

Global Alliance for Organic Districts (GAOD) as models and living laboratories
for the process of transformation towards sustainable food systems



Asian Local Governments for Organic Agriculture

GAOD Book Series

Book 1

Introductory Phase: Pathways to Cooperation

Published in Conjunction with the
the 6th ALGOA Summit on “Building Alliances Beyond Asia”
& Inaugural GAOD Summit
12th to 16th October 2020, Goesan County, South Korea

ISBN 978-88-944564-2-4



9 788894 456424



Asian Local Governments for Organic Agriculture



The **GAOD Book Series** is published in November 2020 as part of the 1st GAOD Summit, successfully hosted under the generous financial support of Goesan County, South Korea. The Founding Partners of GAOD such as the Asian Local Governments for Organic Agriculture (ALGOA), International Network of Eco-Regions (IN.N.E.R.), Regeneration International, the Organic Food Systems Programme (OFSP), etc have worked together to make the 6th ALGOA Summit “Build Alliances Beyond Asia” and the Inaugural GAOD Summit, a successful and rewarding event, with the support and assist from their global partners.

The **GAOD Book Series** contains all the exchanges on the latest research, experiences, and best practices during the event. Five books are created to allow these valuable inputs during the Summit go beyond the 6th ALGOA Summit and the Inaugural GAOD Summit to benefit more people.



The GAOD Book Series

- Book 1** **Introductory Phase - Pathways for Cooperation**
Best Practices of ALGOA Members
- Book 2** **Covid-19 and Organic Agriculture**
Organic food consumption - a step forward for sustainability
- Book 3** **Work Group Reports**
 - Organic Districts' Integrated Management
 - Communication
 - Youth in Organic Agriculture
- Book 4** **Work Group Reports**
 - Tourism & Gastronomy
 - Food Processing
Best Practices of Organic Food Systems
- Book 5** **Work Group Reports**
 - Regenerative/Organic Farming
 - Social Issues
Best Practices from the Five Continents

**Global Alliance for Organic Districts (GAOD) as models and living laboratories
 for the process of transformation towards sustainable food systems**



GAOD Book Series

Book 1

Introductory Phase: Pathways to Cooperation

Organization of Global Alliance for Organic Districts (GAOD)

By Cesare Zanasi

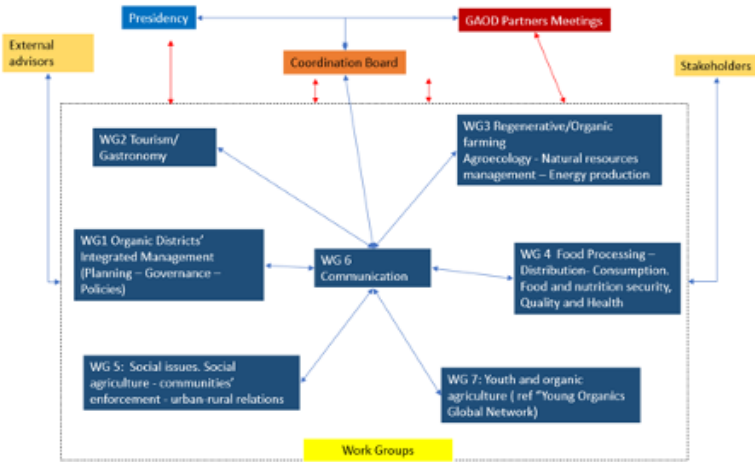
Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences - DISTAL, University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy and the International Network of Eco-Regions (IN.N.ER)

GAOD involves activities supporting the sustainable environmental, social and economic development of Organic Districts at a global level. Different interrelated topics are involved, as well as various areas of activity related to knowledge production, dissemination, and implementation. A range of very different skills are therefore required to support the Organic Districts development. A large number of people with sometimes very different backgrounds should therefore be involved in GAOD.

The management of GAOD activities can be effectively supported by setting up different Work Groups (WGs) reflecting the topics involved in Organic Districts management (see Scheme 1).

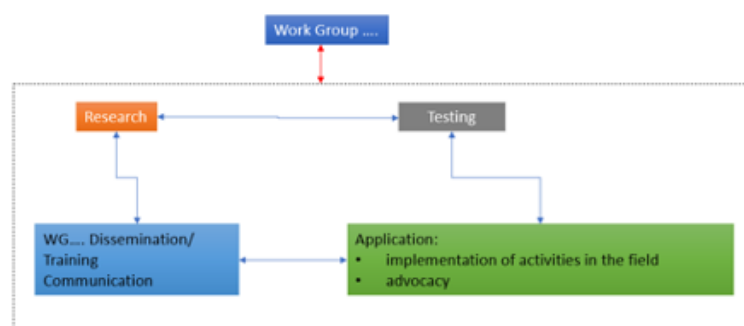
Scheme 1 GAOD Organization

Within each Work Group the participants will develop initiatives focused on different stages of knowledge production, dissemination and application (see scheme 2). Representatives are nominated for each WG. Each Work Group shall report on their activities in the GAOD Partner Meetings and,



if need be, contact the Coordination Board. The Presidency will provide its support by representing GAOD in relevant public events and contributing to GAOD strategic development thanks to the high-profile network of relations and the prestige of the members of GAOD Presidency.

- **Scheme 2 GAOD stages of Knowledge production, dissemination, and activities' application**



Given the systemic nature of the Organic Districts the different activities discussed and developed within each Work Group could benefit from the contribution of other work groups; this will avoid overlapping activities and possibly create synergies.

The flow of information within the GAOD workgroups, the communication of GAOD initiatives to other Organic Districts and other private and public stakeholders, will be managed by the Work Group Communication. This will support the knowledge sharing among Organic Districts and in general strengthen the contribution of GAOD to the global organic food system development.

Occasionally GAOD could need a specific support from specialized advisors in relation to the different topics and activities. For this reason, an Advisory Board will be implemented (see Scheme 1).

Periodically, GAOD Partner Meetings are held where the results of the activity and proposals for future strategies will be presented and discussed.

GAOD is a flexible organization and its strategies, organizational structure and governance, can be adjusted to adapt to possible changes in the global context as well as in response to an assessment of the GAOD performances. E.g. changes in the main focus of GAOD activities reflecting in the Work Groups number and topics.