

The background of the entire page is a photograph showing several pairs of hands, including those of children and adults, working together to plant a small green seedling into dark, rich soil. One hand holds the seedling steady while another uses a wooden-handled tool to assist in the process. The scene is outdoors, with blurred green foliage in the background, suggesting a garden or farm setting.

**CULTIVATING INTEGRITY AND TRUST
ACROSS THE ORGANIC COMMUNITY**

**IOAS
ANNUAL REPORT 2025**



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Peggy Miars, USA - Treasurer
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Vitoon Panyakul, Thailand
Sarah Compson, United Kingdom
András Fekete, Hungary
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Carrie-Anne Palmeri, USA

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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Dear Friends and Colleagues

Following the very sad and untimely passing of Michael Sligh, I have been elected president of this wonderful organization, which is a true and unexpected honor. IOAS has been at the forefront of “strengthening trust in organic and complementary claims” for all of its 28 years and I pay tribute to our remarkable team and our dedicated Board and Committees, all of whom serve IOAS with great loyalty, diligence and expertise, and some over very many years.

It continues to be a strange and unpredictable world, with so many norms being challenged, and some overturned. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is opening up extraordinary new opportunities, but also creating new threats; political instability and armed conflict seem to have become constants; climate change continues more or less unabated. The world of accreditation has not escaped this environment, responding with moves towards protectionism, consolidation and increasing commercialization.

IOAS has reacted to these pressures by pursuing new business development opportunities, targeting related social and environmental areas (such as regenerative agriculture, where greenwashing is rife), the rapidly emerging scope of validation and verification (ISO/IEC 17029 - including carbon, recycling and other similar claims), and also more flexible assurance and oversight approaches. There are positive signs emerging, along with careful investment in expertise and systems.

In these uncertain times, the need for dependability, integrity and rigour is ever more required. IOAS delivers these and I'm immensely proud of our reputation, both within our own organic movement and amongst our regulatory and accreditation peers. I thank everyone who contributes and has contributed to where we are today and into the future.



FRANCIS BLAKE
IOAS PRESIDENT



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

It has been a privilege to assume the leadership of IOAS and serve as Executive Director of this highly respected organisation. In my first year I have had the opportunity to build on a remarkable legacy shaped by nearly three decades of dedication and technical expertise.

Over the past 28 years, IOAS has earned a global reputation for the quality and integrity of our assessments, outstanding customer service and technical excellence. We have helped build trust and confidence in organic and sustainability assurance schemes around the world. This trust remains at the heart of everything we do.

The world around us continues to evolve rapidly. Sustainability is increasingly influencing the decisions and priorities of governments, businesses, consumers and investors, driving greater expectations for transparency, accountability and responsible practices. As regulatory requirements develop and scrutiny of sustainability claims increases, the role of independent, credible oversight and trusted assurance systems has never been more important.

Against this backdrop, our priorities during 2025 focused on three key areas: further developing operational and technical excellence, strengthening global stakeholder relationships and enhancing customer service. We built on the successful launch of our webinar series in 2024, expanded stakeholder engagement, streamlined operational processes and continued investing in assessor training and professional development. These initiatives have strengthened our ability to deliver high-quality, consistent and credible services while remaining responsive to the evolving needs of the sectors we serve.

As we look ahead, IOAS is well positioned to support the continued evolution of the organic and sustainability sectors. New standards, emerging sustainability claims and changing regulatory requirements will continue to create opportunities for independent assurance that is credible, practical and trusted. We also recognise the growing importance of using data and technology to strengthen oversight while maintaining the technical rigour and integrity that underpin confidence in certification systems.

Our role is to remain a reliable, independent assurance partner, safeguarding credibility across the sustainability landscape. As the sectors we serve continue to grow and evolve, we remain committed to promoting trust, transparency and integrity, while supporting our clients and stakeholders in meeting the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Our people are our greatest strength. Their expertise, commitment and professionalism are what make IOAS the trusted organisation it is today. I am grateful for the dedication our team brings every day and for the collaborative, supportive culture we continue to foster. My sincere thanks go to every member of the IOAS team for their hard work, resilience and unwavering commitment to excellence.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank our Board of Directors for their leadership, guidance, and strategic oversight. My gratitude extends to the members of our Accreditation Committee and Impartiality Committee for their continued dedication and expertise. Their insight and commitment help maintain the high standards that underpin our work and ensure that the IOAS name remains synonymous with excellence, credibility and leadership in organic and sustainability accreditation.

Together, we will continue building on our proud legacy while ensuring we remain true to our mission of strengthening trust.

Lauren Carlyle
Executive Director
IOAS Inc.





OUR MISSION

Cultivating integrity and trust across the organic community.

OUR VISION

Strengthening trust in organic and complementary claims, facilitating best practices to address global challenges.

OUR VALUES

Improving the life of planet and people, quality, integrity, innovation, respect for people.





INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE

At IOAS, our diverse and highly skilled international team, operating from **24 different countries**, enables us to deliver trusted accreditation and assurance services that support the integrity and credibility of organic and sustainability standards worldwide.

We oversee the performance and competence of **71 certification bodies operating in more than 100 countries**, helping to ensure consistent compliance with internationally recognized requirements and best practices.

Through our comprehensive range of assurance services, including accreditation, assessments, monitoring and oversight, training and advisory support, we assist certification bodies, regulators and scheme owners in maintaining robust, credible and effective assurance systems that underpin confidence in sustainability claims across global markets.

**Operators &
Certification Bodies**

TRANSITIONS AND NEW APPOINTMENTS

In 2025 we were pleased to **welcome three new members to the IOAS Board of Directors**, further strengthening the breadth of expertise and diversity of perspectives guiding the organization.

Their extensive experience and international insights contribute valuable strategic oversight and support IOAS in advancing its mission, strengthening governance and responding effectively to the evolving needs of the global organic and sustainability sectors.



