

STEP OF CERTIFICATION

Minimum of 5 farmers belonging to the same village or close by villages with continuous territory should form a group and select the Regional Council for endorsement of application, approval of peer appraisal and issuing the PGS -India Scope certificates under PGS -India standards. Along with signing the basic applications, farm history sheet, all the members in the group have signed the PGS pledge and group agreement to adhere to the group's specific vision, participatory approach, and collective responsibility. The local group shall Prepare necessary field documents with farm history. Each group shall maintain such documents in a group file comprising of application form, signed pledge, signed agreement, farm maps showing locations with GPS coordinates in respect of each member and last one year history on input usage and management practices. Elect Group leader and core team of peer reviewers (minimum 3 in 5 members group). It will be an optimal situation if all members of the group can participate in peer reviews, as this contributes to capacity building and information exchange between farmers and reduces conflicts of interests.

1

The local group that is formed need to upload data on PGS website (<https://pgsindia-ncof.gov.in/>) for obtaining the have user ID and password and select the concerned Regional Council. Regional Councils can decide on maximum number of farmers per group keeping local situations in mind.

2

The Regional Council shall review the documents received and endorse the application for further generating the Unique Identity number (Local Group Number) and activate all the farmers. In case of Individual farmer, he/she can Request the Peer appraisers of nearby group to physically inspect the farm and fill peer appraisal form. Filled peer appraisal form to be submitted to Regional Council.

3

Peer reviewers will ensure to complete Peer review appraisal form, sign and submit to the group leader. Each farmer is to be appraised by at least a two-member team. Inclusion of consumer's representative increases the credibility and trust. Upload peer appraisal summary sheet for the entire group on the PGS-India website along with necessary group decision and send signed hard copy to Regional Council through post. In case of individual farmer, in case if no group is close by then request RC shall do physical inspection and grant certification.

4

The regional Council shall review the peer appraisal details on PGS portal and also participate in few field inspections to compare the peer appraisal summary findings with RCs own physical evaluation report, take into consideration previous non-compliances, complaints and investigation findings if any. The peer appraisal data is approved and PGS -India Scope Certificate is issued with estimated yield by the Regional Council.

5

Uploading of actual yields is necessary to obtain Transaction Certificates (TC) by the local group

6

On approval of yields by RC, group can sell its produce as PGS certified produce and can generate Transaction Certificate on-line. TCs can be issued for each and every farmer member separately.

7



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