

Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)

Manual for District- Level Functionaries

2017

PREFACE

The purpose of this Development Manual for Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) is to create an enabling mechanism for improved implementation of the Scheme at the cutting edge, leading to enhanced outcomes in nature and extent. Accordingly, it is a guide for implementation by the **District Collector and key District-level functionaries**, and enables quick learning, implementation modalities, roles and responsibilities of the various functionaries as well as stakeholders etc.

This Manual is prepared with inputs from a combination of sources, including interactions with the Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC & FW), Government of India (GoI), review of extant scheme guidelines and circulars issued by the Department and discussions with the key personnel involved in implementation of the Scheme.

For greater direction, the guidelines cited must be referred to for guidance and clarification on implementation from time to time.

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1. Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)

1.1 About the Scheme

The Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), launched in 2015, is an extended component of Soil Health Management (SHM) under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)¹. PKVY aims at supporting and promoting organic farming, in turn resulting in improvement of soil health.

The scheme promotes Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) For India (PGS- India)² form of organic certification that is built on mutual trust, locally relevant and mandates the involvement of producers and consumers in the process of certification. PGS - India operates outside the framework of “Third Party Certification³”.

Funding pattern under the scheme is in the ratio of 60:40 by the Central and State Governments respectively. In case of North Eastern and Himalayan States, Central Assistance is provided in the ratio of 90:10 (Centre: State) and for Union Territories, the assistance is 100%.

The Scheme targets to form 10,000 clusters of 20 ha each and bring nearly two lakh hectares of agricultural area under organic farming by 2017-18.

1.2 Objective⁴

The objective is to produce agricultural products free from chemicals and pesticides residues by adopting eco- friendly, low- cost technologies. Key Thrust areas of PKVY in promoting organic farming include the following:

- Promote organic farming among rural youth/ farmers/ consumers/ traders
- Disseminate latest technologies in organic farming
- Utilize the services of experts from public agricultural research system in India
- Organize a minimum of one cluster demonstration in a village

1.3 Approach

PKVY is implemented in a time frame of three years in line with the PGS-India’s prescribed conversion period of 36 months from conventional farm to organic. Accordingly, PKVY promotes organic farming through a cluster approach to adopt PGS Certification. PGS Certification facilitates farmers to certify their organic produce, label and market their products domestically.

Major Features of the Scheme

The cluster chosen for Organic Farming shall be 20 ha or 50 acres in extent and in as contiguous a form as possible.

- Total financial assistance available for a 20 ha or 50 acre cluster shall be a maximum of Rs. 10 lakhs for farmer members and Rs. 4.95 lakh for mobilization and PGS Certification with a subsidy ceiling of one hectare per farmer
- Of the total number of farmers in a cluster, a minimum of 65 percent farmers should be allocated to small and marginal category, to be fulfilled at cluster level as far as practicable and where not possible to be satisfied at Mandal/Block/ Taluka or District level.
- At least 30% of the budget allocations need to be earmarked for women beneficiaries/ farmers⁵

1.4 Key Components & Major Activities

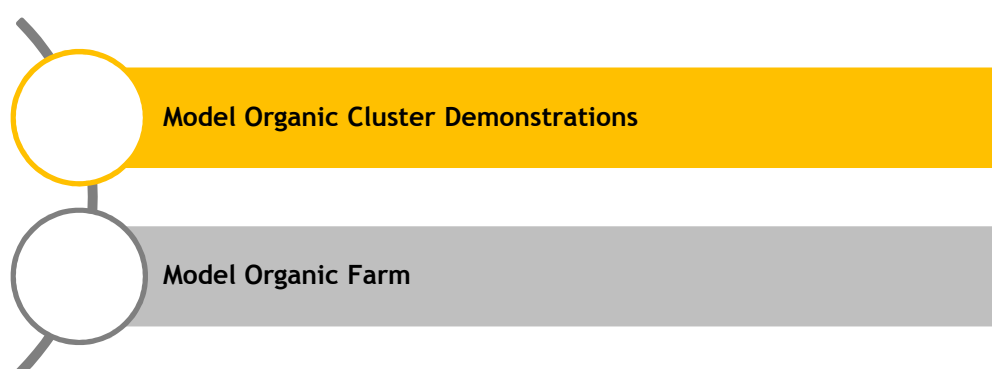


Figure 1: Key components of PKVY

1.4.1 Model Organic Cluster Demonstrations⁶

Model Organic Cluster Demonstrations aim at boosting/ promoting organic farming among rural youth/ farmers/ consumers/ traders by creating awareness on the latest technologies of organic farming. These are conducted at the farmer's field in clusters of 20 ha or 50 acres under PKVY.

Implementing Agencies (IAs) primarily are the Zonal Councils⁷ of National Centre for Organic Farming (NCOF), Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) registered Regional Councils (RCs) and other Public Sector Organisations of DAC & FW.

Such demonstrations are actively supervised by the experts / scientists from Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), Central Agricultural Universities (CAUs), Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), National Seed Corporation (NSC), Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC), Farmers Producers Organisations (FPOs) etc.

A Project Demonstration Team may be formed by these Implementing Agencies (IAs) for improved focus and timely implementation.

Each institution shall conduct three model organic cluster demonstrations in surrounding villages with a minimum of one cluster per village in a year.

Financial Assistance

- 100 percent grant for ICAR Institutions, SAUs, CAUs, KVKs, NSC, SFAC, FPOs etc
- Regional Councils (RCs) of the National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF) are eligible for 90% assistance with at least 10 percent contribution to the total project cost

Funds for the activity are provided by the Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) division of DAC & FW, upon submission of action plans by the Zonal Councils/ Regional Councils/ States.