ANDRÁS FEKETE

APPOINTED AS A NEW MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN NOVEMBER 2025



IRENE MAKAR

APPOINTED AS A NEW MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN NOVEMBER 2025



CARRIE-ANNE PALMERI

APPOINTED AS A NEW MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN NOVEMBER 2025

2025 saw the departure of the following valued members from our team:

We thank both Herman and Jochen for their invaluable contributions to IOAS over the years and wish them all the best with their future endeavors.



HERMAN VAN BOXEM

DEPARTED FROM THE IOAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS



JOCHEN NEUENDORFF

DEPARTED FROM THE IOAS ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE



HONORING MICHAEL

The IOAS family was deeply saddened by the passing of our President, Michael Sligh, on 7 November 2025. Michael made an extraordinary contribution to IOAS over 25 years. He joined our Accreditation Committee in 2000, moving to serve on the Board of Directors in 2004 and the Executive Committee in 2006, and serving as IOAS President from 2017-2025. Michael's passion was the organic movement and his unwavering commitment, wisdom, integrity and leadership touched countless lives. His humanity, generosity and sense of humor leaves a lasting impact on colleagues, partners and stakeholders around the world.

While his loss is felt deeply across our organization, his legacy continues to inspire our work and our commitment to advancing credible and trusted assurance systems. Michael will be remembered with great respect, gratitude and affection. He is profoundly missed.



MICHAEL SLIGH
FORMER IOAS PRESIDENT



EMBRACING NEW DIRECTION

Following Michael's passing, the Board of Directors elected Francis Blake, a longstanding member of the IOAS Board and Executive Committee, as President. Francis brings extensive experience in accreditation, certification, governance and strategic leadership, together with a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing the global organic sector.

Having served on the IOAS Board for 10 years, Francis has played an important role in guiding the organization and advancing its mission to deliver trusted accreditation and assurance services worldwide. His appointment provides continuity of leadership while building on IOAS's strong foundations, reinforcing its commitment to integrity, impartiality and excellence in support of the global organic sector.

The IOAS Board, management and team members warmly welcome Francis to his new role and look forward to his leadership as IOAS continues to strengthen confidence in certification and assurance systems, foster trust across the organic value chain and contribute to the ongoing growth and credibility of organic agriculture worldwide.



FRANCIS BLAKE
IOAS PRESIDENT



OUR RANGE OF EXPERTISE:

WHO WE WORK WITH

Over the past 28 years, IOAS has steadily expanded the range of schemes and standards for which we provide accreditation and assurance services. These include **ISO/IEC 17065** as well as programs developed by government regulators and private standard-setting bodies.

AGRICULTURE



National Standard for Organic and Bio-Dynamic Produce - Australia

TEXTILES



This diversification reflects IOAS's commitment to supporting credible, independent assurance across the organic and wider sustainability sectors, while responding to the evolving needs of global stakeholders.



DIVERSE COMPETENCIES

With more than 28 years of experience, IOAS has established a strong reputation for delivering trusted accreditation and assurance services across the organic and sustainability sectors. Our comprehensive service offering includes accreditation and assessments, monitoring and oversight, as well as training and advisory support, enabling us to provide independent, credible and effective assurance solutions to a wide range of stakeholders.

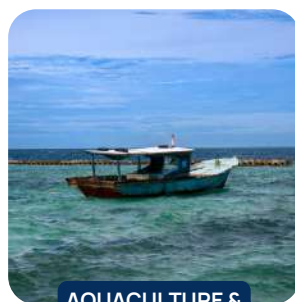
Throughout our history, we have remained committed to maintaining the highest standards of integrity, impartiality and technical competence, while also striving to deliver cost-effective services for Certification Bodies. This depth of experience, combined with our ability to adapt to evolving industry requirements, has enabled IOAS to expand its expertise across a diverse range of schemes and sectors. Today, our accreditation and assurance activities support a broad spectrum of schemes and initiatives across a broad range of sectors, including:



AGRICULTURE



ANIMAL WELFARE



AQUACULTURE & SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES



CHAIN OF CUSTODY



COSMETICS & HEALTHCARE



FAIR TRADE



FOOD & FEED SAFETY



INPUTS



NATURAL CLEANING PRODUCTS



RECYCLING



SOCIAL JUSTICE



TEXTILES



WILD HARVEST





SUPPORTING EMERGING ASSURANCE NEEDS

IOAS is committed to broadening the range of schemes and standards for which we provide accreditation and assurance services. Building on our strong foundation in the organic sector, we continue to explore opportunities within the wider sustainability landscape, engaging with credible, emerging initiatives and assurance frameworks that align with our mission and expertise. Through this approach, we aim to support the development of transparent, effective and integrity-driven assurance systems that strengthen trust and confidence across global supply chains and markets.



IOAS EXPANDS INTO REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE TO STRENGTHEN INTEGRITY

In 2025, IOAS made the strategic decision to expand into the field of regenerative agriculture, a natural progression in our mission to support standards that align with, or provide a robust pathway towards organic principles and practices.

As the market for regenerative agricultural products continues to grow rapidly, the need for credible standards and independent certification systems has become increasingly important. IOAS is pleased to offer third-party accreditation for integrity-driven schemes in this emerging sector at a time when trust and transparency are more important than ever.

In March 2026, AGW Certified Regenerative became the first regenerative agriculture scheme to achieve IOAS accreditation. This marks an important milestone in the development of credible assurance for the regenerative agriculture sector.

INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION AND COLLABORATION

IOAS remains a recognized and active signatory to the Multilateral Recognition Arrangements (MRAs) of the Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated (Global ACI – formerly IAF) and the Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (APAC). These international agreements provide mutual recognition of accreditation systems between member accreditation bodies, facilitating the acceptance of accredited certifications across borders and helping to reduce barriers to international trade. Maintaining our MRA signatory status demonstrates that IOAS continues to meet internationally recognized accreditation standards, reinforces confidence in the competence and impartiality of our accreditation services, and supports our clients by enhancing the global credibility, recognition and market acceptance of the certifications they hold.

