



# 1<sup>st</sup> EU/North-African Conference on Organic Agriculture (EU-NACOA)

11-12<sup>th</sup> November 2019, Marrakech-Morocco

## First call for abstract under the theme:

*“Bridging the Gap, Empowering Organic Africa”*

### Background

Organic farming systems and food production are crucial for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations. Organic farming includes strategies for reducing hunger, climate change mitigation and adaptation, increased biodiversity and its functional role in environmental friendly production - with fair conditions for all stakeholders of the food chain - and responsible consumption. FAO recently declared that organic farming can enhance food security, rural development, sustainable livelihoods and environmental integrity by building capacities of stakeholders in organic production, processing, certification and marketing worldwide. The revised EU regulation to be implemented in 2021 will affect the import of organic products from third parties, and there is a need to understand how and develop efficient ways for its success.

However, it still a small sector, African Organic Agriculture (OA) is gaining success through the Ecological and OA Initiative (EOA-I) as confirmed during the last African Organic Conference held in Sally-Dakar (Senegal) in November 2018. African organic stakeholders and decision makers along with scientists were unanimous that African governments, continental and regional institutions, development partners, donors and private sector investors, should provide more support to develop OA in Africa.

Many research and development institutes and scientists in Africa are developing innovative techniques for more productive organic systems. These efforts need to be embedded in an international research context. A further challenge is how to reduce the gap between smallholder farms and industrialized organic export farms. This is one of the main concerns in Morocco, where the Green Morocco Plan-GMP (<http://www.agriculture.gov.ma/en/pages/strategy>) has been launched since 2008. The GMP has brought solutions, and has been a success to the level of being scaled up by the “Triple AAA Initiative” to embrace more African countries (<http://www.aaainitiative.org/>). However, also unintended effects of large plans need to be discussed in a scientific context.

The conference intends to boost the cooperation between organic stakeholders in Africa with many countries at multilateral level. Organic expertise will be strengthened for the benefit of all African countries.

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## Objectives of the conference

- Merge a critical mass of scientific capacity and skills from Europe and Africa, to deliver sustainable solutions by working at practical and theoretical level;
- Bring together high profiled scientists from both continents to discuss issues about organic inputs, innovation, organic research funding, ethics and address recommendations to relevant certification and regulation bodies;
- Address and confront African potentials to expand traditional organic agriculture in terms of genetic, agro-climatic and sociocultural diversity;
- Strengthen the "Organic Alternatives for Africa" initiative and to facilitate the integration of OA into strategic policies and the agricultural development program
- Discuss how OA in Africa can be further developed as a sustainable and reliable model to ensure food safety for all, in the framework of the AAA Initiative following the COP22 recommendations (Marrakech, Morocco 2016)
- Discuss the main question raised from the conference title: *How can research contribute to bridge the current gap between Africa and Europe, with respect to organic agriculture?*



## Conference

The event will be a two-day scientific conference, along with a welcoming evening on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November, and an optional tour to innovative organic farms on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019. In addition to opening and completing plenary sessions, scientific sessions will be arranged, allowing discussions on how the presented contributions (keynote speakers, oral communications and posters) answer the questions below.

Selected contributions will be invited to publish complete papers in a special issue of ISOFAR journal "Organic Agriculture" (<https://link.springer.com/journal/13165>).

Abstract submissions are invited for but not limited to the following topics:

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1. Organic agricultural systems design and management, diversification of organic farming and cropping systems, role of rotation, multi-cropping and intercropping. Agroforestry and agroecology;
2. Tailored techniques and practices for organic farming, soil fertility, preventive and curative measures for plant protection, organic weed management, post-harvest;
3. Agricultural waste management, nutrient cycling, environmental protection and role of bio-fertilizers bio-stimulant and bio-pesticides ;
4. Organic Food Systems, local products, state of art, socioeconomics aspects and marketing of organic products in Africa.

For more information please visit the conference website: [www.eu-nacoa2019.bio](http://www.eu-nacoa2019.bio)

### Tentative Program

<b>Sunday 10/11/2019</b>	
15h00-20:00	Arrivals and Registration/ Touristic trips
<b>Monday 11/11/2019</b>	
09h00-10h30	Opening plenary session 3 keynote speakers + debate
11h00-17h00	Scientific Panels (lunch 12h30 to 14h30)
<b>Tuesday 12/11/2020</b>	
09h00-10h00	Plenary session
10h30-17h00	Scientific Panels (lunch 12h30 to 14h30)
<b>Wednesday 13/11/2019</b>	
09h00-17h00	-Tour to an organic farm A (60km) -Tour to an organic farm B (40km)

