NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2021 ISSUE 1

Welcome to our first OFSP newsletter in 2021!

This year's first issue is packed with information about ongoing research and activities around the OFSP. We hope you are doing well during these times. For now, enjoy reading and stay healthy.

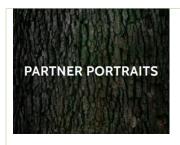
9th OFSP meeting

Thursday 18th of February via Zoom

Almost traditionally we used the BIOFACH in February for our general OFSP meeting to report and discuss ongoing research activities. Due to the pandemic the meeting was online via Zoom independent of the Biofach programme. During our 9th Partner Meeting we informed all participants about the OFSP deliverable progress, new projects, and ended with an open discussion and further engagement opportunities. The following projects were presented: Global Alliance for Organic Districts (GAOD), BioNutriNet Santé, INSUM, SYSORG and Strat KIT. More information about the ongoing projects can be found on our website: https://organicfoodsystem.net/working-groups-and-projects/

A conclusion of this meeting was also that OFS mapping is an important instrument to find and sustain networks. There is a great need to connect programs.

Website Updates:



We added a page to present you - our partners. We thus want to strengthen our cooperation and make it visible. Our partners are distributed around the globe and are to be found on nearly every continent. This represents the diversity of organic food systems. If you haven't been contacted yet, we will soon get in touch with you.

https://organicfoodsystem.net/partner-portraits/



We continuously update ongoing projects on our website to strengthen our research side of the network and show in which projects we are involved.

https://organicfoodsystem.net/workinggroups-and-projects/



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FQH 2nd Seminar: 24th September 2021, 9-10 am CEST (online) Denis Lairon, emeritus Research Director at INSERM on the BioNutriNet Study

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FQH (Food Quality and Health Association) is an international network of research institutions and researchers with an interdisciplinary and holistic approach that enables new perspectives to emerge in the way we understand and deal with food and health. FQH is the legal holder of OFSP.

FQH - News:

- 1. In addition to institutional members, we now take individual members too.
- 2. We invite all researchers or research active and interested persons, as well as students to join our network.

We launched a new Seminar Series to which all interested guests are welcome. Please register for the zoom link at FQH-registration@nexs.ku.dk

Seminar Series:

1st Seminar: 18th May 2021, from 9 am to 10 am CEST (online) Machteld Huber, MD, PhD, and one of the founders of FQH on The Dutch Chicken Project

2nd Seminar: 24th September 2021, from 9 am to 10 am CEST (online) Denis Lairon, emeritus Research Director at INSERM (French National Institute for Health and Medical Research) on the BioNutriNet Cohort Study

3rd Seminar: 26th November 2021, from 9 am to 10 am CEST (online) Ewa Rembiałkowska, founder and President of the Association Forum of Organic Agriculture M. Górny

Prof. Dr. Carola Strassner from the University for Applied Sciences Münster was elected Chairperson. She is also one of the two coordinators of the Organic Food System Programme and links these two networks.



SysOrg identifies how pathways to increase sustainable food production and consumption can be successfully designed. This requires a better understanding of food systems, including the multitude of actors involved and the identification of critical points within systems.

We assume that although food systems are regionally very different, similar entry points for transition exist. These need to be identified in order to derive recommendations for a more sustainable design. Therefore, the following questions are addressed:





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For any questions or comments regarding the newsletter please contact per email: Lena.Schniering@fh-muenster.de

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- What is the understanding of sustainability to drive the transformation towards sustainable food systems?
- How can pathways to increase sustainable food production and consumption across the system be successfully designed?
- What are the reasons, motivations, drivers, or barriers for actors to opt for more sustainable solutions?
- What are the promising entry points for developing, consolidating, and disseminating organic food and farming, reducing waste, and shifting to sustainable diets? What are critical points to bring these perspectives together in a systems approach?

This is done by mapping and analysing five case territories (Copenhagen, Cilento, North Hessia, Warsaw, Kenitra) in a transdisciplinary way. SysOrg will result in improved and locally adapted strategies and tools for transformation of food systems across Europe and Northern Africa to sustainable, resilient and resource efficient food systems with less environmental impact and high socio-cultural acceptance.