IOAS has also been active in various committees and working groups at IAF and APAC. At the Montreal IAF meetings in November 2023, an Organic Task Force was approved to develop an Informational Document (ID) in support of harmonizing assessment and accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies engaged in the certification of organic agriculture. Now-retired IOAS Executive Director, David Crucefix, served as co-convener of the task force, which resulted in Global ACI TECH-3-0XX (I): “Application of ISO/IEC 17011 for the Accreditation of Organic Production Certification Bodies”, which was submitted for vote by the Global ACI membership on June 2, 2026.

IOAS Quality Director, Teresa Barnett, served as an IAF Liaison to ISO/CASCO Working Group 65 for the revision of ISO/IEC 17067, which is now titled “Conformity Assessment – Fundamentals of and Guidelines for Conformity Assessment Schemes”. The Working Group first met in October 2023 and ultimately concluded its duties in March 2026 upon the release of the FDIS 17067.



STRENGTHENING GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

Throughout 2025, IOAS actively participated in major international conferences, trade fairs and stakeholder meetings across the organic and sustainability accreditation sectors. These events provided valuable opportunities to engage directly with Certification Bodies, Scheme Owners, Regulators and Accreditation Bodies, while strengthening existing relationships and exploring new areas of collaboration. Participation in these forums supports IOAS's strategic objective of remaining closely connected to emerging market developments, regulatory changes and evolving assurance needs across the global sustainability landscape.



Biofach Nuremberg 2025

One of the most significant engagements was our participation in BIOFACH 2025, the world's leading trade fair for organic food and agriculture, held in Nuremberg, Germany.



Biofach India 2025

IOAS participated in BIOFACH India 2025, one of the region's leading organic trade events, reinforcing its commitment to supporting the growth and integrity of the organic sector in Asia. The event provided valuable insights into regional market developments and emerging opportunities within the sustainability sector.



APAC Stakeholder Engagement

As part of our ongoing commitment to serving Certification Bodies globally, IOAS maintained active engagement across the Asia-Pacific region throughout 2025, including participation in the APAC Annual Meeting in Bengaluru, India in June 2025. These activities support IOAS's strategic objective of promoting credible, consistent and internationally recognized assurance systems, while fostering stronger regional cooperation and alignment with international best practices.

Organic Summit 2025

IOAS participated in the Organic Summit 2025 in Copenhagen, Denmark, bringing together international stakeholders from across the organic value chain. The event provided an important forum for discussing the future of organic agriculture, sustainable food systems and the role of certification and assurance in strengthening trust and supporting the continued growth of the organic sector.



IAF/ILAC Joint Annual Meetings

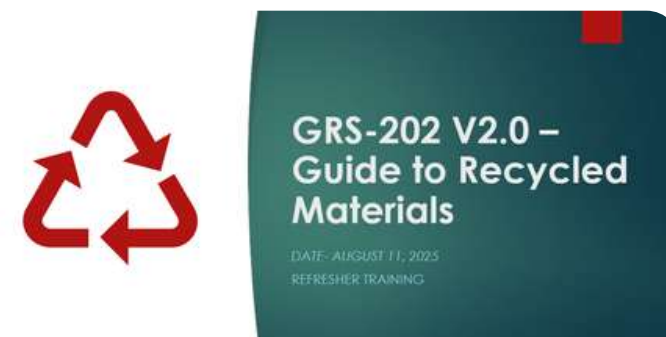
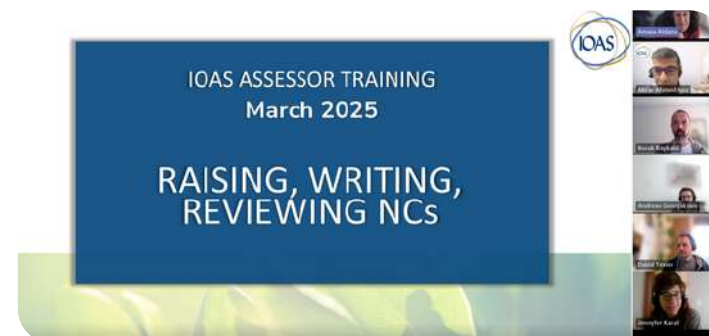
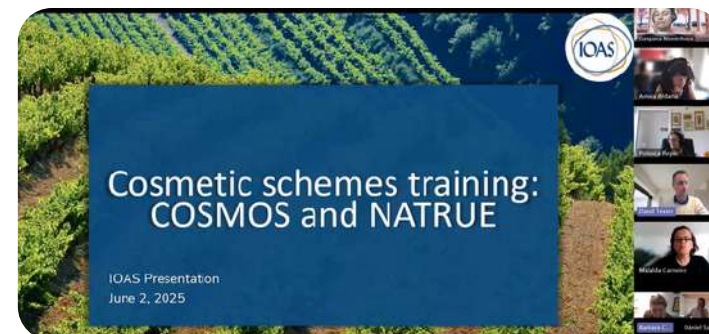
In October 2025, IOAS participated in the IAF/ILAC Joint Annual Meetings held in Bangkok, Thailand. Participation enabled IOAS to remain engaged with key developments affecting accreditation, conformity assessment and sustainability assurance, while strengthening relationships across the international accreditation community.

BUILDING CAPACITY THROUGH INTERNATIONAL EXPERTISE

The quality and credibility of IOAS accreditation services are founded on the expertise, competence and dedication of our team. Built through years of experience, professional development, and continuous learning, this collective knowledge enables us to deliver consistent, reliable, and trusted assurance services worldwide. We remain committed to investing in our people through ongoing training, development, and support, ensuring that we continue to uphold the highest standards of performance, integrity, and excellence in all that we do.

Throughout the year, IOAS continued to invest in the professional development of its team through a comprehensive program of training and knowledge-sharing activities. These included specialized training sessions covering technical topics, scheme-specific requirements and regulatory updates, supported by regular internal calibration meetings and peer reviews to promote consistency and continual improvement. Participation in external webinars and industry events also enabled team members to stay informed of emerging trends and developments across the organic and sustainability sectors. This reflects our ongoing commitment to excellence.

