

19<sup>th</sup> IFOAM  
Organic World Congress (OWC)  
जैविक कृषि विश्व कुंभ

9 – 11 November 2017  
India Expo Centre and Mart, Greater Noida, India



"An Organic World through an Organic India"  
जैविक भारत के माध्यम से जैविक विश्व









## जैविक कृषि विश्व कुंभ

*Organised by:*



*Co-organised by:*



*Ministry of Agriculture &  
Farmer Welfare  
Government of India*

*Principal Partner:*



*Concurrent:*

**BIOFACH INDIA**  
into organic

together with **INDIA ORGANIC**  
The market place for organic people

## Welcome message from the President of IFOAM - Organics International



It gives me great pleasure to announce that the 19th Organic World Congress of IFOAM - Organics International and the 22nd General Assembly will take place in New Delhi, India from 9-13 November, 2017. Everyone across the world, who is in any way connected with organic farming and trade, is bound to be there.

India has a rich history of organizing and celebrating large events. The largest are the *Kumbh Melas* – traditional mass congregations held every 3 years at the confluence of her holy rivers. The last *Kumbh Mela* brought together 80 million people from all parts of the subcontinent (and the world) to celebrate the auspicious event. The Organic World Congress is being proposed as a *kumbh* so that we can celebrate the global organic movement with all our friends and colleagues.

India also has a rich history of organic agriculture. One of the most influential books on organic farming, *An Agricultural Testament*, by Sir Albert Howard, was based on what he learnt from Indian farmers. Howard was sent to India in the 1920s to teach 'backward' farmers 'modern,' conventional agriculture. He soon realized it was the other way around. It was the Indian farmers who had the productive and resilient systems and he started to learn from them, especially about composting and improving soil health by increasing soil organic matter. Howard is regarded as the father of modern composting as the world learnt about this Indian system through him.

Howard's declaration – the very basis of organic farming – still rings in our ears: 'The health of soil, plant, animal and man is one and indivisible.'

Howard had a great influence on J.I. Rodale, the founder of Rodale Press. Rodale published *Organic Farming and Gardening* magazine in 1942. This publication quickly became popular in the English-speaking world and was the reason why our farming system is called organic – it is due to the recycling of organic matter into soils to build soil, plant, animal and human health. We can thank Indian farmers for this.

We will be honoured if you come and join us in India, to participate in the most important organic event in the world. Enjoy with us one of the world's greatest and oldest civilizations, along with its cultures, cuisines, music and dance and celebrate thousands of years of organic farming.

André Leu  
President, IFOAM - Organics International



IFOAM - Organics International has been leading, uniting and assisting the organic movement since 1972.

As the only global organic umbrella organization, IFOAM - Organics International is committed to advocating organic agriculture as a viable solution for many of the world's pressing problems. With 815 affiliates in over 120 countries, IFOAM - Organics International campaigns for greater uptake of organic agriculture by proving its effectiveness in nourishing the world, preserving biodiversity, and fighting climate change. IFOAM - Organics International also offers training courses, provides services to standard owners, certifiers, operators, and realises organic programs.



## Welcome message from the President of the Organic Farming Association of India (India host)

The organic farming community in India is excited to have been selected to play host to the 19th Organic World Congress 2017 and IFOAM's General Assembly. Our organisation is the largest association of practising organic farmers and organic farming associations in India. Therefore, you can rest assured that we have a very large heart! And we urge all those seriously interested in converting the planet to organic agriculture to come to India, join us and help us change India and the world.

Everything about India has to be described in superlatives. Our population is now 1.4 billion. We have the largest population of organic farmers in the world. We are also the largest organic producer in the world. Inability to recognise organic produce is largely due to the inadequacies and thinness of the organic certification system. We have the largest biodiversity of fruits, vegetables, and rice in the world. Just one agricultural product of ours, the jackfruit, organically grown, is produced in quantities larger than any other certified product in the organic farming world.

We boast of the largest basket of languages, reflecting our natural and cultivated biodiversity. We produce the largest quantity of wild produce. We are the largest exporter of organically grown cotton. We have the largest number of green stores anywhere in the world. We are still the world's number one for our diversity of cuisines. We still produce the largest quantities of hand-spun thread and handloom textiles.

