Vacancy

IFOAM Organics Europe

TP Organics Advocacy Coordinator

April 2024
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 TP Organics, the European Technology Platform for Research & Innovation into Organics and Agroecology. As one of 40 European Technology Platforms (ETP) officially recognised by the European Commission, TP Organics develops research & innovation agendas and roadmaps for research action at EU and national level. R&I is crucial for the development of the organic sector and the design of more sustainable food systems. That is why we advocate for more research funding benefiting organic and agroecological approaches. Furthermore, we promote research participation and knowledge exchange between the organic actors.

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

Vacancy

Job title: TP Organics Advocacy Coordinator

Reports to: TP Organics Head of Secretariat and IFOAM Organics Europe 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 new TP Organics Advocacy Coordinator will work for TP Organics and the newly established “FP10 NGO Coalition”, with the aim of influencing the EU’s next research & innovation (R&I) framework programme so that societal needs, and in particular organic food and farming and agroecology, are high on the agenda. The EU has the largest public research budget in the world, but it has long failed to meet the needs and demands of civil society. With plans for the next research budget currently under discussion in EU institutions, it is crucial to make sure that it prioritises democracy, transparency and international cooperation, and that decouples societal challenges from economic growth.

Responsibilities

The role of the TP Organics Advocacy Coordinator) will be twofold:

Coordination of advocacy work for the future research and innovation framework programme

- Develop an advocacy strategy to influence the next R&I programme for TP Organics and for the FP10 NGO Coalition”
- Coordinate and organise the meetings of the “FP10 NGO coalition”
- Organise meetings between TP Organics and/or the coalition and EU institutions
- Bring together all the input from TP Organics members in joint advocacy activities (statements, position papers, welcome package etc.)
• Bring together all the input from “FP10 NGO coalition” members in joint advocacy activities (statements, position papers, welcome package etc.)
• Cooperating with relevant colleagues and stakeholders to develop position paper and monitor political process related to Research and Innovation (e.g. Multiannual Financial Framework and others)
• Write briefings for the newly elected politicians to counteract the industrial narrative on food security and other relevant briefing when necessary
• Organise events and publishing related accompanying documents

Supporting the TP Organics Secretariat
• Prepare a briefing for TP Organics national members to build political will from Member States ahead of and during the elections 2024
• Develop a welcome package for new MEPs to brief them on food security after the elections on 6-9 June 2024
• Help with preparations of the new TP Organics Strategic R&I Agenda for Organics and Agroecology for the next R&I framework programme
• Organise events and publish related accompanying documents
• Represent TP Organics in external meetings
• Coordinate and actively contribute to proposals seeking for funding of TP Organics
• Other tasks related to the coordination of the TP Organics

Requirements

Essential
• Master’s degree in agriculture, agronomics, international relations or related discipline relevant for this position
• Experience of at least 2-3 years in organising NGO advocacy alliances/advocating at EU level
• Excellent knowledge of and contacts within Brussels and EU institutions, etc.
• Effective communication in English, both verbal and written
• Confident in speaking to public
• Good understanding of how European legislative process works and in particular how research & innovation framework programmes are developed

Optional
• Knowledge of other European languages is an asset
• Knowledge of organic food and farming

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 32.000 and 48.000 € gross yearly depending on qualifications and experience
• Employment period: undetermined 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
• 100% transport coverage (public transport, bike, walking allowance)
• 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 April 25th. Only complete applications using the online form will be considered. The first round of interviews will be carried out on the 7th of May – please save the date in your agenda.

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

We are an organisation committed to the 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.