

RAINFOREST ALLIANCE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE STANDARD

APPLICABLE FOR MEDIUM-LARGE FARMS

Draft Standard V1.0 – for public consultation (November 2018)

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INTRODUCTION

In January 2018, the Rainforest Alliance merged with UTZ. We joined forces because we know that together we can have a greater impact and be a better partner to the many stakeholders we work with. With this new sustainable agriculture standard, we intend to harmonize the existing standards of the Rainforest Alliance and UTZ, learn from past experiences, but most importantly bring innovation and new insight into certification and agricultural sustainability.

Our new sustainable agriculture standard is designed to maximize positive social, environmental, and economic impact, while offering farmers an enhanced framework to improve their livelihoods and protecting the landscapes where they live and work. For this first draft of the standard, a full public consultation is organized from December 2018 to February 2019 to gather feedback and improve this document.

This sustainable agriculture standard forms the heart of the Rainforest Alliance's new certification strategy. In addition to the content of the standard, a larger system of assurance, chain of custody, and monitoring and evaluation will support its implementation.

SCOPE OF THE STANDARD

The scope of the standard is to address sustainability issues in agricultural production. The standard focuses on the main categories of crops that are currently within the existing certification programs, which are tree crops (such as coffee, cocoa and tea), fruits (such as bananas, coconuts and pineapples), nuts (such as hazelnuts) and cut flowers. Spices, herbs and vanilla may be included, and the Rainforest Alliance is also exploring possibilities to work with the Union for Ethical Biotrade (UEBT).

With regard to palm oil, the 2017 Rainforest Alliance Sustainable Agriculture Standard will be used as the basis for our palm oil certification program moving forward, as major improvements are not needed on this standard for this sector right now. Just two years ago the standard underwent a development process, and it has received positive feedback on the implementation and market opportunities. Rainforest Alliance's organizational resources will be focusing on the three core areas of intervention that are felt to be most critical now which are smallholders, jurisdictional/landscape approaches and the development of a certification+ approach, as well as maintaining the standard in its current form.

The geographical scope of the standard is global, with a focus on the main geographical areas where mentioned crops are grown. Furthermore, the scope of the standard is on the whole farm, that is, the requirements of the standard, as a principle, apply to the whole farm, and not just to the certified crop. Crop type specific agronomic practices for non-certified crops may be excluded from the audit scope of the farm. Also, not necessarily all crops or products derived from a certified farm can be sold as certified.

The audit scope of the standard also includes certain on-farm processing activities that involve physical handling, and that are considered important to be included in view of social or environmental risks (e.g. the production of green coffee; the drying, sorting, or bagging of cocoa beans; and the production of made tea). We are considering the implementation and verification of social and environmental criteria for those processing facilities where we see a risk. These could include processing activities which are being carried out outside the farm, but within the legal and/or factual control of the farm.

KEY FEATURES OF THE NEW RA SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE STANDARD

STANDARD

The new Rainforest Alliance Sustainable Agriculture Standard brings innovation several key approaches, outlines as follows:

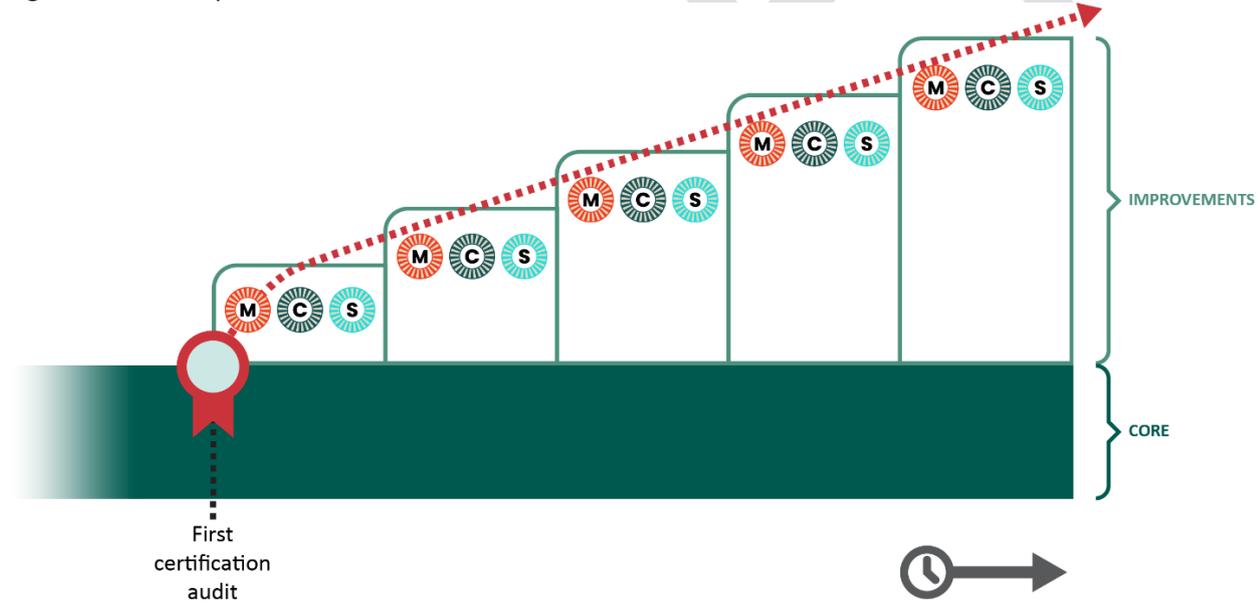
Performance Driven Approach

The new certification system will drive continuous improvement for producers. In addition to prescribing practices, the focus is on enabling and measuring improvements towards sustainability outcomes. Core criteria and improvement pathways together will drive progress towards sustainability.

The core criteria include all requirements for the first certification. Most core criteria prescribe good practices with respect to key sustainability risk topics and are formulated as compliance criteria (yes/no). In some cases, the core criterion will contain a set threshold (e.g. minimum wage) that must be measured and reported. Improvement pathways are designed to further promote and measure progress towards outcomes. The Rainforest Alliance believes that certification should be accessible for a wide group of farms and producers, but that continuous improvements are a fundamental tenet of sustainability.

Through the new system producers, companies and other supply chain actors will be provided with increasingly reliable data on the actual situation on the ground. This data will give better insights into the current performance of the farm or group and can be used to diagnose the existing sustainability gaps, give insights into improvements made and create incentives for performance.

Figure 1: Basic improvement structure of the new standard



Improvement Pathways

Improvement pathways consist of levels to evaluate progress in each producer's own sustainability journey. Improvement levels come primarily in two forms. Some are defined as a stepwise set of activities or additional practices; other pathways are metric "targets" that will be evaluated by indicator data. For example, producers should implement additional practices relevant for their context, or producers should strive towards a specific target such as crop production, worker wage, or shade cover.

Sustainability improvement topics in the new Rainforest Alliance standard are categorized as **mandatory**, **context-specific**, or **self-selected**. **Mandatory** topics are required for all certificate holders. The topics that are categorized as mandatory are primarily management topics, since these are considered as necessary to enable the farm or group management to realize sustainability outcomes. **Context-specific** topics are required for some certificate holders, to be determined by a context-specific risk assessment. These context assessments may be based on geography, crop, or other risk parameters. Finally, **self-selected** topics are

areas where certificate holders can select improvement topics based on their own risk assessment or aspirations.

Each certificate holder is required to commit to at least a minimum number (indication: 12) of improvement topics once they have been certified. Certificate holders will be required to determine the improvements they can make and the timeframe they need to reach a next level. The Rainforest Alliance can determine the timeframe to reach a next level for high-risk or strategic improvement topics.

The Rainforest Alliance expects this more flexible improvement approach to benefit producers and other actors involved in agricultural supply chains and to increase our collective impact. Self-determination encourages sustainability improvements that are relevant for the specific context and situation of producers, and the goal is that it facilitates focused commitment from certificate holders, buyers, and other supply chain actors to invest in these improvements.

Differentiation Smallholders /Medium-Large Producers

The new Rainforest Alliance standard continues the differentiation between smallholders and medium/large producers. A smallholder is defined as ‘a producer who primarily relies on family or household labor, or reciprocal workforce exchange with other members of the community’. Medium/large producers are defined as producers that use hired labor, and therefore do not rely primarily on family labor. Note that this definition is independent of farm size, since farm size depends significantly on crop and geography.

The standard treats smallholders and medium/large producers differently so that each producer type can focus on topics that are most relevant for their situation. For example, for medium/large producers, there is a stronger focus on core criteria for social issues related to workers and families that live on-farm, as well as on certain environmental topics. For smallholders, the focus is more on strengthening sustainability and business performance over time.

Core criteria

Mandatory for all certificate holders (applicability depending on smallholder/large producer)

Management

- 1.1 Management capacities
- 1.2 Administration (incl. GPS / polygons, internal inspections)
- 1.3 Risk assessment and service delivery
- 1.4 Gender
- 1.6 Traceability
- 1.7 Premium
- 1.8 Farm profitability

Social

- 3.1 Discrimination: assess & address
- 3.2 Forced labor: assess & address
- 3.3 Child labor: assess & address
- 3.4 (Sexual) abuse and harassment: assess & address
- 3.5 Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining Agreements
- 3.6 Wages and contracts
- 3.7 Living Wage
- 3.8 Working conditions
- 3.9 Health & safety
- 3.10 Hygiene & housing
- 3.11 Communities

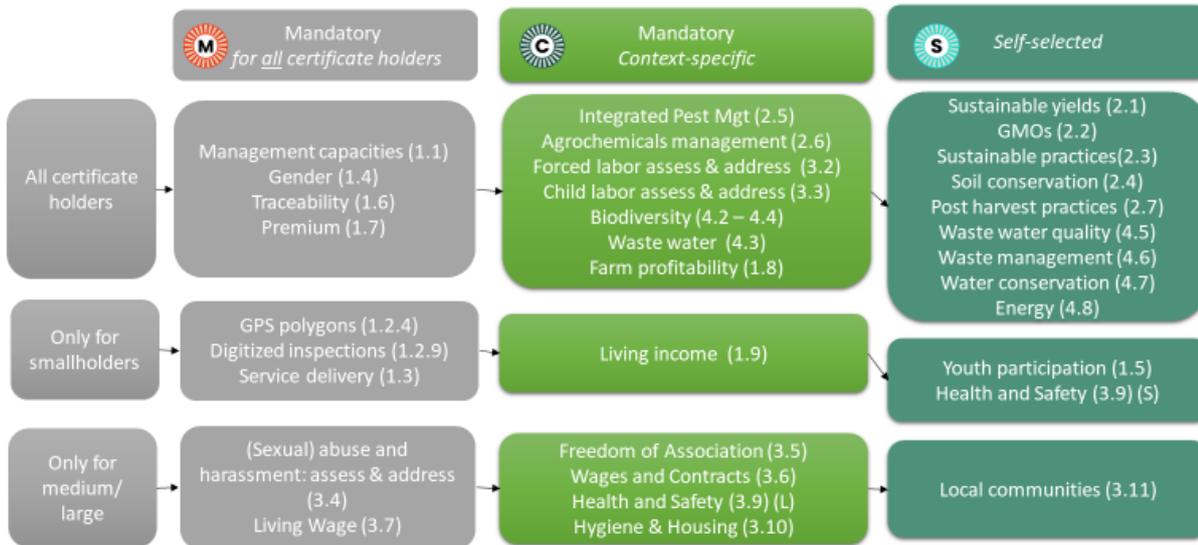
Farming practices

- 2.1 Sustainable yields
- 2.2 GMOs
- 2.3 Sustainable production practices
- 2.4 Soil fertility and conservation
- 2.5 Integrated Pest Management
- 2.6 Agrochemicals management
- 2.7 Post-harvest practices/MRL

Environment

- 4.1 Forests and other natural ecosystems
- 4.2 Biodiversity – native vegetation
- 4.3 Biodiversity – Non-application and buffer zones
- 4.4 Biodiversity – Wildlife and other practices
- 4.5 Waste water & water quality
- 4.6 Waste management
- 4.7 Water conservation

Improvement topics



Individual and Group Certification

Smallholders commonly use group certification; therefore, group management requirements are placed in the smallholder standard. Medium and large producers can under certain conditions also apply for joint certification (several farms to be certified in one certificate); in such case the standard for medium and large producers applies PLUS several requirements for the management of the joint certificate apply. The rules and conditions for this are to be determined.

