

ORGANIC FARMING

The main aim is to produce enough and healthy food within the capacity of the community and the availability of local natural resources. We support the farmers to get the maximum production with a minimum of expenses. By achieving this, the farmers will not sell their land to multinationals or others and not migrate away from the village.

1. **Seed wealth center:** RDOT initiated a collective seed wealth center and after initiating a committee became responsible. The aim is to preserve seeds, promote local crops and multiplier the seeds. The center started by collecting seeds from local farmers as a starting point. All program members are able to collect seeds by paying 25 rs annual contribution. At the time a member has grown their crop, they must give back to the center double the amount of seeds. The effect for farmers is that they are able to grow more and diversify their growing crops. The center is also used for the kitchen garden.
2. **Kitchen Garden:** RDOT motivates farmers to use the unused land nearby their kitchen for generating their own vegetables. To grow the first vegetables,

they can collect seeds from the seed wealth center. The fresh vegetables will contain more nutrition than the previously used market vegetables. A surplus is income generation out of the vegetables. By preserving the seeds from their kitchen garden, people are able to maintain the garden. Within the group of women, they exchange seeds to diversify their kitchen garden and to maintain the local seeds.

3. **Compost pit:** A traditional way of preparing compost by digging a hole and using local waste, dried leaves, and cow dungslurry. A compost pit enriches soil, reduces landfill waste and methane emissions, conserves water, prevents erosion, and lessens the need for chemical fertilizers and pesticides, leading to healthier plants, better crop yields, and a more sustainable environment.
4. **Vermi compost pit:** RDOT supports farmers to start their own vermicompost pits. By supplying basic material and knowledge, the farmers are able to construct the cement pots. RDOT creates awareness on how to get high quality vermi compost. Every 3 months the farmers will benefit from the compost

by using it for own field, selling it to the market and selling the worms to the market.

5. **Aadi cow:** The main purpose of this programme is to promote and protect the local breed. The local breed gives high nutritious milk for own usage and commercial use. RDOT provides one insured local cow to a widow, deserted, physically challenged or HIV/AIDS affected woman. After giving birth to a new calf, the mother cow will be handed over to another person. This causes a multiplier effect.

6. **Poultry:** RDOT supplies local chickens to the members of the women group. The main responsibility for raising the chickens is given to their school going children. The effect is a constant supply of nutritious eggs and income by selling the extra eggs. When the chickens give birth to new chickens, the first two will be given to an other woman. All the other newly born chickens will be owned by the first owner and used for eggs, meat and selling to the market. Out of this little investment, farmers could already start a chickenfarm. The money is used especially for the education of their children.