In January 2025, IOAS held its Annual Training Week, bringing together Assessors and Client Service Managers to combine technical training with opportunities for collaboration, discussion and the exchange of knowledge and experience. The event played an important role in strengthening team alignment, fostering a shared understanding of expectations and best practices, and reinforcing the collaborative culture that underpins the quality and integrity of IOAS services.

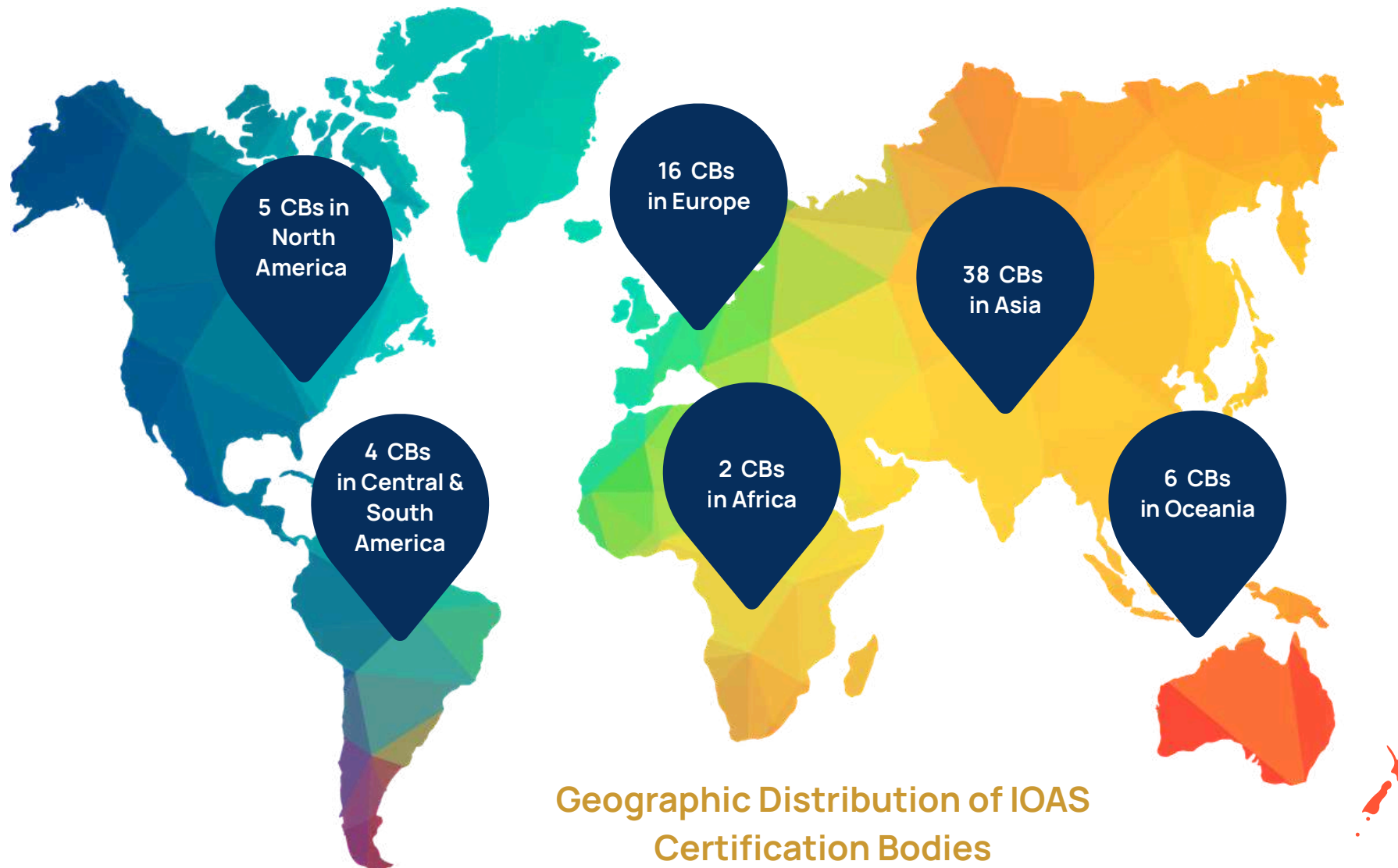


COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE - OPERATIONS UPDATE



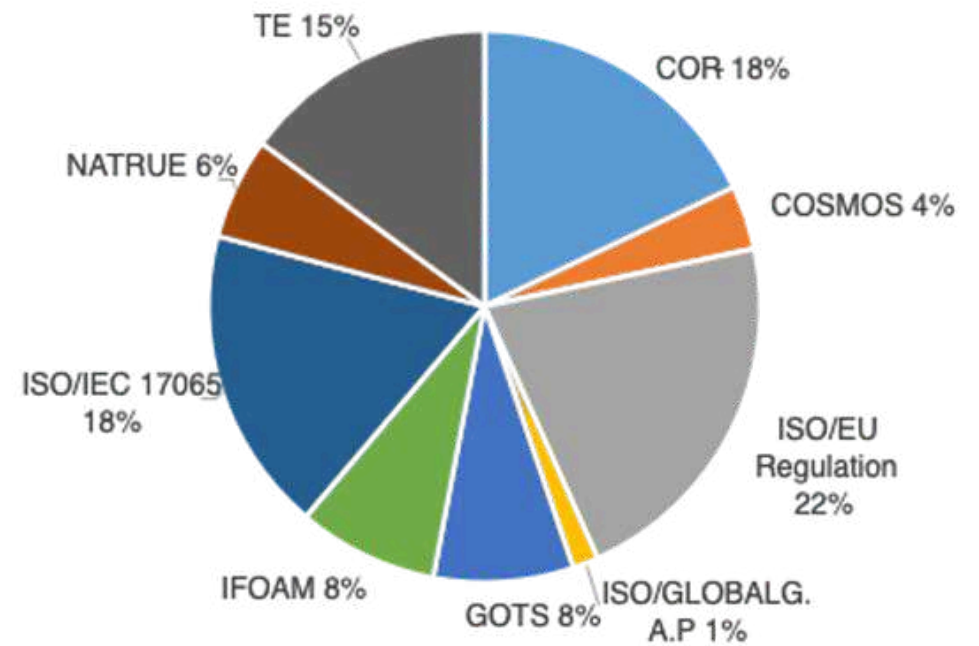
In 2025 IOAS continued to maintain a strong international client portfolio, working with 71 certification bodies operating in over 100 countries.

