



ORGANICO **REALFOODS LTD**

IMPACT REPORT 2022

2022 OUR POSITIVE IMPACT IN BRIEF

OVER 50% OF ORGANICO FOREST PLANTED



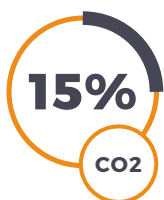
Based on average assumptions
Our tree planting generates **10x's more Co2** than we
produce as a company
For 12 months to 09/2022



OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

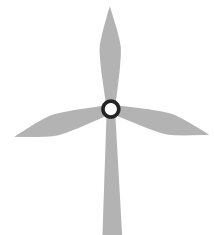
- Is calculated by independent experts.
- Includes Scope 1, 2 and 3 footprint which means our own organisation footprint and all the products we sell and the transport we use.

We could claim to be carbon neutral or carbon positive or **NET ZERO NOW** but we don't like those terms. We plant new trees which is great but there is not enough land or trees to cover all the economic activity based on fossil fuels. The world **MUST** kick the fossil fuel habit fast and talk about offsetting can muddy the waters.



WHAT IS CARBON COMPENSATION?

As well as offset **we invest** in generating renewable energy with companies like Thrive Renewable. In our third year our investment already covers 15% of our total footprint and our aim is to cover 50% by 2030.



If every company in the UK invested the same proportion of turnover on generating renewable power it would equal £40bn of extra green money roughly equivalent to the value of the whole renewable sector in the UK.

ALL OUR PRODUCTS ARE GOOD BY NATURE

- ✓ CERTIFIED ORGANIC
- ✓ SUSTAINABLY- FISHED
- ✓ 100% SUPPLIERS ARE SME AND FAMILY RUN BUSINESSES
- ✓ INTRINSICALLY LOW CARBON FOOTPRINT
- ✓ NO ARTIFICIAL ADDITIVES, PRESERVATIVES,
- ✓ NO FILLERS OR FLAVOUR ENHANCERS
- ✓ NO ULTRA-PROCESSED FOODS
- ✓ LOW WASTE
- ✓ NO "BAD" PLASTIC , REDUCED AND AVOIDED WHERE POSSIBLE

In 2022 we started an ethical discourse with our suppliers, many of which are pioneers and exemplary companies in their field, supporting truly sustainable farming or fisheries with a strong sense of community. **Our highlights of 2022 are:**

- The **ONLY** scientifically assessed plastic positive fishery in the world.
- **Only Naturland** certified tuna in the world.
- Submitted audit for **BCorp certification**. Score expected early 2023.
- **First certified Fair Trade tuna** in the UK.
- Charity contribution of **25% of profit** and pro bono work with Community Catch.
- The 8th year of **Food Talks partnering with Sustain**, the Food Ethics Council and the Hub, King's Cross to help foster an understanding and action on key food issues.

We work with:



A WORD FROM CHARLES

It's actually really difficult to be an ethical company and take on all the concerns which that term implies. It's hard because just surviving is hard already in business with crisis upon crisis and of course the problematic of dealing with unequal power structures in the market place and how finance, come what may, chases profit rather than values.

Finally it's hard to be an ethical company because on the one hand all companies know that ethics is vaguely important to consumers so everybody's claiming it, meaning that there's a lot of claiming and almost as much suspicion and dismissing of said claims.

And, on the other hand, consumers say they want such and such values but often don't want or can't pay for them, or can't trust the claims, and almost universally they can't and don't have the time to really go into the detail of each and every product they buy, and decision they make. I include myself in that: I'm wrong more often than I'm right as a consumer!

It's difficult to be an ethical company- but it's critically important to try. We could maybe see this age as a staging post to better and companies like Organico as way markers.

In part because we are on the cusp of getting our B Corp certification, we've been looking at wider ethical issue in great depth this year. The professionalism with which we've approached fish sustainability now for over 20 years was painstakingly transferred into a very competent climate policy as well as taking a broader look at how we approach wider questions outside the world of fish and organic agriculture.

