



WHAT'S NEW IN THE V1.3 RELEASE OF THE STANDARD?

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FARM STANDARD REQUIREMENTS, VERSION 1.2 TO VERSION 1.3

REQUIREMENT NUMBER	SUBJECT	WHAT CHANGED?
p. 9 to p. 20	Introduction	Some graphics have been adjusted and language restructured for a better explanation of Rainforest Alliance Certification.
p. 14	Scope	Adapted: Scope, to be more manageable and more realistic.
p. 14	Small/Large Farm	Adapted: Definition of Small/Large farms, adapted to more realistically cover the farm scenarios and protect workers: Farms with 10 or more permanent workers are Large Farms.
p. 14	Subset of requirements for Small Farms	Introduced: A subset of requirements apply to Small Farms that hire: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10 temporary workers each working for 3 consecutive months or more, and/or - 50 or more temporary workers per calendar year Requirements that will apply in this case: 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 5.2.3, 5.2.4, 5.3.1, 5.3.6, 5.3.12, 5.5.2, 5.5.3, 5.6.2, 5.6.4
General	Average of ≥ 5 hired workers (Applicable for Small Farms only)	Removed: Subset is not used anymore.
1.1.1	Management	Simplified text.
New requirement 1.1.5	Management	Rearranged in new requirement to simplify the standard: The general responsibilities of the committees and their composition, part of requirements 1.5.1 (Grievance), 1.6.1 (Gender) and 5.1.1 (Assess and address) are now combined into 1.1.5. It is clarified that more issues can be covered by one committee. Specific tasks are kept in the respective requirements.
1.2.2	Administration	Merged: Requirements 1.2.2 and 1.2.3, as the approaches for service providers and subcontractors were similar.
1.2.3	Administration	Merged: Requirements 1.2.2 and 1.2.3, as the approaches for service providers and subcontractors were similar.
1.2.5	Administration	Simplified: Removed requirement for any small farm to have extensive version of worker records.
1.2.6	Administration	Simplified: Requirement on registration of temporary workers for small farms.
1.2.8	Administration	Clarified: Text on agreement on sharing the data of group members.



