

First International Congress “Organic Ukraine 2017”

26-28 January 2017

Exhibition Centre “Chamber Plaza” (33 Velyka Zhytomyrska St, Kyiv city, the Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry).

[International Congress “Organic Ukraine 2017”](#) gathered over 450 participants. Successful organic producers, processors and traders willingly shared their real experience with those intending to convert to organic production, gave some advice to conscious consumers, trying to find common ground with international organic buyer and building mutually beneficial cooperation among Ukrainian organic market stakeholders. Over 70 speakers from 9 countries took part in parallel sessions of the Congress and six thematic conferences. Two international agreements on organic product supply to Switzerland were concluded during the event. The best local organic products were presented by 36 exhibitors from different regions of Ukraine; in addition, some companies displayed imported organic products, which is very important for organic market development in Ukraine. The exhibition which was held parallel to the conference events attracted over 3,000 visitors. The admission was free and curious consumers, apart from seeing and tasting organic products, had an opportunity to meet the organic farmers in person. The member of Organic Ukraine Public Union [Natur Boutique Organic Retail Chain](#) gave lectures for consumers on organic products “Why to buy organic products, detergents and textile” and others. Now the work with consumers is the main vector for domestic market development. In the framework of the Congress a study tour to [Zabirya Organic Farm](#) was organized, where the representatives of 10 regions of Ukraine as well as Switzerland, Israel and France had an opportunity to debate and share their experience. Mr. Maurice Meyer gave a lecture-diagnostics “Building biodynamic farm - step-by-step action plan”

[The Minister of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine](#) Taras Kutovyi, Deputy Director of [Swiss Cooperation Office in Ukraine](#) Viktor Shutkevych, President of Organic Ukraine Public Union Olena Berezovska addressed the participants of the Congress at its opening.

“Organic production is rapidly developing but we strive for this process to be more systematic and visible both in Ukraine and abroad. This sector is one of the most dynamic. We see 90% increase for the period of 5 years”, said Taras Kutovyi. The Minister reminded that organic production development has been defined by the Cabinet of Ministers as one of the main priorities of the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine for 2017. “Support of organic production is also an important activity within our Strategy “3+5”. Therefore, we have elaborated the Draft Law on Organic Production which has already been supported by the Cabinet of Ministers”, highlighted Taras Kutovyi.

“The Swiss government has been supporting organic farming development in Ukraine for 15 years. The decision has been made to continue this support till 2018 in such directions as creating organic market in Ukraine and supporting the existing certification body. We also welcome the steps taken by the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine in this sector and are ready to join. Today there are all the prerequisites for further growth of organic agriculture in Ukraine at the domestic market and strengthening Ukraine as a reliable partner at the international organic markets”, concluded Viktor Shutkevych.

The Deputy Ministers Olga Trofimtseva and Olena Kovaliova actively participated in the Congress. Olena Kovaliova, the Deputy Minister of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine, provided the participants with the in-depth information on the regulatory policy of the Ministry in organic production development, having explained the main requirements to distribution and labelling of organic products, the advantages of the new Organic Draft Law and priorities of 3+5 Agrarian Sector Development Strategy. In particular, she noted that, in the framework of the state support to organic production, farmers already have the opportunity to receive financial support for organic certification on a competitive and repayable basis; under equal conditions farming enterprises that have applied for conversion to organic production have the advantage

of other farming enterprises which seek such financial support. Olga Trofimtseva, the Deputy Minister of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine on European Integration, told the Congress participants about the current situation and key priorities of the Ministry with regard to organic export development and the perspectives of Ukrainian organic producers at the international markets. She drew the participants' attention to the fact that the volume of exported Ukrainian organic products had grown in recent years. According to Olga Trofimtseva, for further development it is necessary to understand that organic product range is quite limited and there are enough segments at the market which have no competition at all, so the diversification is needed as well as processing and export of processed products and not only raw materials.

Olena Berezovska, President of Organic Ukraine Public Union said that this event would improve the trust of farmers to organic production, trust of consumers to organic products and trust to expert knowledge of the existing organic sector. "This Congress combines different formats for complete understanding of the current state of the organic market", said Olena Berezovska, Congress organizer. "There is a harmony of different formats, topics and interests which is a reflection of the current state of the Ukrainian organic movement. The demand for organic products is constantly growing, small and large farmers join the organic sector – everything is happening and changing extremely quickly".