Asia remains the leading region, with over half of all accredited and applicant Certification Bodies located there, followed by Europe. This extensive geographic reach enables IOAS to contribute to the consistent application of accreditation requirements and the delivery of trusted sustainability assurance services across diverse regulatory and market contexts.



We continue to provide accreditation and assessment services across a broad range of organic and sustainability schemes.

Accreditations by Scheme



The chart above does not account for private CB standards including aquaculture, animal welfare, regenerative agriculture, social welfare and fair trade, to name a few.

2025 IOAS OPERATIONS AT A GLANCE

During 2025 IOAS conducted an extensive program of assessments across its global portfolio of accredited and applicant Certification Bodies. This included 469 assessment days providing independent oversight across multiple schemes, sectors and regulatory environments. This level of activity demonstrates the global scale of our operations and the depth of technical expertise required to deliver robust, consistent and credible assurance across an increasingly complex sustainability landscape.

71

Certification Bodies

134

Accredited Schemes

72

Remote assessments

121

Witness /Review Audits
conducted

41

Countries visited

469

Assessment days
delivered

ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES - GLOBAL

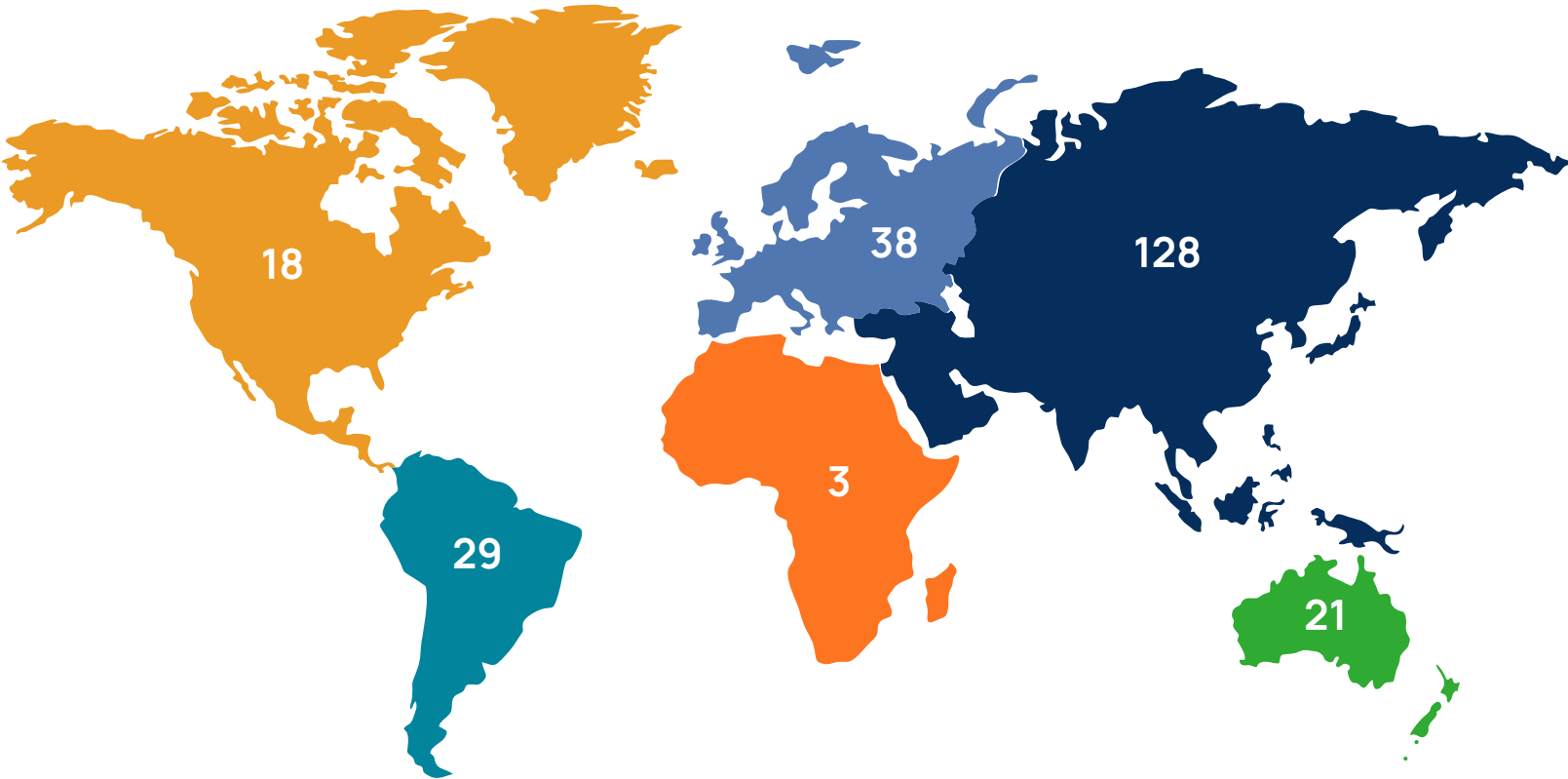


In 2025, IOAS delivered a comprehensive program of assessment across its global portfolio of accredited and applicant Certification Bodies. These assessments covered a wide range of schemes, sectors and regulatory frameworks, reflecting the extent and complexity of IOAS operations.

A combination of onsite and remote assessment approaches enabled IOAS to maintain effective oversight while responding to different operational contexts and geographic challenges, ensuring consistent and reliable accreditation outcomes.