REQUIREMENT NUMBER	SUBJECT	WHAT CHANGED?
1.3.1	Risk Assessment and Management Plan	Adapted: Option to align the risk assessment frequency with the management plan frequency.
1.4.1	Internal Inspection and Self-Assessment	Simplified and shortened text.
1.4.2	Internal Inspection and Self-Assessment	Simplified and shortened text.
1.4.4	Internal Inspection and Self-Assessment	Removed: Minimum ratio of 1 internal inspector per 250 farms, as the purpose of the requirement is to have appropriate support for the farmers and this may be reached in other ways as well.
1.5.1	Grievance Mechanism	Simplified: General responsibilities of the committees and their composition are now combined in the new requirement 1.1.5.
1.6.1	Gender Equality	Simplified: General responsibilities of the committees and their composition are now combined in the new requirement 1.1.5.
2.1.3	Traceability	Clarification: Visual separation of certified product is not required for mass balance products.
2.1.8	Traceability	Text now clarifies that sales receipts do not have to be physical.
2.2.3	Traceability in the Online Platform	Clarification: Removal of volumes from the traceability platform that are not sold as certified, or lost, and clarified applicability for mass balance products.
2.2.4	Traceability in the Online Platform	Text rephrased for clarification.
2.2.5	Traceability in the Online Platform	Text rephrased for clarification, with more details on examples to link transaction to multiple shipments.
2.2.6	Traceability in the Online Platform	Text rephrased for clarification.
2.3.1	Mass Balance	Text rephrased for clarification.
2.3.2	Mass Balance	Text rephrased for clarification. A negative volume balance is not permitted at any time.
2.3.3	Mass Balance	Clarification added: The requirement on origin matching is only applicable to cocoa mass balance products for which origin matching is required.
2.3.4	Mass Balance	Clarification added: The requirement on origin information on purchase and sales documentation is only applicable to cocoa mass balance products for which origin matching is required.
2.3.5	Mass Balance	Text rephrased for clarification.
3.1.1 Self-selected	Production Costs and Living Income	Added new indicator: net income from certified crop per kg of harvested product.
3.2.2	Sustainability Differential	Correction: Added 'housing' to the categories for the Sustainability Differential in the indicator.
4.1.2	Planting and Rotation	Applicability added to Group Management, for cropping system of new plantings.
4.1.3 L1	Planting and Rotation	Applicability added to Group Management, for implementing measures to prevent pests and diseases and break their biological cycles.
4.2.2 Smart Meter	Pruning and Renovation of Tree Crops	Applicability added to Group Management, for pruning according to the pruning cycle, and measuring the indicator on this.
4.4.1	Soil Fertility and Conservation	Clarification and simplification: Content of 4.4.3 on soil tests and leaf tests included in 4.4.1 on soil assessment. Text rephrased for clarification and content from requirement 4.4.3 moved here.
4.4.3	Soil Fertility and Conservation	Requirement removed. Clarification and simplification: Content of 4.4.3 on soil tests and leaf tests included in 4.4.1 on soil assessment.
4.4.7 Smart Meter	Soil Fertility and Conservation	Added: Indicator % Of group members that use organic fertilizers.
4.5.2	Integrated Pest Management (IPM)	Adapted: Monitoring of natural enemies is moved to a new requirement Level 2 requirement 4.5.8, to allow more time for implementation.
New requirement 4.5.8 L2	Integrated Pest Management (IPM)	Adapted: Monitoring of natural enemies is moved to a new requirement Level 2 requirement 4.5.8, to allow more time for implementation.
5.1.1	Assess-and-Address	Moved: General responsibilities of the committees and their composition are now combined into new requirement 1.1.5.



REQUIREMENT NUMBER	SUBJECT	WHAT CHANGED?
5.2.1	Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining	Adapted applicability: Requirement on rights on joining unions now also applicable to small farms that hire workers beyond a certain threshold, as described in the new Subset of requirements for Small Farms (see p. 14).
5.2.2	Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining	Adapted applicability: Requirement including no-discrimination or retaliation now also applicable to small farms that hire workers beyond a certain threshold, as described in the new Subset of requirements for Small Farms (see p. 14).
5.2.3	Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining	Adapted applicability: Requirement including facilitation of worker's representatives for unions now also applicable to small farms that hire workers beyond a certain threshold, as described in the new Subset of requirements for Small Farms (see p. 14).
5.2.4 L1	Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining	Adapted applicability: Informing workers on freedom of association and collective bargaining now also applicable to small farms that hire workers beyond a certain threshold, as described in the new Subset of requirements for Small Farms (see p. 14).
5.3.1	Wages and Contracts	Adapted applicability: Requirement on written and verbal contracts now also applicable to small farms that hire workers beyond a certain threshold, as described in the new Subset of requirements for Small Farms (see p. 14).
5.3.2	Wages and Contracts	Rephrased for clarification, and applicability extended to all small farms.
5.3.3	Wages and Contracts	Merged: Requirements 5.3.3 and 5.3.4 on receiving at least minimum wage for small and large farms, now all in 5.3.3.
5.3.4	Wages and Contracts	Merged: Requirements 5.3.3 and 5.3.4 on receiving at least minimum wage for small and large farms, now all in 5.3.3.
5.3.6	Wages and Contracts	Merged: Requirements 5.3.6 and 5.3.7 on payment schedules, now all in 5.3.6. Applicable also to small farms that hire workers beyond a certain threshold, as described in the new Subset of requirements for Small Farms (see p. 14). Rephrased to allow electronic proof of payment.
5.3.7	Wages and Contracts	Merged: Requirements 5.3.6 and 5.3.7 on payment schedules, now all in 5.3.6. Applicable also to small farms that hire workers beyond a certain threshold, as described in the new Subset of requirements for Small Farms (see p. 14). Rephrased to allow electronic proof of payment.
5.3.9	Wages and Contracts	Merged: Requirements 5.3.9 and 5.3.10 on labor providers for small and large farms, now all in 5.3.10. Applicability extended to all Certificate Holders.
5.3.10	Wages and Contracts	Merged: Requirements 5.3.9 and 5.3.10 on labor providers for small and large farms, now all in 5.3.10. Applicability extended to all Certificate Holders.
5.3.12 L1	Wages and Contracts	Adapted applicability: now to small farms that hire workers beyond a certain threshold, as described in the new Subset of requirements for Small Farms (see p. 14).
5.3.13 Self-selected	Wages and Contracts	Adapted applicability correcting wages for inflation now extended to Small farms and Group Management.
5.4.2	Living Wage	Adapted: Part related to the consultation with workers' representatives on wage improvement plan moved to new requirement 5.4.5 (self-selected).
New requirement 5.4.5 Self-selected	Living Wage	Adapted: Consultation with workers' representatives on wage improvement plan, previously part of requirement 5.4.2, is now a new self-selected requirement.
5.5.1	Working Conditions	Adapted: Regular work hours of guards are set to 60 hours per week.
5.5.2	Working Conditions	Adapted: Exception to overtime extended to all crops under certain conditions (see point h). Applicable also to small farms that hire workers beyond a certain threshold, as described in the new Subset of requirements for Small Farms (see p. 14).



