Standards for Participatory Guarantee Systems and Forest Garden Products (SPG SFGP)
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Forest Garden Plan

The forest garden plan must include the following components and be submitted with the producers promise. This set of documents serve as evidence that the forest gardener is aware of what they are doing, that their intentions and strategies in the long term will achieve the goals set forward by the forest garden system.

1. Map of present situation
Use the blank template and map out the present situation of the land. The map of the present situation will include:

a. Title
b. Scale
c. North direction
d. Land boundaries
e. Key of symbols,
f. Date of map creation
g. Contour lines
h. Hydrological features (stream, tanks, river, etc.)
i. Roads, paths and buildings
j. Vegetation (land use pattern) including crops

2. Treatment map (future plan)
Use the blank template and create a map that shows your plans for working with the land. The map should include any new additions that help you manage the land as a forest garden. It should include the following, but may include more features to be included as needed:

a. Compost areas
b. New plantings, including crop areas
c. New terracing or land formation, etc.
d. Buffer zones
e. Changes to waterways, new ponds, gullies, etc.
What will you do to achieve higher biodiversity, conserve soil and water, and to create buffers for your forest garden? List all actions, intended implementation or completion dates and what you expect to achieve through these actions in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Implementation date (approx.)</th>
<th>Expected Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For biodiversity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil Conservation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Conservation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Buffer Zones</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

imagen: Jana Brauer
4. **Plants to be added**

What plants will you be adding to your system in the next 12 months? Include annuals and perennials, cropping plants (those that you will harvest for fruit, medicine or timber) and those that are used to diversify the forest garden.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Short term-annuals (under 1 year)</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date (approx.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medium term - perennials (1-5 years)</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Long term - perennials (6 years and above)</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

-5-
## Plants for diversification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Structural</th>
<th>Quantity and Species</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date (approx.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamboos</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palms</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhizome</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grasses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epiphytes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vines</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top canopy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid canopy</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Low canopy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ground cover</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shade</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>N-fixing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habitat</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecological**</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human uses*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Human uses include: food, medicine, timber, fuel, etc.
**Ecological uses include: food for animals, host for epiphytes, insectary, companion plants, etc.
5. Biodiversity
List the faunal biodiversity (non-plants) that you keep (farm animals) and that you have observed (wild animals) on your land. This helps determine the relative levels of biodiversity and health of the forest garden.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Farm animals</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Intended uses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wild animals</th>
<th>Quantity observed</th>
<th>Quantity observed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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Photo: Grover Stock
6. Ecological Evaluation (including spider graph)

Refer to the document with instructions and template for completing the ecological evaluation. Please note that when the PGS inspectors visit your land they will do an ecological evaluation as a basis for comparison. Ecological evaluations should be kept on file as a reference to see how the forest garden is progressing towards ecological stability.

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Signature and date

**Annexed documents to support the forest garden plan
1. Base map blank template
2. Future plan map blank template
3. Ecological evaluation
Standards for Participatory Guarantee System Forest Garden Products
FGP PGS

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT
This set of standards was drafted to support the work of forest gardeners around the world to be recognized for their efforts and practice in the work of restoration through beyond organic cultivation and land management. The standards were drafted in Sri Lanka at the Belipola Sustainability Education Center. Based on the Forest Garden Products Standards, these recommended standards and accompanying documents should serve as a starting point for any PGS system to adapt a system that recognizes forest gardeners as going beyond organic in their cultivation and land management strategies. With the support of the International Analog Forestry Network, these standards were drafted by
Lorena Gamboa
Lawrence Goldberg
Trudy Juriansz
Dr. Ranil Senanayake
Piyal Wijeratne Sion Zivet
Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) is a way to guarantee organic, and in this case, beyond organic production methods as a means to ensure consumers that the products they consume are free from dangerous chemicals and that forest gardeners take care of their ecologies in a sensitive and responsible way. The system is open and participatory, meaning that those who consume, produce and provide services for organics are given the chance to be involved in the process of creating and maintaining the system. The PGS method of control requires a high level of volunteer and community participation and it is designed to be simple and cost effective. This allows greater access and ownership by both producers and consumers.