Major activities under Model Organic Cluster Demonstrations are as shown in the **Figure 2**.

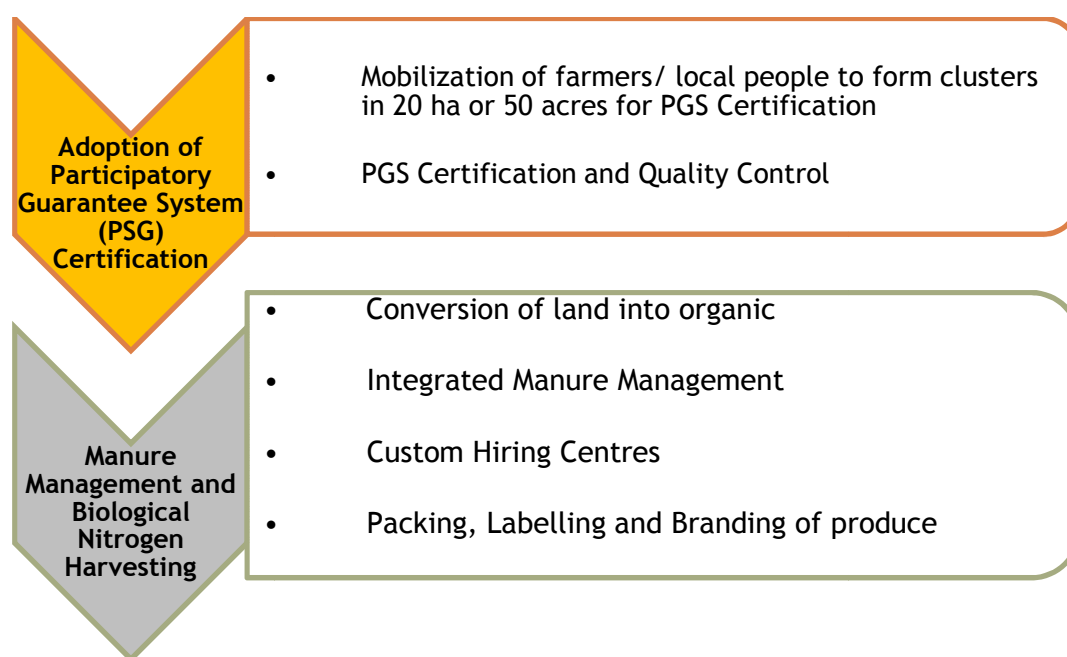


Figure 2: Activities under Model Organic Cluster Demonstrations of PKVY

1.4.1.1 Adoption of Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) Certification⁸

(A) Activities

The first stage in the PKVY, the adoption of PGS certification is done through a cluster approach, for which financial assistance is provided.

Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) of Certification

To promote organic farming and domestic organic market, a free / no cost domestic organic Certification system called Participatory Guarantee system-India (PGS-India) is being implemented by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Government of India through National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF), Ghaziabad and its seven Zonal Councils.

In addition to these Zonal Councils, “Regional Councils (RC)”⁹ under PKVY also are authorized to work under PGS-India Programme. Logos used in PGS- India Organic Certification Programme are as follows:



Logo used while marketing products produced from the fields “Under Conversion”



Logo used while marketing products produced from the fields “Completely converted into Organic”

Major components of assistance in adoption of PGS certification are as follows (Figure 3 & Figure 4).

- Mobilization of farmers/ local people to form cluster in 20 ha or 50 acres for PGS Certification

Farmers in the identified clusters are organized as “Local Groups¹⁰” under PGS Certification. Lead Resource Person (LRP), the lead farmer is identified from each Cluster or Local Group (LG) by the RCs.