Data and Indicators

Through the new certification system, Rainforest Alliance will facilitate data on sustainability practices and outcomes to producers, companies and other supply chain actors. These data are referenced in the standard as “indicators”.

This indicator data would be used to assess compliance, support farm and group management self-learning, and potentially report to other supply chain actors in a secure certificate holder “member profile”. Rainforest Alliance will provide guidance for the methodology to collect data and indicators; in many cases, methodology and guidance has already been documented. Depending on the topic, data can be collected through internal sources such as the farm or group’s internal management system or a trader or buyer monitoring and evaluation system, or through external sources such as the certification assurance process, external data sources such as satellite imagery, or by other credible and mutually agreed upon 3rd parties. Data used for compliance and external reporting may also be verified and analyzed through the assurance process.

Some data will be used to assess compliance, for examples that wages are above minimum wage. Data for self-learning can be used to give certificate holders better insights into the sustainability performance of their farm or group, diagnose sustainability gaps, and make plans for improvements. Data for reporting can be used to communicate compliance, improvements, and overall performance, and therefore incentivize sustainability performance. Finally, based on these various sources of information, farmers, supply chain partners and the Rainforest Alliance can target additional interventions and advocacy efforts to drive and catalyze changes at the sectoral and landscape level.

As an example, the Rainforest Alliance strives for an outcome that workers’ remuneration is sufficient for workers and their families to have a decent standard of living. As a starting point for certification, all workers

should receive at least the applicable minimum wage. In addition to that, the standard requires all producers to report on wages, and as an improvement topic, to increase these wages towards a living wage. This indicator for wage and remuneration will give insights in the actual gaps of where we see large differences between actual wages paid and a living wage. Over time this information can also show the improvements that are being made and drive collaborative action with supply chain actors to set targets and develop action plans.

Member Profile

A member profile for farms and groups is another innovation that will be used to communicate sustainability performance and improvements. Such a member profile would be informed by the data and indicators from the standard, and would allow producers to demonstrate their results, challenges, and improvements. The profile can become a valuable tool to drive continuous improvement, empower producers, build demand for certified product, and channel supply chain investments.

THEMATIC INNOVATIONS

While much of the content of the new RA standard is like that of the previous RA and Utz standards, a few key distinctions and innovations are proposed. One key innovation is in our proposed approach for child labor, forced labor and (sexual) harassment. Various experiences and research now show that due diligence approaches and remediation have better impact than only prohibition. This approach is now proposed in the relevant topics of Chapter 3 (Social) of the new standard.

Another field in which the Rainforest Alliance is exploring new pathways is more extensively addressing economic prosperity of the farmers and workers. In the current standards, a start was made with the introduction of criteria related to living wage and the practices behind farm profitability and living income. In the new standard, there is more focus on productivity and income, which will be explored together with further developments in our chain of custody standard and other requirements for buyers. Finally, addressing gender inequality is more pronounced in the new standard, recognizing the importance of women and girls for development.

Many key topics that were already present in existing RA and Utz standards will be maintained. These include the focus on farm and group management, good agronomic practices and natural resource conservation, safe use of agrochemicals, biodiversity conservation and nature protection, and an integrated approach on climate smart agriculture.

Assurance

As described above, an important pillar of 'reimagining certification' is the collection and verification of credible and useful data and compliance evidence. In order to keep the cost of certification reasonable for certificate holders, assurance is geared towards risks as well as topics that matter the most. The intent is not to lower the involvement of certification bodies, but to target their efforts more effectively. That means that auditors will spend much more time at farms to verify compliance with social criteria, whereas for some of the environmental criteria, technology and satellite images will get a more prominent role. In addition, the Rainforest Alliance is exploring assurance methods that are less depending on audits that are carried out once per year, but more on regular interim verification moments during the cycle.

Compliance rules

For the first certification audit, all certificate holders must comply with all core criteria applicable to their category (smallholder or medium/large). The Rainforest Alliance will also require a first assessment of where certificate holders score for the applicable improvement topics. For the following certification audits, it will be required to:

- Fully comply with all core criteria
- Show improvements on a minimum number (indication 12) of improvement topics, including mandatory, context-specific and self-selected topics

Further requirements on timeframes to reach a certain improvement level will be determined.

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THE RAINFOREST ALLIANCE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE STANDARD

CHAPTER 1: MANAGEMENT

Objectives and Outcomes:

Farming is not just a way of life but is also a business, and successful business needs management. The envisaged outcome for farm management is that certified farms are managed in an efficient, transparent, inclusive and economically viable manner. Here, it is essential that farms and groups implement an integrated planning and management system, with processes and systems for continuous improvement.

To help achieve this outcome, the chapter begins with topics related to management capacity, farm and group administration and data management, and sustainability assessment and management planning. Criteria in these topics follow a planning process of assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation and adjustment. Farm and group administrators play a key role in facilitating this planning process. Traceability and premium transparency are also topics that support this outcome of transparent farm management and overall integrity the RA certification system.

Finally, this chapter includes cross-cutting themes of gender, youth participation, and farm profitability and, where applicable, living income. The concept of living income recognizes the goal that farmers are able to improve their business profitability and at least earn an income to allow their families and households to have a decent standard of living. The selection of these topics in the management chapter recognizes the universal nature of these themes, and that they apply to multiple dimensions of farm and group activity. Criteria and improvement levels in these topics focus on contextual improvements. That is, rather than requiring a certain level of gender or youth participation, or a certain level of farm income, the standard encourages farm-specific and context-specific targets and activities to reach member’s appropriate goals.

1.1 Farm Management Capacities

Core			
<p>(1.1.1) Farm management demonstrates commitment to sustainable agriculture and compliance with this standard. Adequate resources and staff are dedicated to the development and implementation of management, farming, social, and environmental activities.</p> <p>Farm management assesses yearly its management capacities to ensure compliance with the Rainforest Alliance standard and the ability to make sustainability performance changes, by using a capacity assessment tool*. The capacity assessment tool includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human resources management • Business management • Financial management • Member services and business activities • Governance practices • Community and stakeholder engagement <p>*This can be a tool provided by the Rainforest Alliance, or a tool recognized by the Rainforest Alliance .</p>			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	<p>(1.1.2) Basic farm management capacities.</p>	<p>(1.1.3) Medium farm management capacities.</p>	<p>(1.1.4) Professional farm management capacities.</p>
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scores on a management assessment tool 			

1.2 Farm Administration

Core
(1.2.1) An up-to-date map of the production area(s) is available, including production zones, protected areas, water bodies and human settlements, in the proximity of farm limits. The map also includes risk areas identified in the risk assessment.
(1.2.2) GPS polygon(s) are available of all production areas(s).
(1.2.3) An accurate and updated overview of all workers on the farm (permanent and temporary) is kept. For all permanent workers, the overview contains at least their: full name, gender, year of birth, date of entry and period of contract, and wages. For all temporary workers, the overview contains at least their: full name, gender, year of birth, number of days worked in the last year, and wages.

1.3 Risk Assessment, Management Plan and Service Delivery

Core
(1.3.1) Farm management conducts a risk assessment in relation to the criteria in this standard for their farm at least every two years, using the Rainforest Alliance risk assessment tool.
(1.3.2) Based on the risk assessment, Farm management makes a management plan, describing improvement areas and actions to be taken. Actions are implemented, monitored, and documented. The management plan is updated at least every two years.

1.4 Gender

Core			
<p>(1.4.1) 1. Farm management commits to promote gender equality through a written statement and communicates that to workers.</p> <p>2. Farm management collects and uses gender disaggregated data, at least on the following topics; temporary/permanent workers' registry, training and awareness raising attendance lists, wage records, management and supervisory positions, reception of services and inputs.</p> <p>3. Awareness raising on gender equality with management and staff.</p>			
<p>(1.4.2) Farm management has installed a committee/person that will promote equal pay for equal jobs for male and female workers, ensure that measures are taken to prevent, assess and address gender-based discrimination, including a grievance mechanism, and take measures to improve the position of female workers (improved access to supervisory/management positions, training and other services and inputs, leadership training).</p>			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	<p>(1.4.3)</p> <p>1) Awareness raising is organized for farm workers on gender equality.</p> <p>2) Committee/person that has been installed addresses gender based discrimination, implements measures to promote gender equality in pay, rights, and opportunities to strengthen women (improved access to supervisory/management positions, training and other services and inputs, leadership training).</p>	<p>(1.4.4)</p> <p>1) Wage gap between male and female workers of the same job type is less than 20%.</p> <p>2) % of female workers with permanent contracts (of all contracted female workers) is 50% of the % of male workers with permanent contracts.</p> <p>3) % of women in workers' committees and in supervisory or management jobs reflects 50% of total of female workers.</p>	<p>(1.4.5)</p> <p>1) There is no wage gap between female and male workers of the same job type.</p> <p>2) % of women with permanent contracts (of all contracted women) is similar to % of men with permanent contracts (of all contracted men).</p> <p>3) % of women in workers' committees and in supervisory or management jobs reflect % of women workers.</p>
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of female workers with (permanent) contracts (compared to % of men with (permanent) contracts) 			

- % of committee, supervisory, or management jobs held by women (compared to % of female workers)
- Wage gap / differences between M and F workers of the same job type

1.5 Youth

N/A

1.6 Traceability

Core			
(1.6.1) The certified crop yield (kg/ha) and total certified production (kg/farm) are estimated annually by using a credible methodology based on representative sampling (see guidance). The estimation methodology and calculations are documented.			
(1.6.2) All certified products are clearly segregated from non-certified products in all facilities and at all stages of production.			
(1.6.3) Farm management records all sale transactions of Rainforest Alliance certified products, including premium, at least on a monthly basis, in the Rainforest Alliance traceability system. Total Rainforest Alliance sales do not exceed the actual certified harvest + remaining stock balance from the previous year.			
(1.6.4) Farm management keeps sales receipts of certified, multi-certified and non-certified product and records all sale transactions of Rainforest Alliance certified products, including premium, at least monthly, in the Rainforest Alliance traceability system. Total RA sales do not exceed the total harvest volume + remaining stock balance from the previous year.			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(1.6.5) The crop yield and total production estimate are done for each plot. The difference between estimated and actual yield and total production is not more than 30%.	(1.6.6) The crop yield and total production estimate are done for each plot. The difference between estimated and actual yield and total production is not more than 20%.	
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difference between estimated and actual yield 			

1.7 Premium

Core			
(1.7.1) Farm Management records in the Rainforest Alliance traceability system the premium expenditure.			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(1.7.2) Farm Management premium expenditure benefits workers and the local community.		
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of premium received • Allocation of the premium 			

1.8 Farm profitability

Core			
(1.8.1) Farm management reports data on harvested volumes, sales volumes and farm gate prices, and calculates the total revenue from the certified crop.			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(1.8.2) Farm management collects data on production costs, and calculates the net income of the certified crop.		
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenue (Gross income from the sale of the certified crop) of farm • Estimated net income of certified crop 			

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CHAPTER 2: FARMING PRACTICES

Objectives and Outcomes:

This chapter focuses on the outcomes of sustainable agriculture, crop productivity and profitability, and natural resources and ecosystem services. Included amongst these outcomes are the goals of climate smart agriculture and food security: farms and groups mitigate and adapt to climate change and increase their resiliency by implementing sustainable practices and diversifying when possible.

