

VOLUNTARY STANDARDS IMPROVING COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN THE CASE OF IFA + GRASP + SPRING

Dr. Nolan Quiros 3 October 2023





HOW IT WORKS

Building on Integrated Farm Assurance (IFA) standard

IFA v6 for fruit and vegetables includes 190 principles and criteria (P&Cs) and 48% of them refer to worker's rights water and environmental issues.

The SPRING add-on builds on these with 44 P&Cs in five key topics:

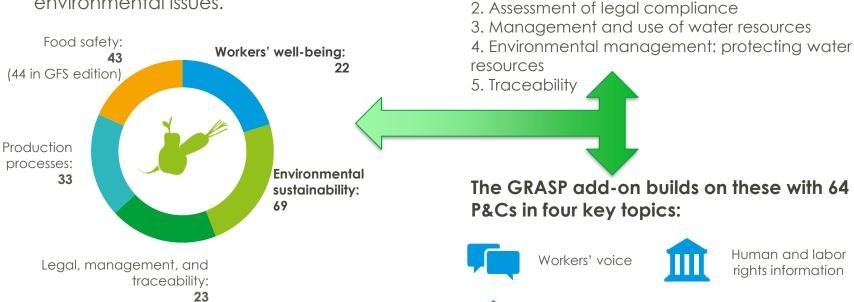
Child and young

workers protection

1. Assessment of water risks and objectives

Human and labor

rights indicators





INFORMATION ABOUT THE SUPPLY CHAIN

SPRING

- Assessment of water risks and objectives
- Assessment of legal compliance
- Management and use of water
 resources
- Wastewater management
- Protection of water resources
- Efficient energy management for water installations
- Responsible use of chemicals
- Ensuring traceability when parallel ownership applies
- QMS

GRASP

- Right of association and representation
- Complaint process
- Producer's human rights policies
- Disciplinary procedures
- Terms of employment documents
- Payments and wages
- Working hours
- Forced labor indicators
- Child labor and young workers
- QMS



NATURE OF VOLUNTARY STANDARDS

Tools to provide information from and in the supply chain

Audit process

- Certification body (CB)
 auditors trained, tested,
 and registered for add-on
- Combine audit against
 add-on with IFA CB audit
- Conducted annually while agricultural activities are happening
- Document review and onsite audit
- Letter of conformance
- Compliance with all Major Musts (zero tolerance)
- 75% of Minor Musts

GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems

- All standards and add-ons integrated
- GLOBALG.A.P. identification number for each producer
- Detailed audit report
- Conformance and non-conformance information

Buyer market intelligence

Use the GLOBALG.A.P. Number to:

- Access data on compliance
- Make decisions regarding risk
- Make commercial decisions
- Make sourcing decisions



HOW TO IMPROVE COMUNICATION

Standards and add-ons: filter or bridge?

- Know your supplier or buyer
 - Name, entity, location, contact person, level of commercial activity
- Engage with your supplier or buyer
 - Long term relationships build resilience and commitment
 - Share goals, objectives, and commitments
 - Share views on sustainability
- Improve your understanding of diversity with information on
 - Backgrounds, interests, and expectations
 - Communication styles



HOW TO IMPROVE COMUNICATION Supply chain approach





BEST PRACTICES BASED ON THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE

- Know the non-compliance risks of your supplier
 - Use the GLOBALG.A.P. database/IT systems to map and monitor risks
- Assess your supplier
 - Audit reports are a useful monitoring tool, but they need to be checked and understood. Learn their limitations and gaps.
- Explain boundary expectations
 - Standards and add-ons are a great way to set boundaries.
 - They set clear expectations and targets.
- Create remediation procedures
 - Have capacity-building and contract termination procedures in place to give yourself room to act.
- Have a policy in place to help you fulfill your due diligence obligations
 - The policy can provide an outline for monitoring the supply chain.
 - It can be used to collect evidence for reporting.

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