

# The 4th African Organic Conference

*Ecological and Organic Agriculture strategies for viable continental and national development  
in the context of the African Union's Agenda 2063*

November 5-8, 2018, Cameroon

## First Announcement and Call for Partners / Collaborators

The African Organic Conference (AOC) is an initiative of the African Organic Network (AfrONet). It is convened every three years as a stakeholder's platform, for sharing knowledge, experiences and views on various issues of concern in organic and ecological agriculture. The first AOC was held in Uganda, Kampala from 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> May 2009, the second in Lusaka, Zambia from 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> May 2012 and third at Lagos, Nigeria, in October 5-8, 2015. The 4<sup>th</sup> African Organic Conference (4<sup>th</sup> AOC) will take place in Yaoundé, Cameroon, from November 5 - 8, 2018.

### The conference aims to:

- Showcase the potential of organic agriculture in transformation of national and continental economy through income growth, climate change adaptation, food sovereignty and trade.
- Facilitate the sharing of knowledge, information, experiences and skills among all stakeholders in the organic sector.
- Explore partnerships and cooperation opportunities for the implementation of the African Ecological Organic Agriculture Action Plan, which aims at mainstreaming Ecological Organic Agriculture into national and continental agricultural production systems in Africa by 2025.
- Encourage the uptake of organic alternatives through south-south collaboration, especially, in the sharing of experiences -
  - Strengthen the sub-regional bodies of Afronet (West, center, Eastern, Southern)
- Exchange on the potential contribution of EOA to the realization of the objectives of the African Union's Agenda 2063.

Contacts: General Conference email: [conference@afro.net.bio](mailto:conference@afro.net.bio) and [cnopcameroun@yahoo.fr](mailto:cnopcameroun@yahoo.fr) Web site: [www.afro.net.bio](http://www.afro.net.bio)

Partners: West Africa Organic Network, Southern Africa Network for Organic Agriculture Development, East African Network for Organic Agriculture, Regional Platform of Farmer's Organizations in Central Africa.

Organized by AfrONet in collaboration with the National Consultation of Farmers' Organizations of Cameroon (CNOP-CAM) under the auspices of the African Union led Coalition of Ecological Organic Agriculture Initiative (EOA) in Africa and the IFOAM-Organics International, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL) And other partners.

### The conference will provide a valuable platform for:

- ❖ Exchanging and sharing experiences of organic agricultural research pursuits, training and extension applications.
- ❖ Sharing of knowledge and experiences between African organic farmers and their national and sub-regional representations
- ❖ Presentation of scientific evidence on capability of organic agriculture in contribution to transformation of national and continental economy, systems resilience, mitigation of climate change, among others.
- ❖ Exchange of information by regional (Regional Economic Communities) and national policy makers on the implementation of the resolution of the African Heads of States and Government to support organic farming in Africa.
- ❖ Appraisal of impact of supports by different bodies in support of development of organic agriculture in Africa.
- ❖ Exhibition of organic produce and products (Afro Organic Fair) to stimulate regional and international trade
- ❖ Sensitization of policy makers and media organizations on the potential of ecological organic agriculture to effectively contribute to sustainable development in Africa.

The conference targets farmers, consumers, researchers, trainers, academics, extension practitioners, policy makers, donors, media organizations, private sector actors and financiers in the agriculture value chains promoters of organic agriculture. Others are; students and groups of young people interested in organic and ecological agriculture.

It is organized in the context of mainstreaming organic agriculture based on the resolution of the African Heads of States and Government to support organic farming in Africa. It is estimated that more than 350 delegates from at least 35 countries will attend the conference.

### Tentative overall program:

Day 1: Press conference, exhibition, pre-meetings and opening ceremony,

Day 2: Presentations, exhibition, side events and field visit,

Day 3: Presentations, exhibition, and official closing,

Day 4: Continental / regional meetings.

### Participation fee:

#### Early payments latest May 31, 2018:

- International - \$225 for international
- Cameroon nationals – FCFA40, 000.00
- Students: International = \$100; local = FCFA20, 000.00

#### July 1, 2018 upward:

- International - \$250
- Cameroon nationals FCFA 50,000 (\$100)
- Students: International = \$100; local = FCFA50000

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### Exhibition fee:

- International: 500,000 FCFA/ USD 1,000
- National: 300, 000 FCFA

### Deadlines:

#### Conference announcement:

- Paper submission (full paper, not more than 6 pages in A4, 1.5 spacing, Times New Romans 12 font size) up to Jan 31, 2018.
- Decision- Final decision on submitted papers: April 30, 2018.

### CALL FOR PARTNERS / COLLABORATORS:

The Conference Organizers call upon organic agriculture based or related organizations within or outside Africa to support the conference as partners or collaborators. Contributions in form of financial sponsorships, logistics, etc will be greatly appreciated.

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**Welcome to Cameroon! Welcome to Africa!**

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