

SUPPORTING AND IMPLEMENTING THE TRAINING OF TEAMS OF TRAINERS (TOTOT) 1 IN CAMEROON, 2022

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IFOAM - Organics International provides the first Training of Teams of Trainers (ToToT) for Central African countries

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IFOAM - Organics International has been contracted to provide Training of Teams of Trainers (ToToT) in eight Southern, West and Central African countries in the frame of the GIZ-Global project Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture in Africa (KCOA).

Following the trainings in Southern and West Africa, the first ToToT in Central Africa, only for participants from Cameroon, was held at CIPCRE in Bafoussam, Cameroon, from May 9 to 13.

Some 21 participants (9 Teams of Trainers; 11 men and 10 women) attended the training. They were selected through a public call considering several criteria such as: gender; experience with online learning or collaboration; experience in training in a rural extension/farming/community environment; experience as trainer, advisor or teacher in Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA)/organic farming/agroecology; and completion of a training program in organic agriculture or agroecology or related fields of at least one of the team members.

The objective of the training was to enhance knowledge and skills of selected master trainers who will train Rural Service Providers (RSPs) and change agents in strengthening EOA in Africa. The training focused on the methodology and approaches to training and capacity building, in order to assist and guide the master trainers in bringing their message and content across to Rural Service Providers / multipliers in the most effective and efficient ways.

The training was delivered by Hervé Bouagnimbeck on behalf of Groupement d'appui pour le développement durable (GADD), a Cameroonian based non-governmental organization specialized on the organic training and facilitation, with the support of Patricia Flores and Francina Berger from IFOAM-Organics International and a team of Centre Polyvalent de Formation (CPF). Nathalie Marbrey from GIZ-KCOA supported the logistics of the training.

The program prioritized interaction in small groups and had a good mix of theory and exercises. Several facilitation techniques were used during the event such as question and answer, brainstorming, group work, projection of videos, fish bowl, world café, inputs of experts, open space, excursion, practical implementation of some of the topics by trainees on flip charts and paper sheets.

The training was held in French. However, participants were allowed to put questions in English in the plenary and group work. The trainer answered those questions in English.

Although most of the participants already facilitated trainings for their own organizations, for many this was the first time they thought strategically about methodology and approaches to training and capacity building.

Participants appreciated the training and agreed that it will build their capacities beyond training/facilitation and contribute to the tightening of the network, thus bringing Ecological Organic Agriculture a step ahead in Central Africa.

The second ToToT, which may include participants from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Chad, will be held in Cameroon in October 2022.

For more information about the training, please contact Francia Berger: f.berger@ifoam.bio.