REQUIREMENT NUMBER	SUBJECT	WHAT CHANGED?
5.5.3	Working Conditions	Simplified: Details for nursing spaces moved to guidance. Changed 'maternity leave' into 'parental leave' to include both parents. Applicable also to small farms that hire workers beyond a certain threshold, as described in the new Subset of requirements for Small Farms (see p. 14).
5.6.1	Health and Safety	Clarified: Text on required expertise for the analysis of the health and safety risks.
5.6.2	Health and Safety	Adapted applicability: requirement on First Aid boxes now applicable also to small farms that hire workers beyond a certain threshold, as described in the new Subset of requirements for Small Farms (see p. 14).
5.6.4	Health and Safety	Simplified text, added line on drinking water testing. Adapted applicability, now also for small farms that hire workers beyond a certain threshold, as described in the new Subset of requirements for Small Farms (see p. 14).
5.6.5	Health and Safety	Rephrased for clarification: 'public' taken out for safe drinking water.
5.7.1	Housing and Living Conditions	Adapted: Some parts related to housing core requirements are now moved to requirement 5.7.4 L1.
5.7.4 L1	Housing and Living Conditions	Adapted: Some parts related to housing core requirements 5.7.1 are moved to 5.7.4 L1.
5.7.6	Housing and Living Conditions	Simplified text.
5.8.2	Communities	Clarified text. Producer needs legal or legitimate rights, not necessarily both.
6.5.1	Water Management and Conservation	Merged: requirements 6.5.1 and 6.5.2 on water permits. Adapted applicability: applicability for Small Farms removed.
6.5.2	Water Management and Conservation	Merged: requirements 6.5.1 and 6.5.2 on water permits. Adapted applicability: applicability for Small Farms removed.
6.8.1	Energy Efficiency	Adapted: Removed content on taking measures for energy reduction from the beginning of certification, as this is implied in the smart meter in 6.8.2, and to allow for more time for implementation.