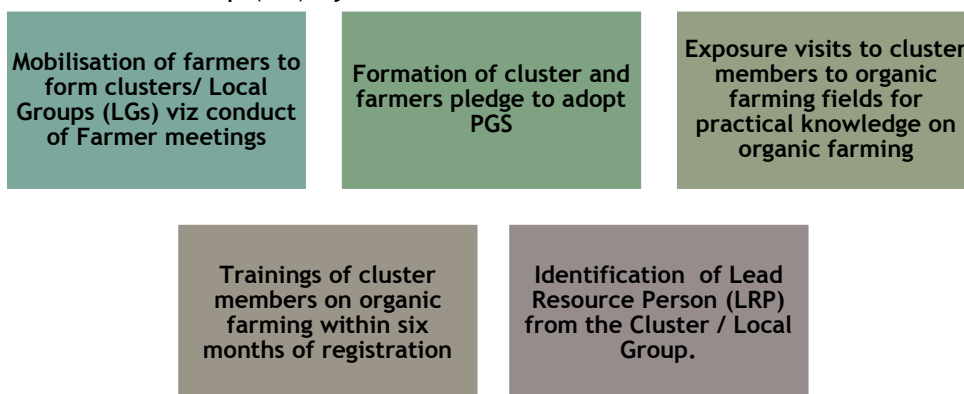


Figure 3: Mobilization of farmers for PGS Certification

- PGS Certification and Quality Control

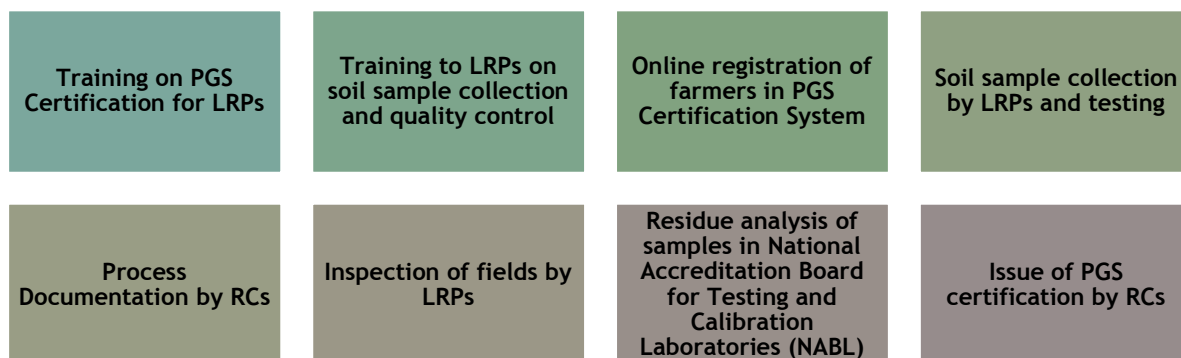


Figure 4: PGS Certification and Quality Control

1.4.1.2 Manure Management and Biological Nitrogen Harvesting¹¹

(A) Activities

Once the clusters or local groups adopt PGS certification, Regional Councils (RCs) and other Implementing Agencies (IAs) need to submit Annual Action Plan (AAP) for conversion of land into organic. The action plan would comprise of the following activities:

- **Conversion of land into Organic**
 - Introduction of suitable organic cropping systems
 - Construction and operation of organic input production units; Pachagavya¹², Beejamruth¹³ and Jeevamruth¹⁴ etc.
 - Biological Nitrogen Harvest Planting (Gliricidia, Sesbania, etc.)
 - Botanical extracts production units.

- **Integrated manure management**

It involves production, procurement and application of

 - Liquid bio- fertilizers to increase crop- production
 - Liquid bio- pesticides for suppression of disease in crops
 - Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM) to meet phosphorous/ organic carbon and other micro- nutrients deficiency in soil
 - Vermi-compost

- **Custom Hiring Centre (CHC)**

CHCs facilitate hiring of agricultural implements (*where applicable under Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanisation (SMAM)*) for processing/ grading/ cleaning/ threshing of organic produce and land preparation etc.

- **Packing, Labeling and branding of organic products of cluster**

In this stage, packing materials are procured, holograms and labels are prepared. In addition, branding of organic products takes place. The organic produce is then transported to markets and organic fairs.

1.4.2 Model Organic Farm¹⁵

The Model Organic Farm aims at demonstrating conversion of conventional land into organic farming practices in one hectare parcels. This is to spread the information on the latest technologies of various units of organic inputs production through exposure visits to farmers.

As several of the central and state government organisations and other public sector organisations have their own farms for demonstration of technologies in various farming practices, these institutions shall develop model Organic Farms.

Maximum three model organic farm demonstrations shall be allocated to each organisation with a minimum of one farm in one institution in one year.

The IAs and funding pattern of model organic farm are similar to that of the Model Organic Cluster Demonstrations.

1.5 Pattern of Assistance

A total assistance of Rs. 14.95 lakhs is available per cluster for mobilization, adoption of PGS certification and manure management. Maximum assistance of Rs. 10 lakhs per cluster of 50 acres or 20 ha (or) subject to a maximum of Rs. 50,000 per farmer per ha (maximum assistance per farmer is one ha) is available to the farmer members for activities under Manure Management and Biological Nitrogen Harvesting. Of the total assistance, Rs. 4.95 lakhs per cluster is available to Implementing Agencies (IAs) for mobilization and adoption of PGS Certification and Quality Control

The sub- component- wise financial assistance is illustrated in Tables 1 and 2¹⁶.

Table 1: PKVY - Pattern of Assistance to a cluster of 20 ha or 50 acres for 3 years¹⁷

S. No.	Component / Sub- Component	Pattern of Assistance (in Rs)			
		1 st Year	2 nd Year	3 rd Year	TOTAL
1.	Adoption of Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) of Certification	80,000	-	-	80,000
2.	PGS Certification and Quality Control	36,950	115,050	111,700	263,700
3.	Conversion of land into organic	2,50,000	1,00,000	1,00,000	4,50,000
4.	Integrated Manure Management	3,25,000	50,000	-	3,75,000
5.	Custom Hiring Centre (CHC) charges	15,000	15,000	15,000	45,000
6.	Packing Labelling and branding or organic products of cluster	-	2,18,830	62,500	2,81,330
Grand Total					1,495,030

Table 2: PKVY - Detailed Pattern of Assistance to a cluster of 20 ha or 50 acres for 3 years

S. No.	Component / Sub- Component	Pattern of Assistance (in Rs)			
		1 st Year	2 nd Year	3 rd Year	TOTAL
1.	Adoption of Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) of Certification	80,000	-	-	80,000
	<i>Farmer meetings</i>	10,000			10,000
	<i>Exposure Visits to farmers in the clusters</i>	10,000			10,000
	<i>Training of cluster members on organic farming</i>	60,000			60,000
2.	PGS Certification and Quality Control	36,950	115,050	111,700	263,700
	<i>2 day Training on PGS Certification (Rs. 200 per LRP per day)</i>	400			400
	<i>3 day training to LRPs (Rs. 250 per</i>		750		750

