



SISTRY FOUNDATION

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

1. Introduction

SISTRY Foundation is a non-communal, non-political and non-profit organization committed to the sustainable development of vulnerable and marginalized communities, especially marginal farmers, farm women, distressed women, and children from tribal, dalit and minority groups. The organization actively promotes sustainable and eco-friendly agriculture, environmental protection, and climate-resilient livelihoods across Purba Bardhaman, Nadia, and Paschim Bardhaman districts of West Bengal.

2. Genesis

Established in 2009 under the leadership of Mr. Tarun Kumar Ray, SISTRY Foundation emerged from the collective efforts of educated rural youth determined to address poverty, low agricultural productivity, and environmental degradation caused by unscientific farming practices. The organization has since been working towards promoting sustainable agriculture and reducing environmental pollution.

3. Policy Statement

SISTRY Foundation is committed to protecting the environment and promoting sustainable development through responsible practices in all its programmes and operations. The organization strives to minimize environmental impact and enhance ecological balance while empowering rural communities.

4. Objectives

- **Promote sustainable, climate-friendly and organic agricultural practices:**
SISTRY Foundation aims to encourage farmers to adopt sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural methods that reduce dependency on harmful chemicals. The organization promotes organic farming, use of indigenous seeds, and eco-friendly technologies to improve soil health, increase productivity, and ensure long-term environmental sustainability.
- **Reduce environmental pollution caused by chemical fertilizers and pesticides:**
The foundation works to minimize the excessive use of chemical inputs in agriculture, which contribute to soil degradation, water contamination, and health hazards. Through training and awareness, farmers are guided to use natural



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alternatives such as bio-fertilizers and organic pest management practices.

- **Conserve natural resources including soil, water, and biodiversity:**
SISTRY Foundation is committed to the conservation and efficient use of natural resources. It promotes practices such as soil conservation, water harvesting, and protection of local biodiversity to maintain ecological balance and ensure the sustainability of agricultural systems.
- **Enhance awareness on environmental protection among farmers and communities:**
The organization conducts awareness programmes, training sessions, and community mobilization activities to educate farmers and rural communities about environmental issues, climate change, and sustainable practices, fostering a sense of responsibility towards nature.
- **Support climate-resilient livelihoods:**
SISTRY Foundation supports the development of livelihoods that can withstand climate variability and risks. By promoting diversified income sources, sustainable farming systems, and skill development, the organization helps communities adapt to climate change while improving their economic stability.

5. Key Environmental Focus Areas

- **Climate Change and Sustainable Agriculture:** SISTRY Foundation focuses on promoting agricultural practices that are resilient to climate change while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This includes encouraging climate-smart farming techniques, crop diversification, and the use of organic inputs to ensure sustainable food production and long-term environmental balance.
- **Pollution Prevention :** The organization works to prevent and reduce pollution caused by agricultural and community activities. It promotes the reduction of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, proper waste management, and environmentally safe practices to protect soil fertility, maintain water quality, and reduce air pollution.
- **Pollution Prevention of Soil:** SISTRY Foundation promotes the protection of soil health by reducing the excessive use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides that degrade soil quality over time. The organization encourages the use of organic



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manure, compost, green manuring, and bio-fertilizers to maintain soil fertility, improve structure, and sustain long-term agricultural productivity.

- **Pollution Prevention of Water:** The foundation works to prevent contamination of water bodies caused by agricultural runoff, chemicals, and improper waste disposal. It promotes safe irrigation practices, use of organic inputs, and awareness on preventing the discharge of harmful substances into ponds, rivers, and groundwater, thereby ensuring safe and clean water resources.
- **Pollution Prevention of Air:** SISTRY Foundation aims to reduce air pollution arising from agricultural and rural activities such as burning of crop residues and excessive use of chemical inputs. It promotes eco-friendly alternatives like composting, sustainable residue management, and adoption of clean energy practices to maintain better air quality and environmental health.
- **Water Conservation and Management:** SISTRY Foundation emphasizes the efficient use and conservation of water resources through practices such as rainwater harvesting, efficient irrigation methods, and community-based water management systems. These efforts aim to ensure water availability for agriculture and daily use, especially in water-stressed areas.
- **Biodiversity and Ecosystem Protection:** The foundation promotes the preservation of local biodiversity and natural ecosystems by encouraging the use of indigenous crop varieties, protecting natural habitats, and supporting agro-ecological practices. This helps maintain ecological balance and enhances the resilience of farming systems.
- **Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy Practices:** SISTRY Foundation encourages the optimal use of resources by minimizing waste and promoting reuse and recycling within agricultural and community systems. It supports practices such as composting, use of agricultural residues, and efficient resource management to create a sustainable and circular rural economy.

6. Commitments

SISTRY Foundation commits to:

- **Comply with all applicable environmental laws and regulations:** SISTRY

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Foundation ensures that all its activities and programmes strictly follow relevant environmental laws, rules, and government guidelines to maintain legal compliance and environmental responsibility.

- **Promote eco-friendly technologies and organic farming practices:** The organization encourages the adoption of environmentally sustainable technologies and organic farming methods that reduce harmful impacts on nature while improving agricultural productivity and farmer well-being.
- **Develop and implement environmental management systems (EMS):** SISTRY Foundation is committed to establishing structured systems and processes to identify, manage, and reduce environmental impacts, ensuring continuous improvement in environmental performance.
- **Monitor and evaluate environmental performance regularly:** The foundation regularly assesses its environmental initiatives and activities to measure progress, identify gaps, and take corrective actions for better outcomes.
- **Minimize waste and encourage recycling and reuse:** The organization promotes efficient use of resources by reducing waste generation and encouraging recycling, composting, and reuse practices within communities and its own operations.
- **Build capacity of staff, farmers and stakeholders through training and awareness programmes:** SISTRY Foundation organizes training, workshops, and awareness programmes to educate stakeholders on environmental issues and sustainable practices, strengthening their ability to contribute effectively.
- **Encourage environmentally responsible behavior among partners, suppliers and stakeholders:** The organization promotes environmental accountability across its network by encouraging partners, suppliers, and stakeholders to follow sustainable and eco-friendly practices aligned with its environmental values.

7. Implementation & Governance

The overall responsibility for implementation of this policy rests with the Executive Director and the Board. Environmental considerations will be integrated

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into all programmes, projects and operational decisions.

8. Monitoring & Reporting

The organization will regularly monitor its environmental performance and progress against defined objectives. Periodic internal reviews will be conducted to ensure effectiveness and continuous improvement.

9. Stakeholder Engagement & Transparency

SISTRY Foundation will maintain transparency by sharing relevant environmental information with stakeholders and encouraging community participation in environmental initiatives.

10. Review and Updates

This policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure its relevance and alignment with evolving environmental challenges, legal requirements, and organizational goals.

Signature: 
Executive Director
Sistry Foundation
Prangopal Nagar, Nabadwip, Nadia

Date: 31/04/2019