### Schedule and abstract submission

- Deadline for abstract submission **EXTENDED** to: **30<sup>th</sup> September 2019** (the template for abstracts is available under: <http://www.eu-nacoa2019.bio/abstract-submission.html>)
- Abstract should not exceed one page with key-words (*Word Format, police Times New Roman 12 with 1.5-line space*). This abstract should be submitted as **word file** through the conference website registration tool (<http://www.eu-nacoa2019.bio/registration-fees.html>) indicating preferred communication (oral/poster); or send it directly to the following email: [info@eu-nacoa2019.bio](mailto:info@eu-nacoa2019.bio)
- Notification of acceptance (oral/poster): **15<sup>th</sup> October 2019**
- Book of abstracts will be available at the conference and ISOFAR website [www.eu-nacoa2019.bio](http://www.eu-nacoa2019.bio) & <http://isofar.org/isofar/> respectively.

### Language



The official language of the conference is English. A simultaneous translation will be available in French during plenary sessions. Slides of the presentations and posters should be edited in English.

## Venue



The name Marrakech is the third largest city in Morocco after Casablanca and Rabat, and lies near the foothills of the snow-capped Atlas Mountains and a few hours away from the foot of the Sahara Desert. Its location and contrasting landscape has made it an enviable destination in Morocco. Information of the conference venue will be communicated in the second call.

The conference will be held in Hotel PALM PLAZA 5\* where plenaries and scientific sessions along with accommodation will be arranged. Please specify to the hotel Promo Code "EU.NACOA2019" when booking (<http://www.hotelpalmplaza.com/>).

Room type/service	Price
Double Room Bed&Breakfast (BB)	550.00 MAD (50.00 Euros)
Single Room Bed&Breakfast (BB)	810.00 MAD (74.00 Euros)
Supplement (lunch or dinner)	230.00 MAD (21.00 Euros)

Other accommodation possibilities could be arranged by participants at their own charge (See accommodation section below).

## Registration fees

	Regular registration fees Before 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2019	On-site Registration fees
<b>Moroccan FIMABIO affiliate (per attendance)</b>		<b>1700 MAD-150 €</b>
<b>Moroccan participants</b>	<b>2500 MAD</b>	<b>3000 MAD</b>
<b>Rest of the world participants</b>	<b>3300 MAD / 300 €</b>	<b>3700 MAD / 350 €</b>
<b>African participants, CIHEAM-Bari and PhD students*</b>	<b>1700 MAD / 150 €</b>	<b>2200 MAD / 200 €</b>
<b>Professionals</b>		<b>5500 MAD / 500 €</b>

\*Upon presentation of a valid certificate of doctoral enrollment for the year 2018/2019.

The registration fee covers the following:

- Entry to all Conference sessions;
- Entry to the Poster area;
- Entry to the Conference hall;
- Conference bag with the program, notebook/pen and abstract book;
- 4x coffee break during the conference
- 2x lunch during the conference

Registration fees waived at 100% will be allowed to selected PhD students (Moroccan and CIHEAM Bari students) and African participants to encourage their participation in the EU-NACOA2019. For this purpose, interested participants will have to send their CV along with a motivation letter explaining how their participation would benefit their research project. Applications should be sent to the following email: [info@eu-nacoa2019.bio](mailto:info@eu-nacoa2019.bio)

## Registration fees:

- Payment of registration fees is managed with the help of MICROBIONA Association

Bank	City	Account Number	RIB	Currency	Swift Code
<b>MA 013</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>01198 20123700146</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>MAD</b>	<b>BMCIMAMC</b>

- Bank RIB: **013450011982012370014627**
- Bank address: **BMC Bank**, Marrakech My Abdellah, Avenue Prince My Abdellah -Im AHLAM II 40 000, Marrakech – Morocco (Tél. +212 524 33 98 10 / +212 524 33 98 13).
- Payment proof must be sent to the conference contact to complete registration process.



**Conference contact:** Dr Khalid AZIM (INRA-Morocco)

[info@eu-nacoa2019.bio](mailto:info@eu-nacoa2019.bio)



## Conference Sponsors

- ISOFAR** (International Society of Organic Agriculture Research-Germany)  
**INRA Morocco** (Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique-Morocco)  
**UM6P** (Mohammed VI Polytechnic University-Morocco)  
**FIMABIO** (Federation of Organic Farming Movement-Morocco)  
**AfrONet** (African Organic Network-Tanzania)  
**MAPMDREF** (Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Development, Water Resources and Forests-Morocco)  
**UCAM** (University of Caddy Ayyad-Marrakesh Morocco)