Note: SysOrg is funded by transnational bodies associated with H2020 ERA-NETs SUSFOOD2 and the CORE Organic Co-Fund, under the Joint SUSFOOD2/CORE Organic Call 2019.

7th ALGOA1 and the 2nd GAOD2 Summits

The summit will be held from October 12th to 16th, 2021 under the theme "Regenerating More Resilient, Sustainable Local Food Systems". It will be a hybrid event with both virtual and physical attendance of the participants from all continents in the world.



¹ ALGOA - Asian Local Governments of Organic Agriculture is a daughter organization of IFOAM-Organics Asia and was set up in 2015. It has more than 250 local governments as members who worked hand-in-hand with the organic community to foster the development of organic agriculture in Asia.

² GAOD - Global Alliance of Organic Districts was set up in Sept. 2020 to work globally on the promotion of organic districts and organic sector development in the world. The founding members include ALGOA, International Network of Eco-Regions (INNER), Regeneration International, and the League of Organic Municipalities, Cities and Provinces of the Philippines.



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The theme of this year's Summits focuses on the recovery and re-building of better and more resilient, sustainable food systems under the COVID-19 pandemic. Many lives have been impacted by the pandemic which has targeted the poorest, marginalized and the under-represented sectors of the society.

Invited speakers from all sectors will give their valuable inputs on their experiences under the COVID-19 pandemic and will contribute to the action plans to be implemented to bring about the transformation of our food systems.

The role of the organic districts in the transformation of the food systems will be analysed in the different **GAOD working groups** and ways of emulation and implementation in different continents would be examined.

A "Peoples Food Summit" encompassing the organic sector and civil society will be organized as part of this year's ALGOA and GAOD Summits to address the issues that have risen in regard to the organizing of the UN Food Systems Summit.

The ALGOA and GAOD Summits are generously funded by Goesan County, South Korea, the holder of the Presidency of ALGOA and Co-Presidency of GAOD.

Global Alliance for Organic Districts: Updates



The European Commission encourages Member states to support the development of "Bio districts"

The new "European Green Deal" has an objective of reaching 25% of organic agricultural land by 2030 in all [is it IN all or ACROSS all?] the European member states. The related "Farm to Fork" strategy focuses on promoting the transition to sustainable food systems and is followed up by an "Action plan for the development of organic production". Starting in 2023 the EU Commission encourages Member states to support the development of "Bio districts". The inclusion of this concrete action is largely due to the many years of work with Bio districts (Organic districts) by the International Network of Eco-Regions (IN.N.E.R.) where the first Bio districts were established in 2004 in Cilento, Italy. Today there are 48 Bio districts in Europe and many more are under development in the framework of the Global Alliance for Organic Districts.



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Support from GAOD to Sri Lanka for a full transition from chemical farming to natural farming

By a Presidential Directive given at Colombo under the Seal of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on the 10th of May 2021, Sri Lanka will make a full transition from chemical farming to natural farming. In a letter dated 7th June to His Excellency Gotabaya Rajapaksa President of the Democratic Republic of Sri Lanka, GAOD has given its full support to this transition and is in a close cooperation with the Lanka Organic Agricultural Movement.



Food Systems Summit 2021

In September 2021, UN Secretary-General António Guterres will convene a Food Systems Summit as part of the Decade of Action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. The Summit will launch new actions to deliver progress on all 17 SDGs, each of which relies to some degree on healthier, more sustainable, and equitable food systems.

OFSP gives input to all the 5 Action Tracks in preparation for the Food Systems Summit and participates in various events organized.

Transformation of European Food Systems towards Sustainability by Transnational, Innovative Teaching

You are cordially invited to join the online TEFSI Multiplier Event on 13th July 2021, 9.00-11.15 am CEST (Sign up for free at FQH-registration@nexs.ku.dk just write TEFSI as subject and you will receive a zoom link).

Higher Education Institutions take an active part in sustainable development. TEFSI provides the impetus for lecturers to implement the complex issues of sustainability into everyday lectures. By applying, developing, and widely disseminating innovative teaching methods all stand to benefit from the strength of transnational exchange to transform our food system.



Thank you for reading!



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