

# Initiation Of Nepal Permaculture Group (NPG) In Organic Agriculture In Nepal


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# Organizational Introduction

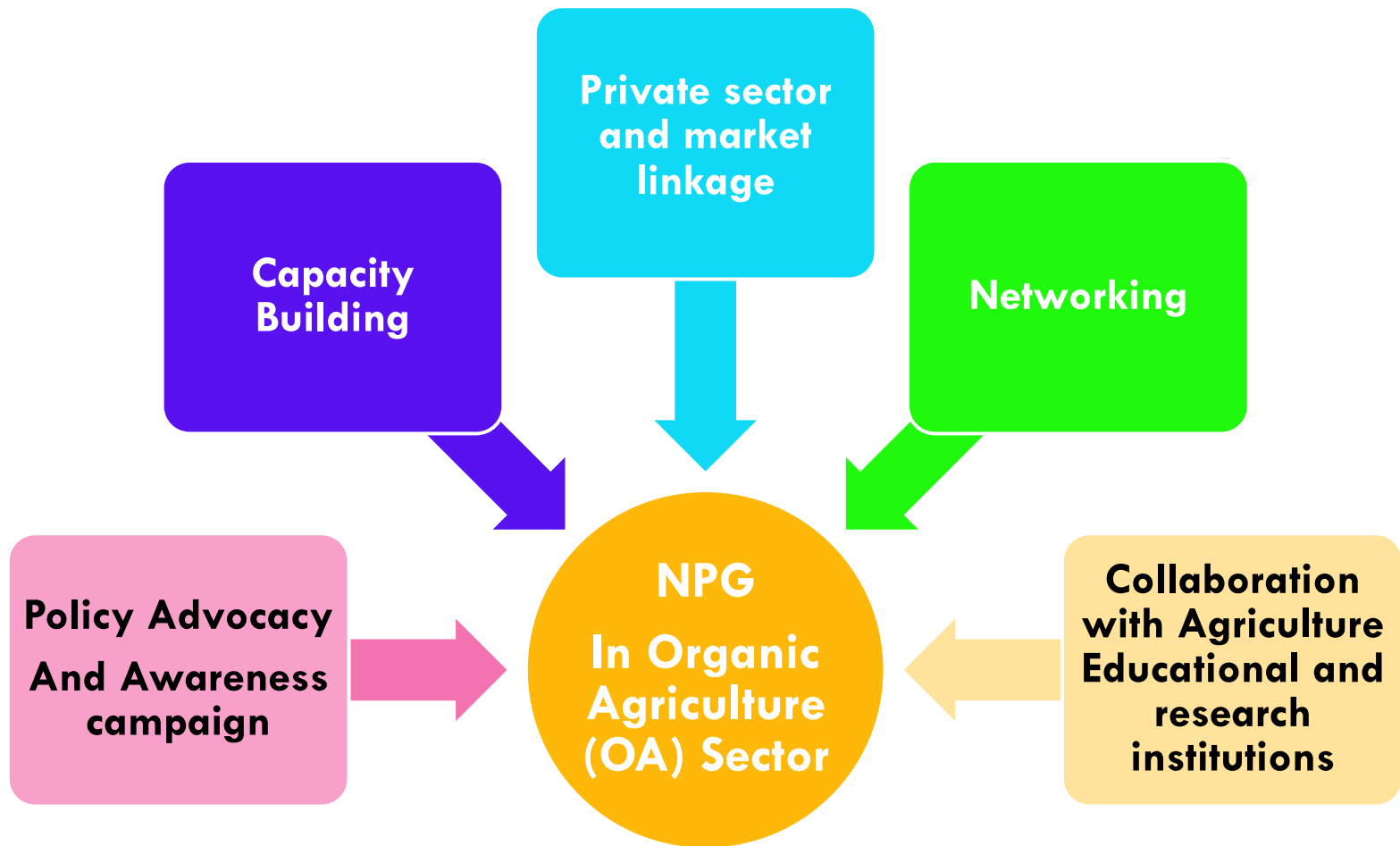


- Nepal Permaculture Group (NPG) established in 1992
- National Network of Organizations and individuals working in the field of sustainable agriculture and permaculture in Nepal.
- 17- institutional members
- 975- individual members

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- The country's Agriculture system is predominantly based on **indigenous knowledge, subsistence farming** and **local resources** (low consumption of fertilizers and chemicals): mainly in **mountainous area**
  - Less access to mountain and increasing cost of chemical fertilizers and pesticides
  - Greater possibility to convert existing system to organic
  - Comparative advantage of organic agriculture compared to conventional.

