Association and the Organic Trust will include a number of farm walks in the Leinster region and a series of workshops in Dublin focusing on the implementation of new rural development programming for 2014-2020 and innovation. The programme is open to members of the IFOAM EU Farmer Sector Group and other interested parties. Registration will open shortly. For further information please contact Stephen.Meredith (at) ifoam-eu.org.

PESTICIDE ACTION WEEK

Use the first week of spring, 20-30 March, to raise awareness about alternatives to pesticides: organic farming! Events are led by hundreds of associations, citizens, farmers, companies, teachers, local governments. Organise your own and register it on the common website. It will link your initiative to a global grassroots movement for a pesticide-free world and raise awareness of the health and environment risks of synthetic pesticides.

ORGANIC MARKET FORUM

The Organic Marketing Forum (OMF) is an international business to business exhibition as well as a networking and training meeting for companies and organisations from Eastern and Western Europe for a trade exhibition, conference, workshops, networking and excursion. The 8th edition will be held in Warsaw, Poland, from 17-19 June 2013. IFOAM EU is proud to be a patron of this event organised by EkoConnect.
NATURA & be ECO
October 11-13, 2013
Lodz, Poland

NOW YOU CAN BE ONE OF US
NATURA FOOD & beECO
INVITES

www.naturafodd.pl
www.beeco.com.pl

NATURA FOOD is:
the main exhibition of organic, traditional and low processed food in Poland

an annual meeting of organic food market participants including farmers, manufacturers,
distributors and wholesalers as well as their supporting institutions and firms

an opportunity for direct contact with companies active on the Polish market of organic products

an extensive schedule of conferences and sector meetings

NATURA FOOD is dedicated to:
organic food distributors and wholesalers
owners of organic, green and high-quality food shops
canteens, restaurant owners, barkeepers and catering firms
farmers, processors and makers of organic, traditional and healthy food products
organic entrepreneurs, organic food market actors
consumers of high-quality food products

Success story of NATURA FOOD:
Every year since 2008, Natura Food gather politicians, associations,
VIPs and other opinion makers and figures of public interest.
Here organic stakeholders discuss matters concerning
the future of the market at events such as the BIOBUSINESS
FORUM and IFOAM EU Group conference.

Facts & figures about the 2012
NATURA FOOD & beECO edition:

over 350 exhibitors

about 1000 conference participants

over 2000 square metres of exhibition area

nearly 10,000 visitors

Contact:
Project Manager
Agata Szczepaniak
phone: +48 623 878 84, mobile: +48 603 172 934
email: a.szczepaniak@mtl.lodz.pl

Exhibition facilities:
MTL Conference & Exhibition Centre
al. Politechniki 4,
93-590 Lodz, POLAND
### 3.3 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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<td>Pesticide action week</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>23-25 April</td>
<td>IFOAM EU CAP seminar</td>
<td>Dublin, Ireland</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Bio Forum 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>17-19 June</td>
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<td>2-4 July</td>
<td>7th European Organic Congress</td>
<td>Vilnius, Lithuania</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 April</td>
<td>Application deadline for IFOAM Academy for</td>
<td>Goetheanum in Dornach, Switzerland</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-13 October</td>
<td>Natura Food Fair</td>
<td>Lodz, Poland</td>
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