

# Information Letter for Organic Agriculture of Central and Eastern Europe

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## EkoConnect

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Organic Agriculture of  
Central and Eastern  
Europe e.V.

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## Dear readers,

The year 2014 began with the exciting discussion about the new EU seed law. In late January and early February the votes on that topic took place in the various EU committees. Due to numerous protests the Commission's draft was rejected by the European Parliament on 11 March 2014. The EU Commission is now asked to withdraw the draft and elaborate a new proposal.

We have prepared an informative article for you on organic seeds, breeding and agrobiodiversity. EkoConnect organized from 20-22 March the EkoSeedForum in Poznań (PL) on organic plant breeding, organically produced seeds and conservation of agrobiodiversity. For more details concerning this conference please refer to Article 2 of this Infoletter

The loss of biodiversity is a worldwide hot topic with high ecological, social and economic value. It goes hand in hand with the loss of bee colonies as the most important pollinators. Causes and actions against bee mortality are discussed in this Infoletter.

In autumn 2013, EkoConnect also celebrated its 10-year anniversary. The information letter presents a summary review of a decade's achievements and an outlook to the future. Another subject is the country Ukraine: On 09 January 2014 the long-discussed new organic law came into effect. Here you can find facts and opinions from the sector. Retailers, manufacturers and producers from Western and Eastern Europe meet again at the 9th Organic Marketing Forum, which takes place in early June in Warsaw.

We hope you enjoy reading!

Claudia Neumann, Inka Sachse und Bernhard Jansen, EkoConnect

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## Content

1. Biodiversity and crop diversity loss in Europe and actions taken to prevent it.....2
2. Results of "EkoSeedForum - European conference on organic seed, organic plant breeding and agrobiodiversity".....3
3. Bee mortality in Europe - Causes and Corrective Actions.....4
4. New legislation on organic farming approved in Ukraine .....5
5. Ten years EkoConnect – Ten years of building bridges for Organic Agriculture in Europe.....6
6. 9th Organic Marketing Forum 2014 increases networking opportunities.....7

## 1. Biodiversity and crop diversity loss in Europe and actions taken to prevent it

Biodiversity loss and the degradation of ecosystems have important implications for the environment and are costly for society as a whole. Loss of biodiversity lowers global GDP by 3% each year<sup>1</sup>. Europe's progressive loss of plant biodiversity is mainly reflected in the decline of many species of plants and the gradual elimination of local and old plant varieties. The World Trade Organisation speaks of a crop variety loss of 75% during the past 100 years, even of 90% in the EU. Only 17% of species and habitats assessed under the Habitats Directive are in good status, and the degradation and loss of natural capital is jeopardising efforts to attain the EU's biodiversity and climate change objectives<sup>3</sup>, who did not reach its 2010 biodiversity target<sup>4</sup>.

The United Nations has declared 2010-2020 the Decade on Biodiversity. The European Parliament has recently adopted the resolution on the EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy. It is meant to prevent the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystems. It includes also combating invasive alien species (IAS) that jeopardize biodiversity. The strategy aims also at enhancing the positive contribution of the European agriculture, forest and fishery sectors to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use and by 2020, increasing the EU's contribution to draw attention to the global biodiversity loss<sup>2</sup>.

### Diversity in crops ensures food safety

Biodiversity loss also has serious consequences for agriculture. Local crop varieties are part of the age-old tradition of cultivation in Europe and beyond, but also act as a valuable source for future breeding and selection. Genetic material and breeding are key instruments for securing the world nutrition and for adapting to the impact of climate change. Moreover, genetically uniform crops are more susceptible to damage by pests and disease and less able to adapt to changes of environmental conditions. The access to food crops and medicinal plants strongly depends on biological and crop diversity.



*Corn does not always have to be yellow. Crop diversity and local varieties ensure food safety.*

*Photo: EkoConnect*

### Engaging for crop diversity and seed sovereignty

The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture was approved by the EU in 2004 and aims at guaranteeing food security through the conservation, exchange and sustainable use of the world's plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, as well as the fair and equitable benefit sharing arising from its use. It also recognises Farmers' Rights: to freely access genetic resources, unrestricted by intellectual property rights; to be involved in relevant policy discussions and decision making; and to use, save, sell and exchange seeds, subject to national laws. This is put into danger by the new European Commission proposal for a "plant reproductive material law", which is supposed to replace the national laws. Farmers, organic breeders and non-governmental organisations suspect that it is going to endanger the above mentioned rights by further control and bureaucratization of the sector and favorization of industrial breeding companies. Therefore several hundred thousand people supported the protests and online petitions of e.g. [www.saveourseeds.org](http://www.saveourseeds.org) and [www.seed-sovereignty.org](http://www.seed-sovereignty.org) against the new EU Regulation. It was then rejected 12 March 2014 by the EU Parliament.

