

# ISO FAR Newsletter no. 2, 2019



**Dear ISO FAR members and supporters,**

A successful society will be a source of lifelong learning and new ideas and will provide a much stronger voice for your discipline than an isolated scientist. With membership in ISO FAR you can enjoy science as well as making organic friends! In the past couple of years we have been working hard to consolidate our society, but a number of significant steps have been till remain to meet the challenges of the future. In ISO FAR, we learn so many things from each other and from various countries. We would like to ask you to share your knowledge and practical experiences with others and send us the valuable reports regarding to any progress and achievements on OA in your region. ISO FAR Newsletter provides this opportunity for all interested scientists and special thanks to all those who already actively contributed!! However, all members have open access to the ISO FAR scientific journal "Organic Agriculture - Springer".

Finally, the year 2020 will be a busy year for organic scientists since we will have OWC2020 science track as well as a pre-conference workshop related to scientific publication in Organic Agriculture journal in Renne- France. **Thank you so much for your supports, comments, interactions and feedback.** We will work hard to bring more value to our scientific community.

On behalf of the ISO FAR Board Members, I send you all the best wishes for the Christmas and New Year's Seasons.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2020!**  
***M. Reza Ardakani, Vice president of ISO FAR***

## NEWS from ISOFAR:

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### [Organic Delta 2019: 15th annual oaptin conference \(Nov. 24-28, 2019\)](#)

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Organic Agriculture Professionals in Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria (OAPTIN) was successfully held in Delta State Polytechnic Ozoro, Delta State, Nigeria on Nov. 24 – 28, 2019.

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### [Organic Science in Morocco: EU-NACOA](#)

ISOFAR co-organised the 1st EU/North-African conference on organic agriculture (EU-NACOA), with 140 participants. The venue was Marrakesh, Morocco during November 11-12, 2019. Tunisia is to host the second conference in 2020.

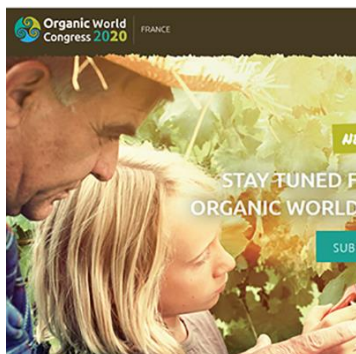
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### [ISOFAR board meeting in Marrakech, Morocco](#)

The 2019 physical meeting of ISOFAR Board members was successfully held at Marrakech, Morocco on Nov. 13, 2019. The meeting took place on the certified Olive Organic Farm of Mr. Jamili Moulay Driss located at the outskirts of Marrakech.

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## [Last Chance to Contribute to the 2020 Organic World Congress!](#)

The Organic World Congress (#OWC2020) is an exciting and unique opportunity to meet, debate, and promote your organization to **key stakeholders in the global organic and sustainability movement.**



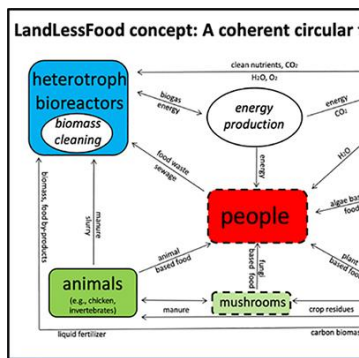
## [1st EU/North-African Conf. on Organic Agriculture 11-12th Nov. 2019, Marrakech-Morocco](#)

The event will be a two-day scientific conference, along with a welcoming evening on the 10th of November, and an optional tour to innovative organic farms on the 13th November 2019.



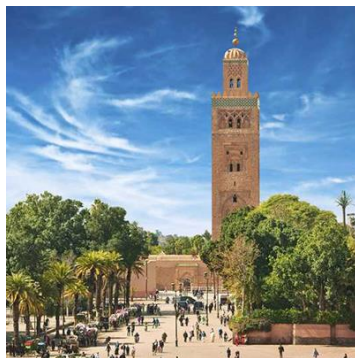
## [Organic Confluences Conference on Climate Change 11. September 2019 in Baltimore](#)

"The Organic Center" is partnering with the "USDA", "FiBL", "ISO FAR", and "The Climate Collaborative" for their annual Organic Confluences Conference on September 11, 2019 in Baltimore, Maryland. This year's conference will focus on how organic can both adapt to our changing climate and be a force for climate change mitigation.



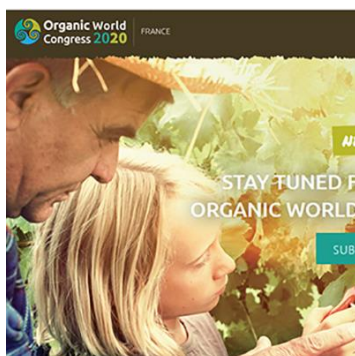
## Combining land-based organic and landless food production: finding sustainable solutions for the world and Africa in 2100

Even optimistic assumptions about population growth, agricultural productivity and potentially available cropland, produce a grim image for the future food security and sovereignty, in particular for sub-Saharan Africa and parts of Asia.



## ISO FAR and INRA Morocco organize the 1st EU/North-African Conference on Organic Agriculture

The conference intends to answer the following question: How can research contribute to bridge the current gap between Africa and Europe, with respect to organic agriculture?



