

PATAMIL

Project AIM: Coordinating local food projects for the promotion of food equity and food justice

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Objective of the work: Identification cum mapping of active actors and sectors (Food value Chain) involved in Organic agriculture in and around Pondicherry region.

Organic farming is much needed for the health and welfare of the environment and society, thus the project aims at food justice, democratic governance, and resilience of territorial organic farmers in and around Puducherry region. More specifically to identify and map the active groups and stakeholders involved in organic farming.

Major Achievements in 2022: Completed Organic farmers identification and interview in Karikalampakkam, Bahour (Aranganur (AR), Soriyankuppam (SK), and Kuruvinatham(KN), Thondamanatham villages. The remaining are under study. The result of the study revealed that the organic farmer groups have diverged in terms of their land holdings, socio-economic status, agricultural practices, crop preferences, and marketing channels etc., This whole process of the in-depth study revealed the extent of awareness and knowledge of organic farming among the general farmers' community, the reasons behind the adoption and non-adoption of such sustainable practices and prior hindrances that are faced by the general farming community (non-organic, organic, ex-organic farmers) in all sectors like production, processing, and marketing, which in turn helps me to search of feasible solutions for the identified crisis/problems.

Apart from this written an article (about kerai) along with Helene and Brigitte and it's in the communication process.

Objectives of 2023: Planned to continue detailed survey among farmers in 2 or 3 more villages (with an amiable active/innovative cluster of organic farmers), mapping of active organic farmers and their related stakeholders in Puducherry. Planning to write a proposal about the role of traditional paddy in organic farming and in building a healthy society.

Figure 1 Focus group discussion with women farmers and agricultural labours



Figure 2 Interviewing a young organic farmers, while processing country sugar.

