APPLICATION FOR THE 2023 EU ORGANIC AWARDS

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

APPLICATION FOR THE BEST ORGANIC Food Processing Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Food Retailer Restaurant / Food Service*

The submission of this form will only be possible as from 25 March 2023. Applications must be submitted by 23:59:59 CEST on 14 May 2023 at the latest through the online application form available at:

Only applications submitted via the online form will be taken into account.
*Restaurant (standalone or part of a hotel) and/or food service (caterer or canteen).

Instructions

Please complete your submission for the EU Organic Awards 2023 by using this online form. All sections must be answered and all questions should be addressed (short sentences are encouraged). If an applicant cannot provide an answer to a question, reasons must be provided in the relevant section. We strongly advise you to read the Practical Guide to the EU Organic Awards 2023 before completing this application form. The EESC opinion on the Action Plan for the development of EU organic production, as well as the IFOAM principles of organic production, may also be useful.

When completing this form, please always refer to the information icon for additional information on the question. The information icon is the small, round, blue icon that appears at the end of each question (where applicable). Simply click on it to display more information.

Personal data

Please note that any personal data contained in the application documents (such as name and address) will be processed pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data*. Unless otherwise indicated, the replies to the questions, and any personal data requested to evaluate the application in accordance with the rules on the awards, will be processed solely for that purpose by the EESC.


More information on data protection rules

The European Commission, the European Committee of the Regions, the European Economic and Social Committee, IFOAM Organics Europe, Copa and Cogeca will jointly process your personal data for the organisation of the EU Organic Awards. The Joint Controllers undertake to protect your personal data and respect your privacy. The Joint Controllers have concluded a Joint Controllership Arrangement. They, and their processors, collect and further process personal data pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 and Regulation (EU) 2016/679.
The privacy statement explains the reason for the processing of your personal data in the context of the awards.

**A Consent form on data protection**

Your consent is required for the following actions. If you opt in, you are giving us your explicit consent under Article 5(1)(d) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 or Article 6(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 to process your personal data for the purposes detailed in the privacy statement.

Your consent to the processing of your personal data can be withdrawn at any time by contacting EUorganicawardsEESC@eesc.europa.eu.

1. **Do you consent to the processing of your personal data submitted in the context of the EU Organic Awards as described in the privacy statement?**
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

   Your application cannot be processed if you do not consent to the processing of your personal data.

2. **Do you specifically consent to the processing of the audio-visual data (including photos and videos) you submitted and the audio-visual data (including photos and videos) captured in the context of the EU Organic Awards, as described in the privacy statement?**
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

3. **In case you, or the entity on behalf of which you apply, win(s) one of the EU Organic Awards, do you specifically consent to the publication, on the websites of the joint controllers or on social media, of your name and surname, contact data, professional data and photos and videos containing your audio-visual data, as described in the privacy statement?**
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

4. **Do you specifically consent to the processing of any health data linked to access or dietary requirements you may submit in the context of your attendance of the award ceremony?**
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

5. **Do you specifically consent to being contacted for the EU Organic Awards organised next year, as described in the privacy statement?**
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No
B Contact information
<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name of the applying entity/organisation (if applicable):</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>First name and last name of contact person for this application:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Email:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Phone number:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>VAT number:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Street and street number</td>
</tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

7 Contact details (2/2)
8 Country
- AT - Austria
- BE - Belgium
- BG - Bulgaria
- HR - Croatia
- CY - Cyprus
- CZ - Czechia
- DK - Denmark
- EE - Estonia
- FI - Finland
- FR - France
- DE - Germany
- EL - Greece
- HU - Hungary
- IE - Ireland
- IT - Italy
- LV - Latvia
- LT - Lithuania
- LU - Luxembourg
- MT - Malta
- NL - Netherlands
- PL - Poland
- PT - Portgual
- RO - Romania
- SK - Slovak Republic
- SI - Slovenia
- ES - Spain
- SE - Sweden

