



Celebrating International Year of Family Farming



PGSOC UNVEILS THE NEW CERTIFICATION LOGO
The New Logo of the PGS organic certification is redesigned to suit the growing needs of PGS certification and has been approved by the Facilitation Council for use in the new certificates.

2014 International Year of Family Farming

The Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) has declared 2014 as International Year of Family Farming (IYFF) in order to raise the profile of family farming and smallholder farming by focusing world attention on its significant role in alleviating hunger and poverty, providing food security and nutrition, improving livelihoods, managing natural resources, protecting the environment, and achieving sustainable development, in particular in rural areas.

The concept of family farming is more relevant in India which hosts the largest number of small and marginal farmers in the world. About 80% of the land in India is owned by small and marginal farmers who cultivate nearly 45% of the total cultivable land and contributes significantly to the nation's food basket. The small and marginal farmers also own the majority of the cattle population and practice ecological farming

methods utilizing cattle dung and other available organic matter. These are also the same farmers whose entire families are involved in farming and it is their mainstay. Though only 0.5 million hectares or less than 0.35% of the total agriculture land in India is certified as organic by third party certification systems, the scope is much more if certification systems are inclusive of the small and marginal farmers. This is where Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS) has come into the picture and has grown phenomenally during the past decade.

The PGS, besides guaranteeing the produce of the small farmers as organic, also supports the livelihoods of the small and marginal farmer families in other ways.

This issue of PGSOC Newsletter describes some of the experiences of the PGSOC Facilitating Organizations and the PGS Local Groups on how PGS supports family farming.

- a) Empowers small holder families, particularly women, to decide on farm inputs, crop planning, methods of certification, and markets.
- b) Provides market access to small holder organic farmers - thereby, improved incomes.
- c) Provides incentives - access to finance, alternative livelihood opportunities, additional incomes, etc - to organized groups of small-holder family farmers.
- d) PGS encourages small farmer families to produce crops for food (rather than for other commercial means, feed, or fuel) for their families and immediate local consumers. This ensures feed security of the communities.

1. The Deccan Development Society (DDS) family launched International Year of Family Farming on November 22, 2013. About 12 MINI (Millet Network of India convened by DDS) Partners celebrated the occasion in different states i.e Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Gujarat, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh & Nagaland, organized public meetings & media meets to announce the arrival and importance of the IYFF.

At Deccan Development Society, Pastapur there was a public meeting with about 500 women peasant farmers where six FARMER FAMILIES that included the woman farmer, her husband, her sons and daughters in law, were honoured.

2. Pillur Valley - Keystone Foundation

Women in the Pillur valley of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve decide to return to growing food crops after many years of indecision around land tenure, water availability and wildlife conflict. **Keystone Foundation** works with these women led family farms



3. Bringing back the Millets



Muthyalappa in his Foxtail millet field

Dharani Farm Co-op Ltd promoted by the Timbaktu Collective has been focussing on the promotion of organically grown food grains, primarily millets, in Anantapur District of Andhra Pradesh. This is the story of one of the farmers who took the initiative in bringing back foxtail millet in the primarily groundnut cultivating belt of Anantapur District.

M. Muthyalappa, a resident of Chinnapalli village of C.K. Palli Mandal in Anantapur district, joined the organic farming sangha promoted by Cooperative in 2006. He underwent training in organic farming and brought the 4.5 acres of land, which he cultivated, under organic farming. Even after taking up organic farming, he continued to cultivate groundnut, but erratic rainfall, combined with the effects of continued mono-cropping resulted in low yields.

In 2012, he decided to cultivate foxtail millet on an experimental basis in 2.5 acres of his land after efforts made by the Collective to promote millets. He got a good yield (around 8 quintals), which he sold to the Cooperative, and earned a net profit of around Rs. 7,500 per acre. In the context of Anantapur District, where a good majority of farmers suffer losses owing to high input costs and low yields associated with groundnut, profits generated through cultivation of foxtail millet caught the imagination of many farmers. In the following year, the area under foxtail millet cultivation, by farmers affiliated with Dharani FaM Co-op Ltd, increased from 30 acres to

300 acres. In 2013, Muthyalappa took an additional 3 acres of land on lease and cultivated foxtail millet in a total of 7.5 acres of land. The returns were low in 2013 as a result of lower rainfalls, but still he was happy to make positive returns in a year during which almost all the farmers without irrigation facilities suffered losses.

