

**INDGAP Certification Scheme  
for  
Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)  
All India Agri Startups Convention  
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**Quality Council of India**

# INTRODUCTION

- ▶ Agriculture is mainstay of many Asian economies including India
- ▶ Agriculture remains the key to driving overall national economic growth and well-being of the people
- ▶ While agriculture is the basic strength of many of the countries its vast potential has not been fully exploited
- ▶ This market potential of agriculture both in the region and globally can only be realized by reforming agriculture and **making its produce internationally competitive in terms of quality and food safety**

# GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

- Opening up of the world market and flow of trade in agricultural products
- Requisite know-how for institutionalizing hygiene and food safety mechanisms in agriculture - a critical pre-requisite to link agriculture with enhancement of trade
- Farmers should opt for hygiene and food safety in their production system through Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)

## **GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES (GAP)**

Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), as defined by FAO, are a “Collection of principles to apply for on-farm production and post-production processes, resulting in safe and healthy food and non-food agricultural products, while taking into account economic, social and environmental sustainability

## BENEFITS OF GAP

- ▶ Promotes sustainable agriculture and contributes to meeting national and international environment and social development objectives.
- ▶ Helps improve the safety and quality of food and other agricultural products.
- ▶ Better implementation of the food regulations in India by making available appropriate quality raw material to the food processing industry
- ▶ Increased compliance to national and international regulations, standards and guidelines regarding use of permitted pesticides, maximum levels of contaminants (including pesticides, veterinary drugs and mycotoxins) as well as other chemical, microbiological and physical contamination hazards.

# BENEFITS OF GAP

- ▶ Eliminating chances of these contaminants entering the food chain at primary production level will:
  - a. Help production of safe food at primary production level
  - b. Eliminate harmful processes in the food chain such as bio-magnification and bio-concentration (accumulation of toxic chemicals in food chains) which is detrimental to both human health and environment
- ▶ Culture of Food Safety
- ▶ Optimization of human and natural resources in agriculture
- ▶ Better price realization of the produce
- ▶ Secure and strengthen livelihoods of the small and marginal farmers.

# THE NEED

- Necessary to define certain minimum standards with a well-defined certification and accreditation mechanism for the ultimate implementation of GAP to facilitate national and international trade in farm produce.
- Agriculture being the main source of livelihood for small and marginal farmers and there being so much variation in soil, water, climate, crops etc across the country, does not easily lend itself to regulation – in order to implement these Standards.
- Therefore there is a need to have a voluntary certification scheme for implementing Standards for Good Agricultural Practices ( GAP) .

# THE SOLUTION

- To cater to this need for a Standard for Good Agriculture Practices, Quality Council of India (QCI) came up with a voluntary certification scheme – INDGAP
- INDGAP is aimed to address :
  - a. quality and quantity of the produce obtained from a unit area
  - b. various aspects of food safety,
  - c. pre-and post-harvest practices including workers health and safety
  - d. sustained supply of produce of the desirable quality.



# WHY INDGAP

While Global GAP – an international certification scheme is available and NABCB, a constituent board of QCI and the National Accreditation Board, is authorised to provide accreditation for Global GAP, INDGAP was tailor made to suit the needs of the small and marginal farmers, who form the majority in India, allowing them to move up to the International GAP in a phased manner.

INDGAP therefore has been designed to have two levels – INDGAP Basic : for the small and marginal farmers and INDGAP Premium for the bigger farmers and large farms.

INDGAP can be applied to individual farmers as well as farmer groups

# WAY FORWARD

- NABCB is persuading with Secretary Agriculture to recognise INDGAP
- A recommendation has been presented to PM at the National Conference “Agriculture 2022-Doubling Farmer’s Income” to promote GAP
- Need to benchmark INDGAP with Global GAP so as to bring down cost by 40 %
- Need for extensive Extension Services to promote GAP
- Need to draft NGOs in Extension Services.

## CONTACT DETAILS

- The information on how to obtain certification for Good Agricultural Produce is also available on the website of QCI ([www.qcin.org](http://www.qcin.org)).  
<http://www.qcin.org/india-good-agriculture-practices.php>
- The certification shall be carried out by the Certification Bodies (CBs) duly accredited for the certification scheme as per ISO IEC 17065 by NABCB. To operate under the Scheme, the CBs will require an extension of scope within the accreditation for ISO IEC 17065.

For any further enquiry , Kindly Contact :

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**ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE**





QCI

**Thank you**