Bringing the whole team on-board and sharing responsibility for ethical policy and progress has also been an eye-opener. We've managed to combine all the tick boxes you have to do in this type of process whilst also keeping our head (!) and more happily, where those asks are a bit too "big brother corporate", keep our own friendly way of doing things.

The future isn't looking particularly bright – both in terms of the political and environmental context and what is euphemistically called business challenges – but we're still standing, we're standing proud and we're standing up for best practise. Long may this last.

CHARLES REDFERN

FOUNDER, ORGANICO REALFOODS

A man with curly brown hair and sunglasses, wearing a white short-sleeved button-down shirt, is smiling and looking towards a large olive tree. He is reaching out with his right hand to touch a branch of the tree, which is covered in green olives. The ground is dry and sandy. The background is filled with more olive trees under bright sunlight.

Charles visiting the Bio Organico family farm in Puglia which grows olives, tomatoes, peppers etc.

ORGANICO IN ACTION 2022



Naturland Experts Meeting June 2022



Azores Trip June 2022



Organic Shows 2022

COMMUNITY PROJECTS



Organic Farm Visit Aug 2022



Team Litter Picking



Local Foodbank Supported



Planted Bee Friendly Flower Bed



Local Tree Planting

SUPPLIER IN THE SPOTLIGHT BIO ORGANICA ITALIA

At Organico we love a good story because we're all about the products we sell. We know that we don't need to be an expert ourselves in pasta, tomato, olives or anything else as long as we know how to find the expert. We go the extra mile to source well. And we NEVER buy on price. We look for suppliers that are passionate, knowledgeable and committed to better. We always buy on quality and ethics.

Bio Organica Italia is a third-generation family business, farmers since 1960, and a leading company in the processing of organic and biodynamic olives, artichokes, tomatoes and other vegetables from Puglia, Italy. 100% Organic since 1999, they manage open-air cultivation on over 220 hectares of their own certified land.

Bio Organica are specialists in short supply chains. Every day they grow, transform and package in their fantastic products in-house, guaranteeing total traceability along the supply chain, from agricultural production to the finished product.



The delicious fresh Italian vegetables at the heart of their products come exclusively from the open-air cultivation of the land adjacent to their facilities, processed within 8 hours of picking.

Bio Organica take all aspects of sustainability seriously and in 2022 they invested in upgrading their self-generated energy ability to 450kw of solar panels which covering the roof of the buildings on the farm. They believe this is vitally important to reduce their gas emissions and energy bills.





OUR AZORES TUNA: THE FIRST "PLASTIC POSITIVE" FISHERY IN THE WORLD

Plastic pollution is a huge threat to our oceans where plastic litters our coastlines and all the Oceans of the world. A proportion of that plastic comes from the fishing industry. When a fishing net is lost it will entangle, maim and kill marine animals and can also impact sensitive marine habitats. The gear loss in the Azores tuna fishery has been scientifically quantified, and is very low. In 2021 the Plastic Neutrality project was launched by the below partners with the aim to collect, calculate, land and remove marine litter lost by OTHER fisheries encountered by our tuna boats. Managed by Popa, the scientific program of the Azores, 2022 results have been very encouraging.



The Azores pole and line tuna fishery have become the first “plastic neutral” fishery in the world!

Removing the plastic from the oceans that is harming animals'

To be plastic positive means:

To collect, land and remove more marine waste while fishing than they lose in that environment themselves.

