

# SWOT ANALYSIS OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES

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## Strengths

- Indigenous farming systems
- Large labour force
- National organic movements
- Low cost of production
- Availability of technologies for organic production
- Agro-bio diversity of Africa
- Strongly motivated and committed organic sector

## WEAKNESSES

- Poor image marketing
- Lack of awareness of benefits of organic agriculture
- Education and extension system oriented towards conventional agriculture
- Institutional weaknesses such as certification
- Lack of resources
- Lack of added value
- Lack of reliable data and information on organic agriculture
- Poor local market opportunities and infrastructure
- Small quantities & irregular supply limit market opportunities
- Focus on high value crops
- Some crops are very difficult to produce e.g. tomatoes
- Trust gap between exporting companies and farmers
- Availability of clean and appropriate seeds (horticultural crops)
- Donor dependency

## OPPORTUNITIES

- Availability of uncontaminated land
- Increasing interest in organic agriculture
- Increasing global demand for organic produce
- Increasing local awareness of benefits of organic foods
- Provides answers to environment concerns (climate change).
- Increasing support from international communities
- Common mark and standard (East African organic mark)
- Governmental support in policy programmes for organic agriculture
- Urban and peri urban agriculture
- Capital accumulation

## THREATS

- Push for GMOs and Agrochemicals
- Market threats e.g. Food miles
- Incoherent government policies
- Pressure from commercial forces to lower standards of organic agriculture
- International competition