"There are over 400 organic operators in our list", said Sergiy Galashevskyy, Director of Organic Standard certification body and Congress co-organizer. "Our experts work all over Ukraine and we constantly hire new staff to be able to react to all the requests in time, because the number of certified organic farms has significantly grown in the last 10 years".

Ukraine has a big potential of organic production, it is able to provide a wide assortment of organic products of the domestic consumer basket and make a significant contribution to export of agricultural products. Today there are 410,550 ha of certified organic lands in Ukraine, according to the data provided by the Organic Federation of Ukraine. Compared to 2010 this number has grown by 35%. The Medium-term Actions Priority Plan of the Ukrainian government till 2020 (*its draft is currently under public discussion*) envisages increase in the area of certified organic land to 450,000 ha by the end of 2017, i.e. by 10%. This indicates the perspectives for further stable development. (*For reference: In Western Europe the area of organic land has increased by 2 mln. ha (21%) in the period from 2010 to 2015. Over 11 mln. ha and 270,000 farming enterprises are certified organic. Source – Eurostat*).

Organic agriculture in Ukraine can become one of the locomotives of economic development of the country, preserving soil fertility and ensuring people's welfare at the same time. Today organic production development is one of the top priorities of our country (Strategic Priorities 3+5 of the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine and Single and Comprehensive Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development in Ukraine for 2015-2020) which financially encourages farmers to convert to organic production and takes concrete steps for harmonization of the national legislation with EU requirements according to the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement. Thus, the Draft Law of Ukraine "On the main principles and requirements to organic production, distribution and labelling of organic products" which must define the rules for functioning of organic market in Ukraine, mitigate the existing risks and provide the appropriate state control in organic production, distribution and labelling of organic products, is to be considered by the Ukrainian Parliament in the near future.

"The representatives of all stakeholders of the Ukrainian organic movement as well as international partners were involved in the work on this draft law", said Kateryna Shor, Project Manager of the International Charitable Organization "Information Centre "Green Dossier", co-organizer of the International Congress "Organic Ukraine 2017". "We were able to demonstrate successful joint work and achieve positive results thanks to well-coordinated work of the whole organic sector".

According to numerous international researches, organic consumers consider their health to be much better than that of conventional consumers. The research carried out by the scientists of O.O. Bogomolets National Medical University showed that the child's health is 50% affected by nutrition, 10% - treatment, 20% - genes and 20% - conditions of living. Such indicators show that organic food is not just a trend but a healthy lifestyle which people all over the world consciously choose. Ukrainian farmers and communities are joining the international organic movement in leaps and bounds. Today Ukrainian organic operators already have what to offer

consumers not only at the domestic market but abroad as well. In particular, in coming days a large delegation of the Ukrainian organic sector is heading for Nuremberg to take part in the biggest international organic fair BioFach 2017, where the Ukrainian National Pavilion will be presented for the fourth time.

Summarizing, Nataliya Prokopchuk, Project Manager of the Swiss-Ukrainian Project “Organic Market Development in Ukraine” noted: “The participants of the sessions within the International Congress “Organic Ukraine 2017” related to domestic and international organic market development (Oleksandr Yuschenko, Galeks-Agro PE, Ivan Tomenko, Agrofirma Pole Ltd, Andriy Nikolayuk EthnoProduct PrJSC, Sergiy Galashevskyy, Organic Standard certification body) unanimously concluded that for the organic market development it is necessary to raise public awareness about organic products, work jointly to build the positive image of Ukraine as a reliable organic supplier abroad through patriotism and improve product quality through organizing the annual International Congress “Organic Ukraine” for understanding the real situation at the domestic market and strategic growth areas as well as through presenting the Ukrainian National Pavilion at BioFach for expanding to the international markets. Qualified staff for organic enterprises, scientific work aimed at practical application by organic farmers (not just a theory) and well-functioning system of informing producers by the state are also needed”.

