

GUIDELINES AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR MAXIMUM RESIDUE
LEVEL (MRL)- TESTING

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Definitions

Term	Definition
CMRC	Community Managed Resources Centers
FPO	Farmer Producer Organization
“Governing Council” (GC)	Governing Council has been set up under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary, Department of Cooperation and Marketing, Govt. of Maharashtra to monitor the project. Representative of the departments of Planning, Finance, Marketing, Agriculture, MAVIM are the members of the GC. Project Director, MAGNET is the Member Secretary of the GC.
“Grant”	The money paid to the Grant Recipients under the Grant Agreement relating to the Sub-project
"Grant Recipient"	The beneficiary FPO/SAU/KVK, submitting the proposal and signing the agreement for funding
“Objectives”	The objectives relating to the sub-project as set out in the sub-project Proposals
PAM	Project Administration Manual prepared under MAGNET Project
PIU	Project Implementation Unit of the MAGNET Society established in regions to support PMU
PMU	Project Management Unit of the MAGNET Society
“Project Implementation Support Consultant (PISC)”	PISC is a management and technical service provider appointed by MAGNET project to assist PMU. PISC will also strengthen technical and management capacities of the project implementation units and FPOs and ensure the project’s compliance with ADB’s environment and social safeguards policies and Financing Agreement and policies of the Government of Maharashtra.
“Technical Committee” (TC)	A Technical Committee will be chaired by Project Director, MAGNET Society to approve & appraise the project.
TRTA Consultant	Transaction Technical Assistance Consultant

Background

Maharashtra is one of the leading fruits and vegetables producing states in India. It has emerged as one of the country's largest exporters of fruits and vegetable crops. In terms of production, the State accounts for 11% of total fruits and 5% of total vegetables produced in the country. Despite ample opportunities for Maharashtra's horticulture growth that contributes to poverty reduction of farmers, they face challenges related to the agricultural sector's structural issues such as small and marginal land holding, lack of access to direct marketing and interference by middlemen. This leads to below par returns for the farmers in the state.

About MAGNET

The Government of Maharashtra in association with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) is co-financing Maharashtra Agribusiness Network Project (MAGNET) to upscale the development of horticulture sector and agribusiness in Maharashtra. The project core objectives are to increase farmers' income, support value addition, reduce post-harvest losses, increase farm productivity, and mainstream opportunities for rural women lower caste to alleviate rural poverty. The project aims to focus on 15 targeted horticulture value chains which includes, Banana, Okra, Pomegranate, Guava, Orange, Sweet Lime, Sapota, Custard Apple, Strawberry, Green and Red Chillies, Flowers, Mangoes, Lemon, Cashew and Snake Gourd.

Components of the Project

The focus of the project is on 3 core outputs namely:

- a. **Output 1:** Institutional capacities of agribusiness institutions and farmer producer organizations strengthened.
- b. **Output 2:** Financial and agribusiness capacities of farmer producer organizations and value chain operators strengthened.
- c. **Output 3:** Agriculture value chain infrastructure improved and operational for the target horticulture crops.

Importance for MRL Testing

Maximum Residue Limits (MRL) is the highest level of a pesticide residue that is legally tolerated in or on food or feed when pesticides are applied correctly (Good Agricultural Practice). Many developed and developing countries fix their own Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) of pesticides on Raw Agricultural Commodities (RAC) based on their country-specific

Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and dietary consumption pattern. To promote the trade of safe horticulture products which are produced using GAP in domestic and international market, MAGNET project will support farmers (member farmers of FPOs and having forward market linkages) financially for MRL Testing.

Beneficiaries

- Member farmers nominated by Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)¹ and Value Chain Operators (VCOs)² who are eligible for Matching Grant proposals scrutinized by PIU
- Member farmers nominated by Anchor FPOs identified under MAGNET project.
- Farmers nominated by Institutional Buyers who have signed MoU with MAGNET under Market Linkages.
- SAUs / KVKs / COEs identified under MAGNET project

Selection Procedure

A. Application

- The guidelines will be published on MAGNET website and proposals from eligible institutions/organizations will be received.
- The applicant will need to furnish the application form as per prescribed template along with necessary documents (Annexures, undertakings etc.)
- The proposals will be selected for financial assistance on a first come basis and proposals will be accepted until the project targets are met.