Muthyalappa has become a role model for other farmers, inspiring them to take up millet cultivation. He also plays a very important role in the efforts of the Cooperative to promote the millets. He was the resource person for participatory crop planning meetings with the member farmers, conducted in the month of April, 2014 and helped in spreading awareness about millets by sharing his experience with farmers.

In the current season, farmers have committed to bring around 2500 acres out of the total 9500 acres under millet cultivation, with the major crops being foxtail millet, kodo millet and proso millet. In certain villages, all the farmers of the organic farming sanghas have given up the cultivation of groundnut and taken up millets instead. So, even though at a macro scale the experiments taken up by enterprising farmers like Muthyalappa may seem trivial, the ripple effects of such initiatives can contribute to the creation of an ecosystem in which sustainability of small holder farming is ensured.

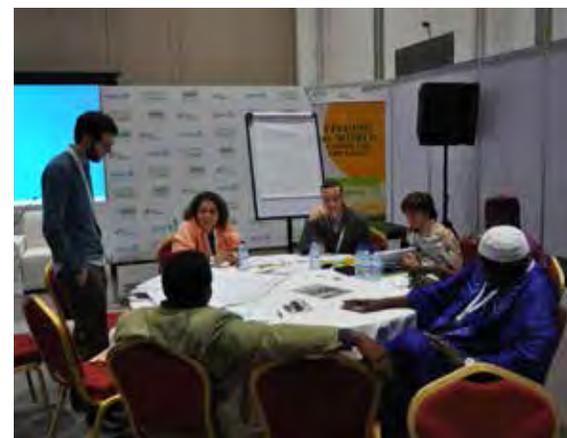
- Vineeth KN

World Rural Forum discusses IYFF

The International Year of Family Farming-2014 (IYFF-2014) is a major opportunity to strengthen family farming all over the world. In this context, the “Women and men farmers leaders’ meeting” was organized in Abu Dhabi (Jan 2014). The meeting was organized by the World Rural Forum, with the support of Khalifa Fund and Agriterra. Mathew, representing IFOAM travelled for the meeting. The main objective of the meeting was: To reach a global consensus of the major demands to be shared among the civil society and the policy makers within the IYFF-2014.

In the statement agreed at the meeting, the participants reaffirmed that “Family Farming can and must become the cornerstone of solid sustainable rural development, conceived of as an integral part of the global and harmonised development of each nation and each people while preserving the environment and natural resources”.

“However, for this to be achieved Family Farming requires genuine public support which is non-existent today in most countries. A support which ensures the access to and control of land, water and other natural resources, to nearby markets, credit, investment and agricultural extension as well as equitable responses to the specific needs of rural women and youth”, emphasize farmers’ leaders. The full details of the meeting is available at <http://goo.gl/ZS06NE>



Group discussion

Tamil Nadu Pudhu Vazhvu Project (TNPVP) adopts PGS Certification for their Poverty Alleviation Program

Tamil Nadu Pudhu Vazhvu Project (Tamil Nadu New Life Project) which is the poverty alleviation program run by the state, has requested Keystone Foundation to help them form PGS farmer groups to obtain PGS certification through which the small holder farmers will be able to get better prices and access to markets in the state. We readily agreed and had preliminary discussions with the Specialist – Environment of TNPVP in which we explained the process of PGS certification in detail. The certification program was planned for 15 agriculture intensive districts of Tamil Nadu. A training program plan was made to build the capacities of all the staff involved in the project and a three level training module was developed. As per this plan, the first meeting was held in Ooty for all the Facilitators and Agriculture Consultants who are responsible for ground level implementation of organic farming in their respective districts on the 18th of March 2014.