Various topics in the farming practice chapter of the RA standard work together to achieve these outcomes. The first topic of sustainable yields supports the outcome of crop productivity and profitability by focusing on identification and monitoring of an “optimized” or “target” crop yield. More specific agronomic activities related to sustainable production practices, soil fertility and conservation, integrated pest management, and safe agrochemicals management also support the outcome of sustainable productivity and profitability, as well as natural resource conservation and ecosystem services. Here the standard encourages locally relevant and context-specific practices to ensure that inputs and natural resources are used efficiently, natural cycles are optimized to increase climate change resilience, soil fertility and health is improved, pollinators are attracted, water retention and management is improved, agrochemicals are minimized, and negative effects on the environment are minimized. Finally, crop profitability is supported by post-harvest practices, where farms and groups realize improved quality of crops to meet market demand.

Implementation of criteria in this chapter form part of the foundation of a broader set of sustainable agriculture activities, so when combined with other field, market, and advocacy interventions, can support impacts at the sectoral and regional level.

2.1 Sustainable Yields

Core			
(2.1.1) Yields of the certified crop are monitored and recorded.			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(2.1.2) For at least 30% of the farm area, an optimal or target yield of the certified crop is identified.	(2.1.3) At least 50% of the farm area has identified an optimal or target yield, and 30% of the farm area has reached an optimal yield (within +/- 10% margin).	(2.1.4) At least 80% of the farm area has identified an optimal or target yield, and 50% of the farm area has reached an optimal yield (within +/- 10% margin).
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yield of certified crop (Kg/ha) • % of the farm area, for which the optimal yield of the certified crop is identified. 			

2.2 Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)

Core			
(2.2.1) There is no use of GMO in the certified crop on the farm.			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(2.2.2) There is no use of GMO on any of the crops on the whole farm.		

2.3 Sustainable Production Practices

Core			
N/A			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(2.3.1) At least 30% of farm area with perennial crops are adequately pruned according to agro-ecological conditions and applicable pruning guidelines. Unnecessary shoots and suckers, as well as infested material, are regularly removed.	(2.3.2) At least 50% of farm area with perennial crops are adequately pruned according to agro-ecological conditions and applicable pruning guidelines. Unnecessary shoots and suckers, as well as infested material, are regularly removed.	(2.3.3) At least 80% of farm area with perennial crops are adequately pruned according to agro-ecological conditions and applicable pruning guidelines. Unnecessary shoots and suckers, as well as infested material, are regularly removed.
	(2.3.4) At least 30% of the certified crop plants are within the optimal productive age range.	(2.3.5) At least 50% of the certified crop plants are within the optimal productive age range.	(2.3.6) At least 80% of the certified crop plants are within the optimal productive age range.
	(2.3.7) Healthy and suitable planting materials are used for rejuvenation (including grafting), renovation and the planting of new areas.		
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of farms that are adequately pruned according to applicable pruning "guidelines". • % of certified crop plants within the optimal productive age range. 			

2.4 Soil Fertility and Conservation

Core			
(2.4.1) Producers conduct a qualitative soil assessment, considering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erosion prone areas and slope • Identification of areas with visual symptoms of nutrient deficiency • Soil structure • Soil depth and soil horizons 			
(2.4.2) Basic soil practices area in place: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire is not used to clear vegetation when preparing fields (but can only be used for targeted sanitation measure as part of the IPM plan) • Fertilizer use is managed according to principles of appropriate source, rate, time, and place 			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(2.4.3) Chemical soil test analysis conducted and updated annually.	(2.4.7) Based on results of soil analysis, producers demonstrate in the application of fertilizers, the principles of appropriate source, rate, time, and place.	(2.4.11) Nutrient balance is achieved across the whole farm production area (inputs and exports of nutrients in relation to soil nutrient content).
	(2.4.4) Soil is conserved and managed with 30% permanent organic material cover (can include mulch, crop residue, cover crops, and / or shade trees) across production area.	(2.4.8) Soil is conserved and managed with 50% permanent organic material cover (can include mulch, crop residue, cover crops, and / or shade trees) across production area.	(2.4.12) Soil is conserved and managed with 80% permanent organic material cover (can include mulch, crop residue, cover crops, and / or shade trees) across production area.
	(2.4.5) Advanced soil conservation measures are identified and implemented, if applicable.	(2.4.9) Soil conservation measures are increased or modified based on the soil conditions, terrain, and	

		agroecological context. Anti-soil compaction measures such as no-till or reduced-tillage farming, low pressure tires, or restrictions on vehicle size and access times are implemented (if applicable).	
	(2.4.6) Organic fertilizers or additional measures are used to improve soil fertility.	(2.4.10) Organic fertilizers or additional measures to improve soil fertility are increased.	
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of production area with soil permanently covered • Type, volume, and frequency of fertilizer use 			

2.5 Integrated Pest Management

Core			
<p>(2.5.1) An IPM strategy is developed and documented. It includes the scope of the whole farm and processing facilities (if applicable), and is based on the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention by implementing good agricultural practices • Monitoring of weeds, pests, diseases and natural enemies • Use of non-chemical control methods (biological, cultural, mechanical) is preferred • Use of pesticides as a last option • When pesticides are used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use of non-synthetic pesticides is preferred ○ Preference is given to low toxicity chemical pesticides ○ Pesticides listed in the Watch list are used as a last option ○ Pesticides are rotated to reduce resistance ○ Applications are targeted to the impacted areas (spot application) ○ Volume and toxicity of agrochemicals used are recorded 			
<p>(2.5.2) The following basic IPM measures are implemented and documented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention by implementing good agricultural practices • Monitoring of weeds, pests, diseases and natural enemies, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Weeds, pests, diseases and natural enemies' type ○ Date, location, and incidence ○ Weather conditions ○ Crop condition • Use of non-chemical control methods (biological, cultural, mechanical) over chemical ones 			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	<p>(2.5.3) Pesticides are used as a last option. Producers can show with their record keeping that other measures have been taken, but were not successful.</p>	<p>(2.5.4) The IPM strategy is updated annually based on the pest monitoring, IPM implemented actions and agrochemicals application records.</p>	<p>(2.5.6) There is a reduction of pesticides use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The active substances used per unit of product produced is at a minimum level • Pesticides listed in the Watch list have been phased out
		<p>(2.5.5) When pesticides are used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of non-synthetic pesticides is preferred • Preference is given to low toxicity chemical pesticides • Pesticides listed in the Watch list are used as a last option • Pesticides are rotated to reduce resistance 	<p>(2.5.7) There is enhancement of natural ecosystems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insectaries • Planting bird/bat attracting trees • Converting low lying areas to small ponds with vegetation • Resistant/tolerant crop varieties are used

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applications are targeted to the impacted areas (spot application) 	
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volume and toxicity of agrochemicals used (and listing on watch list) 			

2.6 Agrochemicals Management

Core
(2.6.1) Agrochemicals included in the Rainforest Alliance Prohibited List or prohibited by national law are not used. Only legally registered agrochemicals for the production country are used.
(2.6.2) Agrochemicals included in the Watch list are only used when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need is identified as part of the IPM plan All practices related to mitigating the particular risks (as identified in the Mitigation measures list) have been implemented
(2.6.3) Persons handling agrochemicals or hazardous materials receive at least the following training: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Label and MSDS interpretation, techniques on correct handling, application, and use of equipment, first aid and medical assistance. A competent technician provides the training.
(2.6.4) Agrochemicals handlers use personal protective equipment (PPE) as prescribed in the product's MSDS, safety tag or other instructions, whichever are more stringent. The PPE is in good condition.
(2.6.5) After use, PPE is washed and stored in an appropriate safe space that does not pose risks for surroundings and humans, or disposed of correctly, in case of single use equipment.
(2.6.6) Bathing elements are provided to agrochemicals handlers.
(2.6.7) Agrochemicals handlers bathe and change their clothes directly after finishing the application.
(2.6.8) Agrochemicals are prepared, mixed and applied according to the label and quantity is accurately calculated considering the target area.
(2.6.9) All agrochemicals applications are recorded. Records include: i) product brand name ii) date(s) of application iii) location iv) quantity (dosage and volume) vi) name of the applicator.
(2.6.10) Obsolete and expired agrochemicals are kept in a locked storage area until returned to the supplier/local authority. If the supplier does not accept these products, these are labelled and stored separately from other products until disposed of safely.
(2.6.11) Aerial application is only allowed under strict conditions (forthcoming guidance to be developed by the Rainforest Alliance).
(2.6.12) Recommended pre-harvest and re-entry intervals for all agrochemicals used are known and respected. When two or more products with different pre-harvest intervals/re-entry intervals are used at the same time, the longest interval applies.
(2.6.13) Potentially affected persons or communities are identified, and informed in advance about agrochemicals applications and prevented from access to the applied areas for the duration of the intervals. Warning signs are in place.
(2.6.14) Spray drift reduction mechanisms between agrochemicals applied zones and non-applied zones (including ecosystems and infrastructure) are established and maintained. Mechanisms include non-crop vegetative barriers, non-application zones or other effective mechanisms.
(2.6.15) Facilities for handling, diluting and storing agrochemicals are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dry and clean Well ventilated and sufficiently lit Structurally secure, and Equipped with non-absorbent material

Agrochemicals and application equipment are stored:

- In accordance with the label instructions
- In their original container or packaging
- In a way to avoid spillage
- Securely in a location only accessible by the trained handlers and not accessible to children
- Away from the harvested product, tools, packing material, and food products

Improvement levels

	1	2	3
	<p>(2.6.16) Prescribed dosage, application timing, intervals of application and effective application equipment and techniques are considered to maximize the impact of the input used.</p>	<p>(2.2.20) The corridors and storage areas on the floor of the central agrochemicals storage facilities must be clearly marked. There must be a free space of at least 30 centimeters between the wall and the stored materials.</p>	<p>(2.6.22) Volume and dosages calculation methods are refined in order to reduce the surplus mix.</p>
	<p>(2.6.17) Application records additionally include: v) active ingredient vi) agrochemical container lot number vii) surplus mix (volume and disposal method) ix) Objective</p>	<p>(2.6.21) The surplus mix is disposed of in a manner that minimizes the negative impact on the environment and human health.</p>	<p>(2.6.23) Central agrochemical storage facilities have enough natural light and the openings for permanent ventilation – windows, extractors and other permanent openings that allow air to circulate freely – must be a minimum of 20% of the total floor area.</p> <p>The corridors and storage areas on the floor of the central agrochemicals storage facilities must be clearly marked. There must be a free space of at least 30 centimeters between the wall and the stored materials.</p>
	<p>(2.6.18) Containers are managed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empty input containers and application equipment are triple washed, and rinsing water is disposed of in a way that minimizes negative impact on human health and the environment, or returned back to the application mix for re-application. • Empty input containers are returned to the supplier/local authority. If there is no such system in place, containers are cut or perforated to prevent other uses and kept in a locked storage area. Containers may be re-used only for the original contents and only when labelled accordingly. 		

