

**2007-08**

### **Evaluation Study on National Project on Organic Farming**

An evaluation of the National Project on Organic Farming was taken up by MANAGE on a request from the Ministry of Agriculture, Govt of India.

The terms of reference of the study were:

1. To evaluate the role of NCOF and RCOFs in production, promotion, market development and regulation of organic agriculture in the country and achievements of physical targets like training programmes, field demonstrations and setting up of model organic farms etc.,
2. To assess the effectiveness of service providers as technology messengers with reference to package of practices and input supplies vis-à-vis demand, achieving physical targets (awareness, motivation and registration of farmers, ICS implementations, etc) and development of market for finished organic produce for a cluster.
3. To study the status of organic certification in selected clusters
4. To assess the status of organic production units vis-à-vis annual production, capacity utilization and selling price etc.,
5. To evaluate the impact of various kinds of training programmes, field demonstrations and model organic farms in promotion of organic farming in the country.
6. To elicit the increase in productivity and returns to farmers practicing organic farming over the conventional farming practices.
7. To identify constraints encountered by organic farmers
8. To suggest ways and means of further strengthening of various components of the scheme

Information was collected from the six Regional Centers of Organic Farming (RCOF), National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF) and 216 farmers serviced by 27 service providers from nine states in India.

Suggestions and recommendations for strengthening the scheme in the XIth plan period have been given under aspects relating to services, financial outlay, subsidies, training programmes, demonstrations, marketing activities, use of information technology , certification, human resource development, and related areas.