

RAINFOREST ALLIANCE POLICY

**Measures to address shortages of
Rainforest Alliance certified volumes
during the transition period 2**

Version 1.1
April 2023



**RAINFOREST
ALLIANCE**



The Rainforest Alliance is creating a more sustainable world by using social and market forces to protect nature and improve the lives of farmers and forest communities.

Translation Disclaimer

For any question related to the precise meaning of the information contained in the translation, please refer to the official English version for clarification. Any discrepancies or differences in meaning due to translation are not binding and have no effect for auditing or certification purposes.

More information?

For more information about the Rainforest Alliance, visit www.rainforest-alliance.org, contact info@ra.org or contact the Rainforest Alliance Amsterdam Office, De Ruijterkade 6, 1013AA Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

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| Policy on measures to address shortages of Rainforest Alliance certified volumes during the transition period 2 | | SA-P-GA-18 | V1.1 | EN |
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| Developed by: | | Approved by: | | |
| Standards and Assurance | | Director of Standards and Assurance | | |
| Linked to: | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">SA-P-GA-11 Policy on Remote Closure of Non-conformities;SA-P-GA-8 Policy on Changes to Certification and Auditing Rules for Audits In the Transition Year. | | | | |
| Replaces: | | | | |
| SA-P-GA-18 Policy measures to address shortages of Rainforest Alliance certified volumes during the transition period V1. | | | | |
| Applicable to: | | | | |
| Rainforest Alliance 2020 Certificate Holders who are still transitioning to the full Certification Cycle | | | | |
| Country/Region: | | | | |
| All regions | | | | |
| Crop: | | Type of Certification: | | |
| All crops | | Farm certification. | | |

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MEASURES TO ADDRESS SHORTAGES OF RAINFOREST ALLIANCE CERTIFIED VOLUMES DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD

- 1) In certain countries Certificate Holders (CHs) are delayed in completing their transition audits. This results in significant restrictions to available volumes of Rainforest Alliance certified commodities. In these cases, the Rainforest Alliance will consider requests to pre-authorise a percentage of the new harvest volumes to enable farm CHs to transact certified volumes while they finalize the process to obtain their first or second transition certificate.
- 2) Requests for pre-authorisation of up to 50% of the estimated volume for the current harvest, with a validity of 3 months, may be made by Farm CHs who:
 - a) Are currently certified under the Rainforest Alliance 2020 certification program;
 - b) Did not hold their audit during the required harvest period window for their crop (which is defined as from three months before to 3 months after the official start of the harvest season) but still intend to have their second transition audit against the 2020 Certification Program
 - c) Have completed registration and preparation of their next license for the 2020 Rainforest Alliance certification program, including:
 - i. Definition and update of Certification Scope.
 - ii. Submission of Self-assessment in the RACP.
 - iii. Selection of Certification Body (CB) with a confirmed handshake.
 - iv. Submission of the Group Member Registry (for groups).
 - v. Submission of polygon data (for individual farms).
 - ii. d) Have undergone their first transition audit and either: i. Are in the process of closing non-conformities to receive their transition certificate. In this case, the CH should have no open non-conformities related to traceability, payment of premium, use of banned pesticides, deforestation or unremediated cases of child labour or; have received a first transition certificate with a license and have now contracted a CB and scheduled their second transition audit registered in the RA Audit Planning.
- 3) The Rainforest Alliance reserves the right to cancel the preauthorised volumes if the certificate holder does not receive their scheduled audit or close their non-conformities to receive a transition certificate within 3 months.
- 4) Farm certificate holders who wish to apply for pre-authorisation of volumes under the conditions set out in clause 2 above, in order to have time to complete their transition audit, shall send the request to the CB with all required documentation set out in clause 2.
- 5) The CB will submit the request to Rainforest Alliance together with the CH RA ID number and required documentation via the Extension request form shared by Standards & Assurance.
- 6) The Rainforest Alliance will pre-authorise volumes on a case-by-case basis following a thorough assessment of risks.
- 7) The Rainforest Alliance will pre-authorise volumes directly in the RACP.
- 8) Pre-authorised volumes will be incorporated in the total volume approved with the transition certificate once this is issued. They are not additional to the annual approved volume.