

Celebrating 25 Years of “The World of Organic Agriculture” - Testimonials

In this special 25th edition of "The World of Organic Agriculture," we are commemorating a milestone achievement. To express our deep appreciation for their invaluable support, we have reached out to our esteemed contacts and data providers, inviting them to share testimonials that underscore the profound significance of this yearbook in their professional endeavors. We are sincerely grateful for their contributions, which have played an integral role in shaping the impact and relevance of our publication over the years.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation for the work done on organic statistics. "The World of Organic Agriculture" is one of FiBL's most significant flagship projects, and I take great pride in it.

Dr. Jörn Sanders, Chairman of the FiBL Management Board

The statistics book measures the pulse of the organic sector and it is a key reference point for us when it comes to showcasing the impact and constant development of organic agriculture worldwide.

We use the information collected to provide our members reliable data and support our role in convening inclusive conversations at a global scale, it is an invaluable resource.

Karen Mapusua, President IFOAM – Organics International

25 years - that's really a great date and it's amazing!

For me the global data collection is essential as it provides a lot of insights, allows me to follow trends and stay connected to the farmers.

It also empowers to make informed decisions that can drive organic farming and inspire positive changes.

Tatsiana Astraukh, Ecoidea, Belarus

The Organic Trade Association is honored to have contributed to the World of Organic Agriculture for 25 years. Having access to sound data is critical to the growth and sustainability of the organic sector. Accurate data helps policymakers develop sound national organic strategies.

Growers and producers of organic products, as well as processors, retailers, and the entire organic supply chain, need precise data to make practical production and business decisions. International data sharing benefits the entire organic sector, as well as organic consumers.

Violet Batcha, Director of Marketing&Communications, Organic Trade Association, USA

A sector must know how to analyze, visualize, and represent itself in order to be significant. What would the world of organic farming be like without the data collected, processed, and disseminated under the direction and expertise of FiBL, without the informational network and international relationships of IFOAM – Organics International, without the global fair BIOFACH where they are presented every year and which inspired the first collection in 1999?

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Thanks to them, global organic data is accessible to everyone through The World of Organic Agriculture yearbook and dynamic statistics on the organic-world.net website. An invaluable asset.

Rosa Maria Bertino, Bio Bank, Italy

The annual surveys make the global development of organic farming tangible and serve as an important reference. They highlight the significance of organic production worldwide and enable the correct assessment of the national status of development in the organic sector

Urs Brändli, President Bio Suisse, Switzerland

For 25 years now, the international patron of BIOFACH, IFOAM – Organics International, and the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture, FiBL, have been making an invaluable contribution to ecological and sustainable future shaping with “The World of Organic Agriculture”!

For everyone in the sector and the community, this (data) publication is a true “must-read” – it provides well-founded facts and analyses, offering guidance and setting the course for the future!

Danila Brunner, Executive Director BIOFACH / VIVANESS, Germany

The publication has become the most important reference for the development of organic farming. The data, statistics, and trends are interesting and very meaningful. I have been using the data from World of Organics for over 15 years as a valuable basis for decision-making. For market development, the data, trends, and forecasts for the demand for organic products help me create and assess where action is needed.

For agricultural policy studies, I use the data to assess specific developments. Especially in the development of organic farming, it has been and still is important to be able to classify changes in certain regions in relation to other regions or to the whole. For the future, I hope that data collection will be continued. Furthermore, I would be pleased if the data quality is further improved, and the scope of information is expanded, especially concerning the markets.

Klaus Büchel, Klaus Büchel Anstalt, Liechtenstein

One of the standout highlights at Biofach is the annual release of the global organic farming statistical yearbook, a collaborative effort between FiBL and IFOAM. This comprehensive publication offers valuable insights into the current status of organic agriculture worldwide, in Europe, and at the national level, utilizing the latest available data.

Dr. Dóra Drexler, Hungarian Institute of Organic Agriculture ÖMKi Hungary

The Interamerican Commission on Organic Agriculture (CIAO) highly values the joint work with FiBL, we hope to continue contributing to the quality of the information to have increasingly accurate statistics.

Juan Manuel Gámez, Inter-American Commission for Organic Agriculture CIAO, Argentina

The FiBL statistics serve as an invaluable tool for examining organic markets and narrating the evolution of organic production.

With their visually appealing, concise, and informative presentation, these statistics are a vital resource for both policy makers and market analysts.

They provide a robust and readily accessible foundation upon which to make informed decisions. The FiBL statistics have been a true blessing for the organic movement, playing a pivotal role in the ongoing advancement of the organic sector.

My profound gratitude extends to all those dedicated individuals who diligently undertake the often challenging and underappreciated work of gathering, verifying, and presenting these figures.

Dr. Benedikt Haug, Lecturer at Wageningen University and freelance organic market developer, The Netherlands

Having the most up-to-date organic data is essential, as it provides valuable insights for program and business design by offering a clear understanding of trends. However, in many Asian countries, there are no dedicated agencies responsible for collecting such data, necessitating the need to explore alternative methods

Dr. Shaikh Tanveer Hossain, Director, Policy & Strategy, IFOAM - Organics Asia

The Interamerican Commission on Organic Agriculture (CIAO) countries consider FiBL's work as the sole global reference for collecting, systematizing, analyzing, and publishing standardized global organic production data. They highly value this information as a fundamental resource for their work within each country and express high satisfaction in contributing to FiBL's annual data collection

Gabriela Lacaze, Inter-American Commission for Organic Agriculture CIAO, Argentina

The work that Helga Willer and her team are doing on this annual publication and data collection is really important.