B. Evaluation

A single stage evaluation of the proposal will take place in the technical committee.

¹ FPOs: farmers organizations registered under The Companies Act or State Co-operative Society Act, or such Farmer Groups/ Cluster Level Federations (CLFs)/ Community Managed Resources Centers (CMRCs) registered with ATMA/MSRLM/MAVIM. This category may also include Cluster Level FPO Federations/Associations.

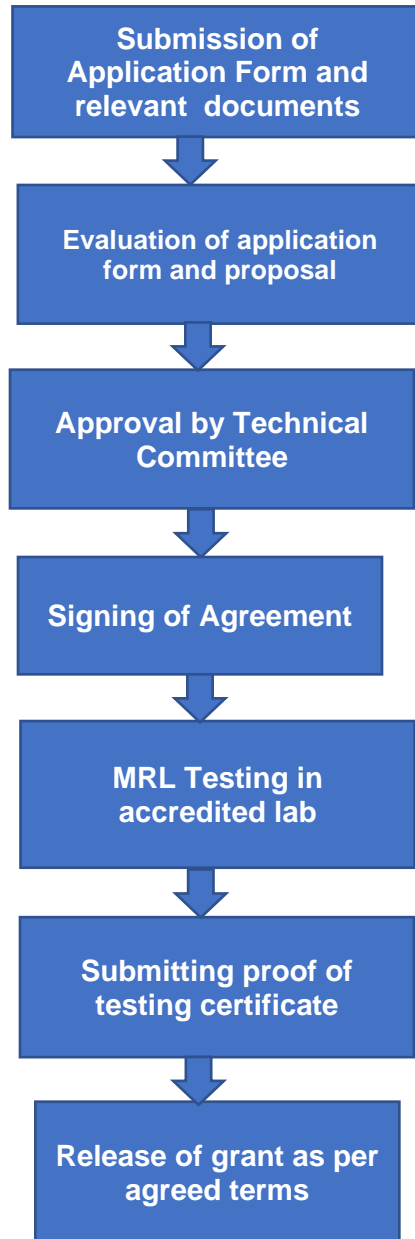
² VCOs may include aggregators/processors/ exporters/mid- and large-sized retail organizations/Ag-tech or Fintech organizations working actively with producers and their collectives of any horticultural commodities.

The **Technical Committee (TC)**, responsible for evaluation & approval of proposals, will comprise of following members:

SN	Designation of Officer	Designation in Committee
1	Project Director, MAGNET	Chairman
2	General Manager, MAVIM	Member
3	Additional Project Director, MAGNET	Member Secretary
4	Deputy Project Director, Accounts & Finance, MAGNET	Member
5	Deputy Project Director, Financial Support, MAGNET	Member
6	All Regional Deputy Project Director, PIU, MAGNET	Member
7	Deputy Project Director, Capacity Building, MAGNET	Member

Post approval from the Technical Committee, the Project Director, MAGNET will issue administrative approval order to the proposal sanctioned by the Technical Committee. Subsequently, MAGNET Society will release the amount for MRL testing as per the terms and conditions of the signed agreement. The applicant is expected to furnish the final MRL testing certificate, conditional on observing no adverse results in pesticide content, and other details as part of Monitoring and evaluation of the proposal.

Process Flow



Eligibility for proposals

a) Eligible Crops: Proposals/applicants who are involved in farming or cultivation of one or more of the following crops will be considered.

1. Custard Apple
2. Guava
3. Banana
4. Strawberry
5. Orange
6. Pomegranate
7. Sapota
8. Sweet Lime
9. Chilly (Green and Red)
10. Okra
11. Mangoes
12. Custard Apple
13. Lemon
14. Snake Gourd

b) Only proposals covering at least ten (10) farmers (members of FPOs or backward-linked farmers nominated by VCOs) will be eligible for the grant.

Eligible Components

The charges levied by NABL accredited lab to conduct MRL testing of MAGNET focused crops will be considered as eligible cost.