	<p>(2.6.19) Facilities for handling, diluting and storing agrochemicals have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sound roof and impermeable floors • A system to retain spillage • External clear and permanent warning signs close to access doors • Inside visible safety warnings and pictograms • A visible emergency procedure that includes symptoms of intoxication, first aid information, emergency contacts and have material safety sheets available • An eye-washing area. 		
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2.7 Post-Harvest Practices/Maximum Residue Level

Core			
<p>(2.7.1) Farm management implements basic harvest and post-harvest practices to reduce damages in product quality and losses in quantity. This basic measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harvesting at the right time • Preventing contamination with foreign matter during transportation, storage, packing, post-harvest processing and quality sorting 			
<p>(2.7.2) Farm management takes measures to respect the maximum residue levels set by known destination countries of the product.</p>			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	<p>(2.7.3) Farm management implements additional harvest and post-harvest practices to achieve optimal product quality and minimize losses in quantity.</p>		

CHAPTER 3: SOCIAL

Objectives and Outcomes

Sustainable agriculture is intrinsically linked with the livelihoods of millions of farmers, families, and their communities. To support sustainable livelihoods, the RA standard establishes outcomes related to human rights, living wage, decent living and working conditions, and support for local communities.

For human rights, the Rainforest Alliance envisages the outcome that farm management has improved capacity and performance in assessing and addressing risks and issues of child labor, forced labor, discrimination and gender-based topics, and that minors are not exposed to harmful labor conditions. Here, topics of no discrimination, no forced labor, no child labor, and no sexual abuse and harassment support this outcome by requiring an assess and address approach to assess and identify risks, establish preventative actions, commit and communicate policies, remediate cases when found, and monitor for continual learning and improvement.

With living wage, the standard supports the outcome that workers remuneration (wages and benefits) is sufficient for workers and their family to have a decent standard of living. This outcome is supported by the topic of wages and contracts, and where applicable, the topic of freedom of association and collective bargaining. Rainforest Alliance also believes that workers must have healthy and safe living & working conditions and access to health care, a goal that is addressed with the topics of working conditions, health and safety, and hygiene and housing. Finally, farms and groups will support local communities and avoid negative impacts, as identified by the final topic of communities.

Rainforest Alliance recognizes that farm certification is just one tool to deliver broad societal impacts. Here, the new RA standard serves as the core of our vision to reimagine certification, along with other chain of custody, buyer requirements, and other market, supply chain, and advocacy interventions. Collaborating in partnership means using social standards referenced in international mechanisms such as ILO conventions, or other multi-stakeholder concepts such as living wage, developed in coordination with the Global Living Wage Coalition.

The following principles are the basis for the social chapter:

- The rights of female and male workers as well as smallholders are equally protected, all workers and smallholders have equal opportunities and the freedom to develop their skills.
- All workers, including migrant, temporary, and female workers are free from sanctions, penalties and coercion that are used to compel them to perform work, and to prevent them from terminating the work.
- Children are protected from child labor.

3.1 No Discrimination

Core
(3.1.1) Commit and Communicate: Farm management makes a commitment to prevent and eradicate discrimination, including infringements of freedom to express cultural identity. The commitment is communicated to the workers by using symbols, pictograms, and the predominant language(s) of the workers.
(3.1.2) Raise awareness: Farm management is aware of the concept of non-discrimination and freedom to express cultural identity.
(3.1.3) Monitor: Farm management appoints a responsible person with the right expertise with the task to identify and document cases and risks of discrimination and infringement of freedom to express cultural identity. There is a grievance mechanism, and workers are informed on the details of how and where to report grievances. The anonymity and safety of victims and reporters is guaranteed.

(3.1.4) Remediate: Farm management remediates found cases of discrimination or infringement of freedom to express cultural identity.
Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of cases of discrimination or lack of cultural identity identified, and number remediated

3.2 Forced Labor: assess and address¹

Core			
(3.2.1) Assess: Farm management conducts a forced labor risk assessment (combination of own assessment and the Rainforest Alliance predefined assessment). The risk assessment takes into account, among others, the number of migrant workers, the number of temporary/seasonal workers, use of third party recruitment practices (labor brokers), remoteness of the farm and the level of illiteracy among workers.			
(3.2.2) Commit and communicate: Farm management makes a commitment to prevent and eradicate forced labor. The commitment is communicated to workers by using symbols, pictograms, and the predominant language(s) of the workers. Farm management implements basic measures to lower the risk of forced labor.			
(3.2.3) Raise awareness: Farm management is aware of the concept of forced labor.			
(3.2.4) Monitor: Farm management appoints a responsible person with the right expertise, with the task to identify and document cases of forced labor and risks of forced labor. There is a grievance mechanism, and workers are informed on the details of how and where to report grievances. The anonymity and safety of victims and reporters is guaranteed.			
(3.2.5) Remediate: Farm management remediates found cases of forced labor (e.g. repayment of illegal wage deductions or illegal recruitment fees).			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(3.2.6) 1) Farm management implements measures to reduce high risks, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empowerment of vulnerable groups (female/ migrant/ indigenous/ temporary workers) Training on literacy skills and financial literacy skills Equal treatment and payment of vulnerable workers as compared to permanent workers 2) Vulnerable workers have been made aware of the concept of forced labor. 3) Workers know and use grievance mechanisms.	(3.2.7) 1) Farm management implements measures to reduce medium risks. 2) Workers and family members living on-site have been made aware of the concept of forced labor. 3) Farm management implements remediation actions in cooperation with NGOs or government services.	(3.2.8) 1) Farm management uses the data collected and documented by the responsible person to improve preventive measures. 2) Effectiveness of preventive actions is measured and reviewed and preventive actions are adjusted. 3) All workers and family members have been made aware of the concept of forced labor.
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number and type of preventive and remediation actions for forced labor implemented Number of cases of forced labor identified and number remediated 			

¹ ILO C29 Forced Labor Convention, 1930 ILO C 105 Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1956 Migrant Workers Conventions No 97 and No 143
2000 Palermo Protocol supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

3.3 Child Labor: assess and address²

Core			
(3.3.1) Assess: Farm management conducts a child labor risk assessment (combination of own assessment and the Rainforest Alliance predefined assessment), providing information on the risk level (low, medium or high).			
(3.3.2) Commit and communicate: Farm management makes a commitment to prevent and eradicate child labor. The commitment is communicated to workers by using symbols, pictograms, and the predominant language(s) of the workers. Farm management implements basic measures to lower the risk of child labor.			
(3.3.3) Raise awareness: Farm management is aware of the concept of child labor. It can distinguish between child work and child labor and knows what measures to take to prevent child labor.			
(3.3.4) Monitor: Farm management appoints a responsible person with the right expertise, with the task to identify and document cases of child labor and risks of child labor.			
(3.3.5) Remediate: Farm management remediates found cases of child labor (e.g. through removal from work, change of activities or enrollment in school, or saving activities for parents).			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(3.3.6) 1) The risk assessment includes information about most the common types of activities performed by child laborers and about the age group most affected. The preventive actions focus on those specific activities and age groups. 2) Workers can generally distinguish between child labor and child work 3) The monitoring system includes at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paid and trained trust persons/ committees that are responsible for identifying documenting and addressing child labor, and that are accessible by all workers • A standardized tool, methodology and criterions for identification and documentation 4) Farm management implements remediation actions in cooperation with NGOs or government services.	(3.2.7) 1) The risk assessment contains analysis of core causes of child labor. The preventive actions focus on at least one core cause of child labor. 2) Workers' family members can generally distinguish between child labor and child work. 3) The data collected and documented by trust persons/committees is used to improve the preventive measures. 4) Effectiveness of preventive actions is measured and reviewed and preventive actions are adjusted.	(3.2.8) 1) The remediation is up-scaled to cover the households of all workers. At least 90 % of the workers' households with children at risk of child labor are visited by a trust person/committee member at least once a year. 2) At least 75% of cases identified through the farm's monitoring are no longer in child labor 2 years after identification.
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of cases of Child labor identified • Number of identified cases of child labor remediated • Number and type of prevention and remediation actions for child labor implemented • % of cases identified through the farm's monitoring that are no longer in child labor 2 years after identification. 			

² ILO conventions on child labor (ILO 138 (minimum age) and 182 (worst forms of child labor).

Convention concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation: ILO Convention 111)

Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.

Factsheet Sexual Harassment at Work: https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms_decl_fs_96_en.pdf

3.4 (Sexual) Abuse and Harassment: assess and address

Core			
(3.4.1) Assess: A risk assessment (combination of own assessment and RA predefined assessment) is conducted on the risks for (sexual) abuse and harassment.			
(3.4.2) Commit and communicate: Farm management makes a commitment to prevent and eradicate (sexual) abuse and harassment. The commitment is communicated to workers by using symbols, pictograms, and the predominant language(s) of the workers. Farm management implements basic measures to lower the risk (sexual) abuse and harassment.			
(3.4.3) Raise awareness: Farm management is aware of the concept of (sexual) abuse and harassment.			
(3.4.4) Monitor: Farm management appoints a responsible person with the right expertise, with the task to identify and document cases of (sexual) abuse and harassment and related risks. There is a grievance mechanism, and workers are informed on the details of how and where to report grievances. The anonymity and safety of victims and reporters is guaranteed.			
(3.4.5) Remediate: Farm management remediates found cases of (sexual) abuse and harassment.			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(3.4.6) Based on the risk assessment on (sexual) abuse and harassment, preventive actions are identified, planned, implemented and documented. Train and raise awareness: All workers, including temporary workers, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have been made aware of the concept of (sexual) abuse and harassment • Know where and how to report violations 		
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of identified cases of (sexual) abuse or harassment identified and number of cases remediated • Number and type of preventive and remediation actions on (sexual) harassment implemented 			

3.5 Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining Agreements³

Core			
(3.5.1) Workers can exercise their freedom of association. They can freely establish and join worker or farmer organizations and take part in collective bargaining on working conditions without interference by farm management or owners. They are not subject to discrimination or retaliation for reasons of affiliation. If national law forbids trade unions, workers are at least able to elect freely representatives to negotiate working conditions with the farm management. In case there is no formal structure or process in place for workers' participation in decision-making, a direct dialogue is established twice a year between workers and management.			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(3.5.2) Farm management implements awareness raising activities for workers on rights to associate and affiliate. Workers are offered a space for meetings on	(3.5.3) Farm management ensures that workers understand their rights to associate and affiliate and are able to contact unions and/or worker farmer/organization	

³ ILO 141 on rural workers ILO 87 and 98

	workers' rights. Decisions made at worker committee meetings and meetings between employer and workers are communicated to the workforce.	representatives and facilitates workers to exercise these rights. There are signposts with workers' rights to organize and bargain on wages and working conditions and with the organization's policy on freedom of association in a language that workers understand. Farm management provides capacity-building training on social dialogue and workers' rights.	
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3.6 Wages and Contracts

