Organic Certification As a Path To Exporting

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Program Agenda

*SAFE Pacific Project:
*Understanding Certified Organic:
  - 3rd Party Regulated
  - PGS Unregulated
* Strategies to minimize certification costs:
* Future of Organic:
* Q&A
Organics and ethical trade: the key contributor to sustaining our cultures and communities; improving farmer livelihoods, people’s health and the environment in the Pacific.
Impact Areas

#1 Organic and ethical systems advocacy
#2 Organic production systems
#3 Organic Value Chains development
#4 Capacity development
#5 Governance
Facilitate access to Certification

- Pacific Organic Guarantee System
  - Development of *Pacific Organic Standard* (POS)
    - Suits local conditions
    - Fairtrade, GESI Climate Change components
    - Recognised by regional Governments
  - National/regional & export certification
  - Partner Certification Bodies
  - Organic Pasifika Marks
PRISE has six main outputs and will be implemented via four separate contribution agreements:

- **Output 1.1** Trade facilitation and border/customs procedures are improved.
- **Output 1.2** Sanitary and Phytosanitary services are improved;
- **Output 1.3** Capacity for regional aid-for-trade projects is strengthened.
- **Output 2.1** Measures to strengthen the business enabling environment and investment climate gender-responsively supported
- **Output 2.2** Improved climate-smart business support services.
- **Output 2.3** Strengthened competitiveness of sustainable agricultural value-chains in the Pacific.
2.3.2 Strengthen access to market certification (environmental, sustainable, organic etc.).

• Develop and sustain a network of **locally based advisors and auditors**, and assist businesses meet requirements for certifications.

• Training and technical assistance.

• Horticulture, Agriculture, and Seafood.

• Focus on selected high-value products (Kava, Coconut, Coffee, and Turmeric).

• Implemented in 15 Pacific ACP Countries
Voluntary Certification

Organic

Food safety / HACCP

Fairtrade
What is Organic

- Organic agriculture is a production system that sustains the health of soils, ecosystems and people.
- It relies on ecological processes, biodiversity and cycles adapted to local conditions, rather than the use of inputs with adverse effects.
- Organic agriculture combines tradition, innovation and science to benefit the shared environment and promote fair relationships and a good quality of life for all involved.
organic

[awr-gan-ik] noun.

a production system that sustains the health of soils, ecosystems and people.
What Is Certified Organic?

- Application of Consistent Production and Handling Standards.
- Development of a Mandatory Production and/or Handling Plan.
- Use of only Approved Inputs.
- Verification Through Certification and On-Site Inspection.
- Every Step of the Value Chain
Key Concepts

• Healthy Soil=Healthy Plants=Healthy Animals=Healthy Planet
• Certification should be demand driven; Your market determines what certification and standard(s) you require
• Continuous Improvement
• There are costs
• Recordkeeping is essential
• Permission not forgiveness!
Standards/Norms/Rules

Scopes:

- Crops – Food, Fibre, Flowers
- Livestock
- Aquaculture (Seaweed)
- Wild Harvest
- Apiculture - Bees
- Processing/Handling

Approved Inputs List
Organic Marks
PGS System Structure

- **POETCom/SPC**
- **Certification Committee**
- **Traditional Leaders**
- **Peer to Peer Review Group**
- **Technical Team Production**
- **PGS Organic Farmers and Processors**

Certification Committee:
- **Certification Manager**
3rd Party Certification Structure

Accreditation Body

Government

Standards Technical Committee

Certification Body

Inspector

Organic Farmers and Processors
Annual Process

- Application/Annual Update
- Initial Review
- Inspection
- Certification Review
- Certificate Issued

*Every Farm, Every Processor, Every Year
Residue Analysis

- Certifying agent may require pre- or post-harvest testing for prohibited substances or GMOs based on risk, complaint or random
- Residue levels are much stricter than what is established for non-organic but not Zero.
- Variable tolerance levels for GMO contamination.
Choosing a Certifier

- Regional presence
- Expertise:
  - Scopes, Products, Countries, Schemes
- Customer Service
- Technical abilities
- Reputation
- Cost!
Cost: 3\textsuperscript{rd} Party v PGS ($AUD)

3\textsuperscript{rd} Party
- Application: $0-25
- Certification fees: $250-1000
- Inspection: $250-800
- Travel/Accommodation: $5,000-10,000
- Additional Scopes, $250
- Testing: 0-200-800
- Consultants: $1000-5000
Total: $5500-$15,000 \textbf{Per Year}

PGS
- Training/Set up: $5000-$10,000
- Application: $0
- Certification Fees: $250-$500
- Inspection: $0
- Travel: $0
- Additional Scopes: $0
- Testing:
- Consultants: Total $0-$500
Thank You
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