THE FUTURE OF ORGANIC SECTOR AT THE BIOFACH WORLD EVENT 2018 ORGANIZED IN GERMANY

By Kim Assaël

The BIOFACH - World's Leading Trade Fair for Organic Food will kick-off at the organic exhibition in Nuremberg (Germany) from 14 to 17 February 2018.

Since 1990 the event is the appointment of the organic world where to meet and interact with international guests coming mainly from Austria, Italy, the

Netherlands, France, Poland, Spain, Switzerland, the Czech Republic, Great Britain and Belgium. BIOFACH is also the place where politics meets public opinion. More than 2.950 exhibitors and 50.000 visitors from the national and international organic sector are expected at BIOFACH 2018.

Every year, the exhibition gathers representatives from politics, associations, NGOs, opinion makers and figures of public interest. Every country can participate indeed, with trade or visitor participants. Exhibitors meet directly and exchange experiences with their target groups, to make new professional alliances and business relations. Visiting professionals can also discover new markets.

One of the dominating topics in 2018 will be the revision of the EU regulation on organic farming. The EU Commission itself will be providing information on the new European legislative framework for organic food, and each of the congress days players like the German Federation of Organic Food Producers (BÖLW), or the IFOAM EU Group, will cover issues relating to the implementation of the new legislation and its effects. During the three days event *Lectures* and exhibitor presentations will inform the visitors about the latest trends and developments from the scientific, political and commercial arenas.

The <u>BIOFACH Congress</u> is a platform for knowledge transfer, information exchange, discussion and opinion forming. With panel discussions where experts and partners give presentations on their newest research results and trends, the Congress reach more than 7,000 participants every year, with free admission.

The <u>Generation Future Network Hub</u> is a networking platform for students, young professionals, job hunters and potential employers in the organic sector; offering the opportunity to provide the best possible starting prospects for the next generation. The ceremony for the *Organic Food Research Award* for outstanding bachelor's or master's theses and dissertations will also be held in the special











Generation Future area. Prizes will be awarded for research work which has been carried out in cooperation with a company in the organic-food processing industry.

The organic sector is growing and with it the variety of possibilities to open new research and innovation activities for producers, retailers, service providers and newcomers in a small team or large company. As declared by IFOAM Organic international, organic is also an important tool that can be used to achieve the UN's global Sustainable Development Goals.

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