

PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE SYSTEM

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PGS – WHAT IS IT?



"Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS) are locally focused quality assurance systems. They certify producers based on active participation of actors and are built on a foundation of trust, social networks and knowledge exchange."

(revisited) Definition 2008

PGS KEY ELEMENTS (IFOAM PGS Guidelines)

A Shared Vision - Participation - Transparency -
Trust - Horizontality - Learning Proces

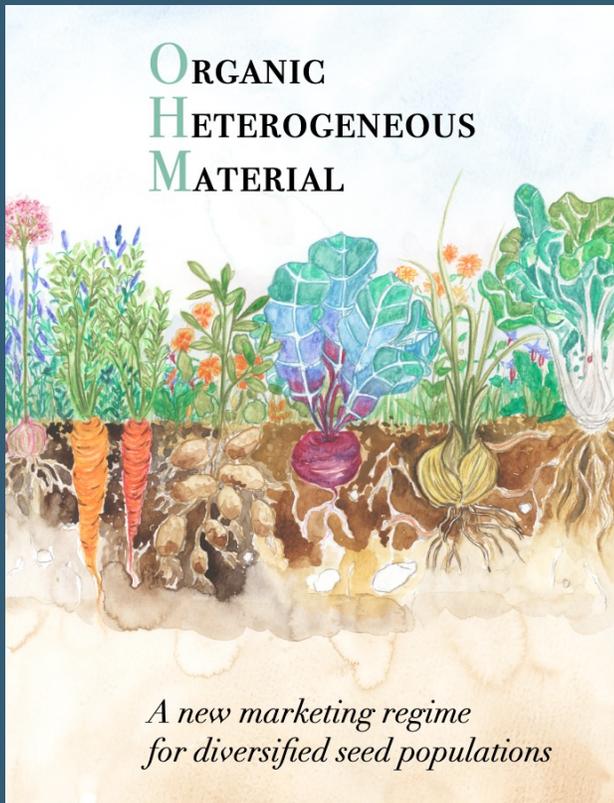
https://www.ifoam.bio/sites/default/files/2020-05/pgs_guidelines_en.pdf

PGS – HOW DOES IT WORK?



- Actors to involve / Sharing a vision
- Agree and Document How the PGS Will Work: Collective identification of technical and social **standards** (beyond organic regulation)
- Farm visit: Map the Farm and Record Farm Details
- Report of farm visit
- Discussion (peer-review) of the report in general assembly
- Collective identification of advices to be brought to the farmers or seed savers for improvement
- Certification
- Exclusion mechanism

PGS – WHAT STANDARDS FOR SEEDS?



- Social standards
- Quality standards
 - Traceability
 - Germination rate
 - Identity assessment (e.g. New European regulation on Organic Heterogeneous Material)
 - Botanical characters
 - Selection / Production techniques
 - Parental material
 - Material selection and management practices
 - Country / year of production / Soil & climate conditions

OPPORTUNITIES OF PGS

Participatory process requesting important social engagement

→ Collective work strengthening of the community

→ Community control on data related to seeds