This was followed by a two day workshop for all the Assistant Project Managers



Training in progress

(APMs) of the 15 districts on the 10th & 11th of April 2014 in Madurai. This was the crucial workshop in which the APMs who are managing the program on a daily basis were exposed to the modalities of PGS certification and its application and relevance. The first day was theory and explanations followed by questions and answers. The second day was field trip to an organic farm to practically do the documentation and form filling exercise which was very useful for the participants who learnt to solve practical problems at

field level. The third training was given to the District Project Managers (DPMs) for one day on the 21st of May 2014 in Salem in which all the DPMs of the 15 districts attended. The DPMs are responsible for the monitoring and evaluation of the project implementation, hence the technicalities and periodical review mechanisms were explained in depth.

With this training the process of capacity building of the project staff came to a close. Further steps to implement PGS certification was discussed and an action plan was presented by TNPVP staff in which it was planned that 24 groups with 374 members will apply for PGS certification who are already practising organic during June 2014 and a further 185 groups with 1786 members will be formed as groups under conversion during August 2014. Overall, the entire process has been a good learning for us and has helped us participate in the process of using PGS certification as a means of poverty alleviation.

- T. Samraj

Extraordinary General Body Meeting of PGS Organic Council

During the Annual General Body Meeting of PGS Organic Council at ICRA office in Bangalore during November 2013, it was decided to have another Extraordinary General Body Meeting (EGM) of PGS Organic Council during February 2014. The EGM was held in Corbett Creek, Marchula in Uttarakhand from 3rd to 6th February 2014. Nine Facilitation Council Members and four Invitees attended the EGM. The main agenda was to revisit the vision and mission of PGS Organic Council in view of the growing acceptance and demand for PGS certification across India and the number of new organization showing willingness to join the Facilitation Council. The first day closed inconclusively with a lot of deliberations on the relevance and expansion of geography and size of farms among other factors that are emerging from the visibility received by PGS Organic certification. The next two days saw in depth discussion on the

entire spectrum of logo use, transparency, packaging, processing, wild collection and norms for new applicant to the Facilitation Council, responsibilities and roles of all stakeholders and most importantly bring PGS branded products into the market. This exercise has provided the necessary clarity and direction for the future of PGS Organic certification process which goes to the credit of the participants.

Inputs from Deccan Development Society (DDS), Green Foundation, Maharashtra Organic Farmers Association (MOFF), ICRA and TEDE Trust were very much missed as they could not attend the EGM. The review of the PGS Organic certification database and the revamp of the website were decided on the final day and are being implemented currently.



An active session at the EGM

Reflections from PGS workshop in Vietnam/ADB-PGS Project



Visit to a PGS farm

In October 2013 a project funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to promote PGS was launched. Under the Core Agricultural Support Program Phase 2, countries* of the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS), ADB envisages the GMS to be recognized as the leading producer of safe food, using climate-friendly agricultural practices and integrated



Poster on PGS

into global markets through regional economic corridors. This attempt to introduce PGS at a regional level in the framework of this project is quite noteworthy. As Chris May, who is the main



product labelled with the PGS logo

implementer of the project, says, who would have thought in 2004, sitting in Torres/Brazil at the first international workshop on alternative certification, that PGS would slowly evolve and develop into such a buzzword. Now ADB is supporting it and finances pilot projects in 6 countries in the region.

I was invited to come to Hanoi/Vietnam to be part of the regional workshop on 5th and 6th of March and the Vietnam national workshop on 7 March. Participants represented the government as well as the civil society. For me, the response was

a pleasant surprise – even though many of the countries in the region have taken only small steps at exploring organic agriculture, many of the participants knew that here was something about organic and PGS that they could take back home and show that it could work. A presentation by Ms. Sununtar Setboonsarng, Southeast Asia Department/ADB set the background for the regional workshop. It was followed by a presentation by Chris May who gave a brief overview on PGS and then it was an opportunity for me to share how the process has moved in India; how IFOAM has recognized PGS at a global level and how the Indian civil



product labelled with the PGS logo

society and governments have moved simultaneously on building the PGS platform. Presentations from all the other countries – Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar and China (2 provinces) gave a glimpse of efforts being made in their countries.