ACTIVITIES PER CONTINENT

CONTINENT	ASSESSMENTS	%
ASIA	128	54.0%
EUROPE	38	16.0%
SOUTH AMERICA	29	12.2%
OCEANIA	21	8.9%
NORTH AMERICA	18	7.6%
AFRICA	3	1.3%



Countries Visited for Assessment Activities During 2025

During 2025, IOAS conducted assessments in 41 countries, demonstrating a broad and diverse global presence. This global reach supports the consistent application of accreditation requirements and strengthens confidence in certification systems across international supply chains.

STRENGTHENING SUPPORT THROUGH CLIENT WEBINARS



IOAS continues to strengthen client support by delivering informative and engaging client webinars designed to enhance understanding, collaboration and confidence. These webinars provide clients with timely insights into industry developments, system updates and best practices, while also creating an interactive forum for questions and discussion. By leveraging expert-led presentations and accessible digital platforms, IOAS ensures clients receive consistent, high-quality guidance regardless of their location. This proactive approach reinforces the company's commitment to partnership, education and ongoing value for its clients.

In addition to previous webinars offered on "Root Cause Analysis, Analysis of Extent, and Corrective Action" and "Trace-Back and Volume Reconciliation Audits", IOAS also offered in 2025 a webinar on "Environmental Aspects and Impacts in the Textile Supply Chain". Additional client webinars and public training courses are in development for 2026 and beyond.



WEBINAR 1
Root Cause Analysis



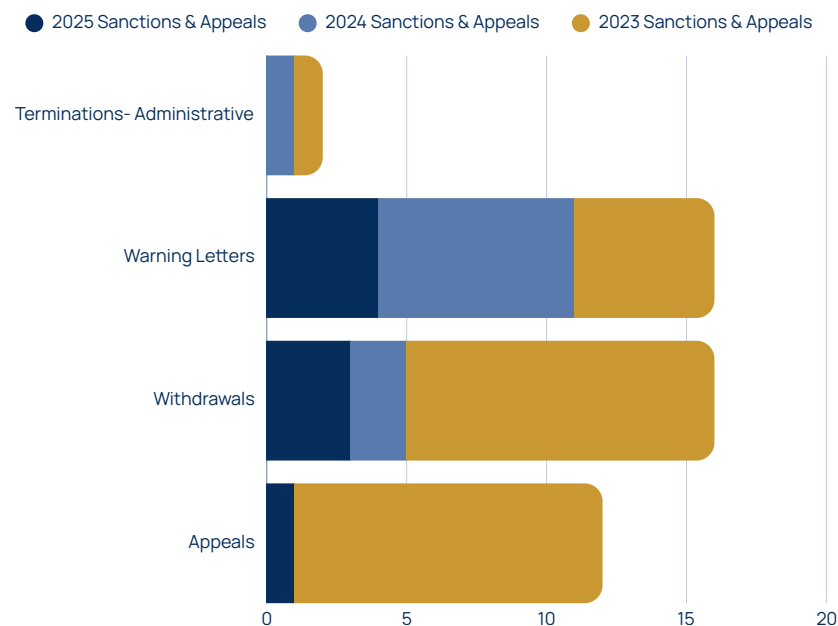
WEBINAR 2
Overview of TraceBack &
Volume Reconciliation



WEBINAR 3
Environmental Aspects,
Impacts and Compliance in
the Textile Supply Chain

INTEGRITY AND QUALITY: FEWER SANCTIONS

In 2025, IOAS imposed significantly fewer sanctions compared to previous years, resulting in a corresponding decline in the number of appeals.



Notable improvements were achieved in the area of complaints management in 2025, reflected both in a reduction in the number of complaints received and in consistently shorter resolution times. The average time to fully resolve all types of complaints remained low compared to previous years - demonstrating our continued commitment to timely and effective issue resolution.

- Substantiated complaints from External Parties regarding Client CBs: 6 in 2025 (compared to 16 in 2024 and 27 in 2023)
- Substantiated complaints regarding IOAS: 1 in 2025 (compared to 1 in 2024 and 9 in 2023)



SUCCESSFUL EVALUATIONS AND REVIEWS

In February 2025, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) conducted an on-site reassessment of IOAS in Barcelona, Spain. No findings were cited, and IOAS was complemented in many areas. There were four OFIs noted, which IOAS has taken on board in the spirit of continual improvement. In addition, CFIA observed an IOAS witness audit in India in October 2025. No issues were identified during interviews with the IOAS assessor or the Certification Body (CB) representatives.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The strategic measures implemented in 2024 to strengthen IOAS's financial governance have delivered tangible improvements in both operational financial management and long-term strategic oversight. These enhancements have reinforced our commitment to maintaining a high standard of transparency, accountability and financial discipline across the organization.

Income

In 2025, IOAS generated total revenue of \$1,715,099. This performance was supported by the onboarding of several new Certification Bodies (CBs), alongside advisory services revenue. The expansion into advisory work reflects our ongoing commitment to collaboration and to supporting clients and partners beyond core accreditation activities.