### Initiatives for crop diversity in Central and Eastern Europe

Several initiatives exist and are arising to preserve crop diversity in Europe. An example is the European initiative "[Save Our Seeds](http://www.saveourseeds.org)" aiming at protecting seeds from contamination by genetically modified organisms. Also the [Polish Association "For Old Varieties and Breeds"](http://www.foroldvarietiesandbreeds.org) in Pokrzydowo focuses on launching and coordinating activities related to the protection and promotion of old crop varieties. Further, the "[SAVE Foundation - Safeguard for Agricultural Varieties in Europe](http://www.savefoundation.org)" from Switzerland aims, inter alia, at the conservation and promotion of genetically and historically important cultural varieties in agricultural flora. Another example is the "[Varuhi Semen - Seed Guardians - The Association to Preserve the Biodiversity of Cultural Plants](http://www.varuhi-semen.org)" from Slovenia. Also, seed banks present in many European countries store seeds and keep the plant genetic resources of many crop plants, thereby playing a vital role in maintaining biodiversity.

Preserving biodiversity in Europe was also an essential topic for "[EkoSeedForum](http://www.ekoconnect.org) - European conference on organic seeds, organic plant breeding, and crop biodiversity" organized by EkoConnect on

20-22 March 2014 in Poznań , Poland. Please read the following article of this information letter for details on the event.

Sources:

<sup>1</sup> *Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020*, European Parliament resolution of 20 April 2012, (2011/2307(INI)).

<sup>2</sup> Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, 03.05.2011 COM (2011), 244 final, p. 5-7.

<sup>3</sup> EC Proposal for a Environment Action Programme to 2020 "Living well, within the limits of our planet" /\* COM/2012/0710 final - 2012/0337 (COD)

<sup>4</sup> EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 – council conclusions- 21 June 2011

Authors: Anna Tarnowska and Inka Sachse, EkoConnect

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B.I.O.N'DAYS is a international meeting for Anticipating, Innovating, and Sharing information about organic products:

to get exclusive information about new emerging trends and potential future trends from the B.I.O.N'DAYS foresight study entitled "Organic markets on the 2025 horizon", to take part in round table discussions and themed workshops and share information on the challenges and opportunities that will guide your future projects, to identify your future technical and commercial partners and energise your network, to conduct preview-testing of your organic product innovations and to promote your offering to processors, distributors, suppliers, technical centres, etc.

<http://www.biondays.com/index.php/en/>

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## 2. Results of "EkoSeedForum - European conference on organic seed, organic plant breeding and agro-biodiversity"

The "EkoSeedForum - European conference on organic seed, organic plant breeding and agro-biodiversity" in Poznan has been concluded with encouraging results. With around 150 participants from 19 countries the interest in this conference exceeded the organizer's expectations.

During the last decade, several initiatives and networks on organic seed breeding and production have been founded. Hence, many of these initiatives are situated in Germany, Switzerland, Netherlands and France whereas in Central and Eastern Europe, the use and breeding of organic seed is not yet as widely developed. However, the preservation of biodiversity and old varieties has a long tradition in Central and Eastern Europe. In all areas, actors of East and West do not know each other.

For this reason, the "EkoSeedForum - European conference on organic seeds, organic plant breeding, and crop biodiversity" had been initiated. The EkoSeedForum pursues the following objectives: bringing together organic plant breeders from Eastern and Western Europe for mutual support and for enforcing the development of organic plant breeding, promoting the use of organically multiplied seeds, varieties bred under organic conditions and old local varieties, the development of a non-GM crop diversity and the preservation and promotion of genetic diversity as a common heritage in Europe.

The results of the meeting are summarized in a press release that can be downloaded from [www.ekoconnect.org/en/EkoSeedForum\\_en.html](http://www.ekoconnect.org/en/EkoSeedForum_en.html).

The presentations of the speakers will be provided for download on this page as well.