The different experiences provided the participants with an opportunity to understand various approaches taken in different contexts. The presentation by Karen Mapusa on the efforts of POETCom (Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community) was excellent. Vitoon Panyakul's attempt in Thailand is noteworthy – he was there in Brazil in 2004 but had sort of withdrawn after that. This revival bodes well for the region.

There was a field visit on the 2nd day and it was encouraging to see the confidence with which the Vietnamese farmers spoke about PGS. Many of the women farmers were there for the national workshop. I hope that the enthusiasm remains with the participants as they head back to their countries and organizations.

The next project activities planned are the national workshops in Laos and Thailand in May.

- Mathew John

*Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam

Introduction of **New Facilitation Councils**

TEDE Trust



Meeting for distribution of PGS certificates

The Training Education Development Extension Trust (T.E.D.E Trust), was founded in 1980 by Mr. R. Ranganathan, a native veterinary medicine specialist with in depth knowledge on native breeds of cows and organic agriculture along with Mr. Per Ledder Guard a Swedish social worker with the aim of producing poison free food and stop the violence on earth and human beings by harmful chemicals and fertilizers. The mission of the trust is

- Freedom for the Earth from poisons.
- Strengthening farmers' capacities in access and control over local, traditional seeds and animal diversity.
- Freedom for the Farmer from agricultural debt
- Freedom for the Consumers from health hazards.

TEDE Trust has the dream of consolidating farmers groups into vibrant organs in continuing dialogues, discussions, debates, educational and other activities and federate them into a strong pressure lobby and empower them to fight the lack of access and control over their own resources and achieve its vision of socially just bio villages.

TEDE Trust is working with Resource Poor Farmers' Groups in about 50 villages in and around Kuthalam block of Nagappattinam district of Tamil Nadu. TEDE Trust is committed to improving the livelihoods of resource poor farm families through promotion of bio diversity based ecological agriculture and strengthening the farm ecosystems

TEDE Trust has joined the PGS Organic Council this year and has registered 101 farmers under 9 groups who are predominantly rice cultivators and has covered an area of 620.8 acres. PGS Organic Council welcomes TEDE Trust to the PGS family and congratulates the farmers who have been certified under PGS.

Ladakh Ecological Development Group (LEDeG)

The work of LEDeG was initiated by Helena Norberg-Hodge, a Swedish linguist who first came to Ladakh in 1975, soon after the region had been opened up to tourism. In reaction to growing trends towards 'western modernity' and the resultant dismissal of local culture and environmental degradation, Helena formed the Ladakh Project. In 1983, the efforts of the Ladakh Project led to the founding of Ladakh Ecological Development Group (LEDeG), as an indigenous organization, independent of the Ladakh Project. In carrying out the work of sustainable development, LEDeG has organized its programmes that take place throughout Ladakh, with its head office in Leh and branch offices in Kargil and Padum (Zaskar). LEDeG is registered as a non profit society in the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

The mission is to promote ecologically and socially sustainable development which harmonises with and builds upon traditional Ladakhi culture. While it is intended to avoid the hazards of

industrialization, however, LEDeG do not want to put a fence around Ladakh, isolating it from outside influence, alienating it from change - which would be unnatural and unrealistic. Instead, LEDeG is exploring local economy and raising the standard of living, that support, rather than erode, the fragile environment and local traditions.

LEDeG has joined the Facilitation Council in November 2013 and has registered 4 groups of 42 farmers. PGSOC is glad to invite LEDeG to be part of the PGS family and would support its efforts in keeping Ladakh region free from chemical farming.



LEDeG holding their local meeting

When organic laws do not include PGS

A cautionary tale

By Alice Varon, Executive Director, Certified Naturally Grown

Recent developments in the United States may serve as a cautionary tale for leaders seeking to formalize the organic certification process in their own countries. When the use of the word “organic” is regulated by law, and requires third-party certification without allowing for a PGS model, it can complicate and even hurt the organic movement.

