

Researchers of S. Seifullin KATIU developed the national model of the Participatory Guarantee System PGS-QAZAQSTAN

Researchers of S. Seifullin Kazakh Agrotechnical Research University, within the framework of program-targeted financing of **the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan** for 2024-2026, developed scientifically grounded proposals for the formation and functioning of the national Participatory Guarantee System PGS-QAZAQSTAN.

The research was carried out within the framework of the scientific and technical program BR22885418 “Scientific support for the technological development of organic production of agricultural products in the Republic of Kazakhstan”. The scientific supervisor of the Program is Professor, Candidate of Agricultural Sciences Sh.O. Bastaubayeva; the Project leader is Associate Professor, Candidate of Agricultural Sciences B.K. Bulashev.

The study is aimed at creating an accessible organizational mechanism for small and local agricultural producers interested in transitioning to organic production. The Participatory Guarantee System is based on internal control, mutual inspections, transparency, collective responsibility, knowledge exchange and trust between producers and consumers.

When developing the national model PGS-QAZAQSTAN, the researchers provided scientific justification, systematized and adapted a set of documents and procedures to the legislation and conditions of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The study was also based on practical developments obtained in 2025 during the preparation of PGS documentation commissioned by Carlsberg Kazakhstan, taking into account IFOAM recommendations and international practices. Researchers of the above scientific and technical program took direct and primary part in preparing these materials jointly with the Union of Organic Producers of Kazakhstan.

The study compared individual certification, group certification with an Internal Control System (ICS), and the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS). It was substantiated that PGS is an independent model of internal confirmation of compliance with organic principles, mainly focused on the local market and not replacing third-party certification.

As a result of the study, a complete set of basic documentation, record forms and educational-methodological materials was prepared, including:

- procedure for forming and functioning of a PGS group;
- regulation on the Participatory Guarantee System;
- agreement on joint activity in the form of a simple partnership;
- organic production standard;
- participant Code of Honor;
- forms for preliminary assessment and annual internal inspection;
- registers of participants and active PGS groups;
- form of minutes of the general meeting;
- form of the internal certificate of a PGS participant;
- introductory training course and test assignments.

The developed package underwent expert testing using the example of the full functioning cycle of a PGS group — from admission of a candidate and preliminary assessment to internal inspection, collective decision-making and formalization of participant status.

The study showed that the effectiveness of PGS is determined not only by the quality of regulatory and procedural documents, but also by the formation of trust, self-regulation, social connectedness and collective responsibility among participants. These qualities arise in the process of practical interaction within the group and cannot be ensured solely through formal record keeping.

The PGS-QAZAQSTAN model developed by researchers of S. Seifullin KATIU can be used to create pilot local groups, develop the domestic market for organic products and prepare agricultural producers for a subsequent transition to group or individual certification.