## OWC2020 - Call open!

The first call for contribution for the Organic World Congress 2020 is now open: <https://owc.ifoam.bio/2020/conference-fora>



## Organic Delta 2019: 15th annual oaptin conference (Nov. 24-28, 2019)

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Organic Agriculture Professionals in Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria (OAPTIN) was successfully held in Delta State Polytechnic Ozoro, Delta State, Nigeria on Nov. 24 - 28, 2019.

The theme of the Conference was “**Bridging the Gap between Researchers and Practitioners of Organic Agriculture for Sustainable Production and Consumption**”. In his welcome address, Prof. O.J. Akpodiete (Rector of Delta State Polytechnic, Ozoro) pledged the support of his Institution to OAPTIN and intimated participants with the array of organic produce from his Institution.

*Prof. O.J. Akpodiete (Rector, Delta State Polytechnic, Ozoro) welcoming participants:*



Thereafter, the Conference was declared open by His excellency Senator Dr. Ifeanyi Arthur Okowa, Governor of Delta State who was ably represented by Prof. Patrick Muoboghare, Honourable Commissioner for Higher Education, Delta State.

*Prof. Patrick Muoboghare (Hon. Commissioner for Higher Education) declaring open the Conference:*



A total of 58 participants registered for the conference and were drawn from 16 Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs), National Board of Technical Education (NBTE), Delta State Ministry of Agriculture and farmers. While declaring open the Conference, Prof. P. Muoboghare challenged organic researchers in the fields of aquaculture, livestock and crop production to come up with practicable solutions that can alleviate the problems farmers are facing. In his keynote address titled “**Communicating organic agriculture technologies effectively to stakeholders for sustainable production and consumption**”, Prof. Ike Nwanchukwu articulated steps to strengthen the linkage

between various stakeholders (Government, researchers, producers, input suppliers, consumers and others) in the value chain system.

*Keynote address by Prof. Ike Nwanchukwu:*



A lead paper titled “**Update on Organic Agriculture Research: Nigeria as a Case Study**” was delivered by Prof. Victor Olowe. The high point of the Conference was the presentation and launching of Journal of Organic Agriculture and Environment Vol. 6 (2018) and Vol. 7 (2019) by Prof. E.A Makinde (National Coordinating Scientist of OAPTIN).

*Launching of JOAEN Journal Vol. 6 (2018) and Vol 7. (2019) by Prof. E.A Makinde (NCS):*



After the opening ceremony, the invited dignitaries had a group photograph.

*Group photograph of the dignitaries:*



On Day 2 of the Conference, after the plenary session, participants visited a unique botanical garden with several species of traditional and exotic plants at Agbahra-Otor, Isoko North Local Government Area of Delta State.

*Group photograph of participants at the Botanical garden, Agbahra-Otor, Delta State:*



The Conference ended with the Annual Business Meeting where it was decided that next Conference shall hold in Federal University, Dutse, Jigawa State, Nigeria in November, 2020.

Relevant links:

[www.oaptin.org](http://www.oaptin.org)

[www.dspzportaledu.net](http://www.dspzportaledu.net)

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#### **Author info**

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## Organic Science in Morocco: EU-NACOA

ISO FAR co-organised the 1st EU/North-African conference on organic agriculture (EU-NACOA), with 140 participants. The venue was Marrakesh, Morocco during November 11-12, 2019. Tunisia is to host the second conference in 2020.

The Conference was declared open by Dr. Faouzi Bekkaoui (Director of INRA).

*Cross section of dignitaries on the high table:*



The conference described the status of organic production in North Africa and Morocco, where the umbrella-organisation FIMABIO is an important actor, coordinating producers, processors and distributors of organic products. Organic production in Morocco is aimed at exports (argan oil, olives, tomatoes etc.), and organic products are hardly available in the domestic market. From the science side, however, activity is high to solve problems and challenges related to organic production. Information was given about regulations, such as changes in the recently revised EU regulation of relevance for countries exporting to EU presented by Gerold Rahmann (ISO FAR President).

*Gerold Rahmann delivering his key note paper on New Organic Regulation and Standards in the EU from 2021 onwards:*



On day 2, especially plant protection strategies to control insects and nematodes were focussed, with a range of interesting presentations. Nematodes is a serious problem in many vegetable crops, and research is conducted both to develop methods to control them (e.g. ozone solubilised in irrigation water for tomatoes), and to acquire more basic knowledge about their distribution in different soil types and how this is related to various physiochemical conditions such as soil texture and organic matter. However, nematodes are



not exclusively negative since they may be a good indicator of soil quality, and also may provide available N to crop plants via feeding on soil bacteria. Interesting presentations were also given from Algeria, where growing conditions may be even more challenging than in Morocco – pictures were shown of tomatoes grown in Sahara, and how to repel a leaf miner insect by making extract of a common *Euphorbia*-weed. The status of organic sector in Tunisia, where the government has since long given a significant support, was also presented, by ISO FAR board member Khaled Sassi who is Director of the National Technical Centre for Organic Agriculture in Tunisia.

With the headline of the conference being “Bridging the gap, empowering organic Africa”, several speakers were invited from countries outside North-Africa, to present relevant knowledge and results. The regulation and certification system of organic production in the United States was presented by Jessica Shade (ISO FAR board member). Also other members of ISO FAR board made relevant presentations on food quality (Eva Rembialkowska), the P status of organically managed soil (Anne-Kristin Løes) and effect of organic amendments on soil fertility and the production of organic green bean (Khalid Azim).