In February, leading organic food brands in the United States, under the banner of a new organization called Organic Voices, launched a campaign called “Only Organic”. This campaign is a response to the misuse of the word

“Natural” by food companies to market processed foods that contain genetically modified ingredients and synthetic additives. Organic food brands are concerned that these imposters are misleading consumers and eating into their market share. Their response, however, has been to vilify the word natural and make an exclusionary claim: “only organic”. The approach of the Organic Voices campaign, paired with the regulatory context in which it occurs, has the potential to hinder the growth of the organic movement at the grassroots, though this is surely not what was intended.

At one level, anyone committed to the organic movement and integrity in food labeling can appreciate the Organic Voices campaign. The organizers were smart to launch it with a humorous video featuring a slimy ad executive from the “false advertising industry” who delights in helping clients sell more processed food to unwitting consumers simply by slapping the word Natural on the packaging. In one scene, rows of office workers rubber-stamp “applications” to use the word natural – no application is denied – illustrating the campaign’s point; “Natural” on food products does not signify that certain standards have been met.

Where the campaign goes off track is at the end of the video. Words appear on the screen:

“Only Organic means:

- No Genetically Modified Organisms
- No toxic pesticides
- No growth hormones or antibiotics

People deserve to know the truth about their food. Look for the Organic seal.”

In the context of a conversation about packaged food brands, these statements are not controversial, and they include good advice. But if you expand the context to include fresh produce and the farmers growing it, then these claims are false and exclusionary. There is at least one seal besides organic that makes these very same assurances – Certified Naturally Grown (CNG).

It would be unrealistic for us to expect that a coordinated marketing campaign of some of the world’s largest organic brands will take into account the concerns of a grassroots group of farmers and food activists, especially when the organic brands are taking on the false advertising of their GMO-friendly counterparts in the processed food arena.

However, for the sake of the public record, we felt it was necessary to respond. (Read CNG’s response to the Only Organic campaign.) How is it that Certified Naturally Grown producers find themselves lumped together in the same category with unscrupulous processed food marketers? Why must they now be on the defensive for using the concept of natural, when they’re using it appropriately, according to its true meaning?

This situation is a byproduct of the approach to organic certification that was taken in the United States. Three features are particularly significant here. 1) The US Department of Agriculture certification is mandatory for almost any producer wishing to use the word organic; 2) **there is no accommodation in the regulations for a PGS model**, such as CNG uses and 3) **the exemption for smallscale producers is extremely low**, applying only to those “farms” whose gross agricultural income from organic sales totals \$5,000 per year or less.

Certified Naturally Grown was founded twelve years ago on the PGS model, tailored specifically for direct market farmers committed to organic practices. CNG’s standards – just like the organic standards – prohibit the use of genetically modified organisms, synthetic pesticides, growth hormones and prophylactic antibiotics.

However, because the National Organic Program does not 3 The Global PGS

Newsletter from IFOAM, March & April 2014 accommodate PGS, CNG producers are not allowed to use the word organic to describe their farm or products unless they also go through the USDA’s third-party organic certification process. (A small percentage of CNG farmers do have organic certification as well.)

The advantage of the approach taken in the United States – and it is significant – is that the GMO-friendly processed food companies cannot use the word organic on their packaging without breaking the law. This is a hard-fought victory that should be honored. The organic seal is an important and valuable tool for consumers. But it is not the only game in town.

And that should be embraced as a positive development. After all, diversity is our strength, both in nature and in our movement. More choices for farmers will mean more farmers participate. Whether it’s a single government-run program or a set of certification options that encourage and uphold sustainable practices, what’s most important is that more producers choose to participate, and that they’ll find greater success – in the form of increased productivity and community support – as a result. This is how our movement will grow.

What do you think about the “Only Organic” campaign? If you would like to share your comments or opinions on this topic, please send a message to: pgs@ifiam.org.

