

## **6 Data and Market Access Information**

In this chapter, some of the major information sources for information related to organic farming are presented. The International Trade Centre (ITC) has recently considerably expanded its information and market access services. These are presented in detail.

### **Information sources: Overview**

#### **HELGA WILLER<sup>1</sup>**

##### ***BioFach: Catalogue and BioFach Newsletter***

NürnbergMesse, which runs the BioFach fair, the largest organic fair worldwide, publishes the BioFach Newsletter, which is a good source of information on developments in organic farming worldwide. Furthermore, it annually publishes a catalogue of all exhibitors; it is a useful tool for market actors. The addresses are also available in a database, which can be accessed via the BioFach homepage.

- BioFach - World Organic Trade Fair, Nürnberg Messe, Messezentrum Nürnberg, 90471 Nürnberg, Germany, Internet: [www.biofach.de](http://www.biofach.de)
- BioFach-Newsletter, Internet: [www.biofach.de/main/d6vwip4x/d6szfm8q/page.html](http://www.biofach.de/main/d6vwip4x/d6szfm8q/page.html)

##### ***Central Market and Price Reporting Bureau in Germany ZMP***

The monthly information Bulletin of the German ZMP 'Oekomarkt Forum' has a news service that provides information about international developments in organic agriculture. Much of the statistical information was taken from this newsletter, especially for developing countries. ZMP has also developed a database with data on European organic farming, funded by the European Commission (EISfOM project) and the German Federal Organic Farming Scheme.

- General information is available at the ZMP homepage at [www.zmp.de](http://www.zmp.de)
- The ZMP organic market database is available at [www.zmp.de/oekomarkt/Marktdatenbank/en/index.asp](http://www.zmp.de/oekomarkt/Marktdatenbank/en/index.asp).

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### ***EkoConnect - International Center for Organic Agriculture of Central and Eastern Europe***

EkoConnect is the International Center for Organic Agriculture of Central and Eastern Europe, and it is a member of the IFOAM. EkoConnect supports the exchange of information, knowledge and experiences in the field of organic agriculture. The organization also offers its network to people and their organizations engaged in the organic sector from Western and Eastern Europe.

Since March 2005, EkoConnect has published a bi-monthly newsletter about organic agriculture in Central and Eastern Europe.

- Homepage of the International Centre for Organic Agriculture of Central and Eastern Europe EkoConnect: [www.ekoconnect.org/en\\_index.html](http://www.ekoconnect.org/en_index.html)

### ***Eurostat Statistics on Organic Farming***

Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, provides several data sets on organic agriculture for most EU countries. Eurostat also provides in depth reports about the statistical development of organic farming in Europe.

- A link to the various Eurostat databases and documents related to organic farming is available via the Organic Europe homepage: [www.organic-europe.net/europe\\_eu/statistics-eurostat.asp](http://www.organic-europe.net/europe_eu/statistics-eurostat.asp).

### ***Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)***

The FAO offers a wide range of information on organic agriculture on its organic farming internet site. In 2005, the FAO set up the Organic Agriculture Information Management System (Organic-AIMS), with country information on organic agriculture. The following aspects are covered: legal and institutional framework, institutions and experts. Selected documents are made available.

The FAO statistical database FAOSTAT, which can be found at the FAO internet page, provides useful statistical information on agriculture worldwide.

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Organic Agriculture, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Roma, Italy. Internet: [www.fao.org/organicag](http://www.fao.org/organicag).
- The general statistics are available at <http://faostat.fao.org/default.aspx>

### ***Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA): Reports & database***

The attaché reports of the staff of the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) provide in-depth information about organic farming in many countries of the world. The reports are available at the FAS Homepage.

- The attaché reports are available at [www.fas.usda.gov/agx/organics/attache.htm](http://www.fas.usda.gov/agx/organics/attache.htm) and [www.fas.usda.gov/agx/organics/international.htm](http://www.fas.usda.gov/agx/organics/international.htm).

- The attaché reports database offers search options by products, countries and by date at [www.fas.usda.gov/scripts/attacherep/default.asp](http://www.fas.usda.gov/scripts/attacherep/default.asp).

### ***International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM)***

The International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM), the international umbrella organization of organic farming organizations worldwide. It has about 700 members in 108 countries, which are listed in its membership directory (IFOAM 2007). The IFOAM homepage [www.ifoam.org](http://www.ifoam.org) provides useful information about organic farming worldwide. IFOAM also has also relevant publications.

- International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM), Charles-de-Gaulle-Str. 5, 53113 Bonn, Germany, Internet: [www.ifoam.org](http://www.ifoam.org)

### ***International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)***

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is a specialized agency of the United Nations, dedicated to eradicating rural poverty in developing countries. Its homepage is a useful tool to learn more about the agricultural situation in many developing countries. IFAD conducted two thematic evaluations of organic agriculture and poverty reduction: one covering Latin America and the Caribbean (IFAD 2002), and one covering Asia, primarily China and India (IFAD 2005). The evaluations looked at the practice of organic methods and their relation to poverty reduction, food security and trade. They also analyzed small-farmer groups that have been successful in adopting organic technologies and in marketing their organic products.

- For more information about IFAD's work related to organic farming see [www.ifad.org/evaluation/public\\_html/eksyst/doc/thematic/organic/organic.htm](http://www.ifad.org/evaluation/public_html/eksyst/doc/thematic/organic/organic.htm)

### ***International Trade Centre (ITC)***

In 1999, the International Trade Centre (ITC) published its study 'Organic Food and Beverages: World supply and major European Markets'. The aim of this study is to inform developing countries about the market potential of organic products from their countries for the organic markets worldwide. Until today, this book is one of the key information resources on organic farming worldwide.

On the organic farming homepage of the International Trade Centre, individual aspects covered in the studies are continually expanded and updated. Detailed information on the ITC activities is available in the following chapter by Alexander Kasterine.

- [www.intracen.org/organics](http://www.intracen.org/organics)

### ***Organic Market Info***

This website offers a wide range of information on organic farming in Europe and worldwide with a special focus on market news.

- [www.organic-market.info/](http://www.organic-market.info/)

### **Organic Monitor**

Organic Monitor is a business research & consulting company that specializes on the global organic and related product industries. It provides a range of business services to organizations that are active in these industries. Services include business research publications, customized research and business consulting. The Organic Monitor homepage provides summaries of the research reports as well as market news.

- [www.organicmonitor.com](http://www.organicmonitor.com)

### **The Organic Standard (TOS)**

In 2000, 'The Organic Standard', a magazine concerned with international certification was launched. 'The Organic Standard', published by GroLink, provides regular and up-to date information on issues regarding organic farming worldwide, and a trial issue can be ordered via the internet site of the magazine.

- The Organic Standard [www.organicstandard.com/](http://www.organicstandard.com/)
- GroLink [www.grolink.se](http://www.grolink.se)

### **Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL**

The FiBL Homepage [www.fibl.org](http://www.fibl.org) provides a wide range of information on the international work of the institution. Furthermore, FiBL maintains a few homepages of relevance to international organic farming like the Organic Europe homepage with country reports and addresses and the Organic World Homepage (links, currently being set up). FiBL also provides market studies (e.g. Kilcher et al. 2004).

- [www.fibl.org](http://www.fibl.org), [www.organic-europe.net](http://www.organic-europe.net) and [www.organic-world.net](http://www.organic-world.net)

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