*Dr. Khalid Azim delivering a scientific paper on soil amendments in organic green bean production:*



Victor Olowe presented preliminary results of a field experiment with various oil seed crops in Nigeria, which will go over 5 years.

Very many young students were present, sharing their results of Masters- or PhD-work in posters and presentations, and actively taking part in the discussion. Their excellent results and presentations give hope to a fruitful development of organic agriculture in Morocco.

On the last day, the participants were offered a tour to a diverse agroecological farm, and the ISO FAR board members to a farm with organic olives. Mostly foreign participants used this possibility to see somewhat more of the country.

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#### Author info

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## ISO FAR board meeting in Marrakech, Morocco

The 2019 physical meeting of ISO FAR Board members was successfully held at Marrakech, Morocco on Nov. 13, 2019. The meeting took place on the certified Olive Organic Farm of Mr. Jamili Moulay Driss located at the outskirts of Marrakech.

*ISO FAR Board members with Mr. J. M Driss (second left) on arrival at the farm:*



The meeting was chaired by Gerold Rahmann (ISO FAR President) and in attendance were Anne-Kristin Loes, Daniel Neuhoﬀ, Mahesh Chander, Kalid Azim, Ewa Rembialkowska, Jessica Shade, Khaled Sassi and Victor Olowe.

*ISO FAR Board meeting in session:*



The meeting discussed amongst others the following agenda items: OWC2020, Pre-Conference Workshop of ISO FAR, General Assembly of ISO FAR, Organic Journal, Events coming up in Korea and Tunisia in 2022, ISO FAR Headquarter matters such as finance, status of ISO FAR website and ISO FAR in the social media. The Board members deliberated extensively on all the agenda items and far reaching decisions were taken which will be duly communicated to the Society members during the GA in Rennes, France in 2020.

The highpoint of the Board meeting was the facility tour of the Olive Organic Farm during which members witnessed some of the operations in olive processing and were able to carry out palatability test on some fermented olive table fruits.

*Palatability test of olive table fruits processed on the farm:*



Mr. Jamili Moulay Driss later treated the Board members to a sumptuous lunch at his residence.

*Mr. J.M Driss (centre with straw hat) and ISOFAR members at his residence on the farm:*



The Board meeting ended at 17:50.

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Author information

Prof. Dr. Victor I. Olowe

Agronomist

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# Last Chance to Contribute to the 2020 Organic World Congress!

The Organic World Congress (#OWC2020) is an exciting and unique opportunity to meet, debate, and promote your organization to **key stakeholders in the global organic and sustainability movement**.

The OWC2020 will be hosted in the vibrant and historic city of **Rennes, France** (90 minutes from Paris by train) on **September 21– 27, 2020**.

**Promote your work and organization's ideas with more than 2,000 international professionals!**

## Become a Speaker at the Conference Forums

For the opportunity to speak at one or more of the forums, you will need to submit an application via our **dedicated online platform**.

- **Leadership Forum:** Discuss and shape the future of the organic movement.
- **Farmers' and Advisors' Forum:** Share your knowledge, innovations, and initiatives.
- **Science Forum:** Introduce your work, findings, and research on the organic sector.
- **Supply and Value Chain Forum:** Share inspiring experiences and address key challenges for the entire value chain (production, transformation, distribution).
- **Culture and Education Forum:** Discuss the philosophical foundations of and knowledge sharing in the organic movement.
- **Stakeholder Forum:** Promote a multi-actor approach and improve our ways of working for better organic food systems.

**Deadline: Midnight (Central European Time) on October 21, 2019**





# 1<sup>st</sup> EU/North-African Conference on Organic Agriculture (EU-NACOA) 11-12<sup>th</sup> November 2019, Marrakech-Morocco

## First call for abstract under the theme:

*"Bridging the Gap, Empowering Organic Africa"*

### Background

Organic farming systems and food production are crucial for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations. Organic farming includes strategies for reducing hunger, climate change mitigation and adaptation, increased biodiversity and its functional role in environmental friendly production - with fair conditions for all stakeholders of the food chain - and responsible consumption. FAO recently declared that organic farming can enhance food security, rural development, sustainable livelihoods and environmental integrity by building capacities of stakeholders in organic production, processing, certification and marketing worldwide. The revised EU regulation to be implemented in 2021 will affect the import of organic products from third parties, and there is a need to understand how and develop efficient ways for its success.

However, it still a small sector, African Organic Agriculture (OA) is gaining success through the Ecological and OA Initiative (EOA-I) as confirmed during the last African Organic Conference held in Sally-Dakar (Senegal) in November 2018. African organic stakeholders and decision makers along with scientists were unanimous that African governments, continental and regional institutions, development partners, donors and private sector investors, should provide more support to develop OA in Africa.

Many research and development institutes and scientists in Africa are developing innovative techniques for more productive organic systems. These efforts need to be embedded in an international research context. A further challenge is how to reduce the gap between smallholder farms and industrialized organic export farms. This is one of the main concerns in Morocco, where the Green Morocco Plan-GMP (<http://www.agriculture.gov.ma/en/pages/strategy>) has been launched since 2008. The GMP has brought solutions, and has been a success to the level of being scaled up by the "Triple AAA Initiative" to embrace more African countries (<http://www.aainitiative.org/>). However, also unintended effects of large plans need to be discussed in a scientific context.

The conference intends to boost the cooperation between organic stakeholders in Africa with many countries at multilateral level. Organic expertise will be strengthened for the benefit of all African countries.

