



Vacancy

IFOAM Organics Europe Research & Innovation Officer

August 2023



ORGANICS EUROPE

MAKING EUROPE MORE ORGANIC

About IFOAM Organics Europe

IFOAM Organics Europe is the European umbrella organisation for organic food and farming. We represent organic in European policymaking and advocate for a transformation of food and farming. Our work is based on the principles of organic agriculture – health, ecology, fairness and care. With almost 200 members in 34 European countries, our work spans the entire organic food chain.

The European institutions recognise IFOAM Organics Europe as the leading advocate for organic food and farming on EU policy. We are members of various Civil Dialogue Groups, multiple consortia working on EU-funded projects, and the founders and hosts of the TP Organics European Technology Platform.

IFOAM Organics Europe is an AISBL/Ivzw. Its legal name is IFOAM EU Group - International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements.

Vacancy

Job title: Research & Innovation Officer

Reports to: Research & Innovation Manager

Full-time position

Job purpose: The Research & Innovation Unit of IFOAM Organics Europe promotes knowledge exchange and engages organic actors in participatory research to help develop the sector. The unit has ample experience in translating research outcomes into recommendations for policymakers and practitioners. The work is financed by projects of the Horizon framework programme of the EU. The new Research & Innovation Officer will be responsible for the coordination of a project to build a network of Organic Advisory Services. In addition, they will support a project on achieving 25% organic farmland in the EU, in particular when it comes to the knowledge and research investments needed for that.

Responsibilities

OrganicAdviceNetwork (80%)

OrganicAdviceNetwork aims to co-create an EU-wide network of organic advisors, covering all 27 EU Member States and 7 other European countries. The network will embrace the diversity of organic advisory services, offered by private and public organisations or self-employed professionals. IFOAM Organics Europe is the overall coordinator of the project and responsible for the co-creation of the network itself.

Tasks of the Research & Innovation Officer include:

Overall coordination of the project

- Monitor the implementation of the project
- Keep track of tasks, milestones and deliverables to be delivered by project partners
- Ensure the project runs smoothly, detect any issues that may arise and find solutions – supported by the line manager
- Prepare and oversee implementation of the Data Management Plan of the project
- Prepare technical and financial reports for the funding agency (Research Executive Agency of the European Commission)
- Communicate about project progress with the project adviser at REA.

Budget

- Keep track of the available and spent budget of all partners as well as the overall project budget

Project communication

- Ensure effective communication among project partners
- Organise annual project meetings, meetings of the Executive Committee and other meetings as appropriate

Network building

- Co-create the network of Organic Advisory Services and recruit members
- Coordinate the organisation of trainings and exchange opportunities

Dissemination and exploitation

- Disseminate and package project outcomes for practitioners and policy makers
- Ensure exploitation of project outcomes and long-term continuation of the network of Organic Advisory Services

OrganicTargets4EU (20%)

OrganicTargets4EU supports the achievement of the organic farming targets in the EU's Farm to Fork and Biodiversity Strategies, i.e., reaching at least 25% organic farmland in the EU by 2030 and significantly increasing organic aquaculture. The project is structured into two strands: Production & Markets and Knowledge & Innovation.

The Research & Innovation Officer will be responsible for the coordination of the Knowledge & Innovation Strand. This purpose of this strand is to identify knowledge gaps in the organic sector as well as opportunities to strengthen organics advisory services. It aims to stimulate exchange of scientific and practice-oriented knowledge. Finally, it will increase and coordinate R&I investments for organic, building on the CORE Organic Pleiades network.

The Research & Innovation Officer will help identify key policy gaps and formulate policy recommendations with respect to the Knowledge & Innovation strand. They will create materials for stakeholders (practitioners, policy makers, researchers) presenting the project outcomes related to Knowledge & Innovation in an attractive format.

Other projects

- Similar assistance with other projects may be requested if needed

Requirements

Essential

- Master's degree in agronomy, or other natural sciences; or alternatively a master's in social sciences combined with affiliation to agriculture
- Experience in management of R&I projects (3-5 years), preferably Horizon projects
- Knowledge of and experience (3-5 years) with the work of farm advisory services
- Effective communication in English, both verbal and written
- Confident in speaking to public
- Experience in stakeholder engagement
- Experience in communication, dissemination and exploitation of research results

Optional

- Knowledge of the EU's food and agriculture policies
- Knowledge of other European languages is an asset
- Work experience in Non-Governmental-Organisations
- Basic knowledge of organic agriculture

Skills

- Strong computer skills (including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, SharePoint)
- Able to develop your work independently and as part of a team
- High attention to detail & good organisational skills
- Able to prioritise and used to work with tight deadlines
- Confident in communicating with different target groups, including practitioners, researchers and policy makers.
- Ability to work in a truly intercultural environment
- Curious & creative
- Flexible & able to adapt to new situations
- Good sense of humour
- Reflect and have empathy with the aims and objectives of IFOAM Organics Europe

Our offer

- Full time position - Monday to Friday, 38 hours/week
- Based at the IFOAM Organics Europe office in Brussels
- Salary between EUR 39.000- EUR 45.000 gross yearly depending on qualifications and experience
- Employment period: indetermined contract with a starting date as soon as possible
- High level of flexibility with floating hours and possibility of home working
- Home working allowance on daily base
- Public transport coverage from home to the office or bike km
- Hospitalisation and health insurance plan A-Z from DKV
- Meal voucher (€8/ working day with €1.09 at charge of the employee)
- €250 eco-cheque/year (prorate of the number of months worked)
- Working from abroad (max 1 month per civil year)
- Holidays payment (92% of the salary in June if applicable)
- 24 days holiday per year
- Extra holiday: Christmas Break from 24th December to 31st December and the Friday after Assumption

Application procedure

Please complete the [application form](#). The deadline for applying is **10/09/2023**. Only complete applications using the online form will be considered.

Due to the high number of applications, we will only be able to respond to shortlisted candidates.

We are an organisation committed to values of democracy, respect, integrity and sustainability, and the principles of organic agriculture: Care, Health, Equality and Fairness. We are committed to equal opportunities and diversity.