

**Building Organic Agriculture in Armenia; Improving the knowledge  
and skills of organic stakeholders through participatory curriculum  
development and outreach | BOAA**

**A partnership between Armenia and Austria**

**appear**



## Building Organic Agriculture in Armenia; Improving the knowledge and skills of organic stakeholders through participatory curriculum development and outreach | BOAA

BOAA was created to help increase skilled organic agriculture professionals for research and practice in the Armenian context. The Armenian government has recently become interested in using organic agriculture to mitigate marginalized citizens, small farm size, and the conservation of Armenian water, soil and biodiversity. Building upon previous organic agriculture projects in Armenia, BOAA focuses on the need for trained and skilled organic practitioners in research and practice. To fulfill this need BOAA has been designed as a transdisciplinary project developing and implementing an Armenian Organic Masters Programme (OMP) with place-based curriculum through three phases:

- Stakeholder data from focus groups and interviews will be gathered to inform about current challenges and needs of present and future farmers and organic practitioners.
- Curriculum development will be accomplished through a stakeholder steering committee. The training of the instructors will be completed through exchanges: an Armenian team will visit BOKU's Division of Organic Farming and attend field visits and a BOKU team will visit ANAU to understand the Armenian context and train staff and build curriculum.
- Beyond the stakeholder committee devoted to the implementation and management of the OMP, project dissemination will occur through social media, newspaper articles, student outreach events and a public television broadcast.

These project phases demonstrate transdisciplinary development of organic agriculture in Armenia through participatory curriculum development. The OMP through BOAA will create connected and empowered students graduating with organic farming knowledge and practice, ready to enter the workforce.

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### Partner Institution

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