*Exhibition table at the EkoSeedForum 2014*

*Photo: D. Śliwińska*

The EkoSeedForum was organized by EkoConnect e.V in cooperation with the University of Life Sciences in Poznan, under the patronage of IFOAM EU Group (Belgium) and with the partners: ECO-PB (Switzerland), Foundation on Future Farming (Germany), Association for old varieties and breeds (Poland), Kultursaat e.V (Germany), Forum for Organic Agriculture "Mieczyslaw Gorny" (Poland), Bingenheimer Saatgut AG (Germany), SAVE Foundation (Switzerland), Agrolink (Bulgaria), the University of Göttingen (Germany), Noah's Ark (Austria) and Seed Guardians (Slovenia).

Author: Anna Tarnowska, EkoConnect

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### 3. Bee mortality in Europe - Causes and Corrective Actions

**Honey yield is actually only a by-product of beekeeping. The greater economic value is by far the pollination of crops by bees – summing up to several hundred billion Euros.<sup>1</sup>**

Due to the constantly growing agricultural area cultivated with pollination-dependent crops the need for pollinating insects increases accordingly. Nevertheless, in recent decades the loss of bee colonies (held by beekeepers as well as wild bees) has increased dramatically worldwide. In Central Europe, for example, there has been a decrease of 25% since 1985<sup>1</sup>. The decline of bee colonies is especially evident in the winter losses. During the winter of 2012/13 the decline added up to about 15% in Germany and even 20% in European average - ranging from 6 % (Bosnia-Herzegovina) to 37% (Ireland)<sup>2</sup>. The bee mortality includes also "beekeeper mortality" after the political changes of 1989/90, but not only in East Germany, Poland and the countries of the former USSR and Czechoslovakia, but also in other Western European countries, such as Italy, France, Finland or Sweden<sup>6</sup>. Today less than 1% of the approx. 94,000 German beekeepers are professional beekeepers<sup>3</sup>. Therefore there are almost exclusively hobby beekeepers who fight for the preservation of bee colonies, thus ensuring the pollination services for the fields in their region.



Rape blooms on 11% of the German arable land - without bees the yield would be 25% less.  
Photo: [www.oekolandbau.de/](http://www.oekolandbau.de/) Copyright BLE, Bonn /Foto Thomas Stephan

#### **Climate change intensifies the complex causes of bee mortality**

The colony collapse disorder of the Western honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) in recent years has got number of causes that interact and reinforce each other. Some harm the bees directly (parasites, pathogens, acute toxins), others weaken them and lead to less resistant colonies (pesticides, lack of pollen diversity<sup>3</sup>) and others again deprive them of the natural basis of life (lack of nesting possibilities and food shortages due to intensive agriculture). But how vulnerable bees are for parasites and pathogens depends on a number of other factors, including their nutritional status (diversity and spatially and temporally stable supply of flowering plants) and exposure to toxins (especially insecticides)<sup>1</sup>. Climate change plays a role in all categories due to extreme weather events, more favorable reproduction conditions for parasites and pathogens<sup>3</sup> or shifting flowering times of important feeding plants<sup>1</sup>.

#### **Use ecological flower strips instead of pesticides in agriculture**

In particular, neonicotinoids, a group of highly effective insecticides, are criticized because of their acute toxicity. Also their long-term effects for bees and other pollinating insects cannot be assessed yet. A number of serious but non-fatal damages is known that lead to physiological effects like development disorder and lower vitality, but also disrupt the learning behavior, the sense of direction and the ability to communicate, thus reducing the foraging efficiency<sup>1</sup>. Therefore, a bee colony is weakened not only in offspring production, but also by lower food reserves and the decline in worker bees who do not return from the foraging flight. Other risks are the synergy effects between various pesticides (e.g. combined with fungicides)<sup>4</sup> or between pesticides and pathogens. Both have already been proven for certain combinations, implying a higher mortality compared to the single individual factors. For example, if a bee colony is infected with the pathogen *Nosema* and exposed to the neonicotinoid *Imidacloprid*, the effect on mortality is potentiated, and this combination is far more dangerous than the "sum of its parts"<sup>5</sup>.

Approaches to counteract the increasing bee mortality are to significantly reduce and regulate the use of pesticides, as well as to strengthen the colonies and to make them more resistant. This includes agricultural and environmental measures that ensure a broad feeding supply, including a broad diversity of flowering plants, during the greatest possible time of the year and to re-create new nesting possibilities.

