

# 2021 EDITION OF THE ORGANIC INNOVATION DAYS

## ORGANIZED BY THE TP ORGANICS EUROPEAN PLATFORM

The European Technology Platform TP Organics is spreading information about the [2021 edition of the Organic Innovation Days](#). This event on research and innovation for organic, organized annually in Brussels (Belgium), will take place online on 30 November and 1 December 2021, under the title *Better inputs for organic farming*.

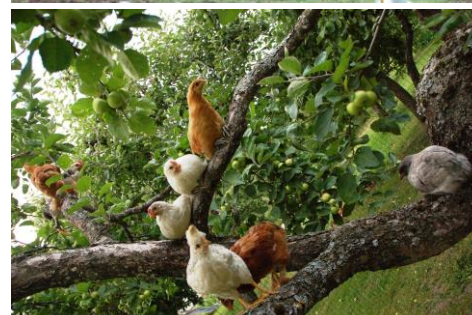
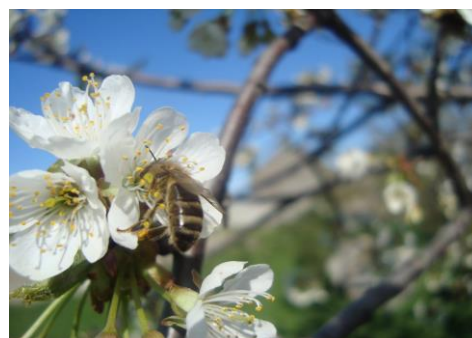


The 2021 edition of the Organic Innovation Days is organized in collaborating with the two Horizon 2020-funded EU projects [RELACS](#) and [Organic-PLUS](#), which both aim to reduce the use of contentious inputs in organic farming systems. Both projects started in May 2018 and officially run until end of April 2022. The event provides an opportunity to discuss and exchange with the RELACS and Organic-PLUS project partners:

- Coordinated by Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL (Switzerland), the [RELACS](#) Project has 29 partners from 13 European countries. IFOAM Organics Europe is responsible for communication, dissemination, and facilitation of the science-practice-policy dialogue. RELACS will foster the development and facilitate the adoption of cost-efficient and environmentally safe tools and technologies, to phase out the dependency on and use of inputs considered contentious in organic farming systems.
- Coordinated by Coventry University's Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience (United Kingdom), the project [Organic-PLUS](#) involves 10 universities and 15 research institutions and NGOs in 8 EU and 4 non-EU countries. The overall aim is to provide high-quality, trans-disciplinary, scientifically informed decision support to help all actors in the organic sector, including national and regional policy makers, to reach the next level of the organic success story in Europe.

[The preliminary programme of the 2021 Organic Innovation Days](#) highlights the following activities:

- **Day 1: Alternatives to contentious inputs in organic farming.** On the first day, participants will be taking a closer look at plant protection products such as copper and mineral oil, as well as soil and nutrients, peat and plastic, antibiotics, vitamins, and novel bedding materials in livestock husbandry. Each topic will be presented by the projects' experts, and a discussion will follow.
- **Day 2: Socio-economic aspects and the way forward for contentious inputs.** On the second day, Organic-PLUS and



RELACS experts will present the socio-economic results of the projects in 3 sessions: Consumer perspectives and citizen juries; Socio-economic and environmental impacts of alternative tools and technologies; Acceptance level of different alternative inputs, towards a European roadmap for replacing contentious inputs.

On Day 2, these exchanges will be followed by a high-level Policy Debate on how to tackle contentious inputs in organic farming. The European Commission's Directorate General on Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI) will introduce the topic and how the Organic Action Plan can contribute. The RELACS and Organic-PLUS project coordinators will conclude the event and point out next steps.

The [TP Organics Stakeholder Forum](#) for members only, will also take place on Day 2 in the afternoon. Members will have the opportunity to meet each other and network and will be informed about activities done in 2021. An outlook for the 2022 action plan will be presented and discussed as well.

TP Organics is the European Technology Platform (ETP) for organic food & farming, uniting large companies, small & medium enterprises, researchers, farmers, consumers and civil society organizations active in the organic value chain.

The Organic Innovation Days 2021 will provide an opportunity to meet members of TP Organics and to network with European Union stakeholders and decision-makers and to meet the RELACS and Organic-PLUS project partners. The updated programme will be available on the [event webpage](#).

#### **To know more**

[2021 Organic Innovation Days website](#)

[RELACS Project website](#)

[RELACS Project in Facebook](#)

[Organic-PLUS Project website](#)

[Horizon Europe 2021 - 2027](#)

[TP Organics Priorities for Horizon Europe Programme 2023/24 to deliver sustainable food and farming systems](#)

[TP Organics website](#)