Core			
(3.6.1) Workers receive at least the applicable minimum wage or the Collective Bargaining Agreement wage, whichever is higher. For production, quota or piece work, the established pay rate equals at least a minimum wage based on a 48-hour working week. Mandatory deductions from wages do not reduce net wages below the minimum wage.			
(3.6.2) Workers who are employed for more than 3 months have written employment contracts.			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	<p>(3.6.3) Workers have insight on their wages, regular hours worked, overtime hours worked, overtime, benefits, mandatory deductions from wage for taxes and social security. Wages are paid directly to the worker.</p> <p>A record is kept of wage payments and signed by each worker and, if applicable, labor contractor.</p> <p>The record can be a collective document, nevertheless it is signed by each worker at the moment of hiring and at the moment of final payment. The records are centrally stored, but made available for each worker to consult.</p>		
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average wages plus cash and in-kind benefits for male and female workers 			

3.7 Living Wage

Core
(3.7.1) The total remuneration (wages plus cash and in-kind benefits) is reported and assessed against the Living Wage, where a benchmark is available, or the Proxy provided.
(3.7.2) If workers' total remuneration is below the living wage estimate/proxy, a wage improvement plan is developed in consultation with worker representatives or an informal workers' committee. The improvement plan applies to all workers (daily, temporary, permanent etc.). Yearly milestones are identified. At a minimum, cash wages increase yearly beyond the national inflation rate.
Improvement levels

	1	2	3
	(3.7.3) Total remuneration of workers (cash wages, cash benefits, and in-kind benefits) is at least 75% of the Living Wage.	(3.7.4) Total remuneration of workers (cash wages, cash benefits, and in-kind benefits) is at least the Living Wage.	
	Indicators		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of wage increase compared to the year before • Wages plus in-kind benefits in comparison to Living Wage or Proxy 			

3.8 Working Conditions⁴

Core
<p>(3.8.1) Regular working hours for staff and workers do not exceed 48 hours per week. They have at least one 30-minute rest break after 6 continuous working hours. They have at least one day off after 6 continuous days of work.</p> <p>Watchmen regular working hours do not exceed 56 hours per week on average per year.</p>
<p>(3.8.2) Overtime work is voluntary and only permitted if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is requested in a timely manner • It is paid according to national law or collective bargaining agreements • It does not exceed 12 hours per week except if national law allows for specific exceptions • It is not demanded on a regular basis • workers have safe transport home after work • A record of the number of regular hours and extra hours worked by each worker is kept
<p>(3.8.3) Workers receive maternity and paternity rights and benefits in accordance with applicable law. They can return to their job after maternity leave on the same terms and conditions and without discrimination, loss of seniority or deduction of wages.</p> <p>Breastfeeding women have two additional 30-minute breaks per day to nurture the child.</p>

3.9 Health and Safety

Core
<p>(3.9.1) Appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is provided for free and used when needed to work safely, including working with chemicals, with machines, in difficult terrains or for other hazards (hats for working in the sun, boots for working in terrains with snakes).</p> <p>Machines have clear instructions on safe usage, and their dangerous parts are guarded or encased. Workers using such machines are appropriately trained.</p> <p>A clear and written accident and emergency procedure is in place. Farm management effectively inform permanent workers and seasonal workers about this procedure. Clear and permanent warning signs are placed at central locations to indicate potential hazards.</p>
<p>(3.9.2) Workers and their families living on the farm have access to potable water through one of the following means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to a public potable water system, or • Potable water provided by the farm management, compliant with drinking water parameters as set by the WHO, based on testing preceding each Rainforest Alliance certification audit and any time that water contamination risks have occurred. Potable water sources are protected and, water distribution mechanisms are maintained to avoid contamination.
<p>(3.9.3) Sufficient and safe drinking water is provided at all working sites in the field as well as in packing and processing facilities during working hours.</p> <p>If water is stored, it must be protected against contamination by a functional lid, and the water needs to be refreshed at least once a day. Potable water sources are protected, and water distribution mechanisms are maintained to avoid contamination.</p>

⁴ * C110 - Plantations Convention, 1958 (No. 110) * C171 - Night Work Convention, 1990 (No. 171)

<p>To consider drinking water as safe, it should be tested annually, and at any time that water contamination risks have occurred. Safe drinking water parameters should be based on national regulation or the World Health Organisation (WHO) parameters, whichever is higher.</p>			
<p>(3.9.4) Clean and functioning toilets and hand washing stations are provided on production, processing, maintenance and office sites. Field workers are provided with sanitary facilities. Sanitary facilities are separated by gender. Workers are allowed to frequent the facilities when needed.</p>			
<p>(3.9.5) Trained first aid employees and appropriate first aid boxes are available to workers for treatment of work-related injuries and emergency health care free of charge. This includes transport to and treatment in a hospital if the nature of the injury requires this. The boxes are placed at central locations of production, processing, and maintenance sites. For emergency situations, appropriate measures including showers and eye-washes are present.</p>			
<p>(3.9.6) Workers and their families living on-site have access to primary health care, including maternal health care.</p>			
<p>(3.9.7) The number and type of occupational health and safety incidents are recorded, including incidents related to pesticide and input use.</p>			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	<p>(3.9.8) For workers carrying out tasks with health risks including working with chemicals the farm management provide medical examinations once a year. For workers whose job exposes them to organophosphates and carbamate pesticides, the medical monitoring includes cholinesterase testing. Workers have access to the results of their medical examination.</p>	<p>(3.9.10) Workshops, storage areas and processing facilities are designed for safe and secure storage of substances and materials. They are clean and organized, and have sufficient light and ventilation. They have appropriate equipment for firefighting, and means to adequately remediate any substance or spillage of materials. Only authorized personnel have access to workshops, storage or processing facilities.</p> <p>Basic training on occupational health and safety and hygiene is provided to all persons working in the farms. Hygiene instructions are visibly displayed at central locations.</p>	
	<p>(3.9.9) When workers are diagnosed with temporary health conditions or have short-term disabilities that impair their ability to carry out their job, the farm management reassigns these workers for the length of the disability period to a different work task appropriate for the condition without penalty or a decrease in compensation.</p>	<p>(3.9.11) An Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) committee is chosen by workers for farms with 20 or more permanent workers, or as required by national law. Women and men are represented. The committee participates in or carries out regular OHS reviews, and its findings and decisions are considered in the OHS procedures and activities. Committee decisions and associated activities are documented. The committee covers OHS aspects including training, safety, risk, use of PPE, good posture, hygiene, for all relevant activities relevant for field activities, processing and storage.</p>	
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number and type of occupational health and safety incidents that occurred, including incidents related to pesticide and input use. 			

3.10 Hygiene and Housing

Core			
<p>(3.10.1) Workers and their families living on-site have living quarters at least meeting the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ventilation and smoke evacuation canal • Protection against weather conditions - such as rain, wind or cold weather (durable structure) • Living quarters can be locked • Have division between families, or between men and women if there are quarters for individual workers • Absence of rats, mice, insects and vermin, or conditions that favor their populations that could cause disease or carry parasites that function as vectors of diseases • Dry floors • Hygienic sanitations • Toilets or latrine pit with a slap and VIP or septic tank, adequate drainage that is private. <p>ILO_ R115 - Workers' Housing Recommendation, 1961 (No. 115)</p>			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	<p>(3.10.2) Farm management implements measures to increase the sleeping space per person, and to improve the sanitary facilities on-site to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five square meters per person in sleeping areas • Beds are not arranged in more than two levels • Installed and maintained fire extinguishing mechanisms • At least one toilet per house or for every 15 persons, one urinal for every 25 men • one washbasin for every six persons or per family • At least one shower per 10 persons, separated by gender • At least one large laundry sink for every 30 persons <p>At least 90% of the workers are at this level of housing conditions.</p>	<p>(3.10.3) Farm management takes additional measures to improve the living conditions on-site as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe storage for personal items • Housing has electricity • Natural light during the daytime and artificial light for the nighttime • Natural ventilation that ensures movement of air in all conditions of weather and climate • Sealed floors • Headroom is of not less than 203 centimeters for full and free movement • Cooking facilities <p>AT least 90% of the workers are at this level of housing conditions.</p>	<p>(3.10.4) Farm management takes additional measures to improve the living conditions on-site as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The house has recreational areas • Marked safety exits • Well-maintained electrical fittings • And any other additional improvement measures taken by the farm administration <p>At least 90% of the workers are at this level of housing conditions</p>
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of workers with improved housing conditions (according to the level) 			

3.11 Communities

Core			
<p>(3.11.1) Prior to any new project, significant intensification of their activities or expansion of cultivation or infrastructure, farm management assesses potential impacts on communities and individuals, including impacts on food security and water availability. There should be free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) from the community and measures taken to minimize and mitigate negative impacts from operations on communities and individuals.</p>			
<p>(3.11.2) Farm operations do not diminish community land or resource use rights or collective interests. The use of resources is fully documented with maps indicating the location, boundaries, and planned uses of lands and other resources over which communities have legal, customary, or user rights. These documentation is shared with the community.</p>			
<p>(3.11.3) If the farm management diminish communities' land or resource use rights, mutually agreed compensation commensurate with the loss of use is negotiated with and provided to communities. The whole process is documented and signed by the parties involved.</p>			
<p>(3.11.4) Legitimate right to use the land is demonstrated by ownership, leasehold, or other legal documents or by documentation of traditional or community use rights. Right to use the land is not legitimately disputed by current or former local residents or communities, including in relation to past dispossession or forced abandonment. In the event of land conflict, legitimate right may be demonstrated if a conflict resolution process has been implemented, documented, and accepted by the affected parties.</p>			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	<p>(3.11.5) Farm management implements activities with the communities to mitigate the risks identified in the impact assessment of the farm activities.</p> <p>Farm management actively engages with the community to get to an adequate and timely resolution in case there is a conflict.</p>	<p>(3.11.6) Farm management and communities are involved in joint interventions to address additional social, economic and environmental issues identified by the communities.</p>	<p>(3.11.7) Farm management has a continuous and considerable commitment to the communities. The communities benefit from this engagement.</p>

CHAPTER 4: ENVIRONMENT

Objectives and Outcomes

Agriculture can have positive or negative effects on the natural environment, depending on how it is managed. In the RA standard, this chapter outlines pathways for certified farms to have a positive impact on the planet, and its forests, biodiversity, water, and climate.

The first topic in this chapter supports the outcome that farms and groups conserve, maintain, and restore natural ecosystems and their services, and do not contribute to deforestation, forest degradation and destruction of other natural ecosystems. The topic of biodiversity and native vegetation support the outcome that farms and groups avoid degradation of natural habitats, contribute to improving biodiversity, and help to prevent the extinction of threatened species. Finally, in the topics of water, waste, and energy, farms and groups reduce pollution, treat wastewater and minimize release of hazardous pollutants, and reduce waste and energy through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.

Finally, throughout this chapter and the farming practices chapter, the RA standard works towards the outcome of farms and groups adopting climate adaptation and resilience techniques and supporting climate change mitigation. Once again, the Rainforest Alliance recognizes that farm certification fits into a larger picture of landscape conservation, where multiple strategies are needed to create lasting impact for biodiversity and planet. The content of this chapter marks a starting point where certified farms and groups can support this goal.