These standards are based on Forest Garden Products Standards (FGP). The FGP is an accredited and internationally recognized system for third party certifying bodies to verify compliance with agro-ecological standards that are directly in line with the practice and theory of Analog Forestry. FGP Standards are accredited by the International Analog Forestry Network (IAFN) and are recognized as a part of the International Federation of Organic Movements (IFOAM) family of standards. In many ways, FGP aims to go beyond organic in its attempt to restore and enhance ecosystems.

The FGP PGS is a step towards making the process of ensuring that those who claim to practice forest gardening are actually doing so. The FGP PGS is aimed at supporting small and medium sized forest gardeners who wish to reach local markets as an economic outlet for their products. The FGP PGS is also meant to function as a step towards the more complicated and costly process of achieving third party certification under the FGP standard. These standards outline the processes and requirements of forest gardeners and present the necessary documents to be completed by forest gardeners as they search to be recognized for their efforts to “go beyond organic”.

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1. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR FOREST GARDEN PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

The principal aims of the forest garden are to:

• Produce food that is safe and high in nutritional value

• Maintain mature production ecosystems

• Maintain and enhance soil

• Provide habitat for native species

• Sustain biomass

• Reduce external inputs

• Assist to conserve and clean water

Photo: Grover Stock
Requirements for Forest Garden PGS

1.1 Fill a Forest Garden Plan (FGP)

1.2 Careful use, application and storage of inputs (e.g. manure, minerals, biocides, etc.).

1.3 Evidence of erosion control and soil conservation measures.

1.4 Keep clear and detailed records.

1.5 The forest garden must conserve water and maintain water quality (e.g. efficient irrigation systems, rain water harvesting in tanks, ponds and reservoirs, monitoring use to prevent over extraction, biological filtration systems)

1.6 If used, human waste (humanure), must be composted and processed properly and must never be used on any food crops.

1.7 Forest gardens are not intended to replace natural systems with production systems, the clearing of natural forest is not permitted.

1.8 The forest garden maintains a minimum of 40% total canopy cover (shade).

1.9 The garden must maintain or enhance total biodiversity (crops as well as non-crop species).

1.10 If the whole garden is not converted, forest garden and conventional parts of the garden must be physically, financially, and operationally separated.
1.10.1 In order to avoid contamination, there must be a dense buffer zone between conventional and organic areas. Density refers to attenuation – the level at which the chemicals can penetrate through the buffer.
1.10.2 All tools and prohibited substances (annex) used for conventional chemical farming must be kept separate from forest garden production and storage areas.
1.10.3 All forest garden products must be clearly identified.
1.10.4 Contact between forest garden products and conventional chemical products must avoided at all time. This includes storage and transportation.
PRODUCTS COLLECTED FROM NATURAL AND ANTHROPOGENIC ECOSYSTEMS (WILD HARVEST)

1.11 Wild harvested products are collected from outside of the forest garden boundary.
1.11.1 If harvested from anthropogenic areas, it must conform to organic standards.
1.11.2 Wild harvest from roadsides, buffer zones, or areas that could be contaminated are prohibited. If there is any uncertainty, don’t harvest.

1.12 Appropriate levels of yield need to be established for the given product and ecosystem - harvest should not degrade the health of the ecosystem or the sustainability of the product.

1.13 Only products from areas where toxic materials have not been present for a minimum of 3 years will be allowed.

1.14 To avoid contamination of the harvested products, the collection areas must be an appropriate distance from conventional farming areas, and other potential sources of pollution.

