

Overview

Farm Sustainability Assessment programme

What?

The FSA programme facilitates the uptake of industry-shared better management practices that improve farm performance and sustainability outcomes.

Why?

Action to meet the challenge of feeding a growing population in a resource constrained world has been widespread. But it has resulted in a fragmented and complex operating environment, dominated by a mix of approaches that consumers, companies and farmers alike, find hard to navigate.

SAI Platform members have identified the need for industry to coalesce around a consistent set of sustainable farming practices and promote their uptake through a framework for continuous improvement.

How?

The programme engages actors at opposite ends of the supply-chain, from farmers to food and drinks companies, to scale sustainable agriculture and generate value for

- farmers in improving sustainability performance, in reducing the time and expense of multiple assessments and assurances, and in accessing new buyers
- companies in strengthened ability to meet ambitious sustainable sourcing targets and contribute to positive sustainability outcomes on the ground.

Central to the programme is a set of industry-shared better management practices, presented as a questionnaire. An important feature of the FSA programme is its applicability across a range of commodities, countries, farm sizes and different company approaches. So the questionnaire can be used in a variety of ways:

- Assess farm performance, identify gaps and develop action plans
- Promote aligned language and requirements across a range of existing codes and standards
- Verify farm engagement in the FSA programme and/or performance level

There are three levels of questions: essential, basic and advanced. The purpose of these levels is to encourage farmers to engage and to create a roadmap for continuous improvement. They also provide the option to make public performance level claims if the user decides to verify the results.

For more information and resources please see the FSA tool box www.fsatool.com

Crop types and locations around the world where FSA 2.0 has been implemented

