



SIFAV2020

2017

SIFAV Basket of Standards

The SIFAV Basket of Standards is developed by the Sustainability Initiative of Fruit and Vegetables (SIFAV) to mainstream and promote sustainable sourcing of fruit and vegetables in the areas of social and environmental practices.

The proliferation of sustainability standards, codes, audit methodologies and different approaches generates confusion and inefficiency along supply chains. By promoting transparency and comparability among relevant standards, the SIFAV Basket supports the alignment of market requirements and helps to reduce audit duplications and increased costs for producers and farmers. It also supports the alignment of existing efforts in social and environmental auditing and promotes international reference for best practices in sustainable supply chain management.

With the SIFAV Basket you will be part of a broad network driving improvements on key sustainability areas and position yourself as a front-runner in the market.



Identify

The SIFAV members use the Basket to identify sustainable products and to measure the progress towards the goal of 100% sustainable imports of fruit and vegetables from Africa, Asia and South America by 2020.

Who can use it

The SIFAV Basket is used by SIFAV participants and can be used by all stakeholders in the supply chain. It can also serve as an international sourcing reference for any private or public stakeholder with links to the fruit and vegetables sector.

The Sustainability Initiative Fruits and Vegetables aims to make imports of fruits and vegetables from Africa, Asia and South America 100% sustainable in 2020



Social

- BSCI
- ETI/SMETA
- Fairtrade FloCert
- IMO Fair for Life and For Life
- SA 8000
- SAN/Rainforest Alliance
- SIZA
- Sustainably Grown

Environmental

- USDA Organic
- Leaf Marque
- GLOBALG.A.P. Crops
- EU Organic Farming
- Bio Suisse

By using the SIFAV Basket in your supply chain, you will stimulate the increase of sustainable products in the market and promote transparency in the supply chain regarding social and environmental practices. Outcomes will help you manage your risks and identify areas for improvements.

How to use it

- As a **retailer**, you ask your suppliers to source fruits and vegetables from producers/farmers that are audited/ certified with at least one of the social and one of the environmental standards included in the SIFAV Basket of Standards when located in high risk countries (according to the BSCI countries' Risk Classification). You can use the SIFAV basket of standards as a reference when defining your sourcing policies.
- As a **trader and retailer**, your sustainably sourcing outcome will depend on the volumes traded from those producers/farmers located in a risk country. To be counted as sustainable volumes, the producer/ farmer should be certified/audited with at least one of the social and one of the environmental standards included in the SIFAV Basket of Standards.
- As a **producer/farmer** located in a risk country, you need to comply with at least one of the social and one of the environmental standards included in the SIFAV Basket to be considered as a sustainable source.

Where can i find it as a reference?

The SIFAV basket is available on the [SIFAV ITC Standards Map website](#), where you can also find more information on various standards/schemes. You can also find it referenced on the [SIFAV](#) and [IDH Fresh and Ingredients](#) websites. And on yours?

The SIFAV Basket is open to standards that:

- Make their criteria publicly available on the [SIFAV ITC Standards Map](#).
- And, for social compliance, are successfully benchmarked against the Global Social Compliance Program ([GSCP](#)), which is an independent reference point and benchmarking facility for social auditing practices developed by the Consumer Goods Forum. The [GSCP reference tools](#) are applicable globally and across sectors. GSCP Level B is the reference.

Social benchmarking step by step

- Standards conduct a self-assessment for social compliance against international best practices as set out by the GSCP Equivalence Process.
- GSCP experts conduct an in-depth review the standards' policy and audit processes for social compliance against GSCP Reference Tool.
- Outcomes of the benchmarking will indicate the level reached by standard/scheme.

[Click here for more information on Social benchmarking.](#)



SIFAV2020

Started in 2012 with Dutch companies, today SIFAV has become a pan-European initiative with retailers, brands, traders and civil society organizations in seven European countries.

The fruit and vegetables sector faces a number of sustainability issues, like poor livelihoods of farmers, scarce awareness of good social and environmental practices, low yield and limited exposure to commercial farming and international market requirements.

Main sustainability issues targeted:

- Small holder farmer inclusion
- Health and safety
- Food safety
- Water sustainability

SIFAV is built on three work streams:

1. Market transformation: setting the minimum program requirements for social and environmental sustainability and building a broad sector commitment for a transition agreement for 100% sustainable sourcing.
2. Global Standard Equivalency: working with eight existing social, environmental and organic and in cooperation with Global Social Compliance Program (GSCP), to promote harmonization of standards with market recognition.
3. Producer support program: co-funding partners to set up projects in producer countries that aim to address and solve major hurdles towards sustainability.