1.15 Harvesting/gathering activities must comply with any established regulations and traditional rules that may apply to these activities.
2. THE FOREST GARDEN
Plants and Plant Products

1.16 The requirements of the forest garden standard must have been applied on the land for at least two years before products can be covered under this PGS.

1.17 The natural process of seral succession must be facilitated.
1.17.1 Disturbance of both the above-ground and below-ground components of the ecosystem will be minimized. Enhancing nutrient cycles and soil fertility is encouraged

1.18 A minimum of 40% canopy cover (shade) is required. This can be achieved through implementation of:
• Patch or clump plantings.
• Hedgerow or boundary plantings.
• Stream or gully plantings.
• Random or patterned individual plantings.

1.19 Pests, diseases and weeds may be controlled using inputs listed in the annex.

1.20 The use of synthetic soil coverings is discouraged, however, if used, such coverings must not be allowed to degrade (chemically or physically) into the soil.
• The use of natural soil coverings like leaf mulch, straw, and coconut coir dust is recommended.

1.21 Burning crop residue or vegetation is prohibited.
1.21.1 Burning diseased and pest infested plants as a method to control the spread of pest and disease is permitted.
Management of Inputs

1.22 Reduce external inputs. Inputs from the outside must be kept to an absolute minimum and used on the basis of need only, as shown in annexes.
• The use of rock powders should always be used as a supplement, not a replacement to nutrient cycling.

1.23 Material for composting should be from verifiable organic sources, however if not available, these materials must be free of additives that are prohibited (such as artificial fertilizers, pesticides, etc.).

1.24 Seed should be open-pollinated and adapted to local conditions whenever possible. If the only available seed is chemically treated, it must be properly washed before use in an area away from the production area of the forest garden. The use of genetically modified organisms (GMO) is prohibited.
Animal Husbandry and Biodiversity.

1.25 In all Forest Garden systems it is important to promote a high level of animal biodiversity, including both free-range livestock and wild fauna. This will help to:
• Improve and maintain the fertility of the soil through manure
• Maintain and enhance natural pest control systems
• Control weeds through grazing
• Conserve native biodiversity
• Maintain and enhance biodiversity in crop and non-crop habitats in the forest garden
• Maintain landscapes that improve the mobility of biodiversity.

1.26 Maintenance of livestock must be guided by an attitude of care, responsibility and respect for living creatures.

3. BEEKEEPING

3.1 Hives must have sufficient separation (3 km) from areas with a high risk of contamination (e.g. land where agrochemicals are being applied and industrial zones).

3.2 Beekeeping management should ensure that harvesting methods provide sufficient food reserves left behind for the survival of the colony during the dormancy period.

3.3 In cases of temporary feed shortages, supplementary feed should be from organic sources.

3.4 Bee wing clipping is not allowed.

3.5 Deliberately killing bees during honey harvesting is not allowed.

3.6 The use of synthetic chemical bee repellents is not allowed.
3.7 Use of smoke should be minimized and only natural smoking materials are allowed.

4. FAIR TRADE, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CRITERIA

4.1 Forest gardeners must comply with all national laws governing workers’ rights. This includes providing national level benefits such as ETF and EPF (Sri Lanka).

4.2 Child, forced or bonded labor is not allowed. The forest gardener’s children may help in the forest garden, if this work does not take time away from the education and healthy development of the child or children.

4.3 Physical, verbal or sexual abuse and threats of harassment are prohibited.

4.4 Workers will be given jobs and training opportunities on equal terms with no discrimination of gender, age, ethnic origin, marital status, sexual orientation, political opinion or social origin.

4.5 Men and women must be paid equally for equal work

4.6 Working hours must comply with national laws.

4.7 The forest gardener (employer) must offer fair wages. Wages and terms of employment must be agreed by all involved before work begins. This includes:
   • Work to be done
   • Wage to be paid
   • Date when the wage will be paid

4.8 A system of transparency and accountability are recommended across all relations with those who work in the forest garden and it is encouraged to share the human story of the work that is being done in the forest garden.