Our farmers are innovative and have solved several problems associated with organic farming over the past two decades. In 2017, they will occupy centre-stage, with the largest congregation of organic farmers from Asia, Africa, and South America.

It is simply in acknowledgement of all this that the Organic World Congress has decided to come to India. We plan a spectacle of the organic farming movement that will be etched in people's memories forever. If you are from India, or from overseas, this is the opportunity. Come face the warm welcome and hospitality of hundreds of extraordinary men and women who have led the organic farming revolution in the country.

Sujata Goel  
President, OFAI



### OFAI - The Organic Farming Association of India

The Organic Farming Association of India (OFAI) was set up by the senior most members of India's organic farming community in the year 2002. The association was primarily set up to promote organic farming, lobby with government agencies and departments to pay more attention to sustainable agriculture, and assist farmers using chemicals and pesticides to convert successfully to organic farming methods.



### PDATF - PDA Trade Fairs (OWC India co-host)

PDATF, a division of Pradeep Deviah & Associates Pvt. Ltd., has forged its forte and domain expertise in organising niche and industry-specific B2B international trade exhibitions, conferences and seminars, both in India and abroad. PDATF, one of the leading trade fair organisers in India, has over the last 18 years, established internationally recognised trade fair brands for the woodworking, maritime, airport, banking, fitness and beauty sectors in India. With an efficient team, PDATF connects over 600 businesses with over 50000 visitors per annum and helps them do business effectively.





## The Organic World Congress

Once every three years, IFOAM - Organics International organises the Organic World Congress (OWC) in a different country to achieve its vision of the global organic movement and also to provide a platform where organic stakeholders can share their knowledge and expertise and establish valuable partnerships. The OWC is considered the leading event for the development of the organic sector worldwide. It is held to promote and celebrate the inevitable turning of global agriculture to organic farming methods and to measure progress.

The last (18th) edition of the Organic World Congress was organised in Istanbul, Turkey in October 2014.

### 19th Organic World Congress

**(Jaivik Krishi Vishwa Kumbh\*)**

India won the bid to host the 19th Organic World Congress of IFOAM - Organics International at a very critical time in its agricultural history. The organic food movement has grown four times in the last three years. The OWC will no doubt play a critical and unprecedented role in supporting the Indian organic farming movement and tilting India's agriculture policy firmly and irrevocably in the direction of organic. At the same time, it will enable solidarity among organic farmers and organic farming associations across continents, supporting the efforts of the Intercontinental Network of Organic Farming Organisations (INOFO). For these reasons, the theme of the 19th OWC is 'An Organic World through an Organic India.'

India has been in the business of agriculture for over ten thousand years. The earliest signs of agriculture are found in the ruins of Mohenjo-daro and Harappa. There are several texts and manuals written over this long period on the growing of crops and their safeguarding from disease. This sustainable tradition was abandoned in some areas of the country in the mid-60s with the advent of the Green Revolution. In these areas, most notably Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh in the north, and some pockets in south India, indigenous farming methods based on organic inputs gave way to farming with chemical fertilizers, pesticides and seed purchased from corporations.

The organic farming movement in India regained its strength and momentum in the mid-80s, as the negative impacts of chemicals, monocultures, excessive irrigation, and high cost inputs came home to roost.

Today more than half a million organic farmers have turned to farming methods that transcend both modern and traditional techniques to produce a state-of-the-art profession that radically improves on both. The OWC will focus on showcasing the innovative and path-breaking work of the organic farmers of Asia, Africa, and South America to the rest of the world, with a strong emphasis on the pioneer: India. With so many organic farmers expected to be present on this occasion, naturally they will be making a significant number of presentations themselves.

This Congress also expects to see fruitful interactions between scientists from across the world and agricultural research agencies and institutions of the Government of India, and several State Governments as well.

(\* World Congregation of Organic Agriculture)





## OWC 2017 Features

- 3-day World Congress on Organic Farming
- APEDA, State and Country Pavilions
- Workshops
- BIOFACH INDIA together with INDIA Organic Trade Fair
- Continuous Practical Demonstrations of Organic Techniques by expert Farmers
- Pre-conferences (including International Conference on Organic Livestock; Organic Food Systems; Organic Textile Supply Chains)
- Exhibition of Organic Seeds and Seed Diversity
- One week Organic Food Supplies for Delhi Citizens
- PGS and Farmer-friendly Organic Certification Systems and Markets
- General Assembly of IFOAM - Organics International

Sign up at [www.owc.ifoam.bio](http://www.owc.ifoam.bio) for the latest developments on the OWC program.