Sources:

[1] Reyes Tirado, Gergely Simon & Paul Johnston „Bye bye Biene?“, Report, Greenpeace Research Laboratories/University of Exeter (Great Britain) 04/2013

[2] Dr. Romée van der Zee „Losses of honey bee colonies over the 2012/13 winter“, Press release from the COLOSS Network, University of Bern (Switzerland), 07/2013

[3] <http://www.heise.de/tp/artikel/39/39414/1.html>

[4] Dr. Matthias Nuß „Auswirkungen von Pestiziden auf Bienen und Landwirtschaft“, Presentation, 20.11.2013, Börtewitz (Germany)

[5] Cédric Alaux et al. 2010, „Interactions between *Nosema* microspores and a neonicotinoid weaken honeybees (*Apis mellifera*)“, Environmental Microbiology 12(3), pp.774-782

[6] <http://faostat.fao.org/>

Author: Carina Dressler, LfULG,

Translation from German: Claudia Neumann, EkoConnect

In the next Infoletter: "*Varroa destructor* as the most dangerous enemy - Biology of the bee parasite and efforts in breeding research."

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#### 4. New legislation on organic farming approved in Ukraine

**On 3<sup>rd</sup> of September 2013, the law on „production and distribution of organic agricultural products and raw materials“ was passed by the Ukrainian parliament and signed on 3 October 2013 by president Wiktor Janukowytsch. It has come into effect the 9 January 2014. Hence, Ukrainian growers of organic products are obliged to bring their business activities in line with the new regulations within 6 months.**

After more than seven years of preparation, the Ukrainian parliament had already passed the law for a national regulation for organic farming in April 2011, which followed the EU-organic-regulation. But this law was vetoed against by the Ukrainian president in May 2011, and for that reason there had been no national organic regulation in Ukraine until now. Such a law is mainly of importance for the development of the domestic market for organic products in Ukraine. In the government programme on agricultural development passed in 2007 was laid down the objective to increase the share of organically produced agricultural raw material up to 10 % until 2015.

In September 2012 there was a further attempt to pass a law on the requirements for organic products and organic raw materials. As early as October 2012, the president rejected this law once more. He pointed out some uncertainties in the law, especially in regard to certification and control of compliance of regulations in the organic production.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> of September 2013, the revised law on «the production and distribution of organic agricultural products and raw materials», containing some president's proposals, was accepted by the Ukrainian parliament. It was then signed on 3<sup>rd</sup> of October by the Ukrainian president and became valid on 9<sup>th</sup> of January 2014.

This law defines the legal, economic, social and institutional framework for organic agriculture in Ukraine. It sets the requirements for cultivation, production, processing, certification, labeling, transport, storage and marketing of organic products and raw materials.

By law, organic products may only be made by certified operations and must be labeled with an appropriate “organic label” on the packaging. Control bodies that verify compliance with the organic standards in the future must be approved by the Ukrainian State Agency for accreditation and be entered in the register of control bodies. Additionally, a national register for organic producers is planned. The register is going to contain statistical data about organic producers in Ukraine.

Eugene Mylovanov, head of the "Organic Federation of Ukraine" said in an interview with the Ukrainian newspaper "Den" that the passing of this Act was a further attempt to legalize the work of the organic sector in Ukraine. In Ukraine, more than 272,000 hectares or 0.3 % of total agricultural land are being cultivated under organic management. The annual growth in production in Ukraine is around 50-100%, according to Mylovanov. Whether the increase in production continues at this rate depends -among other things- on whether the state will give subsidies for Ukrainian organic producers. (<http://www.day.kiev.ua/uk/article/ekonomika/parlament-taki-diyshov-do-konsensusu-v-organichnomu-pitanni>, 20.11.2013)

However, there are no special support programs for organic farming foreseen in the law. Only the law on "state support of agriculture" gives organic producers a right to state support. Therefore they are financially equivalent to the conventionally operating farmers.

