



Internationale Conference BIOFACH 2020

Model organic region – engine in rural areas

Eco-action plans are currently up to date in many countries and are being implemented with different approaches and activities. In different countries in Europe, various efforts are being made at both national and international level to further exploit the as yet untapped potential of the ever-growing organic food sector.

The rural areas in particular are currently exposed to the socio-economic and climate-related challenges and can be strengthened through funding instruments specially tailored to these regions. Organic farming can be an opportunity for agricultural producers and regional processing companies to market their products to the growing consumer in high quality and at reasonable prices. The regions can, for example, benefit from the resource-saving properties of the cultivation and production system and can also participate indirectly in the economic development opportunities that the sector offers in times of progressive structural change.

With our conference we want to look at the different approaches and strategies. We would like to exchange experiences and make success factors visible with representatives from politics, science, consulting and representatives from the Bavarian model organic regions as well as colleagues from neighboring countries.

The conference takes place as part of BIOFACH, the world's leading trade fair for organic food.

Conference program

Wednesday, 12. February 2020

Organisation: Ministry of State for Food, Agriculture and Forestry

Location: NCC Ost, Tokio

Time: 17:00 – 18:30 h

17:00 h **Welcome & Greetings**

Michaela Kaniber, Minister of State for Food, Agriculture and Forestry

17:15 h **Keynote speech**

*Prof. Geißendörfer, University of Applied Science
Weihenstephan-Triesdorf*

17:30 h **Activities in different european regions**

Germany – Bavaria: Model Organic Regions
(Öko-Modellregionen)
*Friedrich Mayer, Head of department,
Ministry of State for Food, Agriculture
and Forestry*

Italy: Bio-Distretti
*Antonio Compagnoni, Coordinator
biodistretto dell'Appennino modenese*

France: BioVallées
*Hugues Vernier, Coordinator Biovallé
Drôme*

18:00 h **Discussion round: What can organic farming and especially model organic regions contribute to increase rural areas?**

- Michaela Kaniber, Minister of State
- Burkard Schaer, Ecozept France
- Hugues Vernier, Coordinator Biovallé Drôme
- Antonio Compagnoni, Coordinator biodistretto dell'Appennino modenese
- Hans-Jörg Birner, Mayor Kirchanschöring and speaker Model Organic Region Waginger See-Rupertwinkel

Moderation: Anton Hübl, Head of section, *Ministry of State for Food, Agriculture and Forestry*

18:30 h Conclusion and end of conference