

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2022 ISSUE 1

Welcome to our first OFSP newsletter in 2022!

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.

Thank you for all your contributions to our surveys throughout the last months. Especially with your support, we are now able to broadly report on most of our deliverables.

10th OFSP Partner Meeting

Date: February 17th, 2021 (Thursday) online

Time: 11.15-12.45 CET (forum opens at 11:00)

Place: join zoom meeting

For link and programme click [here](#).

OFSP – The first 5 years and beyond

February 2022 marks the 5-year anniversary of when OFSP was named as a core initiative of the UN's Sustainable Food System Program (SFSP). We are thus finalizing our report that describes the substantial achievements OFSP has made thanks to its partners' excellent efforts over this time period. Our report will focus on the 8 Deliverables we promised to OFSP in these first 5 years. OFSP and its members have much to be proud, but this is only the beginning, the groundwork on which we shall continue developing and spreading the science and practice of organic food systems worldwide. We have gained clear ideas about what organic food systems are, why and how they come into being, the benefits they bring, and the co-creative interactions that help them thrive. We intend to continue building the network that inspires us to deepen and demonstrate the positive impacts on human health, ecological sustainability, building fair and equitable communities. The 8 Deliverables will evolve into a next phase of work that will continue to (i) build our information base about partners and their interests so that we can all know about and exchange with each other; (ii) maintain a census of organic food systems around the world, in various stages of development; (iii) expand the base of educational resources and programs so that knowledge, study and practice of organic food systems is more accessible to all kinds of stakeholders; (iv) deepen the scientific study of the benefits of organic production systems and diets; and (v) build the data collection, sharing, and reporting capabilities to demonstrate and advocate for increased support of OFS. The exact implementation of these activities will be, as always, co-created amongst all OFSP partners. Stay involved!



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February 17th (Thursday) [online](#)

11.15-12.45 CET

FQH Seminar

March 25th (Friday)

09:00 CE(S)T

Zoom link: shb@nexs.ku.dk

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Following the UN Food Systems Summit this past September, SFSP is reorganizing itself; core initiatives give way to a new set of coalitions, each with a thematic focus. The OFSP steering committee has determined that, because of the cross-cutting nature of the organic approach, we do not fit “neatly” into any one coalition. We are still waiting for news from an important SFSP management committee held mid-December 2021 to evaluate more precisely the new possible configurations to see how well they appreciate or enable the holistic growth of OFS. We expect also to have more contacts soon with SFSP and with our partner organic organisations to define our new strategy for coalitions where we find like-minded efforts and allies; we will share with all OFSP members our SC proposals in due time. We shall continue OFSP’s growth in any case.



FQH Seminar Series

The year 2021 saw the start of a series of public Seminars convened by FQH, the international research network for organic food quality and health, and co-lead of OFSP. The first of three online events took place in May and returned to the origins of FQH. Machteld Huber, one of the cofounders, presented The Dutch Chicken Project that arose out of the question on the health effects of organic food. September’s seminar brought the pursuit of this very question into the French cohort study NutriNet-Santé and the BioNutriNet project ongoing results. These were shared by Denis Lairon, emeritus research director at INSERM. The last seminar of the year took place in November where Ewa Rembialkowska shared up-to-date research of dietary interventions in the rat model.

The outlook for 2022 brings four more online seminars, starting with Raymond Auerbach from South Africa, who will present work on African leaders adopting organic food systems on **25th March**. Starting time is 09:00 CE(S)T; the sessions run for an hour with opportunity for discussion. These seminars are free of charge; you can request the zoom link from Susanne here: shb@nexs.ku.dk

Calling all researchers: Do you have work to share in our seminar series? We’d love to hear from you!



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New Steering Committee member



Dr. Lilliana Stefanovic holds a diploma in agricultural sciences and a joint international M.Sc. degree in International Food Business and Consumer Studies of the University of Kassel and Fulda University of Applied Sciences. In March 2021 Lilliana has successfully completed her PhD on the topic “Basis for monitoring the performance of sustainable development goals in organic food systems: A first approximation”. The PhD has been part of the cooperative graduate platform “Food economy and technology” of the University of Kassel and Fulda

University of Applied Sciences financed by the Federal Hessian Ministry of Higher Education, Research, Sciences and the Arts. Lilliana’s research is focused on analysing the transformative potential of organic food systems vis-à-vis the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Since 2013 Lilliana has been teaching in international master degree programs at the University of Kassel and Fulda University of Applied Sciences (study modules “Sustainable Consumption“, “Sustainable Nutrition“ / “Sustainable Diets” and “Recent Developments in Food and Nutritional Sciences“). Lilliana is a research associate at the Department of Organic Food Quality and Food Culture of the University of Kassel. She coordinates the research project “The Organic Food System: How can organic/biodynamic food systems contribute to the societal transformation towards sustainability?” funded by the Software Foundation AG.