9 Organic award you are applying for:
You may only apply for one category. If the business engages in more than one of these activities, you must still choose only one to put forth in your application.
- Best organic Food Processing SME
- Best organic Food Retailer
- Best organic Restaurant* / Food Service**

*Restaurant: standalone or part of a hotel  **Food service: caterer or canteen

C Eligibility criteria for Food Processing SMEs

10 Please confirm that:

at least 2 choice(s)

Organic products: to be understood as certified organic products
You are an SME: micro, small or medium-sized enterprise as defined in the Commission recommendation
2003/361 (enterprises which employ fewer than 250 persons and which have an annual turnover not exceeding EUR 50 million, and/or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding EUR 43 million). Cooperatives can be understood as enterprises.

You produce only organic products in your enterprise and that you are certified according to Regulation 2018/848.

D Eligibility criteria for Food Retailers

* 11 Please confirm that:

at least 2 choice(s)

'Certified references' is the technical term that means 'certified products' or 'certified items'.

Organic products: to be understood as certified organic products.

Some products such as wild fish do not fall under the scope of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 (see Article 2).

- You have only organic certified references on sale (excluding non-food products or food products for which there is no organic availability).

- You are an SME: micro, small or medium-sized enterprise as defined in the Commission recommendation 2003/361 (enterprises which employ fewer than 250 persons and which have an annual turnover not exceeding EUR 50 million, and/or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding EUR 43 million). Cooperatives can be understood as enterprises.

E Eligibility criteria for Restaurants* / Food Service**

*Restaurant: standalone or part of a hotel / **Food service: caterer or canteen

* 12 Please confirm that:

at least 2 choice(s)

"Certified references" is the technical term that means "certified products" or "certified items".

Organic products: to be understood as certified organic products.

"Where possible": in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 2018/848.

- You offer only organic certified references on your menu where possible.

- You are an SME: micro, small or medium-sized enterprise as defined in the Commission recommendation 2003/361 (enterprises which employ fewer than 250 persons and which have an annual turnover not exceeding EUR 50 million, and/or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding EUR 43 million). Cooperatives can be understood as enterprises.

F Questions

* 13 Please provide a general presentation of your business (including the impact of its activities, results and positive effects in particular towards sustainability).

1000 character(s) maximum

A description of the activities and results that can be attributed to your business should be indicated. We suggest writing this section while thinking of all the positive effects that would not have happened had the business not
been created.

Possible points to raise in your answer:

- Origin and purpose of the business;
- Vision and objectives;
- Growth and main achievements;
- (...)

14 How has your business developed an excellent initiative producing real added value for organic production and consumption?

The awardee must have developed an excellent initiative producing real added value for organic production. This means good results and impact of the business in relation to its initial objectives. Businesses shall demonstrate their impact on the area and territory concerned and show their results against the initially set targets and objectives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does the business contribute to the territorial development of its region (e.g. local products, local workforce, local marketing chains, etc.)?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the business strive to promote environment and climate protection, animal welfare, and healthy and sustainable diets through the composition of the products prepared or sold?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the business invest in education and promotion of organic values externally (buyers, suppliers, customers, community, institutions, etc.)?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the business invest internally (i.e. among its employees) in education and promotion of organic values, including striving to achieve a gender balance and to include people with disabilities where relevant?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Is the business successful in selling organic products?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Has the business contributed to greater affordability and availability of organic products for consumers?</td>
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</table>

15 In reference to the above closed questions, please provide evidence for the questions answered by 'yes' and explain how your business produces real added value for organic production and consumption.  

400 character(s) maximum

Possible points to raise in answer:

- Contribution to the territorial development of the region - local sales, local workers (...);
- Promotion of organic production and consumption;
- Educational activities;
• Product affordability and client-facing success;
• (...)

