

IFOAM ORGANICS INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATES 50-YEARS LAUNCHING 2022 AS THE YEAR OF ORGANICS

In 2022, IFOAM - Organics International marks its 50-year anniversary. In order to mark this milestone, IFOAM invites all its partners to celebrate 2022 as the *Year of Organics*, by raising awareness of organic and its benefits for global food systems, health and the planet.



The beginnings of IFOAM - Organics International trace back to a meeting in Versailles, France in 1972. Roland Chevriot of *Nature et Progrès* envisioned the need for organic agriculture movements to coordinate their actions as well as to enable scientific and experimental data on organic to cross borders. In order to realize this vision, in collaboration with organic pioneers from the *UK Soil Association*, the *Swedish Biodynamic Association* and the *Rodale Institute* (USA), the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM - Organics International) was set up. IFOAM Organics Europe was established in 2002 and IFOAM Organics Asia in 2012.

IFOAM defines Organic Agriculture “as a production system that sustains the health of soils, ecosystems, and people. It relies on ecological processes, biodiversity and cycles adapted to local conditions, rather than the use of inputs with adverse effects. Organic Agriculture combines tradition, innovation, and science to benefit the shared environment and promote fair relationships and good quality of life for all involved.”

In 2022, five decades later, IFOAM have over 700 members from about 100 countries and territories. The sector they represent is made up of over 3.1 million organic farmers, 72.3 million hectares of organic farmland and the global organic market is valued at 106 billion euros.

The aim of the Year of Organics 2022 is to raise awareness of how organic agriculture can be a pathway to addressing not only hunger and malnutrition, but also other challenges including poverty, water use, the climate crisis, as well as unsustainable production and consumption.

IFOAM Organics International include in the celebration the impact results achieved by the Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS), highlighted in 2021 at the event [30 Years of PGS Development](#), organized in collaboration with Nature & Progrès and CIRAD, within the framework of the 20th Organic World Congress: at least 235 PGS initiatives in 77 Countries have certified 1.110.964 producers and an estimated total of 755.000 ha of organically managed agricultural land. PGS are recognized as valid conformity



assessment mechanisms within and beyond the organic sector and are included in legal frameworks and public policies supporting organic agriculture in many countries.

In addition to the [Year of Organics 2022 toolkit](#) that offers valuable dissemination materials, more news, documents and information useful to participate to the events planned during the Year of Organics, can be found on the IFOAM Organics International website.

IFOAM Organics International invites all interested actors to join the celebrations, using the Toolkit and sharing its free visuals and messages on social media in presentations, on websites or any other channel, to spread the word on how organic can be a pathway to shape a sustainable future.

To know more

[IFOAM - Organics International website](#)

[Year of Organics 2022 toolkit](#)

[30 Years of PGS Development in IFOAM website](#)

[Participatory Guarantee Systems - Declaration](#)

[The Four Principles of Organic Agriculture in IFOAM website](#)

[Principles of organic agriculture - brochure](#)

[The world of Organic Agriculture – 2021 Report](#)

[2021 Highlights of IFOAM - Organics International](#)

[Library IFOAM - Organics International](#)

[IFOAM Asia website](#)

[IFOAM Organics Europa website](#)