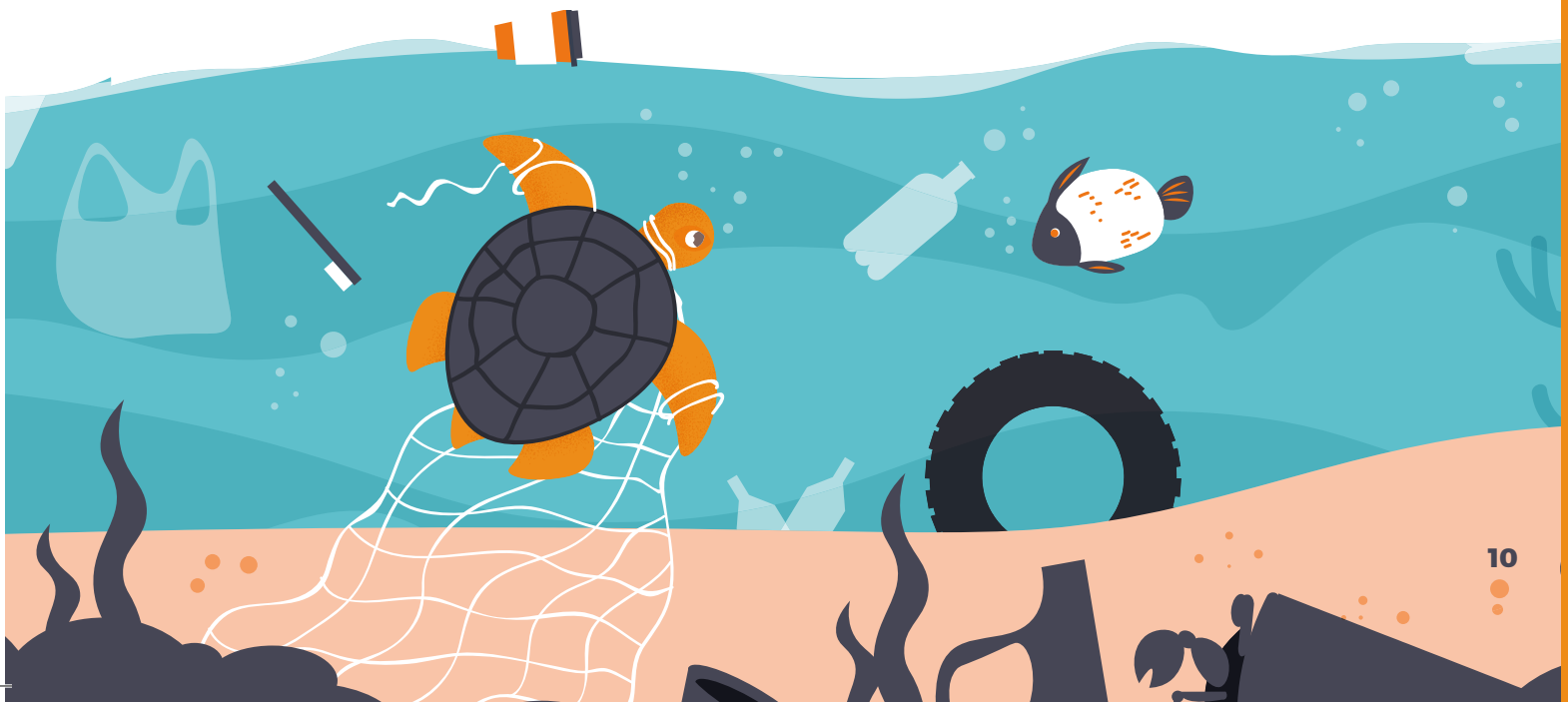


Emerging out of COVID in 2022 more than 50% of the fleet of boats participated.

A brilliant 735kg of marine litter was picked, landed, weighed, sorted & removed - this is a 61% increase from 2021.

620.65kg of the 735kg collected was fishing gear. **That's 84% of the total collected.**

The reach of this project spread with multiple TV news channels running items about this great work.



SWITCH OFF THE FOSSIL FUEL TAP

When it comes to the climate crisis, we're all in this together. Everything we do, everywhere we go, the stuff we buy, and the way we work - has a carbon price tag. The core solution though is blindingly obvious: switch off the fossil fuel tap and plug in to green energy.