16 How innovative is your business?
Businesses shall not be 'business-as-usual', but should demonstrate new approaches, new organisational methods, or the development of new (or significantly) improved results for organics. The criteria for measuring the innovative character for each category are better detailed in the dedicated section of the category.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Has the business implemented innovative mechanisms or projects relating to the production and promotion of organic products?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has the business implemented innovative mechanisms or projects relating to the protection of health and well-being of people and the environment?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* 17 In reference to the above closed questions, please provide evidence for the questions answered by 'yes' and explain your new approaches, new organisational methods or the development of new or significantly improved results for organics.

400 character(s) maximum
Possible points to raise in answer:

- Innovative methods used and their impact;
- Innovative collaborations;
- (...)

18 How is your business meeting each of the three sustainability dimensions (environmental, social, economic) and how does it assess its sustainability in the long term?
Businesses shall demonstrate their sustainability and their future as a self-standing initiative or project.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does the business have climate and environment-friendly processing in terms of circularity, e.g. reducing food waste and packaging?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the business have climate and environment-friendly processing in terms of energy sourcing and efficiency?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Does the business have climate and environment-friendly processing in terms of transport?

Does the business adhere to the social rules relating to workers' protection, collective bargaining and social dialogue?

Has the business established significant socially and ecologically just partnerships and fair-trading practices with its suppliers?

Has the business implemented an effective mechanism to ensure and assess its economic sustainability in the long-term?

Has the business signed the [EU Code of Conduct on Responsible Food Business and Marketing Practices](http://example.com)?

In reference to the above closed questions, please provide evidence for the questions answered by 'yes' and explain how your business meets each of the three sustainability criteria as follows:

**19 Environmental sustainability criteria:**

200 character(s) maximum

Possible points to raise in answer:

- Climate and environment-friendly processing in terms of circularity, energy sourcing and transport;
- Ecologically just partnerships;
- Short supply chains;
- Plans for future environmental sustainability actions;
- (...)

**20 Social sustainability criteria:**

200 character(s) maximum

Possible points to raise in answer:

- Health and safety at work;
- Equal job opportunities;
- Workers' educational activities;
- Social dialogue;
- Plans for future employee management;
- (...)

*
21 Economic sustainability criteria:
200 character(s) maximum
Possible points to raise in answer:

- Fair-trading practices - fair prices to producers, fair contracts (…);
- Transparency;
- Economic results and long-term sustainability;
- (...) 

22 How could your business be transferred and replicated elsewhere in the EU?
The business shall demonstrate that it represents good practice in a wider (EU) context and that it inspires or could inspire other places. The business should also show good ways of communicating its goals and results.

| Has the business developed projects to influence and inspire other enterprises in your region, your country or elsewhere within the EU? | Yes | No |
| Could the mechanisms and tools used in your business to improve sustainability be replicated and showcased as good practices in other parts of the EU? | Yes | No |

23 In reference to the above closed questions, please provide evidence for the questions answered by 'yes' and explain how your business could be transferred and replicated elsewhere in the EU.
400 character(s) maximum
Possible points to raise in answer:

- Transferrable business model and its spill-over effect;
- Previous replications/inspired businesses/projects;
- Education about the business model;
- (...) 

General information

Please provide the following information:
24 Number of employees in the business (full-time equivalent)

Only values between 1 and 249 are allowed

25 Date the business was created

26 Private standard relating to organic production certifying the business (if relevant)

400 character(s) maximum

27 Please provide any other useful information on your business (e.g. information on the existence of presentation brochures or visual materials, links to the business' website or to relevant documents if available, etc.)

400 character(s) maximum

28 Please also provide any relevant social media handles (Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, Facebook).

400 character(s) maximum

H Declaration of honour

* 29 By ticking the following boxes:

at least 2 choice(s)

This declaration of honour is necessary in order to validate your application. Please tick the boxes.

- You declare that you comply with the applicable eligibility criteria as provided in point f) of the rules on the awards, that all data provided in this form are true, accurate and complete, and that you are able to provide the necessary supporting documents in order for the jury to check their validity. Please note that these will be requested in the case of the pre-finalists.

- You declare that you will immediately inform the award organisers of any changes in the situation declared.