



The 2016 ALGOA Organic Foundation Course (April 18th to 21st, 2017 / Goesan County, South Korea)

The ALGOA Organic Foundation Course is a training program on organic agriculture offered to local government officials and IFOAM Asia affiliates as part of the ALGOA project.

ALGOA or the “Asian Local Governments for Organic Agriculture” was established in September 2015 to promote the full adoption of organic farming practices in Asia and to increase networking among local governments in Asia and the private sector involved in organic farming.

Application to the 2017 ALGOA Organic Foundation Course is offered to ALGOA members, IFOAM Asia affiliates and partners in Asia. Priority will be given to ALGOA members.

Full and partial sponsorships are offered to all selected participants.

All participants will receive a “Certificate of Completion” on the successful completion of the course and will be eligible for future in-depth training offered by ALGOA.

What is the Organic Foundation Course?

- An intensive, practice-centred further education course on organic agriculture;
- Tuition by prominent organic experts;
- Short, intense residential course, complemented by online learning and collaboration;
- Global outlook, regionalized approach.

What are the Benefits for Participants?

- The full picture of Organic Agriculture: from field to plate;
- Effective, sustainable strategies tailored to individual needs;
- Deepened understanding of the organic principles;
- Inspiration for organic development;
- An action network of likeminded peers.

What are the Core Competencies Acquired by Participants?

The Organic Foundation Course follows a holistic approach, allowing participants to develop:

1. Knowledge, e.g. facts about Organic Agriculture,
2. Skills, e.g. sound technology transfer know-how;
3. Attitude, e.g. a commitment for sustainable and ethical development personality.

It is geared towards enabling and supporting concrete action. A variety of methods are used to facilitate learning at different levels (action, reflection and theory), as well as learning with and from each other.

What are the Requirements for Participation?

1. Deadlines: All participants must submit the required documents by the due date (see below for deadlines)
2. Language: All participants must be able to understand and converse in English.
3. Country report: All participants must submit a country report on the status of organic agriculture and the challenges faced in each country by the due date. The report should also highlight best practices in organic farming and suggestions for collaboration among ALGOA members.

What are the Costs involved?

Free Tuition / Accommodation / Food: There is no cost for tuition, accommodation and food.

Accommodation will be on a twin-room sharing basis.

Flight costs: Depending on the country of the participant, full or partial sponsorship for flight is offered.

Other costs: Other costs related to the training such as local transport (airport transfers), field-trips and health insurance are covered.

However, please note that expenses incurred **outside** Korea (while traveling to Korea) and other private spending costs are not covered by the organizers.

Important Deadlines

Feb 20th: Deadline for Application

Feb 28th : Notification of Acceptance (if all documents are in order)

March 5th : Issuance of Invitation letters for Visa (start Visa Process)

March 30th: Submission of Country reports

April 17th: Arrival in South Korea

April 22nd : Depart for home country

Venue of the Training /West of Canaan Hotel, Goesan County



The residential training will take place at the **West of Canaan Hotel** in Goesan County, South Korea. It is a small, eco-friendly hotel nestled in the mountains and is half an hour from Goesan county downtown. The entire hotel has been rented for the ALGOA training.

About Goesan County, Chungbuk Province

Goesan County is one of the nine local governments in Chungbuk Province and has a population of over 38,000. It is less than an hour's drive from the capital city of Cheongju and is known for its clean air and beautiful natural environment as it is also the source of three major rivers of Korea.

A predominantly farming area, Goesan County is unique as it is one of the birthplaces of organic farming in South Korea. Even today, the major organic consumers' cooperatives like Hansalim and iCoop have their production bases in Goesan.

Organic farming research and the seed-saving movement remains crucial with organic groups like Heuksalim Research Institute at the forefront. A government-funded Organic Agriculture Research Center has been built



to promote research and to assist farmers with the latest innovative technology.

In 2015, Goesan County successfully hosted the 2015 Goesan International Organic Expo and Trade Fair for 24 days which culminated in a record-high of 1.01 million visitors -perhaps the largest organic event in the world. The County also partnered with IFOAM Asia to launch ALGOA and will be sponsoring the operations and projects of ALGOA for the years 2016 to 2017.

IFOAM Asia has one of its local offices situated at the Chungbuk Organic Agriculture Research Center in Goesan County and works closely with the County to promote the growth of organic farming in South Korea.

Contact Information

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