## Event Schedule

Date	Event	Venue
7 – 8 November 2017	Pre-conferences	
9 November 2017	Inauguration*	
9 November 2017	Cultural Evening	
9-11 November 2017	Organic World Congress Tracks: Main Track, Farmers Track, Scientific Track, Marketing & Quality Assurance Track Workshops	India Expo Centre and Mart, Greater Noida, India
9-11 November 2017	BIOFACH INDIA together with INDIA ORGANIC (Trade Fair)	
11 November 2017	Motions Bazaar	
12-13 November 2017	General Assembly of IFOAM - Organics International	

*\*The Prime Minister of India has been invited to inaugurate the Congress on 9 November 2017*

## General Assembly of IFOAM - Organics International

Every three years, the General Assembly (GA) of IFOAM - Organics International also meets. The truly democratic and participatory nature of IFOAM - Organics International can be seen in action during the Assembly. This is where the World Board is elected for its three-year tenure. The GA will be held in New Delhi from November 12-13, 2017.

The GA also provides strategic guidance to the World Board on appointing official committees, working groups and task forces. Keeping in line with our aspiration to be a common voice for the organic movement, motions and recommendations are based on suggestions put forward by our members. The GA is a dynamic and lively gathering that inspires the members, board, and staff to continue working towards the realisation of the vision of IFOAM - Organics International. The Assembly also votes on bids for hosting the next OWC.



## Pavilions at OWC 2017

### Country Pavilions

Countries that are seriously promoting organic farming within their borders are encouraged to participate under this banner to share their scientific research on organic agriculture with India and the other countries that will be participating in the OWC. Individual countries have crafted organic farming policies for conversion of areas from chemical to organic. OWC hopes to attract as many of these unique initiatives to the Congress as possible.



### Indian Central and State Pavilions

Many ministries of the federal Indian government including agriculture, commerce, textiles and health are moving towards promotion of organic farming through serious and imaginative programmes and schemes. Many states in India are moving towards organic farming, having notified organic farming policies. The potential is huge due to the availability of natural resources and a rich biodiversity base. There is also widespread recognition that pesticide and chemical fertilizer use is damaging ecosystems, soils and public health. Several states are therefore expected to put up their own pavilions to showcase their initiatives in promoting organic farming as the best scientific solution to the problems faced by conventional agriculture.

## Trade Fair

### Individual Participation

This is one of those rare occasions in the history of the Organic World Congress when it is being organized in conjunction with BIOFACH INDIA together with INDIA ORGANIC – India's leading trade fair for the organic industry. The trade fair will provide a platform to showcase organic products, services, and research to create business opportunities.

For companies interested in BIOFACH INDIA together with INDIA ORGANIC Trade Fair, please log on to [www.biofach-india.com](http://www.biofach-india.com)

**BIOFACH INDIA**  
into organic

together with **INDIA ORGANIC**  
The market place for organic people





## Benefits of Participating in OWC 2017

### How will India's organic movement benefit from the OWC?

- Biggest sharing of organic farming practices in the world.
- Access to the world of organic farming beyond India's borders.
- Opportunity to showcase the best Indian organic farming practices to the world organic farming community.

### What will IFOAM - Organics International and the world community of organic farmers get from the event in India?

- A world class event, expected to rally a record number of organic farmers
- Special emphasis on the participation of organic farmers from Asia, Africa, and South America.
- Free stall space to all organic farming associations.
- Indepth exposure to organic farming in India.

### How will governments, international development agencies, and policy makers benefit?

- Ready access to global thinking, research and practice on organic farming policies.
- Ready access to work being done by governments worldwide to convert agriculture to organic methods.
- Identification of areas where governments can start funding changes to strengthen organic agriculture.
- Vision planning for converting entire country's agriculture to organic.
- Up-to-date data through IFOAM - Organics International on organic farming worldwide, including latest growth data.

### How will researchers and scientists benefit?

- Researchers will have opportunities to share their work on organic agriculture and access instant peer review of papers.
- Discussions will provide new thrust areas.
- Scientists will attempt to relate organic farming to sustainability and climate change issues. TIPI and ISO FAR will oversee scientific discussions.
- Exposure to seed conservation work carried out within official and non-official seed agencies and networks, especially in the area of open pollinated seeds.