## Strategic Partners

- MICROBIANA Association** (Research Foundation-Marrakesh Morocco)  
**CIHEAM Bari Alumni Network** (FTN)-Italy  
**IFOAM-EU** (Federation of EU Organic Movement-Belgium)

## Scientific committee

Full Name	Organization-Country	Full Name	Organization-Country
Gerold RAHMANN	Thünen Institute /ISOFAR-Germany	Khalid AZIM	INRA-Morocco
Daniel NEUHOFF	University of Bonn-Germany	Rachid MRABET	INRA-Morocco
Noureddin DRIOUECH	CIHEAM Bari-Italy	Rachid MOUSSADEK	INRA-Morocco
Anne-Kristin LØES	NORSØK-Norway	Fouad ELAME	INRA-Morocco
Ewa REMBIAŁKOWSKA	Warsaw University-Poland	Rachid ABOUTAYEB	INRA-Morocco
Khalid SASSI	INAT-Tunisia	Ahlam HAMIM	INRA-Morocco
Jaakko NUUTILA	LUKE-Finland	Mohamed EL GUILLI	INRA-Morocco
Reza ARDAKANI	Islamic Azad University-Iran	Mohamed HAFIDI	Cady Ayyad University
Stefano CANALI	CREA-Italy	Abdelilah MEDDICH	Cady Ayyad University/Microbiona-Morocco
Victor OLOWE	Federal University of Agriculture-Nigeria	Yedir OUHDOUCH	Cady Ayyad University-Morocco
Rukie AGIC	Faculty of Agricultural Science and Food-Macedonia	Khalid OUFDOU	Cady Ayyad University-Morocco
Loubna EL FELS	ISPITS Marrakech-Safi	Lamfeddel KOUISNI	UM6P-Morocco
Ibrahim El-Akram ZNAÏDI	IRESA-Tunisia	Zahra FERJI	IAV/CHA-Morocco
Abderahmane DEHLIZ	INRAA-Algeria	Si Bennaceur ALAOUI	IAV-Morocco
Salah Eddine BENZIOUCHE	Biskra University-Algeria-	Abdelmalek BOUTALEB JOUTEI	ENAM-Morocco
Ghita AITBADDI	Ibn Zohr University-Morocco	El Hassan MAYAD	Ibn Zohr University-Morocco
Miguel A. SANCHEZ-MONEDERO	CEBAS-CSIC, Campus Universitario de Espinardo, Murcia-Spain	Brahim BOUIZGARENE	Ibn Zohr University-Morocco

## Organizing committee

Full Name	Organization-Country	Full Name	Organization-Country
Khalid AZIM	INRA-Morocco	Mohamed HAFIDI	Cady Ayyad University
Rachid MRABET	INRA-Morocco	Lamfeddel KOUISNI	UM6P-Bengurir-Morocco
Rachid MOUSSADEK	INRA-Morocco	Abdelilah MEDDICH	Cady Ayyad University/Microbiona-Morocco
Abdelaziz MIMOUNI	INRA-Morocco	Khalid OUFDOU	Cady Ayyad University-Morocco

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Rachid ABOUTAYEB	INRA-Morocco	Loubna EL FELS	ISPITS Marrakech-Safi
Youssef RACHIDI LALOUI	INRA-Morocco	Hafsa RAMLI	Ibn Zohr University-Morocco
		Ilyass TABRIKA	Ibn Zohr University-Morocco

### Short list of keynote speakers

Full Name	Organization-Country
Gerold RAHMANN	Thüenen Institute/ISOFAR-Germany
Andre LEU	Regeneration International-Australia
Uygun AKSOY	Expert in Organic Farming-Turkey
Helmy ABOULEISH	SEKEM-Egypt
Anne-Kristin LØES	NORSØK-Norway
Jaakko NUUTILA	LUKE-Finland
Jessica SHADE	The Organic Center-USA
Jordan GAMA	President AfrONet-Tanzania
Ewa REMBIALKOWSKA	Warsaw University of Life Sciences-Poland

### Accommodations and touristic trip

Accommodation is negotiated with Hotel PALM PLAZA 5\*, Touristic trips and other accommodation (low & medium rate) options are also negotiated through our Travel Agency:

#### Sun & Sea Travel

Contact Person: Mme Mounia

Email: [reservation@sst.ma](mailto:reservation@sst.ma)

Cell Phone : +212661141183

Phone : +212 528 828 910

Avenue Hassan II Immeuble Oumlil, 2ème étage,

Agadir 80000 Morocco

<http://www.sstmaroc.com/home>



### Strategic partners



Former Trainees Network (FTN) of CIHEAM Bari



MICROBIONA Association



EU section of IFOAM Organic Internationals

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