Ivan Kirilenko, delegate from the opposition block of Julii Tymoshenko (former Minister of Agricultural Policy and one of the authors of the law) told the newspaper "Den" that the President's proposals weakened the law, but that it was still a step forward towards the development of organic agriculture in Ukraine (<http://www.day.kiev.ua/uk/article/ekonomika/parlament-taki-diyshov-do-konsensusu-v-organichnomu-pitanni>, 20.11.2013)

Detailed information on the Ukraine organic sector: see EkoConnect Country Report (2011) [http://ekoconnect.org/tl\\_files/eko/p/14-Laender/berichtstext\\_ukraine\\_1.pdf](http://ekoconnect.org/tl_files/eko/p/14-Laender/berichtstext_ukraine_1.pdf)

Author: Svitlana Bugaiova, EkoConnect, Translated from German: Marieke Stauf

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## 5. Ten years EkoConnect – Ten years of building bridges for Organic Agriculture in Europe

Since the end of 2003 the non-profit organisation "EkoConnect – International Centre for Organic Agriculture of Central and Eastern Europe " has been active in doing what its name promises: connecting people, companies and countries who are interested in organic agriculture. During this time hundreds of seminars, workshops and excursions have been organised to train farmers, processors, traders, administration representatives, students, teachers etc. on good practices in organic farming, how to build up organic markets and how to deal with other cultures.

Organic agriculture in CEE developed quite fast during the last decade. The organic area of CEE already has a big share of the total organic area in Europe, and organic products and raw materials from CEE are sold all over Europe. This development is due to the commitment of many organic activists on farms and in companies, associations and governments. EkoConnect is proud to have contributed to the development with its work:

1. we established the Organic Marketing Forum, the most important international market and meeting point in CEE, where organic businesses from about 30 countries meet every year (since 2005),
2. with the help of about 60 translators we send this information letter in 10 languages to about 10.000 readers in 65 countries (since 2005),
3. we researched and published organic country reports on the situation and markets in 14 CEE countries
4. we advised companies and organisations in 10 CEE countries in setting up their organic business,
5. we trained hundreds of agricultural students from CEE in several organic summer courses and
6. we trained about 50 interns from 11 countries in our office in managing organic events, projects and organisations and of course also their own career.

We are doing this work with a growing international staff team located in our office in Dresden: starting with just two guest-desks at the Gäa Association's office in 2003, EkoConnect works today on 200 sqm with 7 academic staff members and additional interns.

And we still have new ideas: We have been and are working on several bilingual internet platforms, which allow cross border finding of organic products, advice and agri-environmental best practices. We

also started connecting the CEE sector on organic seed and breeding. The 20<sup>th</sup> of March this year, the international "EkoSeedForum - European Conference on Organic Seeds, Organic Plant Breeding, and Crop Biodiversity" will be held in Poznań, Poland.

This work is and has only been possible due to a broad network of friends and supporters, to whom we want to express our deepest gratitude. Having a great supporter's network essentially helps to push, develop and EKO-connect organic agriculture further and to tackle future challenges. Visit us at our stand during BioFach, at our events, online at [www.ekoconnect.org](http://www.ekoconnect.org) and on Facebook. Support our work and network by becoming a member of EkoConnect. We also invite you to donate or to be a sponsor of one or several events and projects.

Bernhard Jansen, EkoConnect

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### Support our work

Donations are an important source to finance our work. To be able to implement important projects successfully in the coming years, we look forward to financial contributions to support our work. Every donation - large or small - is welcome. You may also support special projects! Donations to EkoConnect are tax deductible. For questions, please contact Mrs. Andrea Mühle: Tel.: +49 (0)351 2066172, E-Mail: [andrea.muehle@ekoconnect.org](mailto:andrea.muehle@ekoconnect.org)

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## 6. 9th Organic Marketing Forum 2014 increases networking opportunities

Warsaw, 1 -2 June 2014

**EkoConnect are pleased to announce opening of the registration process for the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Organic Marketing Forum. The East-West European Organic Trade Exhibition and Networking Conference will be held on June 1-2, 2014 in Warsaw (PL).**

The Organic Marketing Forum (OMF) is established as key business and networking event in the European organic community with focus on Central and Eastern Europe. With a comprehensive two-day- programme, OMF offers a great networking platform with individual solutions for business professionals from the organic industry. 2013 OMF attracted 380 producers, processors, traders, importers, and retailers of the organic market from nearly 30 European countries.



"Great organisation and interesting concept close to participant's needs", was a German participant's feedback in 2013. In particular, the new Speed Networking Sessions turned out to be a valuable experience for business participants: "Never before have I made so many new contacts in such a short time and additionally had so much fun" comments Andrej Čretnik of Mediacor from Slovenia. More cooperation within countries and between countries is also the goal of the whole event: "The Organic Marketing Forum 2014 will again be a starting point for new partnerships and developments for organic people from East and West" says Bernhard Jansen, the chairman of EkoConnect, the main organiser of the Forum. "We are particularly happy about the successful cooperation with "BioFach Nuremberg" which helps us to invite more organic companies", he concludes.