Basis for monitoring the performance of Sustainable Development Goals in Organic Food Systems: A first approximation – PhD dissertation of Lilliana Stefanovic

In: Sustainable Food System, Vol. 2

Series of publications by Department of Organic Food Quality and Food Culture of the University of Kassel

ISBN: 978-3-7376-0981-4

DOI: <https://doi.org/doi:10.17170/kobra-202108064499>

One way to approach the food systems transformation is through the prism of food system outcomes. Lilliana’s PhD study employed a mixed methods research design and actor-oriented approach to investigate the outcomes and transformative potential of one of the alternative food systems – the Organic Food System. A stepwise analysis began with the identification of outcome categories along with the specific outcomes and proceeded with the investigation of the contribution to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations, from goal- to target-level. The revealed outcomes can be attributed to the three dimensions of sustainability. Higher perception of wellbeing and overall quality of life have been repeatedly reported by the organic actors.



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The SDGs were found to have a high representation in the investigated case studies, whereby the SDG, responsible consumption and production, seems to be central in all the investigated cases acting as a leverage, activating further outcomes. The results enabled the formulation of a conceptual framework, which needs to be tested in other contexts and settings.

Organic Food System Cases Around The World: A Documentation Project

Tooba Jamil, Lilliana Stefanovic and Sebastian Kretschmer (Eds.)

In: Sustainable Food System, Vol. 1

Series of publications by Department of Organic Food Quality and Food Culture of the University of Kassel

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The global food system continues to be threatened by climate change, environmental degradation, food insecurity, and hidden hunger. Consequently, both ecosystem- and human health issues will continue or worsen if no sustainable strategies are adopted. In the search for food system transformation, organic is a promising approach to achieve sustainable food systems. From a food systems perspective organic actors share a value-based ethical vision and follow codified principles that lead to sustainable outcomes. Organic principles are codified in international and national standards and regulations. As a typical cradle-to-cradle approach, organic farming corresponds to the idea of a green technology. Through documenting real-world examples of organic food system cases worldwide, eleven cases have been selected based on predetermined criteria. This book documents real local food system examples around the globe, namely Lagos Metropolitan Area in South-West Region of Nigeria, West Africa; Manyara Region of Tanzania, East Africa; Karur district of Tamil Nadu State, India; Bislig municipality, the Philippines; Goesan County, South Korea; Mouans-Sartoux municipality, France; Södertälje municipality, Sweden; Cilento bio-district, Italy; Quito municipality, Ecuador; Chester County in Pennsylvania, USA; Wellington, New Zealand. Although the foundation stories of these OFSs vary, one commonality clearly stands out – the joint efforts of various stakeholders towards a common goal of establishing and supporting organic practices in the way that ultimately leads to the creation of an OFS. By adhering to a specific set of social and environmental norms and a different economic paradigm organic actors get a sense of coherence from their engagement, which the organic food system reinforces, therefore leading to positive synergies that foster equitable livelihoods, collective impact and an overall culture of sustainability.



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7th ALGOA & 2nd GAOD Summits

“Regenerating More Resilient, Sustainable Local Food Systems”

(Oct 26th – 29th, 2021, Goesan County, South Korea)



Participants from 38 countries and areas from all over the world, gathered physically and virtually during 4 days to share their experiences and best practices.

Based on the diverse representations at the Summit by notable persons from international organizations like IFOAM-Organic International, Regeneration International, IFOAM-Organics Europe, from local governments, and organic and likeminded groups, and from the in-depth discussions by seven GAOD Working Groups;

The participants, agreed to undertake the following tasks:

- Learn from the Best Practices of ALGOA and GAOD Members and develop a common strategy to promote the model of organic districts at the local level
- Utilize the Organic District Guidelines and Monitoring Tool Kit to operationalize the Organic Districts at the local level
- Expand understanding on the Organic Districts through the GAOD 10 Lecture Series and GAOD Learning and Competence Centers under the partnership of ALGOA Center for Organic Leadership and other partners
- Include the participation of all the stakeholders in the creation of an Organic District and especially guarantee the active participation of the young people in the decision-making and governance processes

People's Food Summit

Regeneration International, in conjunction with steering committee partners such as the Organic Consumers Association, The Global Alliance for Organic Districts, IFOAM Asia, Navdanya, the International Network of Eco Regions, Savory Hub Africa, Via Organica, The League of Organic Municipalities and Cities and BERAS International hosted the People's Food Summit on World Food Day, October 16, 2021.

It was a 24-hour global, participatory, virtual summit that will started in Oceania, and moved westwards through the time zones of Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Europe, Latin America and North America.



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International Network of Ecoregions (IN.N.E.R.) and Beras International/OFSP organized presentations during 2,5 hours from Europe.



**PEOPLE'S
FOOD SUMMIT**
24 hour Global Event

World Food Day | October 16 | 2021



**BUILDING A MOVEMENT FOR REGENERATIVE,
ORGANIC AND AGROECOLOGICAL FOOD AND FARMING**



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