



Sustainable Rural Development Training Days, Dublin, 23-25 April 2013

A new green agenda for farming and rural areas in Europe

Fostering Organic Farming, High Nature Value farmland and sustainable rural economies under the new Rural Development Programmes

- Excursion: Green Businesses on the Green Island, 23 April
- Public Seminar: A new green agenda for farming and rural areas in Europe, 24 April
- Training Workshop Rural Development and Innovation Policies in Practices, 24 April
- Strategy Meeting Farming Experts Exchange on CAP and EU policy process, 25 April

Registration page :

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dDdzdHhFQUIS0phMiRCOE1W0EYwYUE6MA#gid=0>

Website: <http://www.ifoam-eu.org/events/CAP/RD-Training-Days.php>

23 April – Excursion: Green Businesses on the Green Island

Departure Dublin City Centre 9:30 sharp Meeting Point: 26-27 Saint Stephen's Green across road from Adam's Auctioneers and the Shelbourne Hotel ([map](#))



Farm Walk and presentation of "**Ballard Organic Farm**", Ballard, Kilbeggan, Co Westmeath. Ballard Organic Farm converted to organic production in 1999. The farm has been in the Lalor family since 1844 and is also an open visitor farm which offers educational visits to a diversity of groups. The farm is involved in the organic production of cereals and in finishing beef. Since January 2011, Ballard Organic Farm has also been producing porridge from their own organic oats which is gaining world-wide recognition and has won numerous awards. It is being sold as Kilbeggan Organic Porridge (www.kilbegganorganicfoods.com); Ballard Farm is also trialling oat-based organic biscuits. Ballard Farm uses solar and wind energy for generating electricity and also uses solar energy for heating water. www.ballardorganicfarm.ie

Farm walk and lunch at "**Coolanowle Country House and Organic Farm**", Ballickmoyler, Co Laois. The 100-hectare farm was converted to organic farming in 2001. It produces milk, beef and pork, processes meat on farm, selling products through direct sales and at farmers markets. www.organicmeat.ie Coolanowle also offers bed and breakfast, wellness treatments and a venue for events. www.coolanowle.com



Dinner in the renowned **BrookLodge Hotel**, Macreddin Village, Aughrim, Co Wicklow which features the organically certified Strawberry Tree Restaurant. The BrookLodge Hotel & Wells Spa – which is located amidst beautiful scenery in Co Wicklow – has been organically certified by the Organic Trust since 2001 and has been the recipient of many prestigious awards. www.brooklodge.com

Keynote: The role of the Organic Sector in Food Tourism, Gavin Lynch, PR & Development Officer, Organic Trust

21:30 Arrival (Dublin City Centre)

Transport by coach will be arranged by the organisers. The excursion includes refreshments, lunch and dinner. The recommended donation for the excursion is 60 euro per person.



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Financial support is also provided by the Mava Foundation.



24 April - Public Seminar: A new green agenda for farming and rural areas in Europe - Rural Development towards 2020 (Organic stakeholders and civil society)

Venue: European Union House, 18 Dawson Street, Dublin 2 [map](#)

Time	Speaker	Topic
9.00	Registration/Tea and Coffee	
9:30	Jan Plagge, Chairman IFOAM EU Farmer Sector Group	Welcome note and assessment of the CAP reform and future Organic Action Plans
Expert panel: Innovation in the food chain - an investment into the future of the rural economies		
9:45	Tom Kelly, Director of Knowledge Transfer, Teagasc, Irish Agriculture and Food Development Authority	The Irish EU Presidency's Agenda for Innovation in the Food Chain and Rural Areas
10:00	Cristina Micheloni, TP Organics	Embedding organic farming in the Horizon 2020 and the European Innovation Partnership
10.15	Samuel Féret, ARC 2020	Agro-ecological in farming - a boost for rural economies and sustainability
10:30	nn, Glenisk (tbc)	Food Chain Innovation: An Organic Food Company Perspective
10:45	Moderation: Marco Schlüter, Director, IFOAM EU Group	Discussion
Policy makers panel: "The CAP post 2013 - new opportunities for rural regions"		
11:15	Frank Macken, Irish Department for Food, Agriculture and the Marine	The CAP reform post 2013 - the Irish EU Presidency's sustainability agenda
11.30	Marian Harkin, Member of the European Parliament, Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe	A new CAP for farmers and rural areas - the European Parliament's position on CAP reform
11.45	Gillian Westbrook, Irish Organic Farmers and Growers Association	The state of the CAP reform - priorities for organic farmers in the Trilogue Negotiations
12.00	Patrick McGurn, European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism	The state of the CAP reform – Possibilities for supporting high nature value farmland in the Trilogue Negotiations
12:15	Moderation: Thomas Fertl, Vice-President, IFOAM EU Group	Discussion
12.45	Lunch	



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24 April - Training Workshop: Rural Development and Innovation Policies in Practice (Organic stakeholders and civil society)

Venue: European Union House

14:00	Registration	
14:15	Welcome note	Moderation: Jan Plagge
14:30	The Common Strategic Framework and Rural Development Implementation: What is stake?	Thomas Fertl, IFOAM EU Group
14.45	RDP measures, combinations and the potential of new sub-programmes and innovation partnerships	<p>Expert Input (max 10 min each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nic Lampkin, Organic Research Centre UK, <i>How can the Organic sector influence the design and implementation of new rural development programmes?</i> - Patrick McGurn, European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism: <i>Local solutions to biodiversity conservation in new rural development programmes: A HNV farming perspective</i> - Bram Moeskops, TP Organics, <i>Unlocking the potential of European Innovation Partnerships</i>
15.15		Discussion
16:15	Tea and Coffee Break	
16.45	Opportunities for Sustainable Approaches in Rural Areas - Community-led local Development and Organic Action Plans	<p>Expert input (max 15 mins each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ryan Howard, CEO, South East Cork Area Development: <i>LEADER and the potential for future Community-led local Development - What's working in Ireland</i> - Paul Holmbeck, Organic Denmark: <i>National Organic Action Plans - What's working in Denmark</i>
17:15		Discussion
18. 15	Conclusions of the day	Antje Kölling, Policy Manager, IFOAM EU Group
18.30	Close	
19:00	Networking Dinner	



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25 April – Strategy Meeting: Rural Development Implementation and Farming Experts Exchange (IFOAM EU Group members)

Venue: European Union House

9:00	Registration/Tea and Coffee	
9.30	Targeting policymakers in the implementation process - barriers, opportunities and strategies to well-designed national/regional RDPs	Moderation: Thomas Fertl
10:30	EU Policies linked to CAP - Developing farming perspectives on the Review of Organic Regulation and control systems.	Moderation: Jan Plagge
11:30	CAP beyond 2020: Exploring new ways to support organic farming and rural areas including fairer pricing mechanisms	Moderation: Andrea Ferrante and Kees van Zelderen
11:30	Planning for the future: Organic farming and the EU policy process.	Moderation: Antje Kölling and Stephen Meredith
12:30	Lunch	
13:45	AOB	
14:30	Conclusions and Wrap-up	tbc
15:00	Close	

Accommodation Options

Buswells Hotel 26 Molesworth St Dublin 2 [map](#)

Tel: +353 1 6146500

Email: info@buswells.ie

106 euro per night (incl breakfast)

Please Quote: IFOAM EU Group

Essex Street West Temple Bar Dublin 2 [map](#)

Tel: +353 1 4179900

Email: reservations@paramounthotel.ie

69 euro per night (incl breakfast)

Please Quote: IFOG230413

Rooms have to be booked on individual basis but pre-reservations have been made to guarantee a certain number of rooms are available.



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