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S. No.	Component / Sub- Component	Pattern of Assistance (in Rs)			
		1 st Year	2 nd Year	3 rd Year	TOTAL
	LRP per day				
	Online registration of farmers (Rs. 100 per member in a cluster of 50 members)		5,000	5,000	10,000
	Soil Sample Collection and testing (14 samples in year 1 and 2 and 12 in year 3 at Rs. 300 per sample)	4,200	4,200	3,600	12,000
	Process documentation for PGS Certification (Rs. 100 per member for 50 members)	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000
	Field inspections (3 inspections per cluster in a year at Rs. 400 per inspection)	1,200	1,200	1,200	3,600
	Residue analysis of samples in NABL (8 samples per cluster per year at Rs. 10,000 per sample)		80,000	80,000	160,000
	Certification Charges	0	2,000	0	2,000
	Administrative expenses for certification	26,150	16,900	16,900	59,950
3.	Conversion of land into organic	2,50,000	1,00,000	1,00,000	4,50,000
	Conversion (Rs. 1000/ acre for 50 acres)	50,000	50,000	50,000	150,000
	Introduction of cropping system, organic seed procurement and raising organic nursery (Rs. 500 per acre per year for 50 acres)	25,000	25,000	25,000	75,000
	Organic input production units (Rs. 1500 per unit per acre for 50 acres)	75,000			75,000
	Biological Nitrogen Harvesting Planting (Rs. 2000 per acre for 50 acres)	50,000	25,000	25,000	100,000
	Botanical extracts production unit (Rs. 1000 per unit per acre for 50 acres)	50,000			50,000
4.	Integrated Manure Management	3,25,000	50,000	-	3,75,000
	Liquid Bio-fertilizer (Rs. 500 per acre for 50 acres)	25,000			25,000
	Liquid Bio-pesticides (Rs. 500 per acre for 50 acres)		25,000		25,000
	Adoption of local practice for natural pest control (Rs. 500 per acre for 50 acres)		25,000		25,000
	Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM) (Rs. 1000 per acre for 50 acres)	50,000			50,000

S. No.	Component / Sub- Component	Pattern of Assistance (in Rs)			
		1 st Year	2 nd Year	3 rd Year	TOTAL
	Vermi compost (Rs. 5,000 per unit and 50 units)	250,000			250,000
5.	Custom Hiring Centre (CHC) charges	15,000	15,000	15,000	45,000
	Agricultural Implements	15,000	15,000	15,000	45,000
6.	Packing Labelling and branding or organic products of cluster	-	2,18,830	62,500	2,81,330
	Packing material with PGS logo + Hologram printing (Rs. 2,500 per acre for 50 acres)		62,500	62,500	125,000
	Transportation charges for Organic produce for marketing (Rs. 800 per farmer/ year/cluster)	40,000	40,000	40,000	120,000
	Organic fairs (Maximum assistance of Rs. 36,330 per cluster)		36,330		36,330

Table 3: Norms of assistance for Model Organic Farm

S. No.	Name of the Component	Norms of Assistance (Rs per ha for 3 years)
1.	Establishment of Organic Units	
	Liquid Bio- fertilisers unit	1,250
	Liquid Bio- pesticides unit	1,250
	Natural pest control mechanism	1,250
	Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM) unit	2,500
	Vermi- compost unit (Size 7" x 3 x 1")	5,000 per unit
	Organic seed/ nursery raising, procurement	3,750
	Production units (Panchagavya/ Beejamruth/ Jeevamruth)	3,750 per ha per unit
	Green Manuring/ Biological Nitrogen Harvest Planting	5,000
	Botanical extracts production units	2,500
2.	Mobilisation of farmers	
	Meetings and discussion of farmers	10,000
	Exposure visit of farmers	10,000
	Organic fairs	1,500
	Custom hiring centre for agricultural implements	2,250
	Total	50,000
Note: 5% of total amount allocation may be used for labour/ land preparation or other miscellaneous items		