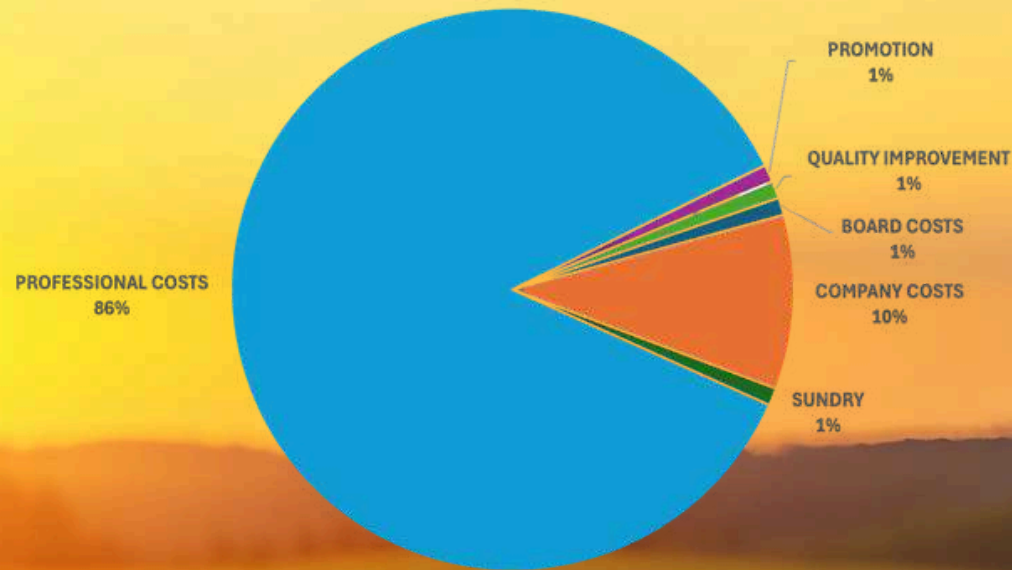
Expenditure

Total expenditure decreased compared to 2024, following the implementation of targeted cost-efficiency measures. Professional costs accounted for 86% of total expenditure, reflecting the continued investment in a highly qualified team to ensure consistency and quality in assessments, as well as the administrative support personnel.

The remaining expenditure was comprised of Board-related costs, company overheads, promotional activities and ongoing quality and improvement initiatives.



2025 EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN



OUR CLIENTS



IOAS client logos as of 31 December 2025



WHAT OUR CLIENTS SAY

IFC Global:

"Our assessor's performance throughout the process was characterized by an exceptional blend of professional integrity and a profound understanding of customer dynamics."

"IOAS's deep technical knowledge and disciplined oversight provide the necessary assurance and trust required for global integrity."

"The IOAS assessor demonstrated an outstanding level of professionalism and technical expertise throughout the process. Their preparation and command over the assessment schemes provided a high level of confidence and structure to the audit. The assessor was exceptionally well-prepared. Their deep knowledge of the specific assessment schemes ensured that the audit was both thorough and relevant. From the opening meeting to time management, the process was handled with clarity and precision. The assessor maintained a high standard of courtesy and professionalism, creating a constructive environment for the audit."

Indocert:

"The IOAS assessor conducted the audit in a professional, structured and respectful manner."

COAP:

"IOAS are cooperative and provide advice and answers to our queries quickly, accurately and professionally."

CTI:

"If CTI plan to adopt new schemes in the future, we will certainly choose IOAS again. IOAS are a highly professional Accreditation Body, expecting more coming cooperations."

bio.inspecta:

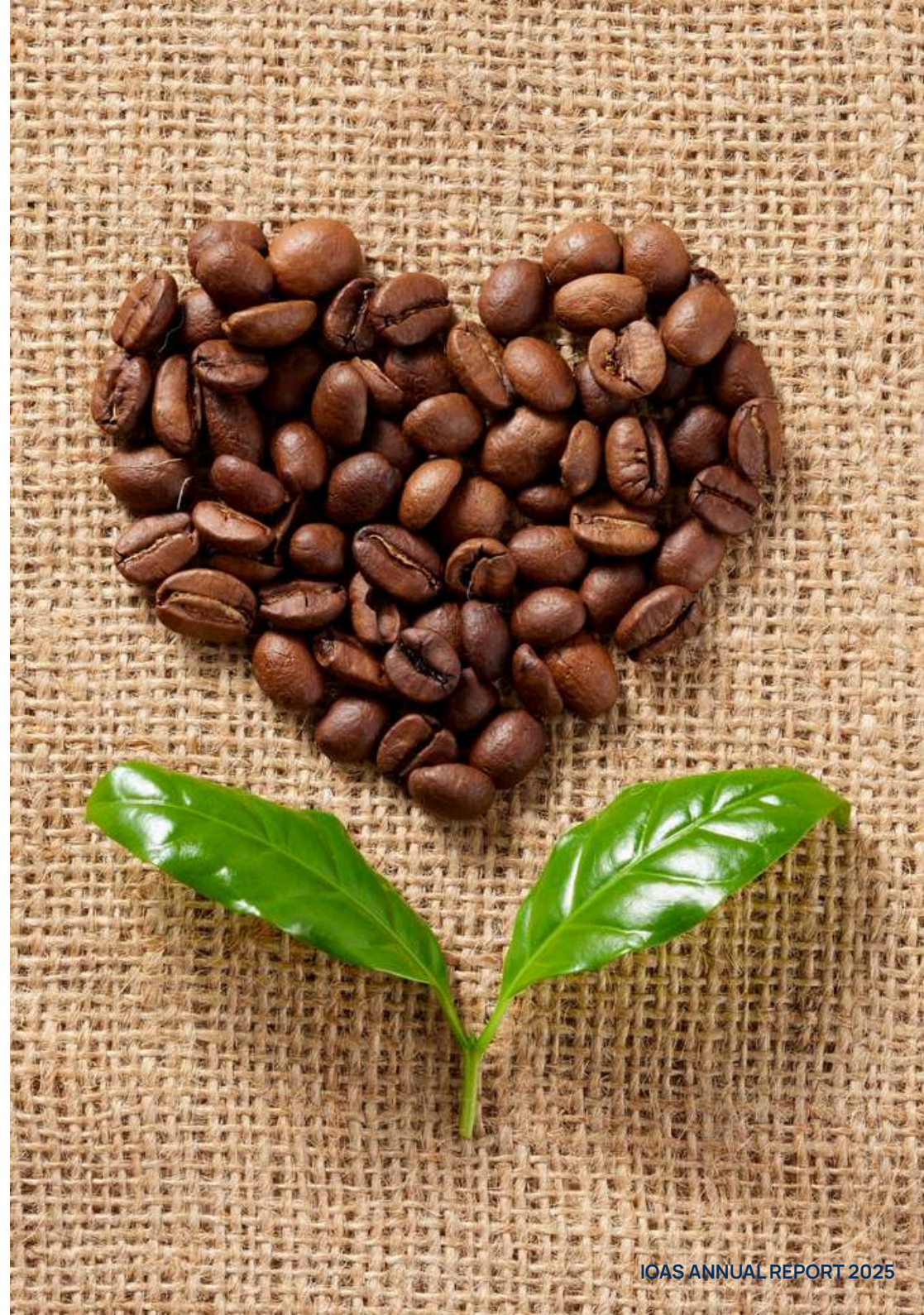
"We find the collaboration and communication with IOAS to be extremely helpful, highly competent and very open. Topics beyond the scope of the accreditation audit are discussed transparently and with great expertise, providing valuable clarity on the next steps."