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- Growing interests from GOs and NGOs.
  - Farmers growing organic individually or collectively.
  - State agencies such as MOAD, DOA, NAST, NARC, IAAS, Tea and Coffee Development Board, local governments and non-governmental agencies such as NPG, SECARD, SSMP, SNV, WI, Helvetas, ECOCENTER, AEC and CBO (cooperatives) are taking some organic promotion initiatives.
  - However, marketing management and generation/ dissemination of technology and databases in line to organic agriculture promotion is very poor; mechanism of certification yet to be developed.

# An Initiation in Organic Agriculture in Nepal




# Approach of Working

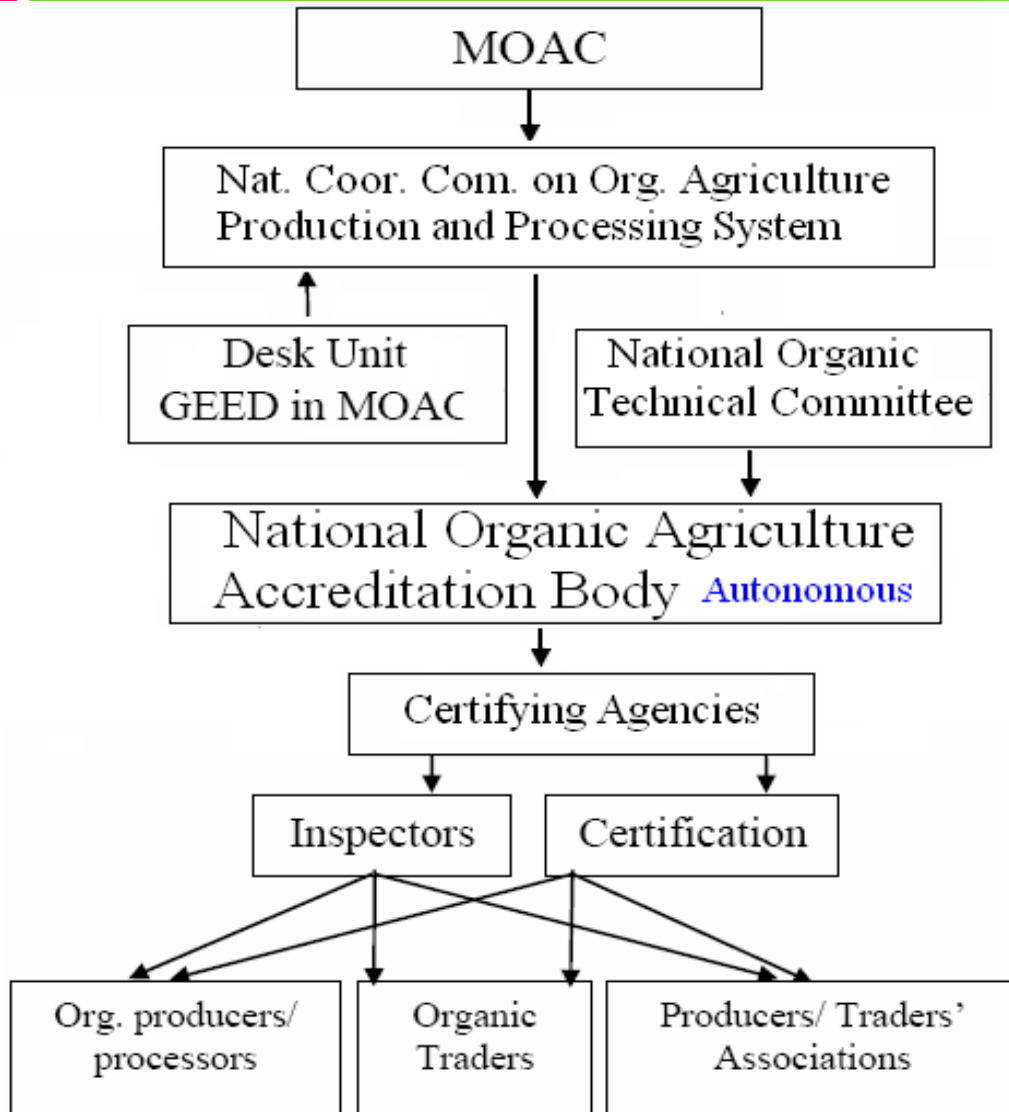
- Bottom-up approach- interaction at ground level; district, regional and national level policy dialogue meeting