1.6 Institutional Framework

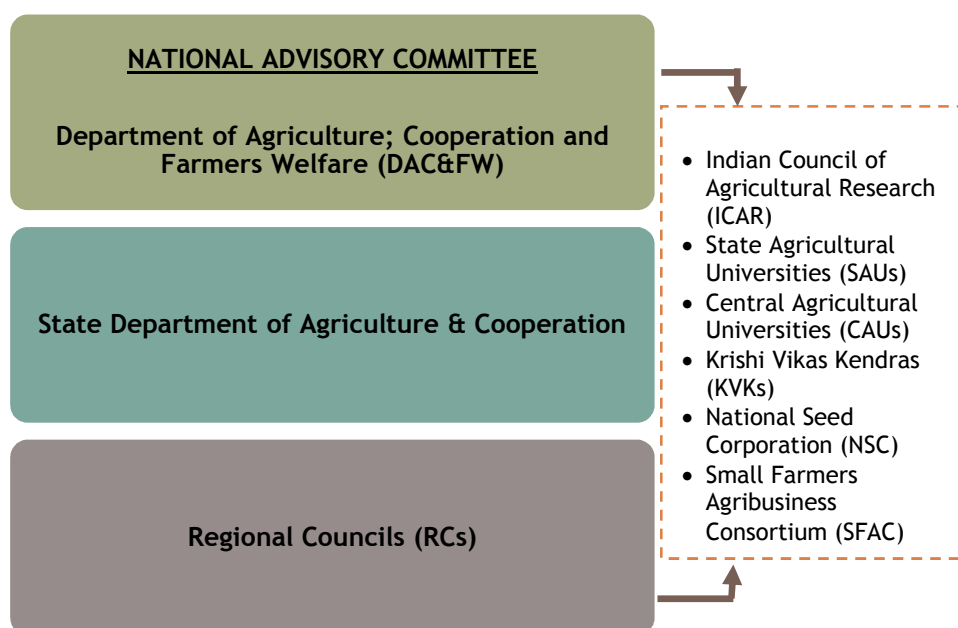


Figure 5: PKVY - Institutional Framework

(A) National Level Implementation

PKVY is being implemented by the Organic Farming cell of the Integrated Nutrient Management (Division) of Department of Agriculture; Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW). National Advisory Committee (NAC)¹⁸ chaired by the Joint Secretary (INM) is the apex policy making body for the scheme. Executive Secretary of the NAC is the Director, National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF).

Members of the NAC include Regional Directors of Regional Centre of Organic Farming, Additional Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner (INM), Heads of Zonal Councils, Representatives of Regional Councils and Farmers & Consumers.

Apart from the DAC&FW, given the expertise of agricultural research system in the country, involvement of ICAR, SAUs, CAUs, KVKs, NSC, SFAC etc are being emphasized upon.

(B) State Level Implementation

At the State level, State Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has been implementing the scheme with the involvement of Regional Councils that are registered under PGS- India Certification Programme.

(C) District Level Implementation

Regional Councils (RCs) within the district anchor the implementation of PKVY. A district may have one or multiple Regional Councils that are legally registered under Societies Act/ Public Trust Act/ Cooperative Act or Companies Act.

Existing NGOs, Organic Certification service providers of State/ Central Government, Officers of the State Department of Agriculture, producers, consumers, traders, retailers, societies, Grama Panchayats, Farmers and Local Groups with three years of standing in PGS programme are allowed to register as RCs. RCs are approved by the Zonal Councils identified for the PGS - India Certification Programme, to begin with. In due course, Local Groups (LGs) would be encouraged to come forward with their own RCs.

1.7 Annual Action Plan under PKVY

Adoption of PGS certification and quality control under PKVY is a three year programme and the Regional Councils (RCs) need to submit Annual Action Plan (AAP) to the State Department of Agriculture and in turn to the INM Division of the DAC&FW. Upon approval of the consolidated action plans of RCs from the States by the Centre, funds are being released to the respective States followed by Regional Councils.

On release of funds from the Centre and the prescribed State share of 40%, the Regional Councils receive funds for operations. Transfer of funds to the Local Groups/ Farmers is being carried out by the Regional Councils, based on the progress of activities carried out by the Local Groups.

Tentative timelines for preparation and submission of Annual Action Plans by the Districts/ Regional Councils is as follows (**Figure 6**).

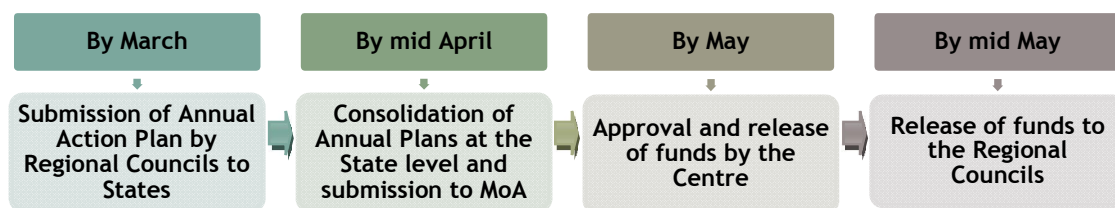


Figure 6: Annual Action Plan under PKVY - Tentative Timelines

2. Roles and Responsibilities of Key District- Level Functionaries

2.1 PKVY Implementation - Key District Level Functionaries

District - level functionaries have a major role to play in effective implementation of PKVY. Organization structure of key personnel involved in implementation of PKVY is shown in the *Figure 7*.

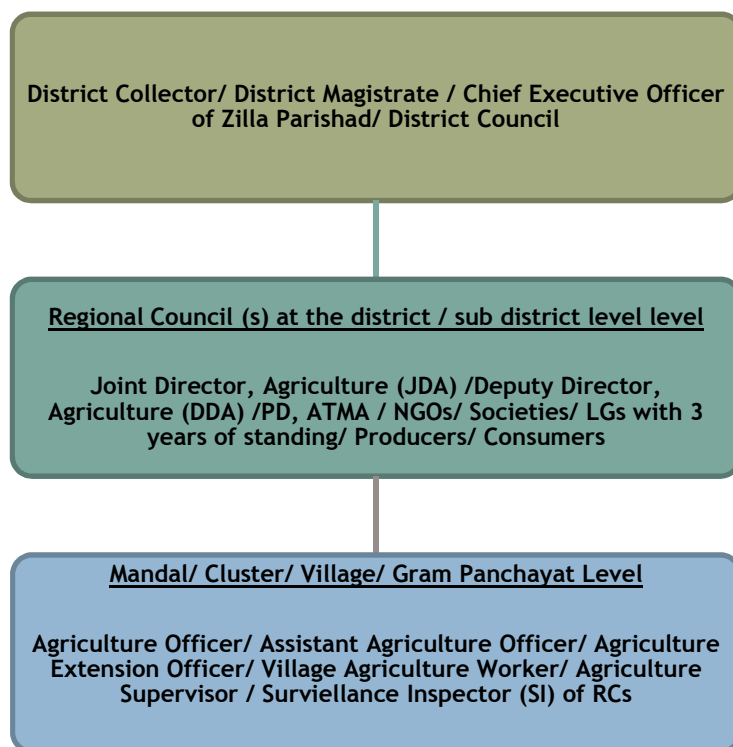


Figure 7: PKVY - Organization Structure at the district level

2.2 District Collector/ District Magistrate

The District Collector/ District Magistrate can provide overall direction and guidance for implementation of PKVY. The Collector or the Magistrate can play a major role in motivating farmers to adopt organic farming. He or she also can oversee timely implementation of the scheme, especially the procurement of organic inputs and conduct of training programs and exposure visits for the Local Groups (LGs) and farmers.