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INDIA: A new video with Matthew John, member of the PGS Committee and IFOAM World Board is available. Matthew talks about advantages of PGS and explains how PGS systems work today in India and abroad. Access the video via YouTube here at <http://goo.gl/8zfYYP>



ITALY: On the sidelines of the 5th Global Farmers' Forum from February 17 – 20, 2014 in Rome, IFOAM president Andre Leu and Vice President of IFOAM Asia Ashish Gupta took the opportunity to meet Anne-Sophie Poisot and Allison Loconto from FAO to discuss PGS. FAO is currently working on an analysis of several PGS systems around the globe with the intention of determining the factors that allow them to work effectively and why some PGS systems do not last long. IFOAM will supply additional information. The analysis is expected to provide valuable material to effectively advocate for PGS. Having the United Nations' largest agriculture organization supporting PGS will ensure enormous credibility for PGS in the 196 UN-member countries.



BOLIVIA: The Asociación de Organizaciones de Productores Ecológicos de Bolivia (AOPEB) is running an online platform. In early 2014 they announced that there are 1475 families from 7 municipalities and 150 products registered as PGS on the platform.

The data collected on the platform is used by AOPEB to provide information to producer organizations and municipalities for planning the implementation of public policies to support organic production. AOPEB conducted trainings to teach farmers how to use computers to include their data in the platform, where information on products, prices and producers is available.



MEXICO: On 29 October 2013 the Government of Mexico published guidelines for the implementation Organic Products Regulation. These guidelines come with a delay of 7 years as the original law was released already in 2006. PGS in Mexico is recognized by the government, but only for small and family-farms selling directly to the consumers. A whole chapter in the new guidelines elaborates the structure and operation required from initiatives to gain government recognition. They are for example required to have a Certification Committee, to create a minimum structure for human resource and documentation to guarantee consumer confidence and to conduct regular on-farm inspections. Also in the import section of the guidelines PGS is mentioned as recognized certification option.



IFOAM: After having compiled all data received through the IFOAM Global PGS Survey in October 2013 we have now launched the updated PGS Map, which can be accessed at <http://goo.gl/FLb4Ad>. This interactive map illustrates the distribution of operational and developing PGS initiatives worldwide, providing information about the number of producers certified and involved in PGS activities in each country. The map tool offers many ways of exploring this set of data by giving you the opportunity to view the information in different kinds of charts and arrangements. Take some time to click through the different features to learn more about the PGS implementation and development worldwide.

Realizing the Business Idea of Organic Smallholders: Feria Verde and PGS in Costa Rica

Four years ago, Faviana Scorza had “never touched soil with her bare hands before” and did not value the amount of work required to grow a lettuce for sale. In 2010, she was looking for a job knowing that she wanted to work with smallholder companies. While having breakfast at a farmer’s market one Sunday, the opportunity arose to lead a project that was yet little planned but vivid in the minds of a group of 20 SMEs: a green farmer’s market.

Today, the Feria Verde (Green Fair) includes over 110 SMEs, among them 27 farmers, promoting the fair trade and sale of natural and organic products. It is a multicultural space that unites about 2000 people every Saturday at the local sports center in Aranjuez, a neighborhood in San José, offering environment-friendly grown vegetables and products such as goat cheese and artisan breads.

Faviana Scorza, graduate in Business Management at the University of Costa Rica, has been the head of this outstanding project explains: “This is a horizontal organization. No one is subordinate to anyone, my job is just a key position.” She concludes that starting a project in an unfamiliar area without any financial resources was a challenge: “I was very scared, but I went ahead first.”

One of Faviana’s key work elements was “understanding and becoming familiar with the farmer”, which helped her comprehend how a green farmer’s market functions and recognize the concerns of participants. Therefore, her first self-assigned task to begin with was to learn about how to grow crops without the use of chemicals in the National Training Institute INA6. “In my first class I had to dig in the earth all day long. When I arrived at home my hands were full of cuts and blisters. The following weekend at the fair, I was sold a lettuce for 300 CRC (about 0.60 USD), but I paid 1000 CRC because I knew its value was much higher”, Faviana remembers. “We need to establish a network within the food system from which the crops

come and understand that agriculture is a profession.”