- Constituency Building through consultation with local organization and government authority

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- Local governance given priority
  - Collaboration with like minded organization and with government line agencies

# Flow Chart of the National Structure for OA execution

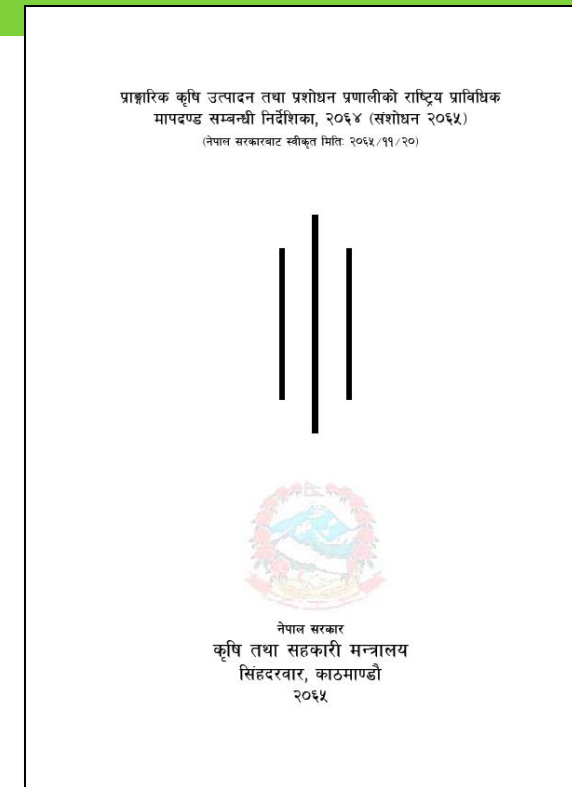


Basically, we work in between these Arrows. Sometimes being in the system and sometimes out of system



# Key Achievements (policy)

- National standards of OA production and processing - revised edition published on February 19, 2013.
- Ministry of Agriculture Development endorsed “national guidelines for Internal Control System (ICS) for organic certification” on September 14, 2012.



# Key Achievements (policy)

- Ministry of Agriculture Development endorsed “Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) working procedure/ guideline on February 19, 2013.



- Working guidelines for National Organic Agriculture Accreditation Body (NOAAB) has been endorsed on February 19, 2013,

# Capacity building

- Capacity building for organic producers, teachers, graduates, through trainings (value chain development, certification, organic production inspection, TOT in OA, etc)



# Capacity building

- Certification support to organic producers, farmers groups
- Preparation of Training Manuals: OA, ICS and PGS for department of Organic Agriculture
- Initiation and promotion of Organic farmers markets



# Networking and collaboration

- Review organic agriculture curricula for educational institutions
- Action research on validation of techniques on organic agriculture with National Agriculture Research Council
- NPG is a member of National Coordination Committee for Organic Agriculture Production and Processing System (NCCOAPPS) and National Organic Agriculture Accreditation Body (NOAAB) and National Coalition for Food Security and Water (NCFAW)



# Networking and collaboration

- Established linkage with **organic growers** and **market outlets** through certification support – compiling information of farms and enterprises
- Initiated regional level NPG networks - strengthening of regional networks is further required.
- Involved in issue based campaign, organize events