Pattern of Assistance

- The financial assistance available under the project is in the form of one-time subsidy.
- The maximum admissible subsidy for each approved proposal will be:
 - Up to 50% of the MRL testing cost, subject to maximum of Rs. 50,000/- per proposal of minimum 10 farmers (members of FPOs or backward-linked

farmers nominated by VCOs)

- The disbursement of the subsidy proceeds to the sanctioned beneficiary organization will take place in single installment after producing the proof of testing certificate and invoices of expenditure made as proposed.

APPENDIX I

MAHARASHTRA AGRIBUSINESS NETWORK (MAGNET) PROJECT

MRL TESTING PROPOSAL FORM FOR FPO/CMRC/ANCHOR FPO

To,

Hon. Project Director,

Maharashtra Agri Business Network (MAGNET) Project
Pune.

Subject: Submission of proposal for support for MRL Testing under Maharashtra Agri Business Network (MAGNET) Project

Dear Sir,

We,(*Name of beneficiary*) intend to seek financial assistance under MRL Testing component of Maharashtra Agri Business Network (MAGNET) Project. Our proposal is submitted herewith along with essential documents, attached with this form to support the information given below.

Sr. No.	Particulars	Information
1	Basic Information of the Organization	
1.1	Name of the Applicant Organization	
1.2	Category of Organization	<input type="checkbox"/> FPO <input type="checkbox"/> FPO Federation <input type="checkbox"/> Farmer Cooperative Society

		<input type="checkbox"/> CMRC <input type="checkbox"/> Anchor FPO				
1.3	Address as per organization registration certificate	Address				
		Village				
		Taluka				
		District				
		Pin code				
1.4	Contact Person (Full Name and Contact Details)					
1.5	Correspondence address	Address				
		Village				
		Taluka				
		District				
		Pin code				
1.6	Email-id					
1.7	PAN Number of the organization					
1.8	GST Number of the organization					
1.9	Details of the directors of the organization- Total Number - _____					
	Sr. No.	Name	Designation	Contact Number	Category	Gender
	1					
	2					

	3							
	4							
	5							
(Category- SC, ST, OBC, PWD/ Divyang etc.)								
1.1 0	Details of the members of the organization							
	Sr. No.	Member Category	Numbers			Percentage (%)		
			Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	1	General						
	2	Scheduled Caste						
	3	Scheduled Tribe						
	4	PWD/Divyang Member						
	5	Others						
		Total						
1.1 1	Number of Members applying for MRL Testing A) Total number of members at present - _____ B) Number of Members applying for MRL Testing - _____ Attach the list of applicant farmers desirous of getting support for MRL Testing (Annexure I)							
2	MRL Testing related details:							
2.1	Crop proposed for MRL Testing							
2.2	Number of farmers covered							
2.3	Name of Importer/ Exporter /VCO with whom MOU made for exports.							
2.4	Area covered under MRL Testing (ha)							
2.5	LAB for MRL Testing							

3	Is the power of attorney/board resolution to sign the various documents of the organization attached (Yes/No)
4	Filled ANNEXURE I
5	List of documents submitted (Refer ANNEXURE II)

It is requested to shortlist our application to seek financial assistance under MRL Testing component of the Maharashtra Agri Business Network (MAGNET) Project.

It is also undertaken that all the information furnished in the application as above is true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Place:

Date:/...../202.....

Yours faithfully,

Name, Signature and Seal of the Applicant

(.....)

APPENDIX II

MAHARASHTRA AGRIBUSINESS NETWORK (MAGNET) PROJECT

MRL TESTING PROPOSAL FORM FOR VCOs / INSTITUTIONAL BUYER HAVING MoU with MAGNET

To,

Hon. Project Director,

Maharashtra Agri Business Network (MAGNET) Project

Pune.