BioGro:

"Our IOAS Client Service Manager has been our best experience with IOAS. Her communication is timely, effective, consistently smooth and clear, which has made our interactions significantly easier and more productive."

SGS-CSTC:

"We are very pleased to have a long-term relationship with IOAS. It is our honor to continue to be supervised by you."



CLIENT SATISFACTION 2025

IOAS continually monitors client satisfaction using post-assessment feedback surveys, which offer insights into the quality and effectiveness of assessment and client service activities.

In 2025, IOAS issued 186 surveys and received 137 responses (74%), up from 62% in 2024 (127 responses from 205 surveys). The continued improvement in response rates provides a broader basis for evaluating client experience and identifying opportunities for service enhancement.

Feedback on assessor performance is consistently strong, with average scores between 4.0 and 5.0 on a five-point scale across all criteria, and most above 4.5. These results show high client confidence in IOAS's assessment competence, professionalism and consistency. Review of survey results supports ongoing monitoring, staff development, and improvement efforts. Client feedback is vital to IOAS's goal of providing credible, transparent and responsive accreditation services.



Average Assesor Performance Ratings Based on Client Feedback Surveys



ASSESSOR STORIES

INDIA: ORGANIC SUPPLY CHAIN



During 2025, IOAS conducted a witness audit at a feed processing facility in India, providing an opportunity to observe certification activities within a complex and high-volume segment of the organic supply chain. The visit focused on the inspection of feed processing, including the verification of raw material sourcing, segregation measures and traceability systems.

The photos capture moments of the audit: on-site verification of finished materials, technical discussions between the inspector and facility staff, and real-time review of documentation supporting compliance decisions. The inspection required close attention to both physical flows (storage, handling, processing) and documentary evidence, particularly in relation to ingredient origin and organic status.

Feed production involves handling large volumes of agricultural inputs, increasing the risk of cross-contamination between organic and non-organic materials.

Organic feed processing presents unique challenges compared to primary production. Unlike farms, where production cycles are biologically driven, feed mills operate continuously and at industrial scale. As a result, compliance depends not only on the origin of inputs but also equally on process control—particularly segregation, flushing procedures and traceability. Effective certification in this sector therefore requires inspectors to combine technical understanding of processing operations with rigorous document verification.

This witness audit reinforced the importance of thorough inspection practices in high-risk processing environments and provided valuable insight into the practical application of organic standards within industrial systems.

Dániel Szalai
Agriculture Assessor

Photos courtesy of: Daniel Szalai



ASSESSOR STORIES

TÜRKIYE – TEXTILE GINNING



- **Assessor:** Burak Baykaldi
- **Witness Audit:** GOTS scope 1 and Textile Exchange OCS – textiles; operation: ginning unit
- **Photos courtesy of:** Burak Baykaldi



ASSESSOR STORIES

CHINA – DISTILLERY FOR PRODUCING TRADITIONAL CHINESE ALCOHOL



- **Assessor:** Gergana Nentcheva
- **Witness Audit:** IFOAM
- **Photos courtesy of:** Gergana Nentcheva

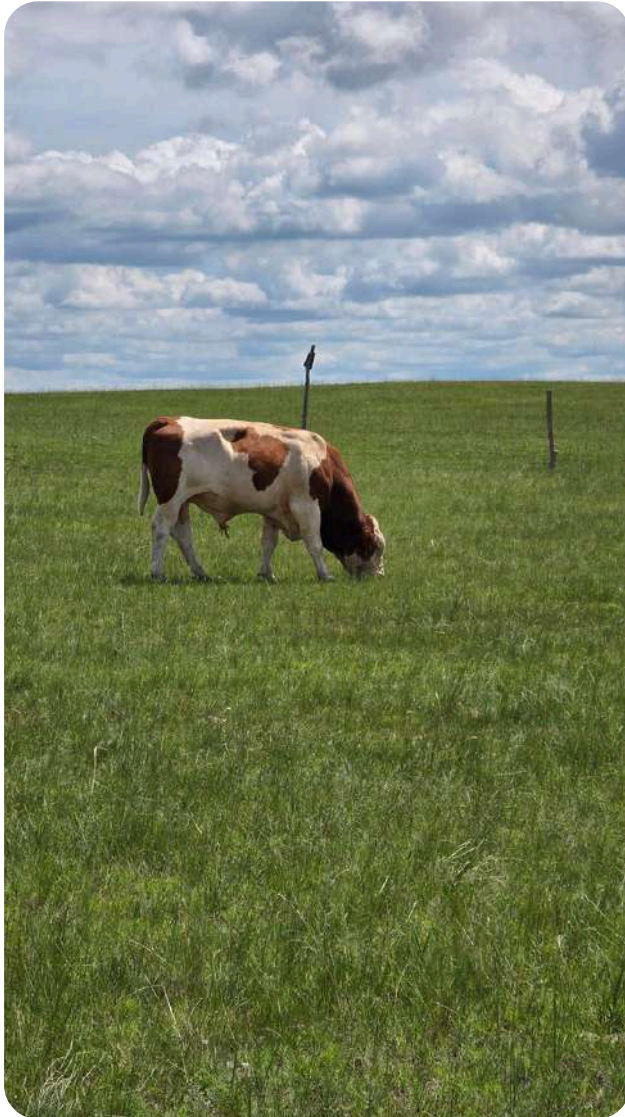


ASSESSOR STORIES

MONGOLIA – CATTLE AND SHEEP FARMING ON NATURAL PASTURE



- **Assessor:** Sashika Rajapakse
- **Witness Audit:** ISO - EU
- **Photos courtesy of:** Sashika Rajapakse



KEEP IN TOUCH WITH US



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