

## **Agriculture and Food Roundtable on organic farming: *Towards a more sustainable agri-food sector***

Thursday 20 May 2021, 18:00 to 20:00 Central European Summer Time (CEST)

Language of the event: English

In view of the support of the European Commission to the organic sector towards the achievement of the 25% target of agricultural land under organic farming by 2030 with the appropriate policy and legal framework, the panel will discuss the relevance of organic farming in Europe, and the impact that different types of measures and initiatives may have on the sustainable development of the rural areas as well as on the conservation of related components of the environment i.e., soil, water.

The panel discussion will provide a forum for sharing information and opinions on organic farming actions and initiatives towards a more sustainable agri-food sector and a better protection of our environment by addressing the following questions:

- What is organic farming and its benefits?
- Which are the different organic farming approaches and how are they incorporated in (or adapted to) the different EU lands?
- What is the importance / impact of organic farming on EU strategies and the Sustainable Development Goals?
- How is the implementation of organic farming supported? Which consequences does this support entail for the agri-food sector?

### **Agenda**

18:00 – 18:05 Introduction of the organizers: [Spanish Scientists in Belgium](#) & [Círculo Cultural Español “Antonio Machado” of Luxemburg](#)

18:05 – 18:10 Introduction of the panelists

18:10 – 19:30 Panel discussion - 80min

19:30 – 19:45 Q&A with the audience 15 minutes

19:45 – 20:00 Wrap-up and closing remarks

### **Panelists:**

- Gunther Wolff, European Commission, DG Environment
- Eduardo Aguilera, Spanish Scientific Research Network of greenhouse emissions in the agroforestry sector. (Red Científica de investigación de emisiones de gases de efecto invernadero en el sector agroforestal, Red REMEDIA), UPM
- Kurt Sannen, Natural farm “Het Bolhuis”
- Miguel Ángel de Porras, FiBL Europe



**Moderator:** Lourdes Llorens Abando, Senior Sector Economist Regional Development Division

Ms Lourdes Llorens Abando will moderate the panel discussion. She will welcome the participants, provide general technical orientation to the audience, and then introduce each speaker. Subsequently, she will present questions to the speakers and indicate their speaking turns. During the panel discussion, each panellist will respond to the general questions posed by the moderator whereas, during the Q&A session, speakers will reply the questions submitted by attendees. Ms Lourdes Llorens Abando will close the event.