OMF offers insights and innovative networking opportunities with focus on the fastest-growing organic markets in Europe. The business conference, with simultaneous translations between English, Polish and Russian, focuses on the motto "Successful marketing strategies in the organic sector". Besides the traditional agenda including the international exhibition of organic products, conference, and excursions

to organic businesses in and around Warsaw, the 2014 edition offers many interactive and custom-fit programme highlights such as conference networking workshops, speed networking, company lightning presentations, business matchmaking service and a social dinner night. All features can be booked individually or as a package.

The event is organized by EkoConnect in cooperation with "BioFach" under the patronage of the IFOAM EU Group and the Polish Ministry for Agriculture. The partners of OMF 2014 are the Producers Association "Polska Ekologia", the Organic Farming Association „Ekoland“, the Polish Advisory Centre CDR and the Organic Retailers Association (ORA).

More information and registration at [www.organic-marketing-forum.org](http://www.organic-marketing-forum.org).

Authors: Magdalena Saczyna and Inka Sachse, EkoConnect

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# 5<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

on the **organic sector** development

## in Central / Eastern European and Central Asian countries



KYIV - UKRAINE  
12-13 June 2014

\* \* \* \* \*

**Vollwert-Ernährung**  
Konzeption einer zeitgemäßen  
und nachhaltigen Ernährung

Karl von Koerber  
Thomas Männle  
Claus Leitzmann

Mit Geleitworten von  
Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker und Hartwig de Haen

11., unveränderte Auflage

**Полноценное Питание**  
Концепция соответствующей духу времени и устойчивого питания

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von Koerber/Männle/Leitzmann  
Haug

Nachhaltigkeit lernen  
Weltdekade der Vereinten Nationen  
2005-2014  
Bildung für nachhaltige  
Entwicklung  
UNESCO  
Ein Beitrag zur  
Weltdekade

UN DECADE OF EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
DÉCADE N.1. POUR L'ÉDUCATION EN VUE DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE  
2005-2014

Did you enjoy this information letter?

If yes, we would appreciate it if you recommended it to your friends, partners and colleagues. But if you have any comments, criticisms or other suggestions for improvement, please contact EkoConnect. Your feedback regarding the topics as well as the quality of articles and translations is very important to us.

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This information letter is a project of EkoConnect. Translations are done with the support of our volunteer translators. If you are interested to help us with translating, please don't hesitate to contact us, as we are always happy to receive more support.

With Best Regards, Your Editorial Team

**EkoConnect** is a non-profit organisation based in Germany which enforces and supports the exchange of information, knowledge and experience in the field of organic agriculture. The organisation serves as a network for people and organisations involved in the organic sector in Western and Eastern Europe in order to meet and interact with each other.

Our primary focus is to **support activities and actors involved with sustainable development and organic agriculture within the Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries**. EkoConnect also promotes rural development and the availability of organic products and foods in those markets. Activities include: being a centralized source of information, knowledge transfer between actors and organizations, networking opportunities and continuing education opportunities such as seminars and field trips and supporting private and public facilities implementing structures for the organic agriculture. EkoConnect and its activities are overseen by an Advisory Board that guides the organization in terms of technical and strategic issues.

#### Membership registration

EkoConnect members include experts and organisations from all over Europe with years of experience in implementing organic agricultural structures, but also non-experts who are interested in learning or supporting the organic idea. You can help to support our work by becoming a "**supporting member**" or as an "**ordinary member**". Please fill out the application form on our website ([www.ekoconnect.org](http://www.ekoconnect.org)). Are you already a member? Then please invite co-workers, friends or other stakeholders to become an EkoConnect member.



#### Support our work

Donations are an important source to finance our work. To be able to implement important projects successfully in the coming years, we look forward to financial contributions to support our work. Every donation - large or small - is welcome. You may also support special projects! Donations to EkoConnect are tax deductible. For questions, please contact Mrs. Andrea Mühle: Tel.: +49 (0)351 2066172, E-Mail: [andrea.muehle@ekoconnect.org](mailto:andrea.muehle@ekoconnect.org)

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