For greater focus in implementation, Districts constitute District Level Executive Committee (DLEC) chaired by the District Collector/ District Magistrate or the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Zilla Parishad (ZP). District Agriculture Officer (DAO) at the cadre of Joint Director, Agriculture/ Deputy Director, Agriculture (JDA/ DDA) can act as Member Secretary of DLEC with members from line departments including horticulture, animal husbandry, organic input suppliers, etc. DLECs exist in few States already.

Table 4: Roles and Responsibilities of District Collector/ District Magistrate as the Chairman of DLEC (if existing / constituted/ planned to be constituted)

Role	Responsibilities
PLANNING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate preparation of Annual Action Plans (AAPs) by Regional Councils (RCs)
IMPLEMENTATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motivate and encourage farmers to adopt organic farming under PGS - India Certification Programme
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinize Annual Action Plan (AAP) submitted by the Regional Council and submit to the State
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve micro- level guidelines at the district level for implementation of various interventions, procurement of inputs, unit costs, identification of fields/ research institutes for exposure visits etc
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve Local Groups (LGs) proposed to be registered under PGS certification by the Regional Councils (RCs)
MONITORING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure timely implementation of the programme along with compliance to PGS - Operational Manual
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the field inspections are carried out by the District Agriculture Officer, as prescribed in the State Guidelines
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize monthly review meetings with RCs and take stock of implementation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure submission of a consolidated monthly progress report of all RCs to the State by 10th of every month
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinize annual reports/ activity reports prepared by the RCs to be submitted to Zonal Council of National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF)

2.3 Key Functionaries - PKVY Implementation at the district level

In most of the States, Joint Director, Agriculture (JDA) or Deputy Director, Agriculture (DDA) is registered as Regional Council, to facilitate registration of Local Groups (LGs) for PGS - India Certification and quality control. In some states, agencies and societies have been empanelled to administer the scheme. In few other States, the scheme is implemented through Project Director (PD), Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) at the district level.

Table 5: Roles and Responsibilities of District/ Block/ Village level Officers

	District/ Sub District Level	Mandal/ Cluster / Gram Panchayat/ Village Level
Role / Officer Responsible	<p><u>Regional Council (s)</u></p> <p>[Joint Director, Agriculture (JDA) /Deputy Director, Agriculture (DDA) /PD, ATMA / NGOs/ Societies/ LGs with 3 years of standing/ Producers/ Consumers]</p>	<p>[Agriculture Officer/ Assistant Agriculture Officer/ Agriculture Extension Officer/ Village Agriculture Worker/ Agriculture Supervisor / Surveillance Inspector (SI) of RCs]</p>
PLANNING		
PREPARATION OF ANNUAL ACTION PLAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>New Local Groups (LGs)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare Annual Action Plan (AAP) for the year including the number of Local Groups (LGs) that are planned to be registered, no of farmers to be involved, no of trainings and exposure visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>New Local Groups (LGs)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide inputs to RCs for preparation of Annual Action Plan (AAP) <u>Existing Local Groups (LGs) for 2nd and 3rd year of</u>

	District/ Sub District Level	Mandal/ Cluster / Gram Panchayat/ Village Level
Role / Officer Responsible	<p><u>Regional Council (s)</u></p> <p>[Joint Director, Agriculture (JDA) /Deputy Director, Agriculture (DDA) /PD, ATMA / NGOs/ Societies/ LGs with 3 years of standing/ Producers/ Consumers]</p>	<p>[Agriculture Officer/ Assistant Agriculture Officer/ Agriculture Extension Officer/ Village Agriculture Worker/ Agriculture Supervisor / Surveillance Inspector (SI) of RCs]</p>
	<p>planned etc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Existing Local Groups (LGs) for 2nd and 3rd year of implementation</u> • Prepare action plan for conversion of land into organic 	<p><u>implementation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage LGs to prepare annual plan for conversion of land into organic (majorly the inputs required)
IMPLEMENTATION		
MOBILIZATION OF FARMERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage farmers to adopt organic farming • Strategize and execute publicity campaigns on organic farming in the district / area of operation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensitize farmers on the need for taking up organic farming • Identify farmers for registration into PKVY clusters / Local Groups (LGs) under PGS- India certification • Ensure adequate participation from women farmers • Collect application form of Local Groups (LGs) for registration under PGS - India programme¹⁹ • Ensure Local Groups (LGs) take willingness of the farmers for registration in the prescribed format²⁰
REGISTRATION OF CLUSTERS/ LOCAL GROUPS (LGs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter into an agreement with RCs²¹ • Register Local Groups (LGs) and issue User ID and password for data uploading on PGS - India website • Facilitate local groups in data uploading on PGS website, if local group do not have access to computer and internet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize farmers into PKVY clusters and facilitate registration as a Local Group • Verify relevant documents of the farmers and recommend to the RC for registration • Ensure farmers take pledge to abide by the group norms and adopt organic farming²² • Identify Lead Resource Person (LRP) for each group

