



SEMINAR ON TRUE COST ACCOUNTING FOR THE HIDDEN COSTS OF FOOD

FRIDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2024

You are invited to join a dialogue on the concept of True Cost Accounting (TCA) for the hidden costs of food, and how organics can contribute to reducing these costs for health, climate and biodiversity. Jostein Hertwig and Sofi Gerber from BERAS International/Bio-district Sörmland will be joined by David Gould, an international expert on organic food systems and their interface with true cost accounting approaches. Together we shall facilitate discussions on how TCA can be developed and utilized in a Swedish setting, providing a first review of research papers on positive effects from organics such as the French BioNutrinetSanté study, the FiBI DOK Trial, Meta studies by Rahman and Jiang and examples from Sweden.

This seminar gathers food businesses from farm to fork, policymakers, researchers, experts and civil society organisations who are interested in how the agrifood system can be transformed into enhancing benefits for humans and nature rather than causing hidden costs. It is organized by Beras International Foundation and Södertälje municipality in the framework of Bio-district Sörmland. It is supported by the EU (BSR) Project KISMET and co-financed by Axel och Margaret Ax:son Johnsons stiftelse för vetenskap.

Place: Kulturhuset i Ytterjärna

Duration: 09:00 – 15:00

Fee: No fee and we will serve organic “fika” and lunch.

Register: By sending an e-mail to sofi@berasinternational.se no later than 7 November.

Read a brief introduction about True Cost Accounting approaches for organic [here](#). Additional resources will be provided to people as they register for our event.

David Gould holds a degree in Life Sciences from The Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and has worked for almost 40 years in education and the development of organic, socially just agriculture and food systems worldwide. Among other roles currently, he serves on the Steering Committee of the Organic Food System Program, is the General Secretary of the IFOAM Seeds Platform, and Strategic Advisor to [ReSeed](#) (an innovative carbon credit scheme for organic farmers).

Sofi Gerber holds a PhD in European Ethnology. Since 2012, she has been working with research, education and development in relation to organic food and sustainable food systems in Sweden and the Baltic Sea Region. She is the coordinator of Ekodistrikt Sörmland, the first organic district in Sweden, and run a small farm together with her family.

Jostein Hertwig is Attorney at Law with practice from international business, is educated in organic/biodynamic agriculture, President of Beras International Foundation, member of the board of directors of the international research institution Organic Food Quality and Health and Executive Director of Global Alliance for Organic Districts.



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