### Objectives of the conference

- Merge a critical mass of scientific capacity and skills from Europe and Africa, to deliver sustainable solutions by working at practical and theoretical level;
- Bring together high profiled scientists from both continents to discuss issues about organic inputs, innovation, organic research funding, ethics and address recommendations to relevant certification and regulation bodies;
- Address and confront African potentials to expand traditional organic agriculture in terms of genetic, agro-climatic and sociocultural diversity;
- Strengthen the "Organic Alternatives for Africa" initiative and to facilitate the integration of OA into strategic policies and the agricultural development program
- Discuss how OA in Africa can be further developed as a sustainable and reliable model to ensure food safety for all, in the framework of the AAA Initiative following the COP22 recommendations (Marrakech, Morocco 2016)
- Discuss the main question raised from the conference title: *How can research contribute to bridge the current gap between Africa and Europe, with respect to organic agriculture?*



### Conference

The event will be a two-day scientific conference, along with a welcoming evening on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November, and an optional tour to innovative organic farms on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019. In addition to opening and completing plenary sessions, scientific sessions will be arranged, allowing discussions on how the presented contributions (keynote speakers, oral communications and posters) answer the questions below.

Selected contributions will be invited to publish complete papers in a special issue of ISO FAR journal "Organic Agriculture" (<https://link.springer.com/journal/13165>).

Abstract submissions are invited for but not limited to the following topics:

1. Organic agricultural systems design and management, diversification of organic farming and cropping systems, role of rotation, multi-cropping and intercropping. Agroforestry and agroecology;
2. Tailored techniques and practices for organic farming, soil fertility, preventive and curative measures for plant protection, organic weed management, post-harvest;
3. Agricultural waste management, nutrient cycling, environmental protection and role of bio-fertilizers bio-stimulant and bio-pesticides ;
4. Organic Food Systems, local products, state of art, socioeconomics aspects and marketing of organic products in Africa.

For more information please visit the conference website: [www.eu-nacoa2019.bio](http://www.eu-nacoa2019.bio)

### Tentative Program

<b>Sunday 10/11/2019</b>	
15h00-20:00	Arrivals and Registration/ Touristic trips
<b>Monday 11/11/2019</b>	
09h00-10h30	Opening plenary session 3 keynote speakers + debate
11h00-17h00	Scientific Panels (lunch 12h30 to 14h30)
<b>Tuesday 12/11/2020</b>	
09h00-10h00	Plenary session
10h30-17h00	Scientific Panels (lunch 12h30 to 14h30)
<b>Wednesday 13/11/2019</b>	
09h00-17h00	-Tour to an organic farm A (60km) -Tour to an organic farm B (40km)

### Schedule and abstract submission

- Deadline for abstract submission: **15<sup>th</sup> September 2019** (the template for abstracts is available under: <http://www.eu-nacoa2019.bio/abstract-submission.html>)
- Abstract should not exceed one page with key-words (Word Format, police Times New Roman 12 with 1.5 line space). This abstract should be submitted as **word file** through the conference website registration tool (<http://www.eu-nacoa2019.bio/registration-fees.html>) indicating preferred communication (oral/poster); or send it directly to the following email: [info@eu-nacoa2019.bio](mailto:info@eu-nacoa2019.bio)
- Notification of acceptance (oral/poster): **30<sup>th</sup> September 2019**
- Book of abstracts will be available at the conference and ISO FAR website [www.eu-nacoa2019.bio](http://www.eu-nacoa2019.bio) & <http://isofar.org/isofar/> respectively.



## Language

The official language of the conference is English. A simultaneous translation will be available in French during plenary sessions. Slides of the presentations and posters should be edited in English.

## Venue



The name Marrakech is the third largest city in Morocco after Casablanca and Rabat, and lies near the foothills of the snow-capped Atlas Mountains and a few hours away from the foot of the Sahara Desert. Its location and contrasting landscape has made it an enviable destination in Morocco. Information of the conference venue will be communicated in the second call.

The conference will be held in Hotel PALM PLAZA 5\* where plenaries and scientific sessions along with accommodation will be arranged. Please specify to the hotel Promo Code "EU.NACOA2019" when booking (<http://www.hotelpalmplaza.com/>).

Room type/service	Price
Double Room Bed&Breakfast (BB)	550.00 MAD (50.00 Euros)
Single Room Bed&Breakfast (BB)	810.00 MAD (74.00 Euros)
Supplement (lunch or dinner)	230.00 MAD (21.00 Euros)

Other accommodation possibilities could be arranged by participants at their own charge (See accommodation section below).



## Registration fees

	Regular registration fees Before 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2019	On-site Registration fees
<b>Moroccan FIMABIO affiliate (per attendance)</b>	<b>1700 MAD-150 €</b>	
<b>Moroccan participants</b>	<b>2500 MAD</b>	<b>3000 MAD</b>
<b>Rest of the world participants</b>	<b>3300 MAD / 300 €</b>	<b>3700 MAD / 350 €</b>
<b>African participants, CIHEAM-Bari and PhD students*</b>	<b>1700 MAD / 150 €</b>	<b>2200 MAD / 200 €</b>
<b>Professionals</b>	<b>5500 MAD / 500 €</b>	

\*Upon presentation of a valid certificate of doctoral enrollment for the year 2018/2019.

