



FROM ITS ROOTS
organic inspires life.



FRANCE

STAKEHOLDER FORUM

Session 26: Network



WWW.OWC.IFOAM.BIO/2021

FARMERS AT THE HEART OF THE FLEMISH ORGANIC RESEARCH & KNOWLEDGE (FORK) - NETWORK

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CCBT

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Starting with a question!

When was the last time a farmer contacted you with a research or knowledge question?

How did you respond to this question?







The growers contacted us 2 years ago, and they reported a problem with autumn raspberries,

Arnout Heremans, Proefcentrum Pamel



- **Organic Farmers Networks**
- 10 different sectors
- 1 or 2 groups per sector
- 2-4 meetings per group per year



- **Applied research** for organic farming
- 8 research centres
- Dissemination of research results



- **Research, sector and policy**
- Policy advising platform
- EU connection
- Applied/fundamental research



FORK-network



Trust

Trust, you have to earn...

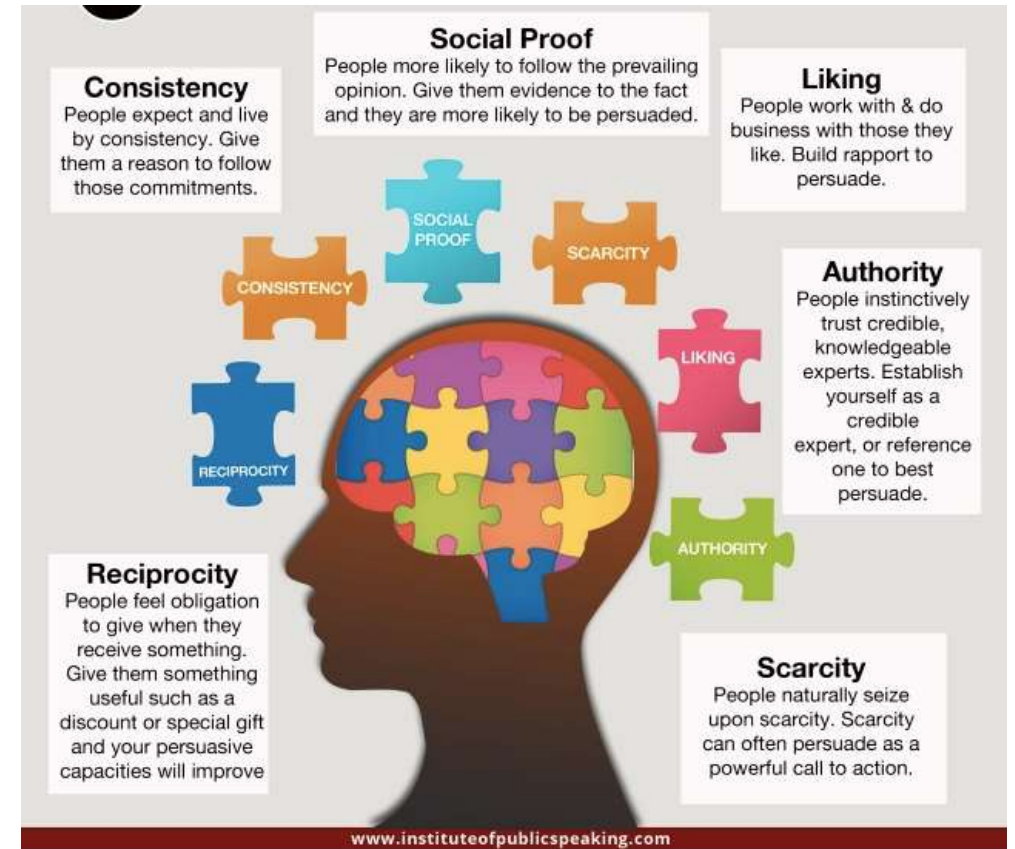


Trust

Trust, you have to earn...

7 network fundamentals to build trust

- Farmers at the drivers' seat
- Co-creation
- Reciprocity
- Systems thinking
- Tailormade dissemination of results
- Cooperation, regional and European
- Continuity (!)



Farmers at the drivers' seat

Recognition of farmers' knowledge!

Important role of farmers' networks with facilitator (Bioforum)

Research application procedures insisting upon cooperation between researchers and farmers



Co-creation ≠ Multi actor involvement

Not doing the right things, but **doing the things right!**

Common goal

Ownership

Clear roles

Equal status

Photo: CCBT



Reciprocity

Give and take

Give something back from the start

Compensate farmers
for their efforts

Tailormade dissemination of results



BIOpraktijk.be

BIOpraktijk - juni2021



Beste lezer,

CCBT informeert je maandelijks over het praktijkonderzoek voor biolandbouw in Vlaanderen!

