THE SUSTAINABLE CASTOR INITIATIVE

PRAGATI
CASTOR OIL
Facts & figures

DID YOU KNOW?
More than 80% of the world’s supply of castor seed produced annually in India representing approximately 1.2 million tons.

TOP 4 Uses for Castor oil
- POLYMERS
- LUBRICANTS
- COATINGS
- PHARMACEUTICALS

700,000
The number of castor bean farmers in India

800,000
The number of hectares of land dedicated to castor farming in India

45%
Of the weight of castor bean is captured as castor oil. The remainder is generally repurposed as a fertilizer

5
Farmers typically harvest castor pods at least 5 times per year 120 to 180 days after planting

TOP 2 Perceived sustainability advantages of castor beans
- Naturally drought resistant
- Does not compete with food chain for humans or animals

Castor crop is considered to be a profitable crop with low inputs and high returns.
Demonstration plots set up in the program to showcase the benefits of implementing good agricultural practices

Soil and water quality testing has been performed in 41 villages

Agricultural experts have facilitated distribution of sampling for soil conservation in more than 5 villages

Members of the Pragati Initiative

Arkema, a global leader in specialty chemicals and advanced materials
BASF, the world’s leading chemical company
Jayant Agro-Organics Ltd., a pioneer in castor oil based chemicals in India
Solidaridad, an international civil society organization

Arkema, BASF, Jayant Agro-Organics Ltd., and Solidaridad

More than 1,000 hours of classroom training

All certified farmers have adopted improved farm waste management practices

Yield increase by the farmers certified in the first year compared to the 2016 baseline study

More than 2,000 hectares of castor farming are now in accordance with the project framework

Certification bodies have been empanelled as external certification agencies

More than 2,700 Farmers Certified by the program so far

Pesticide storage boxes have been distributed to help farmers with improved waste management

4

5

55%

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PRAGATI INITIATIVE
Subsustainable Castor Initiative

OBJECTIVES OF THE PRAGATI INITIATIVE

❖ To enhance farm productivity by adopting a sustainable package of agricultural practices.
❖ To train farmers to build capacity, improve yields and reduce environmental impact, helping them to cultivate castor beans ecologically.
❖ To provide educational materials to improve their skills and knowledge.
❖ To improve the farmers’ and farm workers’ income and to ensure better health and living conditions.

Statistics as of September 2018
For more information on the sustainable castor initiative please contact info@castorsuccess.org