### How will the world organic trade benefit?

- The trade fair is being organised to enable large, worldwide participation of all sectors of the organic trade (including government departments) in the pavilions. A huge number of traders and agencies from India will be participating.
- One track in the Congress is being dedicated to marketing issues.
- B2B meetings will be facilitated.





# Participation Options in OWC 2017

## Congress Registration Fees

Indian Participants (INR)	Registration Fee
Indian Organic Farmers	2000* / per delegate
Non Farmers (Indian Traders/NGOs/Govt Organisations)	15000* / per delegate

\* Government Levied Service Tax will be applicable at the time of final billing

International Participants (EURO)	IFOAM Affiliates	Other Registrations
From Asia, Africa and Latin America	200 / per delegate	250 / per delegate
Rest of the World including Japan, Korea, Singapore and Taiwan	400 / per delegate	500 / per delegate

## Terms & Conditions

- Registration will not be confirmed until payment has been received.
- Incomplete form and payment in parts will not be accepted.
- Registrations cannot be cancelled but can be transferred.
- Congress registration rates are based on prevailing exchange rates of Euro for the international participants. Subject to drastic currency fluctuations rates could be revised.
- The Congress Organisers have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the details at the time of printing, but reserve the right to alter or delete items from the program or the services as circumstances require.

## Participation Rates for Pavilion

Indian Registered Companies	INR
Bare (Min. 36 sqm)	7000 / per sqm*
Shell (Min. 9 sqm)	8000 / per sqm*

Companies Registered Outside India	EURO
Bare (Min. 36 sqm)	225 / per sqm*
Shell (Min. 9 sqm)	275 / per sqm*

\* Government Levied Service Tax will be applicable at the time of final billing

Please sign up at [www.owc.ifoam.bio](http://www.owc.ifoam.bio) for news and developments.



# Venue Map

The National Capital Region (NCR) in India is the designation for the conurbation which encompasses the entire National Capital Territory of Delhi, including New Delhi, as well as urban areas such as Noida.

India Expo Centre is within easy reach of Central Delhi and the international airport on the new 8-lane Greater Noida Expressway.

The venue is easily accessible by car and metro from central Delhi within 45 mins. Mild winter starts in early November and peaks in January. The OWC is being held at a time when it is neither too cold nor too warm. So less baggage to carry!

For delegates wanting to visit organic farmers and share life with their Indian compatriots, OWC offers possibilities of visiting neighbouring organic farms.

For those who wish to see other aspects of New Delhi and India, there are truly exciting possibilities. The Taj Mahal is a mere two hour journey from the OWC venue. Those who wish to spend a week in excellently managed wildlife sanctuaries can have their pick from Ranthambore or Corbett National Park. The Himalayas are not far for those who wish to tread in those icy regions.



\* The above map is not according to scale. This is for representation purpose only

Courtesy: [Google Maps](#)



**Contact details for 19th Organic World Congress:**

*For enquiries about the OWC Congress, Sessions and Farmers' Market, please contact:*

The Organic Farming Association of India  
OFAI Central Secretariat, G-8, St. Britto's Apartments  
Feira Alta, Mapusa - 403 507, Goa, India  
Phone: +91 832 2255913 E-mail: myofai@gmail.com



*For General Assembly and Motions Bazaar, please contact:*

Head Office of IFOAM - Organics International  
Charles-de-Gaulle-Str. 5, 53113 Bonn,  
Germany, Phone: +49-228-92650-10  
Fax: +49-228-92650-99 E-mail: owc@ifiam.bio



*For State Governments, Group, Country Pavilion and Workshops Participation, please contact:*

PDA Trade Fairs  
A division of Pradeep Deviah & Associates Pvt. Ltd.  
No. 32/2, Spencer Road, Frazer Town  
Bangalore-560 005, India.  
Phone: +91-80-4250 5000 Fax: +91-80-2554 2258  
E-mail: info@owc2017.com



*For BIOFACH INDIA together with INDIA ORGANIC Trade Fair, please contact:*

Priya Sharma / Rohitashwa Gakhar  
Phone: +91 11 47168830 / +91 9811007283  
E-mail: priya.sharma@nm-india.com / rohit@iccoa.org