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5. PROCESSING AND PACKAGING OF FOREST GARDEN PRODUCTS PROCESSING UNITS

5.1 Waste water from processing units must:
• Cleaning products must be non-toxic or biodegradable. If you unsure request information from the PGS committee.
• Minimize waste and discharge of non-biodegradable
• Monitor waste, discharge and engage in appropriate disposal methods
• Analyze periodically at normal operating capacity and document the results

5.2 Water used to clean products and equipment must be from a pure and clean source or adequately filtered.

5.3 Tools and equipment used to process items not covered by this standard must be pre-cleaned before processing or maintained separately.
• Records must be kept showing when the equipment is used and what it is used for. The records must also include cleaning schedule and cleaning inputs. Biodegradable and food-safe cleaning materials are required.
5.4 The processing facility must keep records that detail the origin, type and quantities of agricultural products that have been delivered to the premises. The type and quantities of products that have left the premises.

5.5 End products covered by this standard may only contain ingredients that are organic. Reasons for use of non-organic ingredients must be explained at the time of inspection.

5.6 A safe and hygienic working environment will be provided.
LABELING

5.7 The following information must be included on the label of goods, whether intended for wholesale or retail:
• A complete list of ingredients in the product, where organic and forest garden products are clearly distinguished from non-organic ones. The ingredients shall appear in descending order (mass/total mass) in the list of ingredients, and in the same color, and with identical style and lettering across ingredient types.

Illustration: Jana Brauer
6. ANIMAL HUSBANDRY
Animal Husbandry and Biodiversity

6.1 In all Forest Garden systems it is important to promote a high level of animal biodiversity, including both free-range livestock and wild fauna. This will help to:
• Improve and maintain the fertility of the soil through manure
• Maintain and enhance natural pest control systems
• Control weeds through grazing
• Conserve native biodiversity
• Maintain and enhance biodiversity in crop and non-crop habitats on the land
• Maintain landscapes that improve the mobility of biodiversity.

6.2 Animals must be cared for with respect and compassion as living beings.

6.3 Mutilations which lead to stress, harm, disease or the suffering of animals are not permitted.

6.4 Healthy diets and physical activity are required as prevention for disease and are required by this standard. Vaccinations and anti-parasite treatment are permitted when essential.

6.5 Natural medicine should be considered as the first option when caring for animals. When natural cures are ineffective and treatment is required for the welfare of the animal allopathic veterinary medicine is permitted. All treatments with synthetic veterinary drugs shall be documented.

6.6 Living conditions must consider the natural needs of the animal, such as:
6.6.1 Free movement, including access to the outdoors
6.6.2 Food that meets the nutritional and dietary requirements of the species
• Young animals must receive maternal milk or organic milk from their own species, and then only weaned after 3 months (calves and foals), 6 weeks (piglets), or 7 weeks (lambs and kids)
6.6.3 Sufficiently clean water;
6.6.4 Safety and comfort, including shelter and shade

6.7 Consideration must be given to their specific behavior patterns.

6.8 Stocking density must be based upon sustainable use of land and water resources.

6.9 Medical treatment for sick animals will not be withheld from animals in order to maintain the organic status of the animal.

6.10 Organic animal management uses breeds that reproduce successfully under natural conditions and without routine human involvement.

6.11 The use of hormones is prohibited.

6.12 Livestock must be fed with animal feed (including pasture) originating from organic sources.

6.13 Diseases and parasites in livestock must be controlled by enhancing the natural resistance through balanced, healthy nutrition and selective breeding.
1.1 In the implementation of forest gardens, the improvement of the production environment and development of biodiversity are two critical goals. The producer is encouraged to conduct an ecological evaluation to understand what the situation of the farm is (this is not required). Together with the farmer, the ecological evaluation will be conducted by evaluators during farm visits.