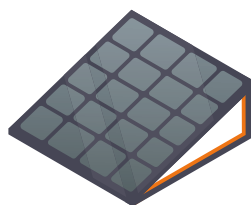
Most companies like consumers can't do an awful lot about the big picture. The first thing though is to say it loud and clear and support the change. Next is to try and walk the talk. On carbon footprint we don't like over-claiming but we're doing our bit and we are well ahead of the curve - benchmarked against the British Retail Consortium's Path to Net Zero.

Reduced our own direct carbon footprint

We've installed solar panel to produce 40% self-generated energy.

**That's 5.01 tons of coal saved
5.95 tons of CO2 avoided.**

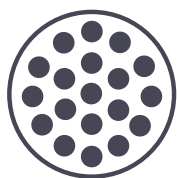
This is the equivalent of 9 new trees planted.



We're planting trees

- in fact we're planning a forest!

We've planted 10 times more trees than we need to cover our own carbon production.



Changed lighting in the **office** from lay in fluorescents to **LED panels**.

This saved **up to 90%** of **energy usage** in some areas of the **building**.

150K of investment into Green Energy

We have a radical policy of compensating further for our carbon footprint by buying shares in green energy.

Independently Calculated Carbon Footprint

We've calculated our organisation and product footprint, Scope 1, 2 and 3 using agreed carbon accounting protocols. For our organisation footprint we've purchased VCS carbon offsets.



Encouraged better choices of travel

Car sharing and **cycling** are encouraged Switching to **train** use for **business trips** where possible.



+
Carbon
Neutral
Organisation

For our full carbon policy 'Better than Net Zero', please go to our website

We're supporting GOOD climate actions

In addition to planting trees, we support the EJF for their work with climate refugees and awareness as well as Ecosystem Restoration Camps which works to repair and regenerate damaged soil. These are contracted donations pledged and paid regardless of our finances!



For offsetting our footprint, we have pledged to pay as much as it would cost us to buy certified offsets. **BUT** we wanted **ALL** the money to go into trees and not into paying an intermediary organisation or for the complex assessment process. We chose a highly regarded and highly effective charity partner that works with local communities on long term reforestation projects.

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION CAMPS (ERC) SPOTLIGHT

To tackle soil degradation, we've partnered with Ecosystem Restoration Camps, who help restoration projects worldwide with expertise and volunteer labour. Inspired by John D Liu their vision is to restore heavily degraded land using regenerative and ecological agricultural principles.

What are the future plans for ERC?



Fae Rinaldo, Project Co-ordinator, says of their plans “In 2023 we will continue getting even better at what we already do!

We're a dynamic and agile organisation, responding to the needs of the movement that we are here to support. As the movement continues to grow at speed, as a foundation we have to scale up – so that we can support real restoration at scale and address the challenges that people and the planet are facing today. At ERC we are bringing everyday people together, to restore degraded ecosystems from the ground up.

In 2023 we aim to launch two services currently in beta phase that will help us to empower and mobilise more restoration projects from the ground up: **a knowledge exchange platform** (a public free-to use digital platform where quality, accessible knowledge on ecosystem restoration is shared easily and quickly between eco restorers); and **a Restoration Project Finder** (a platform to allow anyone to discover restoration activities and join in!)

We will continue to share all the incredible stories of the restoration projects, to inspire the world for an abundant future that's possible. We will continue to deepen and roll out our impact measurement – vital for projects to learn what works best, and to provide proof of concept for leaders.

And we will continue to grow our funding base for the restoration work with joint fundraising, together with the restoration projects in the movement, Restoration resources and funding. We are so grateful for the support that Organico Realfoods provides to the Ecosystem 11 Restoration Movement.

WHO WE ARE



MISSION STATEMENT:

At Organico we buy and sell good food. Good food is food that's well made and tasty but also that's good for the planet and fair to the people we work with and who work for us... from farm to fork and from boat to plate.

STAY IN TOUCH

www.organicoREALfoods.com



www.fish4ever.eu
www.fish4ever.co.uk

