# **The Organic Opportunity**

The organic sector meets many governmental and agricultural goals, while driving value to farmers and meeting growing consumer demand for sustainable products.



Valued at over \$10 billion in 2022, Canada's organic sector is one of the fastest-growing segments in agriculture. The global organic market is expected to triple in the next decade due to increasing interest in specific diet, lifestyle, and sustainability attributes.

Organic farming benefits biodiversity, the environment, water quality, farm income, and rural livelihoods. It also helps address climate change and food security challenges, while attracting new small and medium-sized farmers.





Organic is Canada's most recognized sustainability claim. It is federally regulated, verified through third-party audits, and internationally recognized in 35 countries.

While other countries are making bold investments in organic to seize this opportunity, it is time for Canada to do the same.







## Seizing the Organic Opportunity:

6 Priorities from Canada's Organic Action Plan

#### 1. Policy Framework

Develop a policy framework to grow the organic sector and enhance international competitiveness.

#### 2. Funding for Organic Standards

Secure complete and permanent funding for the Canadian Organic Standards (COS), including 5-year reviews, interpretation, and training.

#### 3. Organic Data Strategy

Create a mechanism to collect and share data on organic production, trade, labour and supply chains for better government and industry decision-making. Identify economic opportunities, strengthen organic integrity, and measure environmental outcomes.

#### 4. Transition Supports

Provide support to reduce the risk of transition to increase the domestic supply of organic products and ensure consistent availability for consumers and businesses.

#### 5. Market Development Supports

Ensure adequate resources to bolster consumer trust of organic while also ensuring fair market access to target markets.

### 6. Expanded Human Resource Capacity

Enhance the capacity of organic sector organizations to support a growing sector. Hire and train government organic specialists in each province/territory. These resources will support organic farmers and processors, assist all operators wishing to adopt sustainable and organic management practices, and ensure fair access to federal programs.