



# INAUGURAL DECLARATION

## Global Alliance for Organic Districts

during

The 6<sup>th</sup> ALGOA & Inaugural GAOD Summits  
(October 12<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Goesan County South Korea)

**Monday October 12<sup>th</sup> 14:00 – 15:45 KST/07:00 – 08:45 CEST**  
**Part 2 Official Launch of GAOD, item 3. Inaugural Declaration**

## **THE FUTURE WE WANT AND THE NEED FOR ACTION NOW!**

Sustainable food production and consumption are the keys to increasing both human and ecological capacities to cope with major challenges such as health, food and nutrition security, climate change and loss of biodiversity. The transformation of global food and farming systems is also crucial to achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to this end, building effective partnerships and scaling out examples of practical solutions is highly important.

Climate Change is one of the greatest existential threats to all communities on this planet. Agricultural systems that regenerate soil organic matter by drawing down carbon dioxide via photosynthesis are more resilient to weather extremes caused by climate change. These systems can also make a considerable contribution to reversing climate change by drawing carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere and storing it in the soil.

Many of the municipalities and regions of the parties in the alliance are in rural areas and their main activities are related to agriculture. As such, they produce food from the land with the supply also to the population living in cities, attending schools and being cared for and represent a cultural heritage with nature and landscape in living vital ecosystems. Seen in the perspective of the need for an integrated food system approach for healthy and environmental friendly dietary

patterns, this opens up for developing new rural-urban linkages to provide more and better jobs for youth in agriculture and food systems and in general, a potential for the revitalization of rural areas.

The founding parties have established working models and living laboratories for transformation processes towards sustainable food and farming systems based on actions from local and sub national governments and integrating public and private institutions, civil society, farms, small and medium enterprises.

With the cooperation established and reaching out to all continents we will also be working to support likeminded initiatives at national and pan national level and in particular in their focus to combat climate change and biodiversity losses and to build a new economic system that is more environmentally friendly, supporting health and social fairness globally.

More than ever, amidst the current Coronavirus situation, the Global Alliance for Organic Districts together with other likeminded organizations must lead the way making definite impact in the local, national and global levels – and action is needed NOW!

## **VISON**

The vision of the Global Alliance for Organic Districts (GAOD) is to co- create a global network able to support the local development of Organic Districts in different territorial contexts and scaling out examples of practical solutions; the transformation of global food and farming systems as key towards achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in general and Sustainable Food Systems in particular.

**October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Goesan County, South Korea**