The registration fee covers the following:

- Entry to all Conference sessions;
- Entry to the Poster area;
- Entry to the Conference hall;
- Conference bag with the program, notebook/pen and abstract book;
- 4x coffee break during the conference
- 2x lunch during the conference

Registration fees waived at 100% will be allowed to selected PhD students (Moroccan and CIHEAM Bari students) and African participants to encourage their participation in the EU-NACOA2019. For this purpose, interested participants will have to send their CV along with a motivation letter explaining how their participation would benefit their research project. Applications should be sent to the following email: [info@eu-nacoa2019.bio](mailto:info@eu-nacoa2019.bio)

## Registration fees:

- Payment of registration fees is managed with the help of MICROBIONA Association

Bank	City	Account Number	RIB	Currency	Swift Code
<b>MA 013</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>01198 20123700146</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>MAD</b>	<b>BMCIMAMC</b>

- Bank RIB: **013450011982012370014627**
- Bank address: **BMC Bank**, Marrakech My Abdellah, Avenue Prince My Abdellah -Im AHLAM II 40 000, Marrakech – Morocco (Tél. +212 524 33 98 10 / +212 524 33 98 13).
- Payment proof must be sent to the conference contact to complete registration process.



**Conference contact:** Dr Khalid AZIM (INRA-Morocco)

[info@eu-nacoa2019.bio](mailto:info@eu-nacoa2019.bio)

**1<sup>st</sup> EU/North-African Conference on Organic Agriculture (EU-NACOA)**

**11-12 November 2019 Marrakech-MOROCCO**

*"Bridging the Gap, empowering Organic Africa"*

## Conference Sponsors

**ISO FAR** (International Society of Organic Agriculture Research-Germany)

**INRA Morocco** (Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique-Morocco)

**UM6P** (Mohammed VI Polytechnic University-Morocco)

**FIMABIO** (Federation of Organic Farming Movement-Morocco)

**AfrONet** (African Organic Network-Tanzania)

**MAPMDREF** (Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Development, Water Resources and Forests-Morocco)

**UCAM** (University of Caddy Ayad-Marrakesh Morocco)

## Strategic Partners

**MICROBIANA Association** (Research Foundation-Marrakesh Morocco)

**CIHEAM Bari Alumni Network** (FTN)-Italy

**IFOAM-EU** (Federation of EU Organic Movement-Belgium)

## Scientific committee

Full Name	Organization-Country	Full Name	Organization-Country
Gerold RAHMANN	Thünen Institute /ISO FAR-Germany	Khalid AZIM	INRA-Morocco
Daniel NEUHOF	University of Bonn-Germany	Rachid MRABET	INRA-Morocco
Noureddin DRIQUECH	CIHEAM Bari-Italy	Rachid MOUSSADEK	INRA-Morocco
Anne-Kristin LØES	NORSØK-Norway	Fouad ELAME	INRA-Morocco
Ewa REMBIAŁKOWSKA	Warsaw University-Poland	Rachid ABOUTAYEB	INRA-Morocco
Khalid SASSI	INAT-Tunisia	Ahlem HAMIM	INRA-Morocco
Jaakko NUUTILA	LUKE-Finland	Mohamed EL GUILLI	INRA-Morocco
Reza ARDAKANI	Islamic Azad University-Iran	Mohamed HAFIDI	Cady Ayyad University
Stefano CANALI	CREA-Italy	Abdelilah MEDDICH	Cady Ayyad University/Microbiona-Morocco
Victor OLOWE	Federal University of Agriculture-Nigeria	Yedir OUHDOUCH	Cady Ayyad University-Morocco
Rukie AGIC	Faculty of Agricultural Science and Food-Macedonia	Khalid OUFDU	Cady Ayyad University-Morocco
Loubna EL FELS	ISPITS Marrakech-Safi	Lamfeddel KOUISNI	UM6P-Morocco
Ibrahim El-Akram ZNAÏDI	IRESA-Tunisia	Zahra FERJI	IAV/CHA-Morocco
Abderahmane DEHLIZ	INRAA-Algeria	Si Bennaceur ALAOU	IAV-Morocco
Salah Eddine BENZIOUCHE	Biskra University-Algeria-	Abdelmalek BOUTALEB JOUTEI	ENAM-Morocco
Ghita AITBADDI	Ibn Zohr University-Morocco	El Hassan MAYAD	Ibn Zohr University-Morocco
Miguel A. SANCHEZ-MONEDERO	CEBAS-CSIC, Campus Universitario de Espinardo, Murcia-Spain	Brahim BOUIZGARENE	Ibn Zohr University-Morocco

## Organizing committee

Full Name	Organization-Country	Full Name	Organization-Country
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Rachid MRABET	INRA-Morocco	Lamfeddel KOUISNI	UM6P-Bengurir-Morocco
Rachid MOUSSADEK	INRA-Morocco	Abdelilah MEDDICH	Cady Ayyad University/Microbiona-Morocco
Abdelaziz MIMOUNI	INRA-Morocco	Khalid OUFDU	Cady Ayyad University-Morocco

**1<sup>st</sup> EU/North-African Conference on Organic Agriculture (EU-NACOA)**

**11-12 November 2019 Marrakech-MOROCCO**

*"Bridging the Gap, empowering Organic Africa"*

Rachid ABOUTAYEB	INRA-Morocco	Loubna EL FELS	ISPITS Marrakech-Safi
Youssef RACHIDI LALOUI	INRA-Morocco	Hafsa RAMLI	Ibn Zohr University-Morocco
		Ilyass TABRIKA	Ibn Zohr University-Morocco