Indien je hieronder klikt op een titel kom je op onze website terecht waar je het volledige artikel kan bekijken.

Zoek je specifieke info? Typ dan je zoekwoord in de balk rechtsboven op [onze website](#).



1 online location for organic knowledge in Flanders! (\neq fragmentation)



Welke zelfbouwmaschine wil jij volgend jaar op je bedrijf?

Bepaal mee het vervolg van het bicoleursverhaal! Na de succesvolle samenwerking rond het wiedzbed 2020. Wilken we alvast uit naar 2022 om een tweede machine te ontwikkelen en samen te gaan bouwen.

Cooperation, regional and European

- bioKennis (NL + BE)
- Core Organic
- TPOrganics
- IFOAM
- Organic Farm Knowledge
- Living Lab Agroecology and Organic Farming (ILVO)

Look for complementarity!

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Organic Farm Knowledge website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for HOME and LIBRARY. Below this is a search bar with the text "English" and "Auto translations by Google". The main header features the "Organic Farm Knowledge" logo, which includes a stylized tree and a cow. To the right of the logo are several menu items: SEARCH TOOLBOX, SERVICES, THEMES & DISCUSSION, ABOUT, INTRANET, and CONTACT/SITE INFO. Below the header, the text "Exchange knowledge, enhance organic farming" is displayed. A large image of green leaves serves as a background for a search bar with the placeholder text "Search the toolbox". Below the search bar is a grid of six categories: Crop production, Animal husbandry, Soil, Food chain management, Environment and society, and Farm management. At the bottom, there is a section for "eprints" with the text "Search the Organic eprints archive" and a small European Union flag.

Continuity

- Of coordinators
- Of researchers
- Of activities
- Of financial support



Conclusion

Basis of a good learning network/living lab:

- A common goal
- Trust (earned by applying supporting fundamentals)

Challenges:

- To build ownership and a common goal with (new) researchers, without research money (chicken and egg story)
- Financing for long term research and systems oriented research
- Continuity of research and network financing

Advice to new living labs and financiers: Don't kill the existing networks, but join them and organise complementary cooperation.

Policy message: Separate funding for organic research remains necessary so that tailor-made and sufficiently focused work can be done.

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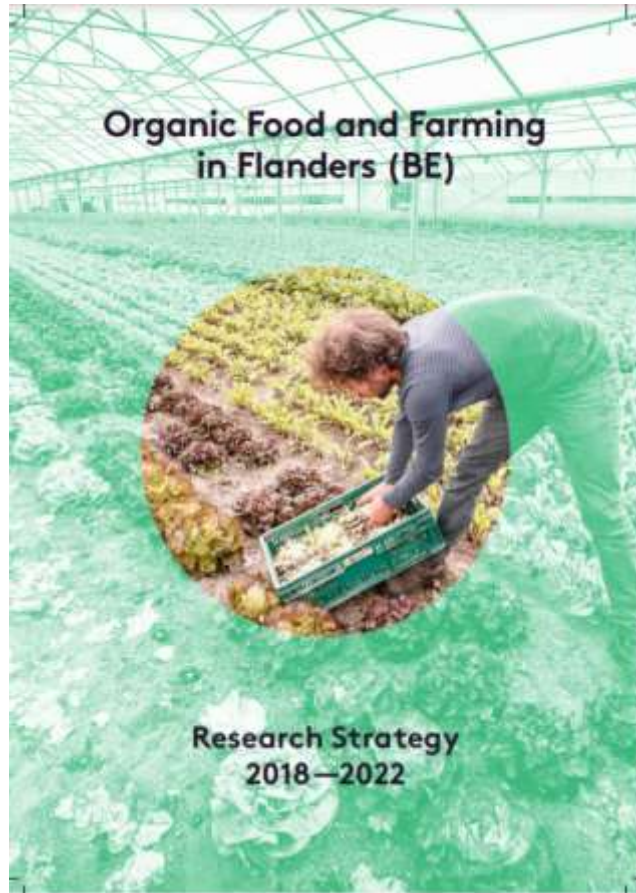
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Joint activities of the FORK network





**Organic World
Congress 2021**

FRANCE

SEPTEMBER 6TH TO 10TH 2021 IN RENNES

AT THE COUVENT DES JACOBINS • RENNES MÉTROPOLE CONFERENCE CENTRE

THE WORLD ORGANIC CONGRESS IN 2021, IT'S HERE!

WWW.OWC.IFOAM.BIO/2021

Thank you!

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:
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