

ENRD Thematic Group | Organic Supply Chains

First meeting

Agenda

15 September 2022

Online

As acknowledged by the [Action Plan for Organic Production in the EU](#), organic farming can be characterised by its scattered nature, with **producers having limited access to markets**. Imbalances in the food chain can limit the bargaining power of organic farmers even as the overall market share of organic products in the food sector increases.

Businesses are often reluctant to convert to organics due to **the lack of organised and efficient organic commercial supply chains**. Solutions can come in many forms, including through collective actions such as **Producer Organisations**, which may support the creation of market opportunities, strengthen short supply chains, and maintain the integrity of organic qualities. Recent regulatory changes under [EU Regulation 2018/848](#) also provide opportunities for small organic farmers introducing a system of 'group certification' to reduce red tape, strengthen local networks and improve market outlets. The [Common Agricultural Policy](#) also offers the potential to play a key role in organic supply chain development, providing significant opportunities to enhance organic value chain.

Aims of the meeting

The main objective of the Thematic Group (TG) is to identify ways in which the role of the **organic producer in the organic value chain can be strengthened through co-operation**. To this end, the first TG meeting will aim to:

- Take stock of the policy & regulatory framework for organic value chains; and
- Begin to identify the key enabling conditions and barriers to strengthen the role of organic producers in the organic value chain.



Timing	15 September 2022 Agenda Items
08.30 – 9.00	Registration
9:00 - 9.15	Welcome participants and agenda of the day
9.15 - 9.30	Getting to know each other
9.30 - 10.25	<p>Introduction to Co-operation in the Organic Value Chain</p> <p>Presentations</p> <p><i>Regulatory/Policy context – (European Commission)</i></p> <p><i>Sectoral overview – current challenges & opportunities (Miguel de Porras, FiBL Europe)</i></p> <p>Group Discussion</p>
10.25 - 10.40	Break
10.40 – 11.45	<p>Introduction to working groups</p> <p>Parallel group discussions</p> <p><i>- Explain the current situation from your perspective – successes, challenges for organic producers and associated supply chain.</i></p> <p><i>- How can we realise the opportunities for organic supply chain cooperation?</i></p>
11.45 - 12.00	Reporting back from group discussions
12.00 – 12.50	<p>Panel Discussion - Reflections from TG members on earlier group discussions and next steps for the Thematic Group.</p> <p><i>Amelie Steu, IFOAM (Belgium-EU)</i></p> <p><i>Camille Perrin, BEUC (Belgium-EU)</i></p> <p><i>Laura Nolan, Irish Government (Ireland)</i></p> <p><i>Ida Lind, Swedish Association of Organic Farmers (Sweden)</i></p>



	<p>Felix Schmidling, Franken Gemüse (Germany)</p> <p>- <i>What have you found to be the most important points raised so far? What should the TG be focusing on next?</i></p> <p>- <i>How do you see the role of organics in the supply chain by 2030? How do we get there?</i></p> <p><i>Followed by discussion</i></p>
<p>12.50 - 13:00</p>	<p>Next steps & close</p>