It is extremely critical for the development of organic farming and production that we have up-to-date data and information available.

Aura Lamminparras, Executive Director, Finnish Organic Food Association Pro Luomu

This invaluable publication provides a comprehensive overview of regional trade data that is essential for our industry. It enables us to establish a global ranking of leaders in production and sales, which is a vital resource in our discussions with government officials. Despite our sector's relatively small size compared to non-organic counterparts, our global ranking piques their interest and helps us advocate for continued support for organic initiatives

Tia Loftsgard, Executive Director, Canada Organic Trade Association

In the era of big data analytics and data-driven decision-making, data collection plays a crucial role.

Data in organic agriculture not only enhance transparency but also contribute significantly to bolstering consumer confidence in organic products and the certification process itself.

This underscores the meaningful and important work carried out by all certification bodies.

Virginija Lukšienė, Ekoagros, Lithuania

Great to see the World of Organic marking its 25th edition.

It continues to remain a go-to reference tool for people monitoring organic production and market trends worldwide.

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This reflects the important work undertaken by Helga Willer, the team at FiBL and all the various partners over the years.

Stephen Meredith, Head of Policy, Irish Organic Association, Ireland

The initial concept aimed to materialize an emerging idea in agriculture and nutrition. Metrics related to farmers, land areas, and turnover were a fitting choice for this purpose.

Helga Willer emerged as the perfect figure to breathe life into this initially dry undertaking. What began as a publication of less than 20 pages eventually expanded to 360 pages per issue. The network of data providers from various countries, along with Helga's team at FiBL, continued to grow.

It was through rigorous quality control that the information attained its current value, enabling policymakers and businesses to base their decisions upon it. Over time, it has evolved into the global yearbook of a highly promising industry.

Prof. Dr. Urs Niggli, President of the Institute of Agroecology and Former Director of the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL, Switzerland

The data provided by FiBL and IFOAM for the global organic movement is highly appreciated.

Vitoon Panyakul, Green Net, Thailand

Congratulations to the team behind the book "The World of Organic Agriculture" and the organizations that have made this publication possible for 25 years!

This book has grown to be the most vital and dependable source of information for producers, researchers, policymakers, consumers, NGOs, media, and diverse stakeholders around the world. It stands as the most systematic repository of global organic statistics and history.

It is imperative to continue releasing "The World of Organic Agriculture" in the future.

Natalie Prokopchuk, Swiss-Ukrainian Program "Higher Value Added Trade from the Organic and Dairy Sector in Ukraine", Kyiv, Ukraine

The World of Organic Agriculture is like the bible of the organic food industry. Produced annually, it is the most comprehensive report on organic farming, production, and markets worldwide. I am proud to contribute each year to this important publication!

Amarjit Sahota, Director of Ecovia Intelligence, London, UK

For 25 years, this publication has stood as a unique and invaluable resource, providing a comprehensive global overview of the development of organic farming. Its depth and breadth render it an indispensable tool for comprehending and influencing the future of sustainable, organic agriculture.

Personally, I extend my deep appreciation to Helga Willer for her commitment to collecting all the data and to the hundreds of individuals who have generously contributed essential data throughout the years.

Jan Trávníček, Czech Organics, Czechia, FiBL Organic Statistics Team

The significance of having access to dependable data concerning organic agriculture from all countries in one central source, specifically within the publication "The World of Organic Agriculture", is self-evident. This holds particular importance for Ukraine, which is committed to securing its place on the global organic map, solidifying its leading role as a supplier of

organic products to international markets, and nurturing the growth of its domestic organic sector. The collection and analysis of reliable information constitute an essential component of the decision-making process, both at the national level and for individual producers.

The ongoing efforts of the FiBL and IFOAM initiative have played a pivotal role in constructing a comprehensive overview of the current state of organic agriculture worldwide, enabling the monitoring of trends in the global organic sector. "The World of Organic Agriculture" serves as an invaluable resource for the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine and for Ukrainian organic producers. It facilitates discussions on international experiences and collaborative endeavors aimed at enhancing the competitiveness of Ukrainian organic products in the global marketplace.

Ukraine has consistently contributed information about its organic agriculture to this publication over the years, and we, at the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine, are delighted to be partners in providing this essential data about Ukraine.

We extend our best wishes for the team's continued success in this important undertaking. May organic agriculture flourish worldwide!

Taras Vysotskyi, First Deputy Minister of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine

According to "The World of Organic Agriculture - Statistics and Emerging Trends", China ranks fourth globally in both the organic market and organic agricultural area.

Understanding our global position and realizing our potential for organic development by referencing developed countries in the organic sector is of significant importance to us.

Prof. Dr. Qiao Yuhui, China Agricultural University, Beijing, China

The statistical data provided in the annual FiBL-IFOAM publication have been instrumental in comprehending the current state of the organic sector in Kazakhstan and other countries within the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), where data collection remains challenging.

Often, the FiBL-IFOAM statistics serve as the sole reliable source, not only for researchers but also for government authorities, organic producer organizations, and other stakeholders in the region.

The absence of data on organic production, exports, imports, domestic consumption, allowable inputs, and other vital information creates a bottleneck and hinders countries' ability to accurately assess the sector's development requirements and formulate policies to support producers and trade.

The work of FiBL and IFOAM can offer valuable insights for the development of effective national data collection systems.

Raushan Zhazykbayeva, International legal expert, Kazakhstan