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Center for Smart Agriculture

Organic Certification and Inspection Systems



**Module 3: Regulatory Mechanism for
Organic certification in India**
Session1: Scope and operational structure



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Regulatory Mechanism for Organic certification in India

- ❖ To provide a focused and well directed development of organic agriculture and quality products,
- ❖ Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, launched a National Program on Organic Production (NPOP) in the year 2000,



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- ❖ This document provides information on standards for organic production, systems criteria, and procedures for accreditation of Inspection and Certification bodies, the national organic logo and the regulations governing its use.
- ❖ The standards and procedures have been formulated in harmony with international standards such as those of Codex and IFOAM.



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Scope and operational structure

The aims of the National Programme for organic production, inter alia, includes the following:

- To provide the means of evaluation of certification programmes for organic agriculture and products as per the approved criteria.
- To accredit certification programmes



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- To facilitate certification of organic products in conformity to the National Standards for Organic Products.
- To encourage the development of organic farming and organic processing



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India has More Organic Farmers Than Any Other Country

India 5,85,200

Ethiopia 2,03,602

Mexico 2,00,039

Uganda 1,90,670

Philippines 1,65,958



Source: Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL);
International Federation of Organic Agriculture
Movements (IFOAM)

India Saw the Third Highest Annual Increase of Organic Cultivable Land in 2015

Area added in 2015 (hectares)

Australia 43,50,000

US 4,74,810

India 4,60,000

Spain 2,58,095

France 2,56,400

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Scope

The National Programme for Organic Production shall, among others, includes:

- Policies for development and certification of organic products
- National standards for organic products and processes
- Accreditation of programmes to be operated by Inspection and Certification Agencies
- Certification of organic products



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Operational Structure

- ❖ The programme will be developed and implemented by the Government of India through its Ministry of Commerce and Industry as the apex body.
- ❖ The Ministry will constitute a National Steering Committee for National Programme for Organic Production



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The National steering Committee for National Programme for Organic Production will formulate a National Accreditation Policy and Programme and draw up National Standards for Organic Products,

The National Accreditation Policy and Programme is subject to periodic internal review, which will be conducted by the Technical Committee, which will advise the National Steering Committee about the need and content of such amendments in the National Programme for Organic Production.



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Organic Farming, Source:
Wikipedia



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National Accreditation Body

The work of the National Accreditation Body will include:

- ☐ Drawing up procedures for evaluation and Accreditation of certification programmes.
- ☐ Formulating procedures for evaluation of the agencies implementing the programmes.
- ☐ Accreditation of inspection and certification agencies



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Evaluation Committee

- ☐ Eligible Inspection and Certification Agencies implementing certification programmes will be evaluated by an Evaluation Committee.
- ☐ The Evaluation Committee will be appointed by the National Accreditation Body.
- ☐ The members of the Evaluation Committee will comprise of members drawn from the APEDA, Coffee Board, Spices Board, Tea Board, Ministry of Agriculture and Export.



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