1.2 Ecological Evaluation variables and scale The ecological evaluation is a simple tool that measures the health and stability of the ecosystem. There are 8 variable to consider. Each variable is scored on a scale from 1-8 and plotted on a simple graph. The graph gives a visual representation of the evaluation and helps the evaluator and farmer see which areas of the farm ecosystem need to be worked on.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Soil profile</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Soil diversity (eg. worms, beetles, ants)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Topsoil absent, subsoil exposed</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>No signs of biological activity, absence of macro-organisms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>Thin topsoil</td>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>Visible presence of macro-organism in small quantities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>Deep topsoil</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>Lots of biological activities or evidence of macro-organisms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Soil density</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Biodiversity: flora</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Very compacted</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Very little diversity of tree and non-tree species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>Compacted</td>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>Moderate diversity of tree and non-tree species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>Not compacted</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>High diversity of tree and non-tree species</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Biodiversity: fauna</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Structure: seral stage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Absence or very little visible presence of birds, amphibians, reptiles, insects, mammals</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Pioneer stages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>Presence of fauna</td>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>Intermediate stages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>High presence of fauna in terms of audio, visible, knowledge/history by farmer</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>Mature stage or climax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value Structure: complexity</td>
<td>Value</td>
<td>Ecological Services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
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<td>---------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Simple eg. Monoculture</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Absent or limited services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>Polyculture of trees eg. 3-5 Mixed layers and height</td>
<td>Presence or moderate services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>Polyculture with all elements eg. Tree and non-tree species (epiphytes, vines, mosses, lichens)</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>Abundant or complex services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.3 Ecological evaluation graph

Based on findings of the ecological evaluation, the scores for each variable are plotted on a graph that looks like this:
This is an example of a finished graph – do NOT copy, make your own based on your own findings. This illustrates how a final graph could look.
Guidelines and questions for forest garden inspectors

These guidelines are intended to help inspectors evaluate the forest garden. They also provide a basis for comparison between what the forest gardener sees and understands of his/her land to what the trained inspection team sees. This also forms a basis for support and further development of the forest garden based on the inspectors' observations and feedback.

In addition to completing the evaluators form, the inspector must also complete a physiognomic formula for the land and an ecological evaluation. These will be kept on file for comparison and to gain an understanding of how the forest garden is developing over the years. The inspection is not considered complete and a certificate may not be issued if the inspectors fail to complete these components of the evaluation.
General Requirements for Forest Garden Production Systems

The principal aims of the forest garden are to:
• Produce food that is safe and high in nutritional value
• Maintain mature production ecosystems
• Maintain and enhance soil
• Provide habitat for native species
• Sustain biomass
• Reduce external inputs
• Assist to conserve and clean water

Questions for the forest garden inspection

These questions are supplements to the set of questions that inspectors ask in doing organic PGS visits. They are not intended to replace or replicate questions for organic PGS, rather they add additional details for those who wish to be certified under an FGP PGS system.

Is there a Forest Garden Plan (FGP)? (Required for certification)
  • Yes/no?
  • If yes, does it have all of the required documents?
  • If no, what are the reasons for non-completion and when will it be completed?

Is the forest gardener using approved inputs (e.g. manure, minerals, biocides, etc.)?
  • Yes/no
  • Comments

Is there evidence of erosion control and soil conservation measures?
  • Yes/no
  • Comments
Does the forest garden maintain a minimum of 40% total canopy cover (shade). (refer to forest garden plan to see what the plan is to achieve this target)
• Yes/no?
• Comments

Does the forest garden maintain or enhance total biodiversity (crops as well as non-crop species)?
• Yes/no?
• Comments

If the whole land is not converted, are the forest garden and conventional parts of the land physically, financially, and operationally separated?
• Yes/no?
• Comments
Is there a dense buffer zone of a width and height that is site specific and appropriate to the neighbours’ cultivation practices and available land?
• Yes/no?
• Comments – can the gardeners justify the buffer that they have used?

