Organic Farming

Odisha's Perspective

Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment

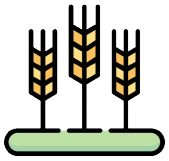
Government of Odisha

8th September 2020

Odisha is the 8th largest state in India; comprising 30 Districts, 314 Blocks and 6798 Gram Panchayats

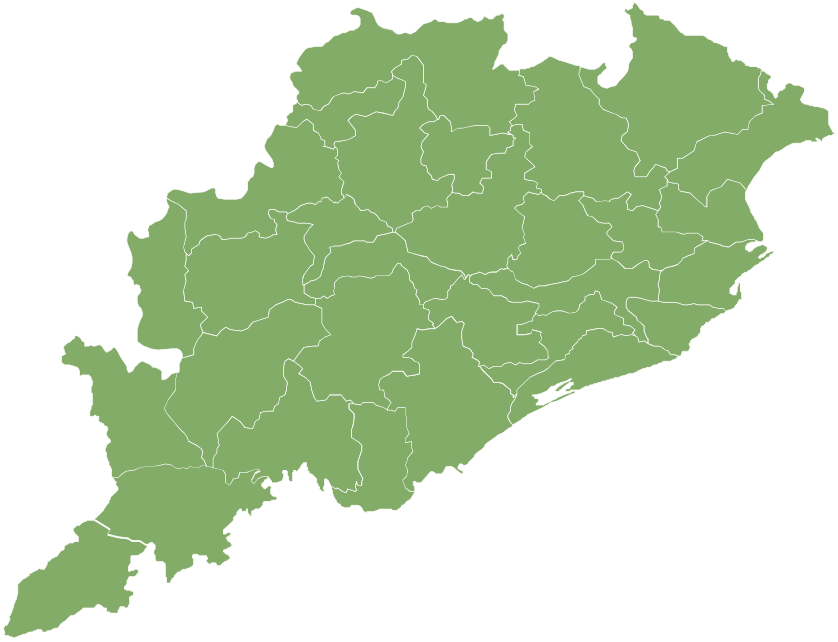
Cultivable Area

78.36 lakh ha



Area under Organic Farming

95,740 hectares



Major Crops

Paddy ~ 50% of total area

Vegetables ~ 10% of total area

Pulses ~ 10% of total area

Non-Timber Forest Produce

2nd largest state producing NTFPs

37% population depend on NTFPs

Promotion of Organic Farming practices can generate 6million jobs

Source: Cultivable area as per 2019; NTFP - (Kandari et al., 2012); Employment numbers - ASSOCHAM Report - "Organic Odisha" – 2012

Organic Farming is suitable for Odisha for multiple reasons

- Low usage of fertilizers (57kg/ha) as compared to the national average (123kg/ha)
- Low usage of pesticides/insecticides as compared to the national average
- 92% of total farmers are Small and Marginal Farmers or Landless Farmers
- Major parts of the states are still dependent on rainfall for cultivation

The Government of Odisha launched Organic Policy in 2018 intended to harness growth potential of sustainable and climate resilient organic agriculture

Objectives

To provide healthier, diverse, nutritive, and chemical-free food for local consumption in rural and urban areas

To promote healthier soils and viable farms with agro-ecological approaches to farming, substantially reducing the input costs and enhancing environmental services

To promote and harness the growth potential of organic markets; both internal and external

To support and enable the organic ecosystem in the State

Focus Areas

1. Agro-ecologically well-endowed tribal **areas with low penetration of chemical-based technology** for large scale conversion into organic farming zones.
2. **Areas where the use** of chemical fertilizers, herbicides/pesticides **is moderate and INM practices are being promoted.**
3. The **area where organic certification is going on**; targeting organic export markets and niche markets will be supported by govt.
4. **Areas where use** of chemical fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides **is very high**; **Efforts to reduce the usage through awareness**

Odisha has adopted a two-way approach to leverage the natural agro-ecological and bio-diversity advantage for promoting organic farming

सत्यमेव जयते

Certification-based approach (PKVY)

ODISHA MILLETS MISSION

Practice-based approach (OMM)

Certification-Based

Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) was launched in 2017-18 and aims to increase soil fertility for development of sustainable models of organic farming

PKVY's Approach

Cluster-Based

It is a cluster-based three-year programme (1 cluster – 20 hectares). Presently, 1,055 clusters have been selected for implementation under PKVY and OIIPCRA.