SUPPLY CHAIN STANDARD REQUIREMENTS, VERSION 1.2 TO VERSION 1.3

REQUIREMENT NUMBER	SUBJECT	WHAT CHANGED?
New requirement 1.1.5	Management	Rearranged in new requirement to simplify the standard: The general responsibilities of the committees and their composition, part of requirements 1.5.1 (Grievance), 1.6.1 (Gender) and 5.1.1 (Assess and address) are now combined into 1.1.5. It is clarified that more issues can be covered by one committee. Specific tasks are kept in the respective requirements.
1.2.2	Administration	Merged: Requirements 1.2.2 and 1.2.3, as the approaches for service providers and subcontractors were similar.
1.4.1	Internal Inspection and Self-Assessment	Simplified and shortened text.
1.4.2	Internal Inspection and Self-Assessment	Simplified and shortened text.
1.5.1	Grievance Mechanism	Simplified: General responsibilities of the committees and their composition are now combined in the new requirement 1.1.5.
1.6.1	Gender Equality	Simplified: General responsibilities of the committees and their composition are now combined in the new requirement 1.1.5.
2.1.3	Traceability	Clarification: Visual separation of certified product is not required for mass balance products.
2.1.12	Traceability in Online Platform	Clarification: Applicability of the requirements for traceability documentation.
2.2.3	Traceability in Online Platform	Clarification: Removal of volumes from the traceability platform that are not sold as certified, or lost. and clarified applicability for mass balance products.
2.2.4	Traceability in Online Platform	Text rephrased for clarification.
2.2.5	Traceability in Online Platform	Text rephrased for clarification, with more details on examples to link transaction to multiple shipments.
2.2.6	Traceability in Online Platform	Text rephrased for clarification.
2.3.1	Mass Balance	Text rephrased for clarification.
2.3.2	Mass Balance	Added for clarification: A negative volume balance is not permitted at any time.
2.3.3	Mass Balance	Clarification added: The requirement on origin matching is only applicable to cocoa mass balance products for which origin matching is required.
2.3.4	Mass Balance	Clarification added: The requirement on origin information on purchase and sales documentation is only applicable to cocoa mass balance products for which origin matching is required.
2.3.5	Mass Balance	Text rephrased for clarification.
5.1.1	Assess-and-Address	All general responsibilities of the committees and their composition are now combined into new requirement 1.1.5.
5.3.2	Wages and Contracts	Rephrased for clarification.
5.3.3	Wages and Contracts	Merged: Requirements 5.3.3 and 5.3.4 on receiving at least minimum wage, now all in 5.3.3.
5.3.6	Wages and Contracts	Merged: Requirements 5.3.6 and 5.3.7 on payment schedules, now all in 5.3.6. Rephrased to allow electronic proof of payment.
5.3.9	Wages and Contracts	Merged: Requirements 5.3.9 and 5.3.10 on labor providers, now all in 5.3.10.
5.3.10	Wages and Contracts	Merged: Requirements 5.3.9 and 5.3.10 on labor providers, now all in 5.3.10. Applicability extended to all Certificate Holders.
5.5.1	Working Conditions	Adapted: Regular work hours of guards are set to 60 hours per week.
5.5.2	Working Conditions	Adapted: Exception to overtime extended to all crops under certain conditions (see point h).
5.5.3	Working Conditions	Simplified: Details for nursing spaces moved to guidance. Changed 'maternity leave' into 'parental leave' to include both parents.
5.6.1	Health and Safety	Clarified: Text on required expertise for the analysis of the health and safety risks.
5.6.4	Health and Safety	Simplified text, added line on drinking water testing.



SA-GL-SD-1 ANNEX S01 GLOSSARY, VERSION 1.2 TO VERSION 1.3

TERM	WHAT CHANGED?
Average of ≥ 5 hired workers (Applicable for Small Farms only)	Removed, subset is not used anymore
Credit	Removed, term is not used anymore
Large Farm	Adapted definition: All farms with 10 or more permanent workers are Large farms
Regular working hours	Corrected, now reading: Regular working hours are the number of hours that are worked according to the contract of the worker, during the day, week, month and/or year, excluding overtime. Overtime work means hours worked in excess of regular working hours.
Small Farm	Adapted definition: All farms with fewer than 10 permanent workers are Small farms
Worker Representative	Addition to the definition: A person in a management role cannot serve as a worker representative