4.1 Forests and Other Natural Ecosystems

Core
(4.1.1) Producers have not, after 1 January 2008, converted forests or other natural ecosystems to agricultural production or to other non-forest land use.
(4.1.2) Production or processing in protected areas does not occur, unless it complies with applicable law and management plans for protected areas and their adjacent (buffer) zones, as defined by the respective local authority for the conservation and management of the protected area.

4.2 Biodiversity – Native vegetation

Core			
(4.2.1) Forests, natural ecosystems and other existing native vegetation cover on the farm is conserved, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large native trees, (except when these pose hazards to people or infrastructure) • Existing agroforestry shade cover, (except when it significantly competes with crops) • Existing vegetated zones 			
(4.2.2) Farm management has made an assessment of natural ecosystems, including areas with significant intact forest, primary forest canopy cover, rare flora and fauna communities, important habitat elements, critical watershed values, important to local communities' traditional cultural identity (and other native vegetation).			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(4.2.4) Agroforestry: Farms have at least 10% tree canopy coverage across the farm, where appropriate in accordance with an agroforestry system that may include: trees in contour hedgerows, trees in strips (corridor system), trees in contiguous area (shade), trees in a mixed system, or trees on plot boundaries.	(4.2.6) Agroforestry: Farms have at least 20% tree canopy coverage across the farm or meet other recommended canopy cover and species diversity parameters for shade tree coverage.	(4.2.8) Tree canopy coverage in the farm area consists of at least two identifiable canopy layers/strata.

	(4.2.5) Set aside areas: Farms have at least 10% total native vegetation set aside across the farm for nature conservation purposes.	(4.2.7) Set aside areas: Farms have at least 20% total native vegetation set aside across the farm.	(4.2.9) If multiple areas of natural ecosystems exist on the farm, biological corridors are established to connect these areas.
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average % agroforestry tree coverage in production area • Land area under native vegetation set aside and % of total certified area 			

4.3 Biodiversity – Non-application and Buffer Zones

Core			
(4.3.1) A non-application zone is kept between pesticide applied crops and areas of human activity, or aquatic and terrestrial natural ecosystems.			
(4.3.2) A vegetated zone is kept along more than 50% of borders of aquatic ecosystems. Vegetated zones fulfill Rainforest Alliance parameters for vegetated zones and are composed of native vegetation, exclude all cultivation and exclude all application of pesticides.			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(4.3.4) A vegetated zone fulfilling Rainforest Alliance parameters is kept along all borders of aquatic ecosystems.		
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of aquatic areas with buffer zone meeting Rainforest Alliance parameters 			

4.4 Biodiversity – Wildlife and other practices

Core			
(4.4.1) Vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered animals are never hunted, trafficked or killed. Animals are not hunted on the farm, with the following exceptions: 1. smallholders may hunt for non-commercial use; 2. vertebrate pest wildlife may be hunted in accordance with the farms Integrated Pest Management plan.			
(4.4.2) Wildlife is not held in captivity. Captive animals that were present on the farm before the earliest certification date may be held only for non-commercial purposes for the remainder of their lives if not mistreated.			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(4.4.3) Invasive species are not intentionally introduced or released. Existing invasive species or their parts are not disposed of in aquatic ecosystems.	(4.4.4) Measures are taken to contain and reduce existing invasive species.	(4.4.7) Farm management minimizes human-wildlife conflicts affecting workers, wildlife, crops, or farm assets through the siting and design of farm infrastructure and fencing; maintenance or establishment of wildlife corridors to facilitate wildlife movement while minimizing conflict; and training workers in procedures and emergency responses for addressing crop damage or wildlife attacks.

		(4.4.5) Farm management has created a list of wildlife species native to the region and identified which of those species are classified as vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered according to the IUCN Red List.	
		(4.4.6) There are "no hunting" or "no trespassing" signs, gates or guards to prevent unauthorized hunting.	

4.5 Wastewater and Water Quality

Core			
(4.5.1) Wastewater from processing operations is not discharged into aquatic ecosystems or drainage systems unless it has undergone a treatment to remove particulates and toxins and to reduce acidity. Wastewater meets the Rainforest Alliance industrial wastewater parameters - Biological oxygen demand (1000 mg/L or ppm), - Chemical oxygen demand (1500 mg/L or ppm), pH (5.5-9.0). Wastewater from processing: Wastewater tests are conducted at all exit points and recorded on a monthly basis during operations.			
(4.5.3) Wastewater from housing or other infrastructure (including sewage and greywater) is managed and treated such that it does not pollute the environment. Untreated sewage is not discharged into aquatic ecosystems. Farm management does not use human sewage in production or processing activities.			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(4.5.4) If wastewater is released into a leach field or lagoon or sprayed onto fields, the distance between the edge of the fields or lagoon is in an appropriate distance from aquatic ecosystems.	(4.5.5) Wastewater treatment systems (for water from processing operations and for other wastewater) are assessed and upgraded if needed.	
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wastewater quality: Biological Oxygen Demand, Chemical Oxygen Demand and pH at discharge 			

4.6 Waste Management

Core			
(4.6.1) Waste is stored and disposed of only in designated areas. Waste storage, treatment and disposal practices do not pose health or safety risks to producers, workers, other people, or natural ecosystems. Waste is never disposed of in natural ecosystems or aquatic ecosystems.			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(4.6.2) Waste is not burned (except in incinerators technically designed for the specific waste type).	(4.6.4) Farm management quantifies and documents the origin, approximate volume, and current means of disposal for all waste streams.	(4.6.5) Based on record-keeping, the farm management demonstrates that it produces a minimal amount of waste per unit product grown or processed.
	(4.6.3) Waste is segregated based on available waste management and disposal options. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recyclable wastes are separated and recycled 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organic waste is composted or otherwise processed for use as organic fertilizer Scrap materials that can feasibly be reused are stored in designated areas away from processing plants and housing 		
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste generated (kg/year) 			

4.7 Water Conservation

Core			
(4.7.1) Farm management complies with the applicable law for the withdrawal of surface or groundwater for agricultural, domestic or processing purposes.			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(4.7.2) When new irrigation systems are established, they are designed to optimize crop production while minimizing water waste, erosion and salinization.	(4.7.3) Existing irrigation, water distribution and processing systems are managed and maintained to optimize crop or pasture productivity and minimize water waste, erosion and salinization.	(4.7.5) Based on record-keeping, the farm management demonstrates that the water used for irrigation, processing per unit of product produced or processed, is at a minimum possible level.
		(4.7.4) For operations that irrigate or use water for processing, farm management quantifies and documents water use per unit of product produced or processed. Farm management sets targets for improving water use efficiency.	
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water use (Liters/year) 			

4.8 Energy

Core			
N/A			
Improvement levels			
	1	2	3
	(4.8.1) Farm management quantifies and documents type of energy sources and associated machinery used for production, processing, and domestic use. Farm sets targets for increasing energy efficiency and for reducing dependency on non-renewable energy sources.	(4.8.2) Based on record-keeping, the farm management demonstrates that the overall energy use or non-renewable energy use per unit product grown or processed is reduced with more than 10%.	(4.8.3) Based on record-keeping, the farm management demonstrates that the overall energy use or non-renewable energy use per unit product grown or processed is at a minimum level.
Indicators			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy use (KWh/year) 			

ANNEX 1: RAINFOREST ALLIANCE DEFINITIONS

Abuse	Behaviours which depart from reasonable conduct and involve the misuse of physical or psychological strength ⁵
Active ingredient	A pesticide consists of several substances. The active ingredient is the chemical that can kill, repel, attract, mitigate or otherwise control a pest. The other substances can assist this effect, directly or indirectly.
Agrochemical	Any substance, or a mixture of substances of chemical or biological ingredients that humans use to help in the management of an agricultural ecosystem; it includes fertilizers, liming and acidifying agents, soil conditioners, pesticides, and herbicides.
Child Labor	<p>Work that deprives children of their dignity, their potential, and their childhood. This includes: Work conducted by children under 15 years for the farm, group or group members. In case national law has set the minimum work age at 14 years (or an age higher than 15), this age applies. Work conducted by children under 18 years, for the farm, group or group members that may harm their physical, mental, or moral well-being, because of the nature of the work or the number of working hours. This includes carrying heavy loads, or work in dangerous locations, in unhealthy situations, at night, or with dangerous substances or equipment, as well as trafficked, bonded or forced labor.</p> <p>Exceptions: Light work: Children in the age of 13-14 years may perform light work, provided that the work not be harmful to their health and development, does not interfere with their schooling or training, is under the supervision of an adult, and does not exceed 14 hours a week. In case national law has set the light work ages at 12-13 years, these ages apply. Family labor: Farming activities done by children living on small-scale family farms that consist of light, age-appropriate duties that give them an opportunity to develop skills, does <u>not</u> classify as child labor provided that the activities are not harmful to their health and development, do not interfere with schooling and leisure time, and are under the supervision of an adult</p>
Conversion	Change of a natural ecosystem to another land use. This is typically characterized by loss or profound change of the natural ecosystem's species composition, structure, and/or function. <i>This includes conversion of a natural ecosystem to plantation, cropland, pasture, water reservoirs, infrastructure, mining, and urban areas. It also includes the large scale and progressive or enduring degradation of a natural ecosystem to the extent that it no longer possesses most of its former species composition, structure and/or function. Land-use change that meets this definition is considered to be conversion regardless of whether or not it is legal. Low-impact production or other activities within a natural ecosystem, such as rustic coffee cultivation or livestock grazing, are not considered conversion under certain circumstances.</i>
Discrimination	Discrimination implies any distinction, exclusion or preference made on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, political opinion, national extraction or social origin, which has the effect of nullifying or impairing equality of opportunity or treatment in employment or occupation ⁶
Employment agreement	Written contract or verbal agreement between the farm management or group administrator and the worker that covers: job description, working hours, pay rate, overtime regulation, benefits and deductions, annual paid vacation leave, protection from loss of pay in the case of illness, disability or accident, and the notice period for contract termination.
Farm	All land and facilities used for agricultural production and processing activities covered by the same management and by the same operational procedures. A farm may be composed of several neighboring or geographically separate units of land within one country, if they are under a common management body.
Farm Management	Farm Management refers to the representative of the Farm Manager or Administrator that can implement all criteria that require a high level of technical knowledge and planning skill. Compliance with criteria is assured by the Farm Management or its technical representative and applies both to single certificate farms or multi-sites under one owner.
Farmer	Man or woman involved in farming activities, not necessarily head of farm or owner of the farm (see female farmer)

⁵ (Chappell & Di Martino, 2006; ILO 2013 (https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_222231.pdf))

⁶ (ILO Convention 111)