### Short list of keynote speakers

Full Name	Organization-Country
Gerold RAHMANN	Thünen Institute/ISOFAIR-Germany
Andre LEU	Regeneration International-Australia
Uygun AKSOY	Expert in Organic Farming-Turkey
Helmy ABOULEISH	SEKEM-Egypt
Anne-Kristin LØES	NORSØK-Norway
Jaakko NUUTILA	LUKE-Finland
Jessica SHADE	The Organic Center-USA
Jordan GAMA	President AfrONet-Tanzania
Ewa REMBIALKOWSKA	Warsaw University of Life Sciences-Poland

### Accommodations and touristic trip

Accommodation is negotiated with Hotel PALM PLAZA 5\*, Touristic trips and other accommodation (low & medium rate) options are also negotiated through our Travel Agency:

#### Sun & Sea Travel

Contact Person: Mme Mounia

Email: [reservation@sst.ma](mailto:reservation@sst.ma)

Cell Phone : +212661141183

Phone : +212 528 828 910

Avenue Hassan II Immeuble Oumlil, 2ème étage,

Agadir 80000 Morocco

<http://www.sstmaroc.com/home>



### Strategic partners



Former Trainees Network (FTN) of CIHEAM Bari



MICROBIONA Association



EU section of IFOAM Organic Internationals

**1<sup>st</sup> EU/North-African Conference on Organic Agriculture (EU-NACOA)**

11-12 November 2019 Marrakech-MOROCCO

"Bridging the Gap, empowering Organic Africa"

# Organic Confluences Conference

September 11, 2019

Baltimore, MD

[REGISTER HERE](#)



Don't miss [The Organic Center](#)'s annual Organic Confluences Conference Wednesday, September 11th. As the premier event addressing issues at the intersection of research and policy for the organic community, this year's conference will focus on mitigating and adapting to climate change.

The Organic Center is bringing together scientific experts, farmers, policy makers, and organic stakeholders to address the current impacts of climate change, best practices within the organic sector for mitigation and adaptation, and methods for encouraging the adoption of strategies for fighting climate change.

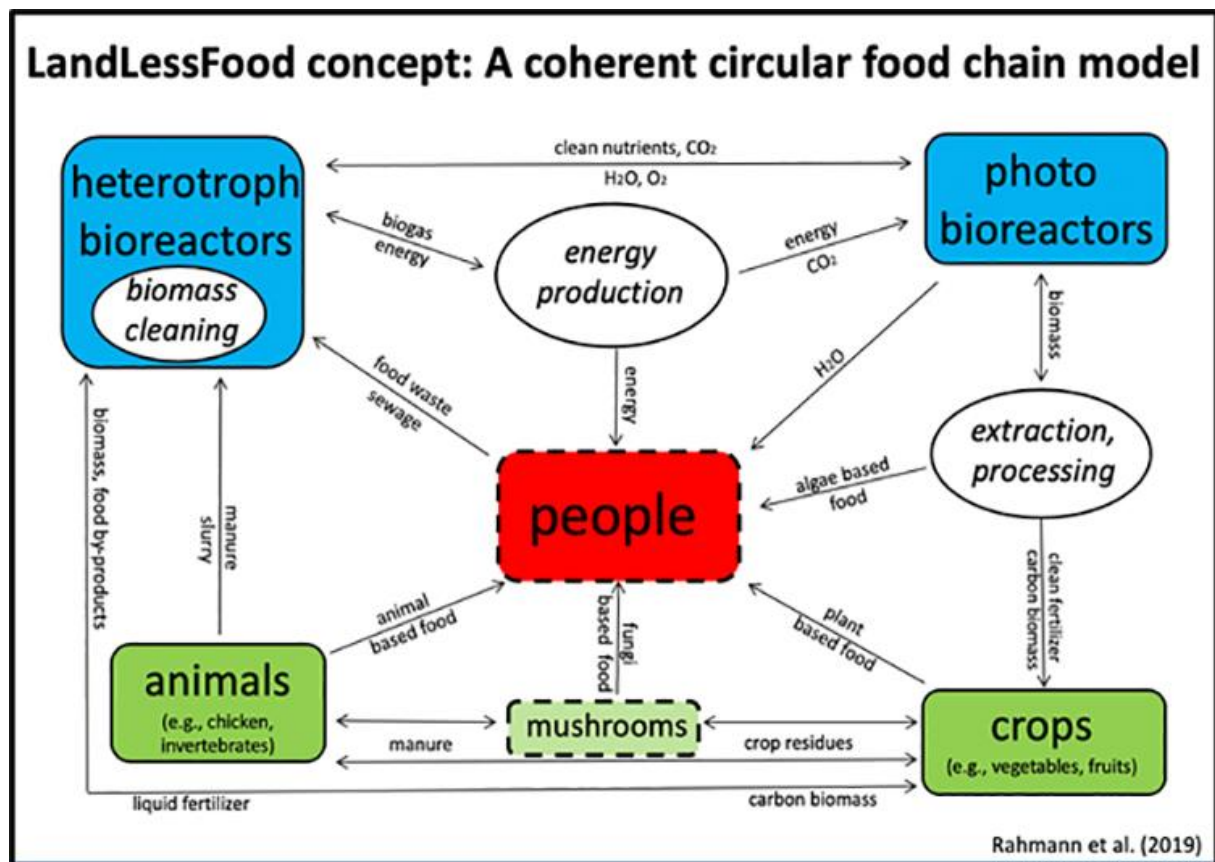
The Conference format will include case studies, panel presentations, roundtable talks, and break-out discussion sessions. Check out the full agenda [here](#).