**Subject: Submission of proposal for support for MRL Testing under Maharashtra
Agri Business Network (MAGNET) Project**

Dear Sir,

We,(Name of beneficiary) intend to seek financial assistance under MRL Testing component of Maharashtra Agri Business Network (MAGNET) Project. Our proposal is submitted herewith along with essential documents, attached with this form to support the information given below

Sr. No.	Particulars	Information	
1	Basic Information of the Organization		
1.1	Name of the Applicant Organization		
1.2	Type of Value Chain Organization		
1.3	Address as per organization registration certificate	Address	
		Village	
		Taluka	
		District	
		Pin code	

1.4	Contact Person (Full Name and Contact Details)					
1.5	Correspondence address	Address				
		Village				
		Taluka				
		District				
		Pin code				
1.6	Email-id					
1.7	PAN Number of the organization					
1.8	GST Number of the organization					
1.9	Details of the Promoter/Partner/Director of the organization- Total Number - _____					
	Sr. No.	Name	Designation	Contact Number	Category	Gender
	1					
	2					
	3					
	4					
	5					
(Category- SC, ST, OBC, PWD/ Divyang etc.)						
2	Details of Backward Linkage with nominated farmers					
2.1	Details of the transactions with the nominated farmers in last 3 years					
	Sr.no.	Name of the farmer	Agreement (Yes/ No)	Name of the crop	Purchase (MT.)	
	1					
	2					
	3					
4						

	5				
	6				
	7				
	8				
	9				
	10				
	11				
	12				
	13				
	14				
	15				
		Total			
3	Is the power of attorney to sign the various documents of the organization attached (Yes/No)				
4	Attach filled ANNEXURE I				
5	List of documents submitted (Refer ANNEXURE II)				

It is requested to shortlist our application to seek financial assistance under MRL Testing component of the Maharashtra Agri Business Network (MAGNET) Project.

It is also undertaken that all the information furnished in the application as above is true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Place:

Date:/...../202.....

Yours faithfully,

(.....)

Name, Signature and Seal of the Applicant

APPENDIX III

MAHARASHTRA AGRIBUSINESS NETWORK (MAGNET) PROJECT

APPLICATION FORM FOR SAUs/KVKs/ COEs

To,

Hon. Project Director,

Maharashtra Agri Business Network (MAGNET) Project

Pune.

Subject: Submission of proposal for support for MRL Testing under Maharashtra Agri Business Network (MAGNET) Project

Dear Sir,

We,(Name of beneficiary) intend to seek financial assistance under MRL Testing component of Maharashtra Agri Business Network (MAGNET) Project. Our proposal is submitted herewith along with essential documents, attached with this form to support the information given below.

Sr. No.	Particulars	Information		
1	Basic Information of the Organization			
1.1	Name of the Applicant Organization			
1.2	Type of Organization			
1.3	Address as per organization registration certificate	Address		

		Village	
		Taluka	
		District	
		Pin code	
1.4	Contact Person (Full Name and Contact Details)		
1.5	Correspondence address	Address	
		Village	
		Taluka	
		District	
		Pin code	
1.6	Email-id		
1.7	PAN Number of the organization		
1.8	GST Number of the organization		
2	List of documents submitted (Refer ANNEXURE II)		

It is requested to shortlist our application to seek financial assistance under MRL Testing component of the Maharashtra Agri Business Network (MAGNET) Project.

It is also undertaken that all the information furnished in the application as above is true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.

Place:

Date:/...../202.....

Yours faithfully,

(.....)

Name, Signature and Seal of the Applicant

ANNEXURE I

Details of members opting for MRL Testing

(ON LETTER HEAD OF THE APPLICANT)

I am _____ (Name of the Authorized Signatory) of _____ (Applicant Name) having its Registration no. _____ and Registered Office at _____ do hereby solemnly declare that the following farmers are nominated as potential beneficiaries to avail the support for MRL Testing:

Sr. No	Name of the farmer	Contact Number	Name of the Crop	Land holding under that crop (Hectares)
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				

Place:

Date:/...../202.....

Yours faithfully,

(.....)

Name, Signature and Seal of the Applicant

ANNEXURE II

Checklist of Documents to be submitted

S.N.	Documents	Attached (Yes/No)
1	Incorporation Certificate of Applicant	
2	Self-attested copy of PAN card of the applicant company	
3	Self-attested KYC (PAN & Aadhar) of Applicant's Directors/ Partners	
4	Self-attested list of shareholders on applicant's letter head	
5	Annual Reports and Audited Financial Statements of last 3 financial years (For FPOs at least of one year)	
6	Board Resolution for Authorized Signatory (if applicable)	