Fertilizer	<p>Inorganic Fertilizer: A fertilizer material in which carbon is not an essential component of its basic chemical structure. Fertilizer in which the declared nutrients are in the form of inorganic salts obtained by extraction and/or by physical and/or chemical industrial processes. Examples are ammonium nitrate, ammonium sulfate, and potassium chloride.</p> <p>Organic Fertilizer: By-product from the processing of animal or vegetable substances that contain sufficient plant nutrients to be of value as fertilizers. Examples include compost, manure, peat, and slurry.</p>
Forced, compulsory, or slave labor	<p>All work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered herself or himself voluntarily. This includes, but not limited to:</p> <p>Forcing workers to work or stay at the workplace;</p> <p>Control of worker access to food, water, toilets, canteens, medical care or health clinics as a means to discipline or reward workers;</p> <p>Withholding workers' salaries, documents, IDs, benefits, property or any rights acquired in the course or due to the status of work or stipulated by law;</p> <p>Restricting the workers' freedom of movement to and from their employer provided housing, unless such movement would compromise the residents' security;</p> <p>Bonded labor that forces workers to work due to debt owed to a recruiter, farm or group administrator representative;</p> <p>Labor by prisoners or those working under the regimen of imprisonment, even when permitted by local regulations or other laws.</p>
Forest	<p>Tree-covered land – spanning more than 0.5 hectares with trees higher than 5 meters and a canopy cover of more than 10 percent, or trees able to reach these thresholds in situ– that is not predominately under agricultural, urban or other land use. This definition includes primary forests whose composition, structure and dynamics remain largely in their natural state, as well as secondary forests possessing a mixture of natural and human induced composition, structure and dynamics. For the purpose of company deforestation-free commitments, the focus is on preventing the conversion of natural forests – that is, forests that are natural. To the extent that plantations are included in existing forest definitions and monitoring systems (e.g., of the FAO and national governments), the Rainforest Alliance advocates that natural forests be distinguished from plantations for the purpose of conducting forest inventories and quantifying forest loss and gain. This will facilitate comparability between government land-use monitoring and the tracking of supply chain commitments focused on human-induced conversion of natural forest . ⁷</p>
Freedom of Association	<p>The right of workers and employers to form and join organizations of their own choosing is an integral part of a free and open society.⁸</p>
Gender	<p>Relations between men and women, the roles and responsibilities assigned to women and men, the opportunities open to them, and the work they engage in are determined by the understanding of what is appropriate for men and women.</p>
Gender equality	<p>Gender equality means that women and men have equal rights and opportunities and are free to develop their personal abilities and make choices without being hindered by stereotypes, rigid gender roles or prejudices ⁹</p>
GMO	<p>Genetically modified organism: An organism whose genetic material has been altered in a way that does not occur naturally by mating and/or natural recombination. <i>(as defined in the Directive 2001/18/EC of the European Parliament)</i></p>
Group	<p>A group of organized producers that are part of a shared IMS and are certified together under the RA standard Certification Protocol. The group of organized producers can be organized in an association or cooperative or managed by a supply chain actor (such as an exporter) or another entity.</p>
Group Management	<p>The entity that signs the certification agreement with the Rainforest Alliance accredited certification body and takes responsibility for the development and implementation of the group's internal management system and all member farms' management systems. The group management assures member farms' compliance with the Standard.</p>
Group Member	<p>A producer who is certified as part of a group and is responsible for one or more producer group. It can be the person who is the actual operator of the farm (e.g. a sharecropper) and does not need to be the land owner.</p>

⁷ (adapted slightly from FAO Forest Resources Assessment (2015)):

⁸ <https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/freedom-of-association-and-the-right-to-collective-bargaining/lang-en/index.htm>

⁹ (Laven et al 2012. Challenging Chains to Change. Gender Equity in Agricultural Value Chain Development. KIT, AgriProFocus and IIRR).

Harassment	Any conduct towards somebody based on their age, disability, HIV status, domestic circumstances, sex, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, ethnic background, colour, language, religion, political opinion, trade union affiliation or other opinion or belief, national or social origin, association with a minority, property, birth or other status that is unreciprocated or unwanted and which affects the dignity of women and men at work ¹⁰
Housing	There is a basic need for shelter, away from the elements and as protection against predators. Beyond this, a house becomes a home when people identify with it, with those who share the house and even with others in the vicinity. Housing together is the basis of community, where people can share and help one another ¹¹
Hygienic Sanitations	Sanitation generally refers to the provision of facilities and services for the safe disposal of human urine and feces. The word 'sanitation' also applies to the maintenance of hygienic conditions, through services such as garbage collection and wastewater disposal. ¹²
Integrated Pest Management (IPM)	The careful consideration of all available pest control techniques and subsequent integration of appropriate measures that discourage the development of pest populations and keep pesticides and other interventions to levels that are economically justified and reduce or minimize risks to human health and the environment. IPM emphasizes the growth of healthy crops and cattle with the least possible disruption to agro-ecosystems and encourages natural pest control mechanisms. Application of pesticides is based on documented thresholds for disease or pest infestations.
Invasive species	A plant or vertebrate species or subspecies that is not native to a given place, and whose presence or introduction in that place causes or is likely to cause economic harm, environmental harm, or harm to human health. For the purpose of this standard, invasive species are the ones referenced by IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) as 100 of the World's Worst Invasive Alien Species (http://www.issg.org/worst100_species.html) and crop or cattle species are not considered invasive species.
Living Income	The net annual income required for a household in to afford a decent standard of living for all members of that household. Elements of a decent standard of living include: food, water, housing, education, healthcare, transportation, clothing, and other essential needs including provisions for unexpected events. Living income is closely related to living wage which is related to a worker. A living income can be discussed in any income earner and includes self-employed farmers. ¹³
Living wage	The remuneration received for a standard workweek by a worker in a particular place sufficient to afford a decent standard of living for the worker and her or his family. Elements of a decent standard of living include food, water, housing, education, health care, transportation, clothing, and other essential needs including provision for unexpected events. ¹⁴
Maximum Residue Level (MRL)	A legal limit for the maximum amount of chemical residues permitted on food. MRLs act as an indicator of the correct use of pesticides.
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheet
Natural Ecosystem	An ecosystem that substantially resembles – in terms of species composition, structure, and function – one that is or would be found in a given area in the absence of major human impacts. This includes ecosystems that have not been subject to major human impacts in recent history as well as those that were subject to major impacts in the past (for instance by agriculture, livestock raising, tree plantations, or intensive logging) but where main causes of impact have ceased or greatly diminished and the ecosystem has re-gained much of its prior species composition, structure and function. Natural ecosystems may contain some level of degradation. Examples of terrestrial natural ecosystems include primary and secondary forests, savannahs, natural scrublands and grasslands, peatlands, and other wetlands. Plantations (as defined below) are not considered natural ecosystems. Livestock grazing areas that are enclosed or dominated by non-native vegetation are not considered natural ecosystems; however, pastoral or other systems for livestock rearing on native grasslands are generally considered natural ecosystems. ¹⁵

¹⁰ (ILO, 2012a, see also link https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_222231.pdf)

¹¹ International Labor Organization (1976), *Employment, Growth and Basic Needs: a One World Problem*, Geneva

¹² <http://www.who.int/topics/sanitation/en/>

¹³ <https://www.globallivingwage.org/about/living-income/>

¹⁴ ILO, (2011)

¹⁵ (AFi, 2018):

Optimal Yield	The optimal yield is the yield that provides the highest profitability to the producer in the medium and long term, bearing in mind social and environmental externalities.
Permanent worker	A worker with a work contract of 12 months or more.
Personal protective equipment (PPE)	Equipment worn to minimize exposure to hazards that cause serious workplace injuries and illnesses. These injuries and illnesses may result from contact with chemical, radiological, physical, electrical, mechanical, or other workplace hazards. Personal protective equipment may include items such as gloves, safety glasses and shoes, earplugs or muffs, hard hats, respirators, or coveralls, vests and full body suits.
Pest	A pest is any species, strain or biotype of plant, animal, or pathogenic agent injurious to plants or plant products.
Pesticide	Any substance, or mixture of substances of chemical or biological ingredients, intended for repelling, destroying or controlling any pest, and including unwanted species of plants or animals causing harm during or otherwise interfering with the production, processing, storage, transport or marketing of food, agricultural commodities The term includes substances intended for use as a defoliant, desiccant or agent for thinning fruit or preventing the premature fall of fruit. Pesticides are also used for application on crops either before or after harvest to protect the commodity from deterioration during storage and transport.
Pre-harvest time	The pre-harvest time is the waiting period between a pesticide application and the harvesting of the crop.
Primary Forest	Naturally regenerated forest of native species, where there are no clearly visible indications of human activities and the ecological processes are not significantly disturbed. (FAO Forest Resources Assessment, 2015):
Producer	The person or organization who represents the farm and has responsibility for the products sold by the farm.
Product quality	The product's ability – as defined by the farm or group administrator - to fulfill the expectations and needs of the end user, considering food safety parameters and pesticide residues, such as conformance with Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) and tolerances established by the importing country.
Productivity	A measure of production efficiency based on the ratio of production output to production inputs of land, capital, water, other natural resources, labor, energy, or other materials.
Protected Area	A protected area is a clearly defined geographical space, recognized, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values. Examples include national parks, wilderness areas, community conserved areas, and nature reserves. (IUCN 2008):
Re-entry intervals	The re-entry interval (or restricted entry interval) is the waiting period between a pesticide application and the time when it is possible to enter the field again without protective clothing or equipment.
Rejuvenation	Increasing existing tree productivity through grafting, stumping or pruning.
Renovation	Activities that involve addition of planting material through replanting or infilling.
Rotation (Crop)	The practice of successively planting different crops over several growing seasons on the same plot.
Sexual harassment	Any unwanted, unreciprocated and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature that is offensive to the person involved, and causes that person to be threatened, humiliated or embarrassed ¹⁶
Smallholder	In countries, regions or sectors where an official definition of 'smallholder' is available, such definition shall be used as a reference. Otherwise, the Rainforest Alliance considers a smallholder is a producer who primarily relies on family or household labor or reciprocal workforce exchange with other members of the community.
Spray drift	The quantity of applied product –representing an active ingredient of a pesticide - which is deflected from the treated area by the action of air currents during the application process.

¹⁶ (ILO, 2012a or see link https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_222231.pdf

ANNEX 2: RAINFOREST ALLIANCE LIST OF PROHIBITED PESTICIDES

INTRODUCTION

The Rainforest Alliance recognizes the negative impacts of the Highly Hazardous Pesticides in the world, particularly in low-income and middle-income countries. For this reason, in the 2020 Rainforest Alliance Sustainable Agriculture Standard —under the agrochemicals management subtopic, our first objective is to prohibit the use of Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHP) in certified farms. By prohibiting the use of these agrochemicals and promoting the implementation of a robust Integrated Pest Management plan, Rainforest Alliance directs farmers to a more safe and sustainable production system.

The Rainforest Alliance classification of HHP follows the FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management (JMPPM) recommendation that HHP should be defined as having one or more of the following characteristics:

- **Criterion 1:** Pesticide formulations that meet the criteria of classes Ia (extremely hazardous) or Ib (highly hazardous) of the [WHO Recommended Classification of Pesticides by Hazard](#); or
- **Criterion 2:** Pesticide active ingredients and their formulations that meet the criteria of carcinogenicity Categories 1A and 1B of the [Globally Harmonized System on Classification and Labelling of Chemicals \(GHS\)](#); or
- **Criterion 3:** Pesticide active ingredients and their formulations that meet the criteria of mutagenicity Categories 1A and 1B of the Globally Harmonized System on Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS); or
- **Criterion 4:** Pesticide active ingredients and their formulations that meet the criteria of reproductive toxicity Categories 1A and 1B of the Globally Harmonized System on Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS); or
- **Criterion 5:** Pesticide active ingredients listed by the [Stockholm Convention](#) in its Annexes A and B, and those meeting all the criteria in paragraph 1 of Annex D of the Convention; or
- **Criterion 6:** Pesticide active ingredients and formulations listed by the [Rotterdam Convention](#) in its Annex III; or
- **Criterion 7:** Pesticides listed under the Montreal Protocol; or
- **Criterion 8:** Pesticide active ingredients and formulations that have shown a high incidence of severe or irreversible adverse effects on human health or the environment.