SA-S-SD-20 ANNEX CHAPTER 2: TRACEABILITY, VERSION 1.0 TO VERSION 1.1

SECTION	SUBJECT	WHAT CHANGED?
1	Scope for traceability	Text simplified
1	Level of traceability reporting	Clarification added on traceability for subcontractors
1	Applicability of Standard requirements	Clarification added on traceability for retailers
1	Mass Balance	Text simplified, and extension of mass balance scope to other crops has been added
2	2.1.12 Sales documentation	Text on requirement 2.1.12 has been removed, as requirement has been clarified in the Standard
3	2.1.9 Converting certified product	Clarification added on converting and redeeming certified products
3	2.1.9 Conversion rates	Table simplified
3	2.2.1 Managing outgoing transactions	Text simplified, clarification added on traceability for retailers
3	2.2.1 Managing incoming transactions	Clarification added on trusted trade partner functionality in the traceability platform
3	2.2.3 Removing certified volumes	Clarification added on mass balance volumes
3	2.2.1 & 2.2.3 When to report	Clarification added on scenario where a CH's supplier hasn't declared their sales to them in the traceability platform
3	2.2.5 Aggregating transactions	Newly added section clarifying the requirement
4	2.3.1 Volume conversion	Text simplified
4	2.3.3 & 2.3.4 Origin matching	Text simplified, general clarifications added, requirements for phase 2 added



SA-S-SD-21 ANNEX CHAPTER 3: INCOME AND SHARED RESPONSIBILITY, VERSION 1.0 TO VERSION 1.1

SECTION	SUBJECT	WHAT CHANGED?
2.1	Production costs and living income	Paragraph added on living income assessments and benchmarks (self-selected)
2.3	Timeline	Tea: Implementation date clarified to July 1, 2023, onwards on volumes sold and redeemed as Rainforest Alliance Certified from July 1, 2023.
2.3	SD/SI payment in tea	Brand owner approach further clarified in the context of retail brands: The packer (private label manufacturer) is required to commit, confirm, and pay SD/SI and enter commitments and payment in the RA traceability system. Food service and Retail brands are required to include SD SI in contractual arrangements with their private label manufacturers (packers) and compensate them for the SD/SI payments made on their behalf.
2.3	Update for Banana and Fresh Fruit	Removal of language that required exporters to include specific payment terms in their contracts with farm CHs supplying the Rainforest Alliance Certified product.
Requirement 3.2.7	Cocoa minimum SD	Updated to Euros (instead of US Dollars) to reflect companies buying from Farm Certificate Holders in African countries using XOF or XAF

SA-S-SD-23 ANNEX CHAPTER 5: SOCIAL, VERSION 1.0 TO VERSION 1.1

PAGE	SUBJECT	WHAT CHANGED?
p. 4	Setting up a Remediation System	Added reference to requirement 1.1.5 now detailing all general responsibilities of the committees and their composition, part of requirements 1.5.1 (Grievance), 1.6.1 (Gender) and 5.1.1 (Assess and address). Specific tasks are solely kept in the respective requirements
p. 7	Child Labor and Forced Labor Risk maps	Added the URLs to the risk maps for child labor and forced labor
p. 8	Living Wage	Removal of requirement 5.3.4 as it was merged with 5.3.3

SA-S-SD-24 ANNEX CHAPTER 6: ENVIRONMENT, VERSION 1.0 TO VERSION 1.1

SECTION	SUBJECT	WHAT CHANGED?
1	Identification of Conversion	Text corrected and clarified
3	Planned Minor Conversion for Infrastructure	Added: Clause 3.iv Prior to converting, farm or group management must obtain approval from the Rainforest Alliance. To receive approval, management submits a plan to farmcert@ra.org including the reasons, plan and polygons of the area to be converted.