



# Rainforest Alliance Policy on rubber certification phase out

November, 2019

Version 1

The Rainforest Alliance works to conserve biodiversity and ensure sustainable livelihoods by transforming land-use practices, business practices, and consumer behavior.

### More information?

For more information about the Rainforest Alliance, visit [www.rainforest-alliance.org](http://www.rainforest-alliance.org) or contact [info@ra.org](mailto:info@ra.org)

### Translation Disclaimer

Translation accuracy of any Rainforest Alliance sustainable agriculture certification program document into languages other than English is not guaranteed nor implied. Any question related to the accuracy of the information contained in the translation, refer to the English official version. Any discrepancies or differences created in the translation are not binding and have no effect for auditing or certification purposes.

## Policy

<b>Issue Date:</b>	<b>Binding date:</b>	<b>Expiration date:</b>
November 25, 2019	With immediate effect	Until next review
<b>Developed by:</b>		<b>Approved by:</b>
Senior Manager, Global Assurance		
<b>Linked to (code and name of documents, if applicable):</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA-S-SP-1-V2 Rainforest Alliance Sustainable Agriculture Standard, July 2017</li> <li>• RA-R-SP-1-V2 Certification Rules 2017</li> <li>• RA-P-SP-3-V1 Authorized Countries Policy</li> </ul>		
<b>Replaces:</b>		
N/A		
<b>Clause or criterion number and text (if applicable):</b>		
-		
<b>Applicable to:</b>		
Certificate holders and authorized Certification Bodies		
<b>Regions:</b>		
Global scope		
<b>Crops:</b>	<b>Type of organizations:</b>	
Rubber	Individual farms, group administrators and chain of custody operators.	

## 1. Introduction

Rainforest Alliance is a growing network of people who are inspired and committed to working together to achieve our mission of conserving biodiversity and ensuring sustainable livelihoods. For more information about Rainforest Alliance, visit our website: <http://www.rainforest-alliance.org>.

## 2. Rules for rubber certification phase out

To date, there are less than ten Rainforest Alliance Certified rubber operations, including individual farms, groups and chain of custody operators. The new certification system Rainforest Alliance is currently developing will not cover this crop, and the following rules apply for the transition:

- a. Audits to rubber individual farms or group administrators not currently certified with the Rainforest Alliance Sustainable Agriculture Standard will only be possible if the audit, the audit report and the certification decision are finalized by December 31, 2019, the latest.
- b. All individual farms' and group administrators' certificates issued for rubber expire on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, regardless of the date when such certificates were issued, the stage of the certification cycle where they are or the fact that they have recently undertaken an audit.
- c. All the product harvested on a certified rubber farm until June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 is considered Rainforest Alliance Certified.
- d. By June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the latest, all certificate holders dealing with rubber (i.e. individual farms, group administrators and chain of custody operators) shall inform Rainforest Alliance the amount of certified product they have available.