	District/ Sub District Level	Mandal/ Cluster / Gram Panchayat/ Village Level
Role / Officer Responsible	<p><u>Regional Council (s)</u></p> <p>[Joint Director, Agriculture (JDA) /Deputy Director, Agriculture (DDA) /PD, ATMA / NGOs/ Societies/ LGs with 3 years of standing/ Producers/ Consumers]</p>	<p>[Agriculture Officer/ Assistant Agriculture Officer/ Agriculture Extension Officer/ Village Agriculture Worker/ Agriculture Supervisor / Surveillance Inspector (SI) of RCs]</p>
PGS CERTIFICATION AND QUALITY CONTROL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize sufficient training to the farmers on organic farming activity Assist in preparation of annual plan by LGs Handhold LGs in packing, marketing, logo preparation, transportation etc. Certificate Approval Committee of the RC to issue grant of approval for certification Issue Scope Certificate to LGs along with the PGS logos, based on their status of implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize trainings (3 per LG in a year) in association with experts Upload data of individual farmer inputs used, cropping pattern followed, organic manures and fertilizers used for PGS Certification in PGS India portal Assist the LRP in writing the individual farmers diary/ history sheet in the prescribed format²³ Guide LGs in identifying peer farmer appraisers (minimum of 3 in a group) and conduct peer appraisals²⁴ Inspect farmers' fields and submit Surveillance Reports to RCs for certification Assist LGs to prepare and submit Summary Worksheet²⁵ to facilitate certification
CONVERSION OF LAND INTO ORGANIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate procurement and planting of the Biological Nitrogen Harvest Planting (Gliricidia, Sesbania etc.) by the farmers Facilitate residue analysis and soil testing of samples through National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) labs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Document with photographs on conversion of land into organic Recommend to the RC for transfer of subsidy to farmers Train farmers in preparation of organic inputs Ensure planting of the biological nitrogen harvesting plants is done as per guideline around the farmer's field
ORGANIC INPUTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make farmers aware of organic inputs including Panchagavya, Beejamruth and Jeevamruth and their benefits Assess the organic input requirement (liquid biofertilizers, biopesticides and PROM) in the area of operation (district/ sub district) and initiate procurement process Sensitize LGs and farmers on vermicompost production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure farmers undertake production of organic inputs including Panchagavya, Beejamruth and Jeevamruth Ensure distribution of organic inputs to the Local Groups (LGs) and organic farmers Organize trainings to the farmers on vermicompost production

	District/ Sub District Level	Mandal/ Cluster / Gram Panchayat/ Village Level
Role / Officer Responsible	Regional Council (s) [Joint Director, Agriculture (JDA) /Deputy Director, Agriculture (DDA) /PD, ATMA / NGOs/ Societies/ LGs with 3 years of standing/ Producers/ Consumers]	[Agriculture Officer/ Assistant Agriculture Officer/ Agriculture Extension Officer/ Village Agriculture Worker/ Agriculture Supervisor / Surveillance Inspector (SI) of RCs]
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage LGs and farmers to use the services of Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) functioning in the district / sub district 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage LGs and farmers to use the services of Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) functioning in the district / sub district
PACKING, LABELLING AND BRANDING OF ORGANIC PRODUCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handhold LGs in marketing their organic produce/ products Help LGs design their product packing and logos Help LGs participate in organic trade fairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handhold LGs in marketing and transportation of organic produce to market places.
FUND MANAGEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit annual reports on PGS activity in a prescribed format to State Department of Agriculture Ensure Aadhar enabled Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) for transfer of subsidies to the farmers Submit Utilization Certificate (UC) to State Department of Agriculture by the end of the Financial Year 	
MONITORING & REPORTING		
MONITORING & REPORTING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out field inspections as prescribed in the State Guidelines Update the status of implementation to DLEC (if existing) and the State Department of Agriculture by 10th of every month 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain relevant vouchers for the payment of inspection charges to LRP Random inspection of farms and soil sampling for residue testing by SIs Ensure the farmers use the prescribed items for preparation of Organic Inputs Maintain proper documentation on Meetings / Trainings / Exposure Visits organized (with details on list of farmers attended with their signatures, minutes of the meeting, press coverage and photographs)²⁶

2.3 Role of Local Groups

Local Groups (LGs) are the group of farmers that adopt organic farming practices that are functional and decision making bodies under PGS- India Programme. It can be an existing group of farmers who are undertaking organic farming practices or constituted newly, to be registered under PGS - India Programme. Major roles of the LGs are as follows:

- LG to organize farmers in the group and each farmer member to sign on PGS pledge
- LGs to prepare detailed farm history sheets and required documents
- LGs to elect Group Leader and Peer reviewers for appraisals
- To register group on PGS portal and obtain User name and password from RCs
- Chalk out peer appraisal strategies and organize peer appraisals
- Submit summary sheet to RCs after inspections
- Print certificates issued by RCs and distribute to individual farmers.