The Feria Verde has casually become a model and incubator for agricultural and environmentally sustainable business ideas, which are expanding to the west of San José and Guanacaste, helping farmers to improve their produce. Faviana points out that “producers being involved in a fair need to be well organized and learn how to handle and manage their produce under their particular brand. We are currently working on the development of a logo and a supply chain for hotels and home deliveries.”

The case of Faviana Scorza shows that not all entrepreneurial ideas require professional expertise but evolve from commitment and taking risk as well as learning and passion.

“PGS is a useful certification system for us because it allows us to develop management systems and farmer coordination that work for us and that we implement and manage ourselves.”

On May 15th is celebrated its Feria Verde 4th Anniversary. A video of their work is available at - <http://goo.gl/aAvoHf>

By Mónica Cordero Sancho, journalist at EL FINANCIERO; Translated from the Spanish article published in EL FINANCIERO in November 2013 by Anne Thieme, IFOAM Value Chain Intern

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PGSOC at BioFach India



Farmers explaining about their products

Participatory Guarantee Systems Organic Council participated in BIOFACH 2013 in Bangalore from 13th to 16th November. With assistance from WHH, the Council was able to put up a very well designed and organized stall



PGS booth at BioFach

and also managed farmer groups from four organizations to participate with produce and interact with consumers directly. The following Facilitation Council Members participated; Keystone Foundation, Institute for Integrated



PGS information material

Rural Development, Organic Farming Association of India, Timbaktu Collective, Pan Himalayan Grassroots Development Foundation, Deccan Development Society & GREEN Foundation. What was exciting was that some of the organization members, who had till now only heard or talked to each other, had an opportunity to meet and discuss some of their common issues.



Meeting with IFOAM Asia Board

PGSOC and IFOAM Asia

FC members of PGSOC met with the Board members of IFOAM Asia, at the sidelines of BioFach India 2013, and discussed the implementation agenda of PGS in India. IFOAM Asia showed interest in collaborating with PGSOC in assisting with implementation of PGS in their countries especially Indonesia, Philippines and China.

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PGS Organic Council (As on 31st May 2014)

	Facilitation Councils	Code	State	No of Groups	Total number of Organic Farmers under PGS	Total number of Farmers in transition under PGS
1	Organic Farming Association of India *	HP-A-01 UP-A-01	Himachal Pradesh Uttar Pradesh	2	12	31 (4 Groups)
2	Keystone Foundation	TN-A-10 KL-A-10	Tamil Nadu Kerala (FTAK) Pondicherry (Ekoventure)	14 36 2	96 465 11	
3	Convenant Centre For Development	MH-A-20 OR-A-20 TN-A-20	Maharashtra Odisha Tamil Nadu	6 14 7	73 270 110	
4	GREEN Foundation	KA-A-30	Karnataka	108	761	382 (68 Groups)
5	Institute For Integrated Rural Development	KA-B-01 MH-B-01 TN-B-01 WB-B-01	Karnataka Maharashtra Tamil Nadu (PAF) West Bengal (SEVA)	101	1979	57 (5 Groups) 316 (16 Groups) 318 (53 Groups)
6	Timbaktu Collective	AP-C-10	Andra Pradesh	70	519	
7	Deccan Development Society	AP-C-20	Andra Pradesh	41	205	361 (69 Groups)
8	Chetna Vikas	MH-C-30	Maharashtra	22	124	
9	Pan Himalayan Grassroots Development Foundation	UA-C-40	Uttarakhand	40	473	
10	Institute For Cultural Research & Action	KA-C-50	Karnataka	88	639	
11	Maharashtra Organic Farmers Federation	MH-D-01	Maharashtra	52	354	
12	TEDE Trust	TN-D-30	Tamil Nadi	9	101	
13	Ladakh Ecological Development Group (LEDeG)	JK-D-01	Jammu & Kashmir	4	42	
				616	6234	1465 (220 Groups)

* OFAI has withdrawn its recognition to its LGs in Kerala & West Bengal

Printed for PGS Organic Council - Editor: **Mathew John**, P.B. 35, Groves Hill Road, Kotagiri-643217, e: mathew@keystone-foundation.org, Ph: 04266-272277