

## Editorial

With great pleasure we share with you the 2<sup>nd</sup> newsletter of the ORGANIKO LIFE+ project, presenting the main achievements for the period March 2016 – September 2016. The project completed one year of operations in September 2016 and the foundations for the project implementation have been established. Actions have been initiated towards the in situ measurements of greenhouse gas (CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O) emissions from conventional and organic plot farms and the implementation of a children's health study in Cyprus. A series of communication activities have already taken place in both Cyprus and Italy targeting both the general population and technical stakeholders. Discussions with relevant local authorities regarding the possible provision of organic food in primary schools and universities via the application of green public procurement principles are ongoing.

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## ORGANIKO LIFE+ project

ORGANIKO is a LIFE-co-funded project with duration of 4 years (2015–2019), coordinated by the Cyprus University of Technology jointly with three partners: the Agricultural Research Institute (CY), the Department of Environment (CY) and the Kyoto Club (IT). The ultimate goal of the project is to demonstrate the comparative advantages of organic versus conventional farming and products using indicators of:

- Mitigation efficiency to climate change
- Agronomic and environmental quality
- Decreased children exposures to diet-based pesticides
- Healthy food promotion for better children's health

[Read more...](#)



## Project Activities

### Researchers' Night 2016: Discussion with students about organic food

Our participation at the Researchers' Night 2016 event that took place on 30 September at the Filoxenia Conference Centre in Nicosia, included a discussion with children from high schools during the morning session about the ORGANIKO project, the organic food and health benefits. [Read more...](#)



Students discussing with Dr. Makris about the importance of organic farming



From left: Dr K.C. Makris (CUT), Ms. A. Mandoulaki (CUT), Mr. K. Giorkatzis (Nicosia mayor) & Dr. A. Georgiou (CUT), the banner of the project



### Thinking of future generations at the 10th Environment Festival in Nicosia

On 18 September, the 10th Environment Festival was held from 11am until 8pm at the Municipal Gardens in Nicosia and we were there. [Read more...](#)

### 2nd Study visit in Bologna, Italy

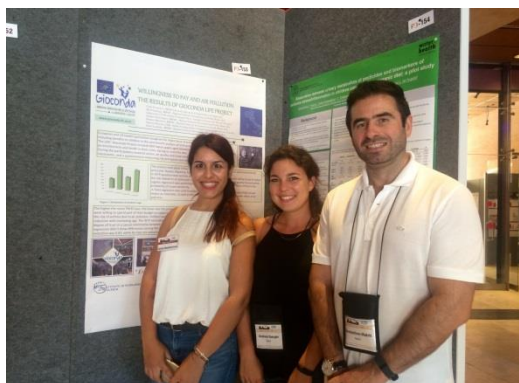
The 2<sup>nd</sup> study visit in Italy took place in Bologna on 5–6 September and we visited, among others, the Azienda Agricola Masera farm and the National Research Council. [Read more...](#)



Left: Visit of ORGANIKO partners at the Az. Agricola Masera farm

Above: Meeting of ORGANIKO partners with the Emilia-Romagna regional government





From left: Mrs. C. Konstantinou, Ms. S. Gaengler & Dr. K.C. Makris (CUT)

## Attendance at the 28th Annual Conference of the ISEE

On 1–4 September 2016, the 28th Annual Conference of the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology (ISEE) was held in Rome and we were present. The theme of the conference was “Old and New Risks: Challenges for Environmental Epidemiology” with pesticides being recognized as one of the hazards that cause serious health consequences.

[Read more...](#)

## 1st Training course for local authorities and farmers in Italy

The 1st training course for local authorities and farmers was organized on 8 August 2016 in Grosseto, Italy and the theme was the National Strategic Plan for the Development of the Organic Farming (OF) system in Italy. [Read more...](#)

Right: Discussion among participants and presenters about the OF Strategic Plan



## 2nd Italian awareness raising programme

On August 7th, the 2nd Italian awareness raising programme was conducted, within the framework of Festambiente 2016 in Grosseto. [Read more...](#)

Left: Mr. B. Croce (Legambiente) discusses the need for more Italian land to be converted into organic

## Participation in the workshop of AgroLIFE project

A workshop on “Innovative sustainable practices in traditional vineyards: trends, prospects and growth opportunities in the wine sector” was organized by the Agrolife project on June 27th. [Read more...](#)

Right: Presentation of Dr. M. Omirou (ARI) on the greenhouse gas emissions in organic farming





## Promotion of organic diet on Global Wellness Day

On Saturday June 11, we celebrated the Global Wellness Day in Molos, Limassol. The aim of the day was to promote a healthier lifestyle and to honour the importance of living well. [Read more...](#)

Left: People visiting our kiosk in Molos area of Limassol seafront

## 1st Italian awareness raising programme

On June 6, within the scope of the World Environment Day, the 1st awareness raising programme took place at the Emilio Sereni Agricultural Technical High School in Rome, Italy. [Read more...](#)

Right: High school students learn about the sustainability of organic farming



## Europe Day in Limassol with organic products

Europe Day was celebrated with great success at Molos, Limassol on Saturday, May 7. The ORGANIKO team was there along with the Cyprus Organic Farmers Association. [Read more...](#)

Left: Mr. L. Piggouras (COFA president) prepares organic food samples for visitors of our kiosk

## Monitoring of greenhouse gas emissions

The monitoring of greenhouse gas emissions in organic and conventional farm plots of vetch and barley is in progress.



Gas sampling chambers in vetch (left) and barley (above)



## Deliverables

- [Review reports on organic farming schemes](#)
- [Newspaper articles](#)
- [Informative material](#)
- [Stakeholder organic sector mapping – Cyprus and Europe](#)
- [Literature review – health & environmental aspects](#)

## Contact us