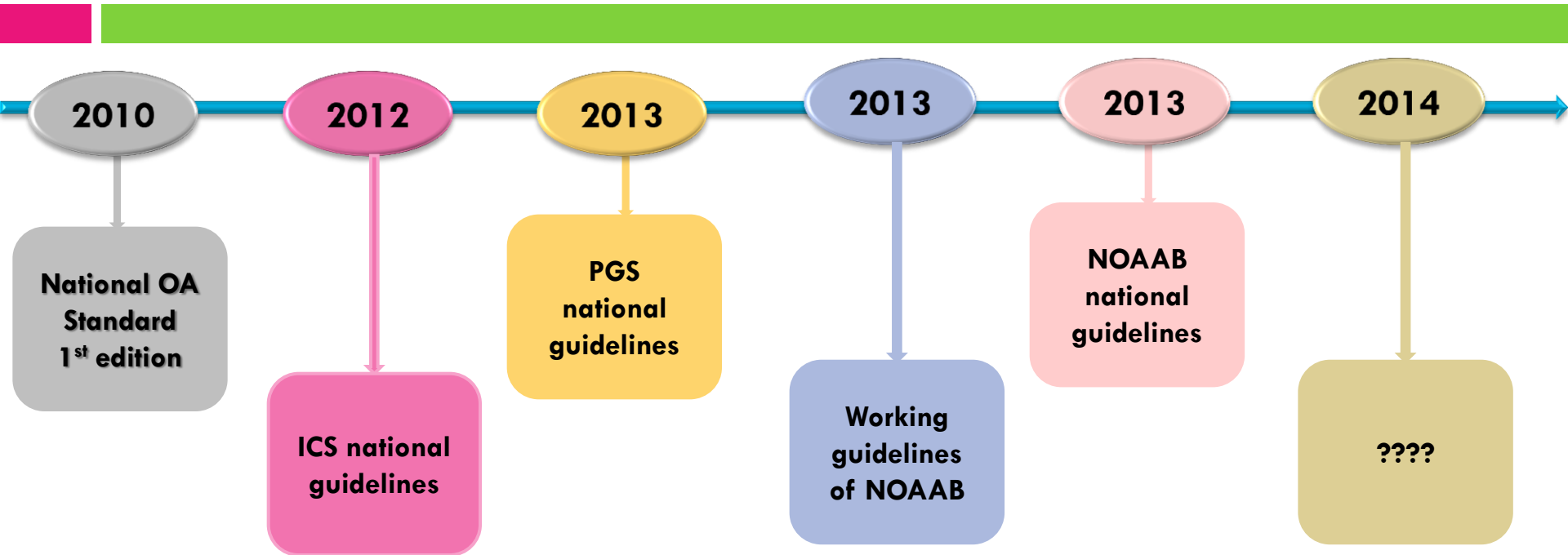


# Information dissemination and documentation

- exchange of information through radio program and publication
- information compilation on indigenous knowledge in OA



# Timeline





# Future initiatives

- Project “Strengthening Policy Implementation on Organic Agriculture in Nepal” (SPIOAN)
  
- **Overall Objective:** To strengthen Organic Agriculture **policy implementing** for mainstreaming in national planning system and enhancement of **competitiveness** of key stakeholders
  - working procedure for National Organic Agriculture promotion in their planning system
  - established database on national organic agriculture
  - National Agriculture Research Council (NARC) and Universities initiate to institutionalise Organic Agriculture in their planning system

# Future initiatives

- Competitiveness of farmers / farmers group / cooperatives and traders involved in OA entrepreneurship strengthened
- Altogether 15 pilot districts including Mountain, Hills, Terai/Plain  
farmers are being consulted
- National Organic Agriculture Promotion Workshop
- MoU with the Ministry of Agriculture for database



# Relation to mountain environment



- Most of the high mountain traditional agriculture are natural and equivalent to organic agriculture; need recognition through certification
- Mountainous produces such as Jumla Apple, Coffee, Tea from various hilly districts has been certified

# Issues need to be addressed

- Incentives of certification of the organic product for the local market
- National Organic Agriculture Standard to be complied with other international standards
- A separate organic desk within the ministry
- Organic agriculture database should be included in the national census data that occurs every 10 years



Thank you for your patience!!!

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