There is a limited number of seats, so reserve yours while you can. This widely-attended event will be held prior to Natural Products Expo East in Baltimore. We hope you will join us!



## Combining land-based organic and landless food production: finding sustainable solutions for the world and Africa in 2100

Even optimistic assumptions about population growth, agricultural productivity and potentially available cropland, produce a grim image for the future food security and sovereignty, in particular for sub-Saharan Africa and parts of Asia. The challenge is to have enough, healthy and affordable food for everyone in 2100. Since the current methods of organic agriculture will not suffice to produce enough food in countries like Nigeria in 2100, it is necessary to find new solutions.



From the 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2019, a joint workshop by Thunen Institute and ISOFAR will be held in Marrakesh, to develop and discuss a concept for a circular agricultural system in which landless and land-based, organic food production are combined. Besides typical organic topics, like which plant and animal systems are best suited to provide enough healthy food and to protect soils and climate in the future, it will be discussed which landless production systems are best suited for effective nutrient circulation within the whole food system. This includes mushroom cultivation (especially for the recycling of plant-based agricultural residues and animal manure), biogas reactors (for the recycling of sewage, manure and municipal waste streams) and photobioreactors (for further recycling of waste water and spatially efficient biomass production to alleviate the pressure on soil). The graphic below summarizes the basic concept that will be discussed at the workshop.

The results of the workshop will be summarized in a cumulative publication after the workshop. The goal of the workshop is not only to produce a viable theoretical concept but also to initiate research projects that will help us feed the world in 2100.

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### **Author information**

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# ISO FAR and INRA Morocco organize the 1st EU/North-African Conference on Organic Agriculture (EU-NACOA)

The conference intends to answer the following question: How can research contribute to bridge the current gap between Africa and Europe, with respect to organic agriculture?



First call for abstract under the theme:  
"Bridging the Gap, Empowering Organic Africa"

## Background

Organic farming systems and food production are crucial for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations. Organic farming includes strategies for reducing hunger, climate change mitigation and adaptation, increased biodiversity and its functional role in environmental friendly production - with fair conditions for all stakeholders of the food chain - and responsible consumption. FAO recently declared that organic farming can enhance food security, rural development, sustainable livelihoods and environmental integrity by building capacities of stakeholders in organic production, processing, certification and marketing worldwide. The revised EU regulation to be implemented in 2021 will affect the import of organic products from third parties, and there is a need to understand how and develop efficient ways for its success.

However, it still a small sector, African Organic Agriculture (OA) is gaining success through the Ecological and OA Initiative (EOA-I) as confirmed during the last African Organic Conference held in Saly-Dakar (Senegal) in November 2018. African organic stakeholders and decision makers along with scientists were unanimous that African governments, continental and regional institutions, development partners, donors and private sector investors, should provide more support to develop OA in Africa.

Organic farming systems and food production are crucial for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations. FAO recently declared that organic farming can enhance food security, rural development, sustainable livelihoods and environmental integrity by building capacities of stakeholders in organic production, processing, certification and marketing worldwide. As African Organic Agriculture (OA) is concerned, it's is gaining success through the Ecological and OA Initiative (EOA-I), but stakeholders and decision makers along with scientists should provide more support to develop OA in Africa. In the other side of the Mediterranean, EU regulation has been revised and yet to be implemented in 2021, what will affect the import of organic products from third parties mainly from African countries.

Many research and development institutes and scientists in Africa are developing innovative techniques for more productive organic systems. These efforts need to be embedded in an international research context. A further challenge is how to reduce the gap between smallholder farms and industrialized organic export farms.

The objectives of the conference are:

- Merge a critical mass of scientific capacity and skills from Europe and Africa, to deliver sustainable solutions by working at practical and theoretical level;

- Bring together high profiled scientists from both continents to discuss issues about organic inputs, innovation, organic research funding, ethics and address recommendations to relevant certification and regulation bodies;
- address and confront African potentials to expand traditional organic agriculture in terms of genetic, agro-climatic and sociocultural diversity;
- Strengthen the "Organic Alternatives for Africa" initiative and to facilitate the integration of OA into strategic policies and the agricultural development program
- Discuss how OA in Africa can be further developed as a sustainable and reliable model to ensure food safety for all, in the framework of the AAA Initiative following the COP22 recommendations (Marrakech, Morocco 2016).

The conference website will be launched in few days.

Abstracts to be sent to: [eu.nacoa2019@gmail.com](mailto:eu.nacoa2019@gmail.com)