Certification-Based

PGS certification is being followed as per the guidelines under PKVY. 4 no. of Regional Council (R.C) namely KASAM, SUVIDHA, ADITI and SIMFED

Coverage for 2020-21

19
Number of Districts

1,055
Number of Clusters

21,100
Area in hectares

16
Resource Organizations

Important Resource Agencies

Sambhav

Nayagarh

Educating farmers about organic farming techniques

Rajendra Deshi Chasa Gabesana Kendra

Niali, Cuttack

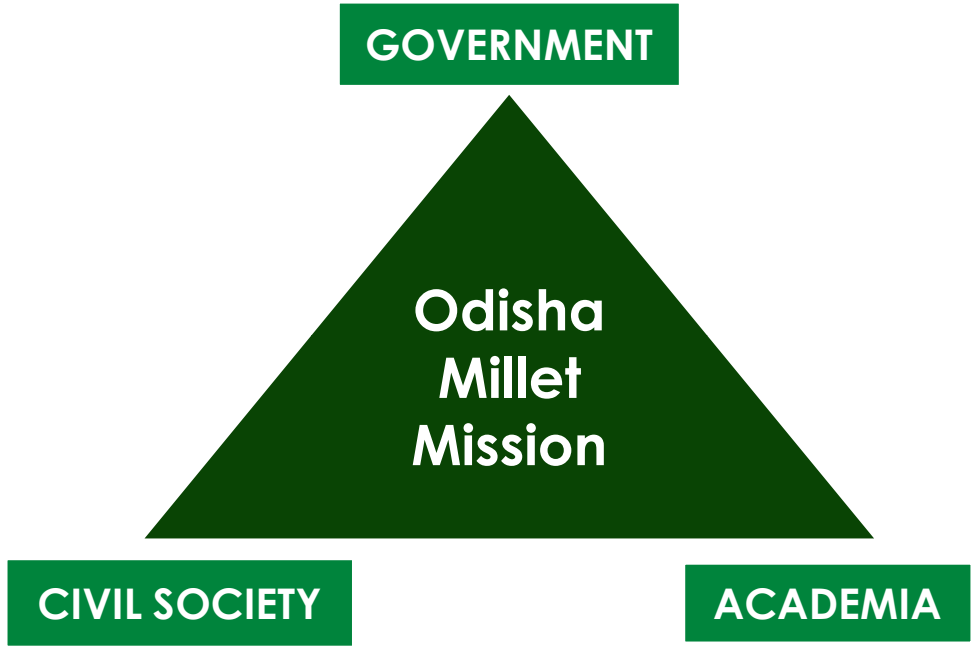
Trains farmers about organic nutrients, biopesticides, and organic seeds

Founders of Sambhav, Prof. Radhamohan and Ms. Sabarmatee have been awarded Padam Shri for enabling farmers across the country to take up sustainable organic farming

Practice-Based

Odisha Millet Mission was launched to revive millets in rainfed farming systems and household consumption

- ✓ Inclusion of millets in ICDS MDM and PDS
- ✓ Promoting household-level consumption
- ✓ Setting up decentralized processing unit
- ✓ Improving productivity of millet crops
- ✓ Promoting FPOs for marketing



NITI Aayog has recognized OMM as one of the best models and has recommended other states to adopt a similar model

OMM has created a unique approach to promote organic farming achieving some good outcomes

Approach

Promotion of indigenous varieties
Creating access to local suitable varieties through community managed seed centres

Focus on practices than certifications
Emphasis is on farmers adapting organic practice; no certification required

Promotion of Bio-inputs
Bio-input enterprises through SHGs for easy availability

No exclusion of farmers
Farmers are not excluded even if they used any kind of chemical in the farm.

Outcomes

In 2020-21, **more than 40,000ha covered benefitting more than 1,00,000 farmers** across 14 districts and 76 blocks.

As per comparative study done by NCDS for 2017-18, **yields have increased from 5.79quintals to 12.72quintals.**

As per comparative study done by NCDS for 2017-18, **income has increased from Rs. 3,957 to Rs. 12,486 for households**

Ragi Ladoo being produced have been included in ICDS. More than 87,000 and 3,000 children are covered in Keonjhar and Sundargarh, respectively.

Some suggested steps to promote organic farming

1 Remove disincentives on Bio Inputs

- Large amount of subsidy (Rs. 71,000cr) is provided on chemical fertilizers (especially urea)
- A need to create a level playing field for bio-inputs
- Inclusion of different bio-inputs in the procurement lists

2 Suitability of Bio-Inputs

- Organic farming is well suited for Small and Marginal Farmers (80% in India/92% in Odisha) as it requires low mechanization
- Localized seed varieties/agronomic practices already exist and may be preserved to cater to regional needs
- Will generate employment; can be a major push under "**AatmNirbhar Bharat**"

3 'Chemical-free' Branding

- The process of "Organic Certification" is tedious and long drawn (requires 3 years)
- An intermediary branding of "Chemical-Free" can be created which can be self-certified by the farmers
- Will help in promoting organic as a practice

4 Promotion of organic and sustainable practices

- Creating mass awareness among the farmers about the non-declining production and increase in incomes of the farmers under programs like Odisha Millet Mission
- Making the produce affordable for everyone and not letting organic products become niche

Thank You