



Networking for a greener Africa.



KCOA
Knowledge Centre for
Organic Agriculture and
Agroecology in Africa

10 STEPS TO FORM A PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE SYSTEM (PGS) GROUP IN KENYA

1

Preparation Phase

Talk to farmers in your area. Find out who is interested. Choose a small committee to lead the group. Write simple rules for membership. Register the group with the government.



Create a form for farmers to join. Ask members to sign a Farmers Pledge to commit to organic farming. Get a PGS Manual from KOAN. Train members on organic farming and PGS rules.

2

Group Formation

3

Establishing Regulations and Structure

Set clear rules. Agree on what happens if a member breaks the rules. Form small committees to handle inspections, marketing, training, and quality control



Keep a list of all members. Record what inputs each farmer uses. Carry out farm inspections and write reports. Keep sales records. Write down decisions made at meetings.

4

Documentation & Record-Keepin

5

Training and Capacity Building

Hold regular training for members. Organise farm visits, workshops, and field days to improve organic farming skills.



6

Operational Phase

Follow PGS rules every day. Do regular peer reviews to check that members are complying. Handle any rule-breaking through the group's disciplinary process.



Send your application to the KOAN national office. An assessor will visit and review your group. Pay the registration fee – KES 10,000 for up to 20 members, plus KES 100 for each extra member.

7

Apply for PGS Registration and Assessment with KOAN

8

PGS Approval

KOAN reviews your assessment. If your group passes, you receive a written approval and a PGS Certificate



Check your group's progress regularly. Update your rules and manual when needed. Connect with your regional PGS rep. Attend the National PGS Workshop each year.

9

Monitoring and Evaluation

10

Reapply for Approval Once It Lapses

Every 2 years, submit a new application for reassessment. This keeps your group's organic certification active and verified.



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