Are wild harvested products collected?
• Yes/no?
• Comment

If yes, is the collector taking appropriate steps to collect from non-contaminated areas?
• Yes/no?
• **Inspectors must go to the locations where products have been wild harvested to verify non-contamination**

Have appropriate levels of yield been established for the given product and ecosystem?
• Yes/no?
• Comment

Do harvesting/gathering activities comply with any established regulations and traditional rules that apply to these activities?
• Yes/no?
• Comment

Have the forest garden standards been applied on the land for at least two years?
• Yes/no?
• Comment
Is the natural process of seral succession being facilitated? (refer to forest garden plan).
• Yes/no?
• Comment

Are synthetic soil coverings used? And if so, is it managed in a way that doesn’t allow the material to degrade (chemically or physically) into the soil.
• Yes/no
• Comment

Is there evidence of burning crop? Is it for pest or disease control?
• Yes/no
• Comments

Are there considerations for habitat and food sources for wild fauna? (refer to forest garden plan to see what considerations have been made)
• Yes/no
• Comment
This is the Good Market Sri Lanka PGS Producer Promise template. In addition to the organic PGS promises, FGP PGS should include, at a minimum, the highlighted points listed below.

**Organic PGS Producer Promise**

I, ___________________________ resident of ___________________________ village / estate, located in ___________________________ DS Division, ___________________________ District want to register myself as a forest gardener under the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS). I am a member of ___________________________ Producer Group.

I am managing ______ beds / perches / lachem / acres organically. In total, I have ______ beds / perches / lachem / acres of land.

I promise that I will farm according to the organic standards to improve the health of my soil, my family, my community, and the environment.

1. I will not clear forest or destroy native ecosystems.
2. I will respect and protect ecosystem maturity.
3. I will maintain and enhance biodiversity and biomass
4. I will maintain, or work towards 40% total shade on my land.
5. I will maintain a multiple canopy cropping system.
6. I will cultivate a diversity of crops and utilize crop rotation practices.
7. I will take appropriate measures to prevent soil erosion and compaction.
8. I will conserve and enhance soil ecosystems.
9. I will not prepare land by burning crop residue or vegetation.
10. I will conserve water and maintain water quality.
11. I will use seed that is open-pollinated and adapted to local conditions whenever possible.
12. I will not use any genetically modified organisms (GMOs).
13. I will manage pests, weeds, and diseases through biological, physical, and cultural means. I will only apply inputs made from local plants, animal products, and microorganisms.
14. I will not use any synthetic fertilizers, including urea, on organic areas.
15. I will not use any compost made from municipal waste.
16. I will only address mineral deficiencies with minerals from natural sources and in natural forms.
17. I will keep organic and conventional parts of the farm physically, financially, and operationally separated.
18. I will maintain a dense buffer zone of a width and height that is site specific and appropriate to the neighbors cultivation practices and available land.
19. I will store prohibited substances in separate locations from where organic products are handled.
20. I will keep separate sprayers for conventional and organic areas.
21. I will thoroughly clean all tools and vehicles used in conventional farming areas before they are used in organic areas.
22. I will see that all organic products are clearly identified as such and are stored and transported in a way that prevents contact with conventional products.
23. I will offer fair and equal working conditions regardless of gender, race, religion or political ideology to those that I employ.

The last date I used synthetic fertilizer and pesticide on this land was __________.

After this, I completely stopped using synthetic chemicals on this land. I understand that my farm will be visited by an evaluation team.
I promise to share my records and provide correct and accurate information.

I understand that if I break this promise, I will not be able to sell my products as forest garden products under this Participatory Guarantee System.

Farmer Name: ____________________________
Address: __________________________________
Phone: ___________________________________
Number: __________________________________
Farmer Signature: _________________________
Date: _____________________________________

Witness Name: _____________________________
Witness Signature: _________________________
Date: _____________________________________