PKVY - IMPLEMENTATION MONITORING PROFORMA (MONTHLY REPORT)
[For Regional Councils based on Annual Action Plan]*

(A) Physical Progress

Monitoring Criteria	Target (Annual Action Plan)	(During the month)		(Cumulative during the year)	
		PSG Green	PSG Organic	PSG Green	PSG Organic
No of Groups Registered					
Total no of farmers registered in groups					
Area covered (ha)					
Inputs distributed on subsidy (Kg)					
Total no of farmers certified					
Products produced (Nos)					
Production in MT					
Revenue generated from marketing (Rs in Lakh)					

(B) Mobilization activities

Monitoring Criteria	Target (Annual Action Plan)	(During the month)	(Cumulative during the year)
Number of farmer meetings organized			
Number of trainings organized			
Number of exposure visits organized			

(C) Financial Progress

Monitoring Criteria	Allocation	Expenditure during the month	Cumulative Expenditure
Mobilization and adoption of PGS certification (Rs in Lakhs)			
Manure Management and Biological Nitrogen Harvesting (subsidy to the farmers) (Rs in Lakhs)			

Abbreviations

AAP	Annual Action Plan
ADA	Assistant Director, Agriculture
ATMA	Agricultural Technology Management Agency
CAU	Central Agricultural Universities
CHC	Custom Hiring Centre
CSS	Centrally Sponsored Scheme
DAC & FW	Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers Welfare
DDA	Deputy Director, Agriculture
DLEC	District- Level Executive Committee
FPO	Farmers Producers Organisations
GoI	Government of India
IA	Implementing Agency
ICAR	Indian Council of Agricultural Research
INM	Integrated Nutrient Management
JDA	Joint Director, Agriculture
KVK	Krishi Vigyan Kendra
LG	Local Group
LRP	Lead Resource Person
MAO	Mandal Agriculture Officer
NABL	National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories
NAC	National Advisory Committee
NCOF	National Centre of Organic Farming
NGO	Non Government Organization
NMSA	National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture
NSC	National Seeds Corporation
PD	Project Director
PGS	Participatory Guarantee System
PKVY	Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana
PROM	Phosphate Rich Organic Manure
RC	Regional Council
RCOF	Regional Centre of Organic Farming
SAU	State Agricultural Universities
SFAC	Small Farmers Agri Consortium
SHM	Soil Health Management
SI	Surveillance Inspector
SMAM	Sub- Mission on Agricultural Mechanisation
UC	Utilization Certificate
ZC	Zonal Council
ZP	Zilla Parishad

Endnotes and References

- 1 Guideline for Model Organic Cluster Demonstration and Model Organic Farm under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) (April 2017). Available from <http://agricoop.nic.in/sites/default/files/model%20organic%20cluster%20demonstration%20and%20model%20organic%20farm%20guidelines%20dated%2003.04.2017.pdf>
- 2 PGS - India Operational Manual available at http://pgsindia-ncof.gov.in/pdf_file/PGS-India%20Operational%20Manual.pdf and PGS portal can be accessed at <http://pgsindia-ncof.gov.in/>
- 3 **Third Party Certification** : Organic certification system is a quality assurance initiative, intended to assure quality, prevent fraud and promote commerce, based on set of standards and ethics. It is a process certification for producers of organic food and other organic plant products.
- 4 Revised Guideline of PKVY (December 2015). Available from http://agricoop.nic.in/sites/default/files/RevisedGuidlinePKVY_10122015.pdf
- 5 Administrative Approval for implementation of the ParamparagatKrishiVikasYojana (PKVY) under the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) during 2017- 18. (April 2017). Available from http://agricoop.nic.in/sites/default/files/PKVY_administrativeapproval.pdf
- 6 Reference 1
- 7 Zonal Councils include NCOF, Ghaziabad, Regional Centres in Bangalore, Bhubaneshwar, Nagpur, Jabalpur, Panchkula and Imphal
- 8 Section 1.8 Pattern of Assistance of Reference 1
- 9 Regional Council is an agency authorized by PGS - National Advisory Council to coordinate, monitor and approve certification decisions of Local Group under PGS - India Organic Guarantee Programme.
- 10 Additional information on Local groups and their roles is available in Section 2.5.1 of Reference 2.
- 11 S. No. 2 on Manure Management and Biological Nitrogen Harvesting of Reference 1
- 12 Panchagavya : Panchagavya is an organic growth promoter, used in agricultural operations, prepared with cow dung, cow urine, milk, curd and ghee.
- 13 Beejamruth : Beejamrut is an organic product used for seed treatment , results in improved germination of seeds and thereby increased yield
- 14 Jeevamruth - It is an organic fertilizer, used as a foliar spray, that improves yield and quality of produce
- 15 Section 2 on Model Organic Farm of Reference 1
- 16 Section 1.8 of Reference 1
- 17 Refer section 1.8 of Reference 1
- 18 Section 2.1 of Reference 2
- 19 Format -8 (Application format for Registration of the Local Group (LG) with Regional Council) of PGS India Operational Manual (Reference -2)
- 20 Format -5 (Application form for entry into PGS Local Group) of PGS India Operational Manual (Reference -2)
- 21 Format -2 (Format of agreement to be executed between PGS India Regional Council and Local Group under PGS - India) of PGS India Operational Manual (Reference 2)
- 22 Pledge available in Format - 7 of PGS India Operational Manual (Reference 2)
- 23 Format- 6 (Farmers History Sheet) of PGS India Operational Manual (Reference 2)
- 24 Formats 13 A to 13E and 14 of PGS India Operational Manual (Reference 2)
- 25 Format -16 of PGS India Operational Manual (Reference 2)
- 26 Formats 11 and 12 of PGS India Operational Manual (Reference 2)