



27 August 2021

Call to join INOFO Oceania Pasifika – Inter-Continental Network of Organic Farmers Organisations

As a critical voice for organic farmers in your local area and region, we would like to invite you to join INOFO – Inter-Continental Network of Organic Farmers Organisations and the upcoming launch of the INOFO Oceania Pasifika region.

INOFO is an autonomous network of Organic Farmer Organisations committed to supporting and representing farmer organisations through networking, knowledge sharing, lobbying and advocacy.

At INOFO we unite and connect farmer groups to regional and global platforms to ensure the needs and rights of local farmers are guaranteed and protected.

We believe that farmers in every corner of the globe hold invaluable traditional knowledge and a deep understanding of the real conditions on the ground, especially those that affect food production and sovereignty. We take the skills, knowledge and networks of farmers in different countries to coordinate strategies to ensure food security for current and future generations.

INOFO Oceania Pasifika

We are excited to be launching INOFO Oceania Pasifika at the upcoming General Assembly in September and October – joining other INOFO regions in Latin America & Caribbean, Africa (West, East, Southern), Europe and Asia (South, South-East). Through INOFO Oceania Pasifika we will ensure the region's voice is strong and heard.

In the lead up to the 2021 General Assembly we are calling for nominations for INOFO Oceania Pasifika Convenors.

How to get involved

If you feel this movement is for you:

1. Register your farmer organisation and join INOFO using the attached forms.
2. Nominate a Convenor to represent your country and region.
3. RSVP for the inaugural INOFO Oceania Pasifika General Assembly by Monday 13 September.

We look forward to having you as part of the INOFO community and to making organics an integral part of our region's future.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Yours faithfully,

INOFO Oceania Pasifika Team



Stephen Hazelman – Pasifika
Countries & Territories



Caro Möller – Australia
& Papua New Guinea



Bernie Mabbs – Aotearoa
New Zealand

Benefits of joining INOFO

As a farmer organisation, joining a national organic farmer organisation, who in turn is a member of a regional or international farmer organisation has many benefits, namely:

- INOFO is the farmer platform for IFOAM Organics International which, as a community, helps drive our organic narrative
- Being a member of a larger constituency is acknowledged when lobbying for our farmer rights - not just a lone voice
- Farmers are representing our voice and therefore are advocating from our position, and not anyone else's
- Connect with farmers in your own region and language via our OFO forums. Get access to discussions, Discord servers, and Telegram group chats with farmers in your neighbourhood
- Farmers learn from farmers - sharing our work regionally and internationally, we find a wealth of information amongst ourselves, that is pragmatic, especially on topics like seed and participatory guarantee systems, etc.
- Being part of the funding proposal concept stage, as opposed to being a beneficiary of projects, which often only caters to some of our challenges
- Invitations to participate in events pertinent to farmer organisations, that would not necessarily be visible/open to an individual farmer organisation
- Access to online forums, trainings, webinars, and conferences

Organics in Oceania Pasifika

18,000 organic producers
35,900,000 hectares of land
14.5% of Samoa's agricultural land is in organic production
9.9% in Australia
5.3% in Fiji
4.5% in Vanuatu
0.8% in Aotearoa New Zealand
50% of the world's organic agricultural land is in Oceania
99% of the organic land in Oceania is in Australia (mostly pastoral farming)
The island of Cicia, in Fiji, is fully organic.

Key dates

RSVP for INOFO Oceania Pasifika General Assembly	13 September 2021
Convenor nominations close	13 September 2021
INOFO Oceania Pasifika General Assembly – Part 1	23 September 2021 2pm – 5pm Fiji/NZ Time
INOFO Oceania Pasifika General Assembly – Part 2	14 October 2021 2pm - 5pm Fiji/NZ Time
Combined INOFO General Assembly	25 October 2021 Time to be confirmed

Attachments

- Expression of Interest to join INOFO
- INOFO General Assembly (virtual) Timeline and Proposed Schedule
- INOFO Oceania Pasifika Convenor Nomination Form
- Mandate for Delegate to INOFO General Assembly (Oceania Pasifika Regional Convenors)

Useful links

- INOFO: <http://www.inofo.org/>
- Why does INOFO Exist: <https://inofo.bio/faq/why-does-inofo-exist/>
- How can INOFO support me as a farmer both in my OFO and in markets: <https://inofo.bio/faq/how-can-inofo-support-me-as-a-farmer-both-in-my-fo-and-in-markets/>
- IFOAM Sector Platforms: <https://www.ifoam.bio/about-us/our-network/sector-platforms>