#### **Relevant links**

<http://www.agriculture.gov.ma/en/pages/strategy>

<http://www.aaainitiative.org/>

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#### **Author information**

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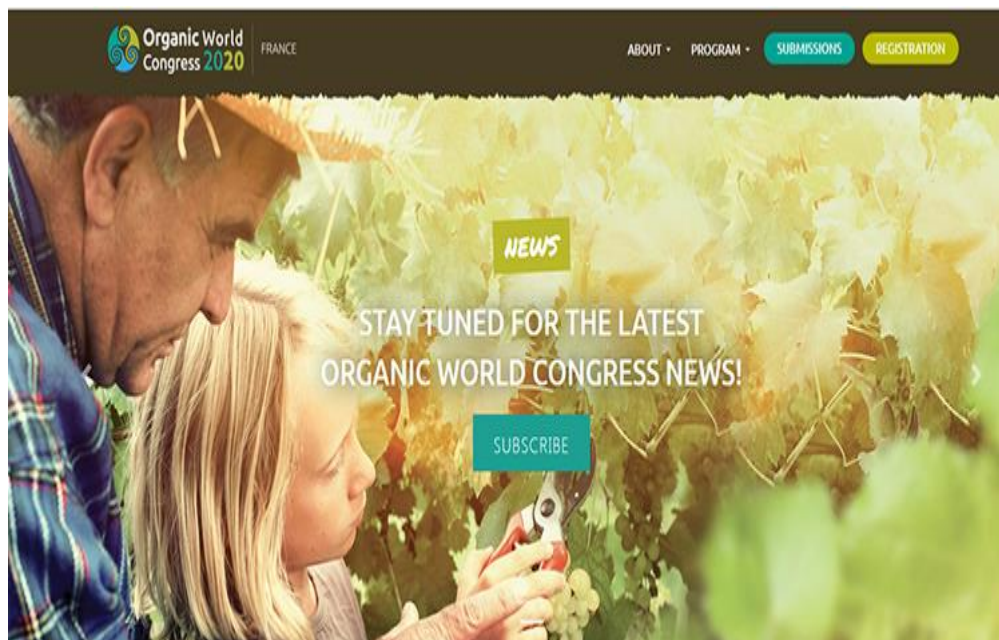
INRA-Agadir

Morocco



# OWC2020 - Call open!

The first call for contribution for the Organic World Congress 2020 is now open:  
<https://owc.ifoam.bio/2020/conference-fora>



The plenary sessions of the Organic World Congress (OWC) 2020 will be accompanied by six individual conference forums.

- [Leadership Forum](#): Discuss and shape the future of the organic movement
- [Farmers' and Advisors' Forum](#): Share knowledge and initiatives
- [Science Forum](#): Present research on the organic sector
- [Supply and Value Chain Forum](#): Share inspiring experiences and address work-related concerns
- [Cultural and Education Forum](#): Discuss the philosophical foundation and knowledge management of the organic movement
- [Stakeholder Forum](#): Promote a multi-actor approach for organic food systems

Each forum has its own objectives and criteria, and below you will find more information on the individual forums. **All forums will run from 23 - 25 September, 2020.**

To contribute in one or more of the above-mentioned forums, participants will need to submit online a contribution via the dedicated platforms provided for each forum. The application period for the submissions of contributions will run **from 15 April to 21 October 2019 (deadline has been postponed from 21 September)**.

You are also invited to apply to host a [Workshop](#) (90 min. slot during the conference - with a fee for organisers) or for a [Pre-Conference](#) (1 or 2 days before the conference). Congress organizers will select the most promising proposals that best fit with the congress objectives.

## Science Forum

**From its roots, organic inspires science, and vice-versa.**

**The scientific roots of organic systems are anchored in the four principals of IFOAM – Organics International: ecology, health, fairness, and care.** Scientific skills are needed for the continuous improvement of organic food, systems, and culture.

This Call for Papers invites researchers to share their work in the following five themes, with a special focus on interdisciplinary research:

**Theme 1: Ecological approaches to Systems' Health**

**Theme 2: Product and Process Quality in Organic Agriculture: Methods and Challenges**

**Theme 3: Transitioning Towards Organic and Sustainable Food Systems**

**Theme 4: Innovation in Organic Farming: “Thinking Outside of the Box”**

**Theme 5: Political and Economical Frameworks as Drivers for a Vibrant Development of the Organic Sector**

## Submission Process

- You can submit your paper until 30 September 2019, 23:59 CET
- All contributions must be submitted via the online platform.
- You can apply for an oral presentation or for a poster presentation.
- Papers must be submitted in English.
- Papers will be selected by the science board members after a scientific review.
- The notification of acceptance will be sent in February 2020.
- Selected papers (oral and poster) will be published in the Science Forum Proceedings.
- For a limited number of papers, which have been judged excellent, authors will be invited, if they agree, to submit a full article for publication in a peer-reviewed journal (special edition of Organic Agriculture).

## Criteria for the Selection of Papers:

- Does the research address organic farming?
- Does the paper fulfil scientific standards?
- Does the paper address one of the call themes?
- The science board will ensure that selected papers represent all together a diversity in terms of regions, gender, ages and topics.

## Science Board

- Prof Dr Gerold Rahmann (ISO FAR, Thuenen-Institute, Germany),
- Dr Daniel Neuhoff (ISO FAR, University of Bonn, Germany),
- Prof Dr M.Reza Ardakani (ISO FAR, Azad University, Iran),
- Dr Jessica Shade (ISO FAR, The Organic Center, USA),
- Prof Dr Ewa Rembiałkowska (ISO FAR, WULS, Poland)
- Dr Khalid Azim (ISO FAR, INRA-Agadir, Morocco)

- Dr Marc Tchamitchian (INRA, France),
- Dr Véronique Chable (INRA, France)
- Dr Felix Heckendorn (FiBL, Switzerland / France),
- Dr Paola Migliorini (Agroecology Europe, Italy),
- Dr Bram Moeskops (TP Organics, Belgium),
- Mr Frédéric Rey (ITAB / OWC2020 coordinator, France)

<https://owc.ifoam.bio/2020/conference-fora>

<https://owc.ifoam.bio/2020/conference-fora#science-forum>