“90-DAY COMPOST STARTER PLAYBOOK”

Title: 🌱 *From Compost to Consciousness: 90-Day Starter Playbook*

Subtitle: *Turn waste into wealth, one pile at a time.*

👉 Phase 0 — Preparation (Days 0–7) — “Mapping & Mobilizing”

🗺**Goal:** Identify your materials, team, and space.

Icon	Task	Notes / Status
	Map all organic waste sources (households, markets, eateries, crop residues).	☐ Done ☐ In Progress
	Form a core team (4–8 members; include women & youth).	☐ Done ☐ In Progress
	Secure site with drainage & access (approx. 200 sq. m).	☐ Done ☐ In Progress
	Draft simple cooperative agreement (roles, revenue share, meeting cadence).	☐ Done ☐ In Progress
	Identify one local mentor (agri officer / NGO / farmer).	☐ Done ☐ In Progress

☞ Phase 1 — Setup (Days 8–30) — "Infrastructure & Learning"

 Goal: Build the system and learn basic compost science.

Icon	Task	Notes / Status
🔨	Build compost bays or windrows (1.5m×1m×1m) and vermi-beds.	☐ Done ☐ In Progress
▯	Procure worms / inoculants / bokashi bran.	☐ Done ☐ In Progress
🪣	Gather collection bins & feedstock storage tubs.	☐ Done ☐ In Progress
📋	Print Daily Log Sheet (temp, moisture, feedstock).	☐ Done ☐ In Progress
🎓	Conduct 2-day training (C:N ratio, turning, moisture test).	☐ Done ☐ In Progress

☞ Phase 2 — Pilot Production (Days 31–60) — "Start & Record"

 Goal: Begin composting small batches and collect early data.

Icon	Task	Notes / Status
♻	Collect from 20–50 households or 2 eateries.	☐ Done ☐ In Progress
🔥	Build 2 hot piles + 1 vermi-bed, track temperatures daily.	☐ Done ☐ In Progress
💧	Moisture squeeze test weekly (aim: damp sponge texture).	☐ Done ☐ In Progress
🏷	Label every batch (start date, materials, batch no.).	☐ Done ☐ In Progress
🌱	Run germination test on cured compost sample.	☐ Done ☐ In Progress

👉 Phase 3 — Market Test (Days 61–90) — "Productize & Share"

💰 **Goal:** Sell or distribute the first batch and refine processes.

Icon	Task	Notes / Status
🏪	Sell sample compost bags at market / nurseries.	☐ Done ☐ In Progress
💬	Collect user feedback (texture, smell, results).	☐ Done ☐ In Progress
💸	Record cost & price; plan revenue reinvestment.	☐ Done ☐ In Progress
🎁	Design simple eco-label with QR / batch info.	☐ Done ☐ In Progress
🤝	Hold 90-day review meeting (learnings + next steps).	☐ Done ☐ In Progress

☐ **Result:** By Day 90, you should have →

✅ A working compost system

✅ Documented SOPs

✅ First sale or distribution

✅ Local network & future scaling plan

“SOP for Community Micro-Compost Hubs”

(Standard Operating Procedure — editable for local adaptation)

Section A: Setup Standards

Element	Description / Specification
Site area	Minimum 150–250 sq. m with drainage & shade.
Structure	Bamboo or brick base with slope 1:20 for leachate control; partial roofing.
Windrow dimensions	1.5m (width) × 1.2m (height) × 3–5m (length).
Vermi-bed specs	3m × 1m × 0.5m depth, lined with brick or HDPE bed.
Feedstock ratio (C:N)	25–30:1 — alternate layers of dry (leaves, husk) & wet (vegetable waste, manure).
Tools needed	Pitchfork, wheelbarrow, sieves, moisture meter, tarp covers.

Section B: Daily Operations

Task	Frequency	Responsible	Notes
Feedstock collection & weighing	Daily	Collection team	Record in feed log
Layering new pile	Every 2–3 days	Compost worker	Maintain ratio & moisture
Turning schedule	Every 7–10 days (hot piles)	Team lead	Use thermometer for 55–60°C
Moisture test	Weekly	QA lead	Damp sponge feel = ideal
pH & odor check	Weekly	QA lead	Neutral smell = mature pile
Vermi harvest	Every 45–60 days	Worker 2	Avoid direct sunlight exposure

Section C: Quality Assurance Protocols

Step	Parameter	Acceptable Range / Method
Temperature check	50–60°C during active phase	Thermometer
Moisture	40–60%	Hand squeeze test
Maturity	Germination index ≥ 80%	Test with 10 seeds
Color & texture	Dark brown, crumbly	Visual inspection
Odor	Earthy, no ammonia	Sensory test

Section D: Packaging & Labeling

Parameter	Description
Bag size	5kg / 10kg / 25kg jute or recycled plastic.
Label info	Compost type, batch no., date, ingredients, usage guide, QR code (optional).
Pricing	Cost + 20–30% margin for sustainability fund.

Section E: Governance & Records

- Maintain a **Daily Operations Register** (feedstock type, date, weight).
- Keep a **QA Sheet** (temperature, moisture, pH).
- Track **Revenue & Expenditure Ledger** monthly.
- Conduct **Quarterly Community Meeting** (performance, challenges, next goals).
- Allocate **5% of revenue** for local education/awareness events.

💼 TEMPLATE — "Investor / CSR One-Page Brief: Micro Compost Hub"

(Pitch Summary for Microfinance or CSR Support)

Title: 🌍 *Dharmic Compost Hub — Turning Waste into Livelihood & Soil Health*

Concept Summary:

The **Dharmic Compost Hub** is a small-scale, community-owned composting enterprise converting local organic waste into high-quality compost and seedlings. It integrates **waste management, employment creation, and regenerative farming**, all rooted in **Dharmic ethics of stewardship (Seva, Ahimsa, Prithvi Poojan)**.

Each hub employs 6–10 local workers (mostly women & youth), processes 2–3 tonnes of waste weekly, and produces 2 tonnes of market-ready compost monthly — sold to nurseries, farms, and households.

Impact Snapshot (Per Hub / Year)

🌾 **Waste diverted:**	~100 tonnes of organics/year
🌱 **Soil restored:**	24 acres enriched with natural compost
👩‍🌾 **Employment:**	8 local livelihoods (60% women)
💰 **Revenue:**	₹2.5–3.0 lakh annual turnover
🌿 **CO_2 avoided:**	~50–60 tonnes equivalent/year

Funding Requirement (Pilot Model)

Component	Cost (₹)
Site setup (shelter, windrows, tools)	75,000
Equipment (shredder, vermi-beds, bins)	50,000
Training & community mobilization	25,000
Working capital (3 months)	30,000
Total Initial Funding Required	**₹1.8 lakh**

Return on Support

- **Microfinance angle:** Break-even within 12 months; predictable monthly cash flow via compost & seedlings.
- **CSR angle:** Measurable ESG outcomes — waste reduction, livelihood creation, soil restoration.
- **Visibility:** Logo placement on compost bags, dashboards, and field signage ("Supported by [Company] for a Dharmic Earth").

Scale & Sustainability

Each cluster of 10 hubs →

- Processes **~1,000 tonnes** waste/year
- Creates **80+ jobs**
- Enriches **240 acres** farmland
- Builds **local circular economy networks**