PROHIBITED LIST

According to the FAO/WHO JMPM classification of HHP and based on the lessons learned from the current RA and UTZ system, for the first public consultation process, we have developed two lists:

- a. **The “Prohibited Agrochemicals” list includes the agrochemicals that will be for sure prohibited.**
- b. **The “Agrochemicals under discussion” list includes the agrochemicals to which the classification and regulation method (if applicable) is still under discussion.**

1a. Prohibited Agrochemicals

The use of the following agrochemicals is prohibited within the farm limits:

	Name	CAS RN
1	Acrolein	107-02-8
2	Alachlor	15972-60-8
3	Aldicarb	116-06-3
4	Alpha-chlorohydrin	96-24-2
5	Alpha-Hexachlorocyclohexane (HCH)	319-84-6
6	Anthracene oil	90640-80-5
7	Arsen and its compounds	
8	Arsenic pentoxide	1303-28-2
9	Arsenic trioxide	1327-53-3
10	Atrazine	1912-24-9
11	Azafenidin	68049-83-2
12	Azinphos-ethyl	2642-71-9
13	Azinphos-methyl	86-50-0
14	Benomyl	17804-35-2
15	Beta-Cyfluthrin; Cyfluthrin	68359-37-5
16	Beta-Hexachlorocyclohexane (HCH)	319-85-7
17	Blasticidin-S	2079-00-7
18	Butoxycarboxim	34681-23-7
19	Cacodylate - sodium dimethylarsinate	124-65-2
20	Calcium arsenate	7778-44-1
21	Captafol	2425-06-1
22	Carbofuran	1563-66-2
23	Chlordane	57-74-9
24	Chlorethoxyfos	54593-83-8
25	Chlorfenvinphos	470-90-6
26	Chlormephos	24934-91-6
27	Chloromethoxypropylmercuric acetate; CPMA	1319-86-4
28	Chromated copper arsenate; CCA (Cacodylic acid)	75-60-5
29	Copper arsenate	7778-41-8
30	Coumaphos	56-72-4
31	Creosote	8001-58-9
32	DDT	50-29-3
33	Demeton-S-methyl	919-86-8
34	Dichlorvos	62-73-7
35	Dicrotophos	141-66-2
36	Difenacoum	56073-07-5
37	Dinocap	39300-45-3

38	Dinoterb	1420-07-1
39	Diphenylmercurydodecenylsuccinate; PMDS	27236-65-3
40	Disulfoton	298-04-4
41	DNOC	534-52-1
42	DNOC and its salts	
43	DNOC-ammonium	2980-64-5
44	DNOC-potassium	5787-96-2
45	DNOC-sodium	2312-76-7
46	Dustable powder formulations containing a combination of: benomyl at or above 7 per cent, carbofuran at above 10 per cent, thiram at or above 15 per cent.	137-26-8_f
47	Edifenphos	17109-49-8
48	Endosulfan	115-29-7
49	E-Phosphamidon	297-99-4
50	Epichlorohydrin	106-89-8
51	EPN	2104-64-5
52	Ethiofencarb	29973-13-5
53	Ethylene oxide	75-21-8
54	Ethylene thiourea	96-45-7
55	Famphur	52-85-7
56	Fenchlorazole-ethyl	103112-35-2
57	Fluazifop-butyl	69806-50-4
58	Flucythrinate	70124-77-5
59	Flumioxazin	103361-09-7
60	Fluoroacetamide	640-19-7
61	Formetanate	22259-30-9
62	Furathiocarb	65907-30-4
63	HCH (mixed isomers)	608-73-1
64	Heptenophos	23560-59-0
65	Hexachlorobenzene	118-74-1
66	Isoxathion	18854-01-8
67	Lead arsenate	7784-40-9
68	Lindane	58-89-9
69	Linuron	330-55-2
70	Mecarbam	2595-54-2
71	Mercuric chloride	7487-94-7
72	Mercuric oxide	21908-53-2
73	Mercury and its compounds	
74	Methamidophos	10265-92-6
75	Methidathion	950-37-8
76	Methiocarb	2032-65-7
77	Methomyl	16752-77-5
78	Methyl bromide	74-83-9
79	Mevinphos	7786-34-7
80	Monocrotophos	6923-22-4
81	MSMA	2163-80-6
82	Nicotine	54-11-5
83	Nitrobenzene	98-95-3
84	Omethoate	1113-02-6
85	Oxydemeton-methyl	301-12-2

86	Paraffin oil (CAS 64741-88-4)	64741-88-4
87	Paraffin oil (CAS 64741-89-5)	64741-89-5
88	Paraffin oil (CAS 64741-97-5)	64741-97-5
89	Paraffin oil (CAS 64742-46-7)	64742-46-7
90	Paraffin oil (CAS 64742-54-7)	64742-54-7
91	Paraffin oil (CAS 64742-55-8)	64742-55-8
92	Paraffin oil (CAS 64742-65-0)	64742-65-0
93	Paraffin oil (CAS 72623-86-0)	72623-86-0
94	Paraffin oil (CAS 97862-82-3)	97862-82-3
95	Paraffin oils; mineral oils containing >3% DMSO	
96	Paraquat dichloride	1910-42-5
97	Parathion	56-38-2
98	Parathion-methyl	298-00-0
99	Pentachlorobenzene	608-93-5
100	Pentachlorophenol and its salts and esters	87-86-5
101	Phenylmercuric oleate; PMO	104-68-9
102	Phenylmercury acetate; PMA	62-38-4
103	Phorate	298-02-2
104	Phosphamidon	13171-21-6
105	Propetamphos	31218-83-4
106	Propylene oxide, Oxirane	75-56-9
107	Silafluofen	105024-66-6
108	Sodium arsenate	13464-38-5
109	Sodium arsenite	7784-46-5
110	Sodium fluoroacetate (1080)	62-74-8
111	Sulfotep	3689-24-5
112	Tebupirimfos	96182-53-5
113	Tefluthrin	79538-32-2
114	Thiofanox	39196-18-4
115	Thiometon	640-15-3
116	Triazophos	24017-47-8
117	Trichlorfon	52-68-6
118	Vamidothion	2275-23-2
119	Vinclozolin	50471-44-8
120	zeta-Cypermethrin	52315-07-8z
121	Z-Phosphamidon	23783-98-4

Additionally, in the prohibited list will be included the obsolete substances list (*to be developed*).

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1b. Agrochemicals Under discussion

For the agrochemicals listed here, their classification status is still under discussion; meaning that it is not yet defined if they will be listed under the prohibited or by any other regulated list.

	Name	CAS RN	WHO la	WHO lb	GHS cancer 1A/1B	GHS muta 1A/1B	GHS repro 1A/1B	Severe Effects	EU EDC (1) or C2 & R2 GHS	Rotterdam Convention	Stockholm Convention	Montreal Protocol
1	Acephate	30560-19-1										
2	Aluminum phosphide	20859-73-8						X				
3	Amitraz	33089-61-1										
4	Borax	1303-96-4					X					
5	Boric acid	10043-35-3					X					
6	Brodifacoum	56073-10-0	X				X					
7	Bromadiolone	28772-56-7	X				X					
8	Bromethalin	63333-35-7	X									
9	Bromoxynil butyrate	3861-41-4										
10	Cadusafos	95465-99-9		X								
11	Carbaryl	63-25-2							X			
12	Carbendazim	10605-21-7				X	X					
13	Chlorfenapyr	122453-73-0										
14	Chlorophacinone	3691-35-8	X				X					
15	Chlorotoluron	15545-48-9							X			
16	Chlozolinate	84332-86-5										
17	Clothianidin	210880-92-5						X				
18	Coumatetralyl	5836-29-3		X			X					
19	Cyhalothrin	68085-85-8										
20	Cyhexatin	13121-70-5										
21	Daminozide	1596-84-5										
22	Dicofol	115-32-2										
23	Difethialone	104653-34-1	X				X					

24	Dimethenamid	87674-68-8										
25	Dimoxystrobin	149961-52-4						X				
26	Diphacinone	82-66-6	X									
27	Endosulfan I (alpha)	959-98-8							X	X		
28	Epoxiconazole	133855-98-8				X		X				
29	Ethoprophos	13194-48-4	X									
30	Ethylene dibromide	106-93-4			X				X			
31	Ethylene dichloride	107-06-2			X				X			
32	Fenamiphos	22224-92-6		X								
33	Fenbutatin oxide	13356-08-6										
34	Fenthion	55-38-9										
35	Fentin acetate	900-95-8						X				
36	Fentin hydroxide	76-87-9						X				
37	Fenvalerate	51630-58-1										
38	Ferbam	14484-64-1										
39	Fipronil	120068-37-3					X					
40	Flocoumafen	90035-08-8	X			X						
41	Flusilazole	85509-19-9				X						
42	Formaldehyde	50-00-0										
43	Glufosinate-ammonium	77182-82-2				X						
44	Haloxypop-P	95977-29-0										
45	Imidacloprid	138261-41-3					X					
46	Magnesium phosphide	12057-74-8					X					
47	Maleic hydrazide	123-33-1										
48	Molinate	2212-67-1						X				
49	Monolinuron	1746-81-2										
50	Nonylphenol ethoxylate 1	68412-54-4										

51	Nonylphenol ethoxylate 2	26027-38-3										
52	Nonylphenol ethoxylate 3	37205-87-1										
53	Nonylphenol ethoxylate 4	127087-87-0										
54	Nonylphenol ethoxylate 5	9016-45-9										
55	Nonylphenol ethoxylates											
56	Oxamyl	23135-22-0		X								
57	PCNB (Quintozene)	82-68-8										
58	Permethrin	52645-53-1										
59	Phosalone	2310-17-0										
60	Phosphine	7803-51-2					X					
61	Profoxydim	139001-49-3						X				
62	Propham	122-42-9										
63	Pyrazophos	13457-18-6										
64	Pyriminil											
65	Quizalofop-P-tefuryl	119738-06-6				X						
66	Simazine	122-34-9										
67	Strychnine	57-24-9		X								
68	Sulfuramid	4151-50-2							X	X		
69	Technazene	117-18-0										
70	Tepraloxydim	149979-41-9						X				
71	Terbufos	13071-79-9	X									
72	Thiamethoxam	153719-23-4					X					
73	Thiodicarb	59669-26-0										
74	Thiourea	62-56-6						X				
75	Triazamate	112143-82-5										
76	Tributyl tin compounds							X				

77	Tributyltin benzoate	4342-36-3										
78	Tributyltin chloride	1461-22-9										
79	Tributyltin fluoride											
80	Tributyltin linoleate	24124-25-2										
81	Tributyltin methacrylate	2155-70-6										
82	Tributyltin naphthenate	85409-17-2										
83	Tributyltin oxide	56-35-9										
84	Tridemorph	81412-43-3					X					
85	Triflumizole	68694-11-1					X					
86	Triorganostannic compounds other than tributyltin compounds								X			
87	Warfarin	81-81-2		X			X					
88	Zinc phosphide	1314-84-7		X								
89	Zineb	12122-67-7							X			