Organizers of the International Congress “Organic Ukraine 2017”: [Organic Ukraine Public Union of Certified Organic Producers](#), [QueS consultancy body](#), [Organic Standard certification body](#), [Research Institute of Organic Agriculture \(FiBL, Switzerland\)](#), [Natur Boutique organic Retail Chain](#), [International Charitable Organization “Information Centre “Green Dossier”](#), Scientific and Production Association “Institute of Organic Production”.

With the support of: [The Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine](#) and [Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs \(SECO\)](#) in the framework of [the Swiss-Ukrainian Project ‘Organic Market Development in Ukraine’](#).

Partners: [Granosa AG](#), [Danube Soya Association](#), [BTU Centre PE](#), [KET UKRAINE LLC](#), [All-Ukrainian Environmental NGO “Mama-86”](#), [Lviv Municipal Public Organization “Ecoterra”](#)

All the materials and information about the products and the list of products of each exhibiting producer are available at the official website of [the International Congress “Organic Ukraine”](#).

For the presentations and photos, go to -

Summary of information

List of exhibitors in the framework of the First International Congress “Organic Ukraine 2017”:

1. [NaturBoutique Organic Retail Chain](#);
2. [Organic Original LLC, TM Ecorod](#);
3. [Khlbio-Trade LLC](#);
4. [Organic Milk LLC](#);
5. [Staryi Porytsk LLC](#);
6. [Firm Diamant Ltd, TM Kozub Organic](#);
7. [Zoloty Parmen FE](#);
8. [Ethnoroduct PrJSC](#);
9. [Liqberry TM](#);
10. [Agrofirma Pole Ltd](#);
11. Dunaiskyi Agrariy LLC;
12. [Kvark LLC](#);
13. [Lilak LLC](#), TM Springdrops;
14. Perlyna Strumka FE
15. [Firm Kasper LLC](#);
16. [Zhytomyr Butter Plant PJSC, TM Rud](#);
17. [Agricultural Company “Berezan Poultry Plant” PJSC](#);

18. Zhyva Zemlya Potutory LLC;
19. Tokmatske 2011 FE;
20. [Scientific and Production Company "Elitphito" PE;](#)
21. [Kostiv FE;](#)
22. Solomeya FE
23. [Rivneholod ALC;](#)
24. Dvipa LLC, TM Ahimsa;
25. Ukrainian Organic Cluster;
26. [Unimed LLC;](#)
27. [Choice LLC, TM White Mandarin;](#)
28. [International Project "Biologic.ua";](#)
29. [Dary Makoshi Ethno Food Store;](#)
30. Energy Company LLC;
31. [BTU-Centre PE ;](#)
32. [Konkin PE, TM Vermikon;](#)
33. Scientific and Production Company "Briston-farm" LLC;
34. Scientific and Production Company "Ecologic Capital" LLC;
35. [Straight Line Ukrainian and Polish Joint Company;](#)
36. [ACCOUNT Group of Companies.](#)

Useful links:

- Order of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dated 27 May 2016 defining organic market development as a priority task of the Ukrainian government ([Sub-Clause 15 "Organic Market Development" of Part II of the Order of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No 418-r "On approving the Actions Priority Plan for 2016"](#)).
- The Draft Medium-term Actions Priority Plan of the Ukrainian Government till 2020 http://www.kmu.gov.ua/control/uk/publish/article?art_id=249634799&cat_id=244828445
- Draft Law "On the main principles and requirements to organic production, distribution and labelling of organic products" registered in the Ukrainian Parliament (24/11/2016) under No 5448, http://w1.c1.rada.gov.ua/pls/zweb2/webproc4_1?pf3511=60576
- First state support to organic production at the national level: Directive of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No 609 "On amendment to the Procedure of using budget funds for supporting farming enterprises" dated 8 September 2016.
- Mechanism of stimulating organic production through specialized land auctions: <http://minagro.gov.ua/uk/node/23027>
- Regional state administrations launched regional state support for organic market development: <http://agroprom.zt.gov.ua/index.php/tutorials-menu-49>
<http://apk.adm-pl.gov.ua/ogoloshennya/programa-rozvitku-ta-pidtrimki-agrarnogo-kompleksu-poltavshchiny-za-prioritetnimi>
- Ukrainian National Pavilion at BioFach www.biofach.com.ua