



Solidaridad

SAI Platform Recognises Solidaridad's Self-Assessment Tool for Citrus in Brazil

BRUSSELS, Belgium. February 27, 2018 – The Solidaridad self-assessment tool for Brazilian citrus growers enables farmers to benchmark their practices against the requirements of SAI Platform's Farm Sustainability Assessment (FSA) up to Gold Level.

Farmers using Solidaridad's self-assessment tool can now demonstrate equivalence with SAI Platform's Farm Sustainability Assessment (FSA) up to Gold Level. SAI Platform carried out a thorough benchmarking process to assess the extent to which the FSA aligns with the self-assessment toolkit developed by Solidaridad to support continuous improvement of Brazilian citrus growers. The results show 100% of the applicable, essential and basic FSA criteria are covered along with 75% of the advanced criteria. This benchmarking supports compatibility and decreases administrative burden on farmers. Orange growers using Solidaridad's self-assessment tool will be able to assess their performance against several standards by completing a single questionnaire and receiving tailored feedback.

Since 2012, Solidaridad has been working with Riedel, the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative Platform (SAI Platform), AIJN, Firmenich, Citri Company and other local and global partners to improve the sustainability of the orange supply chain in Brazil. During this period, Solidaridad developed a user-friendly self-assessment tool that supports the adoption of best practices, while enabling farmers to benchmark their practices against legal requirements and relevant international sustainability standards. The toolkit specific for citrus farmers now also includes SAI Platform's Farm Sustainability Assessment criteria.

This tool provides farmers, farmers' organizations and value chain partners with a set of solutions to identify challenges, plan adjustments and monitor progress over time. Content specific versions (toolkits) have been tested and used by more than 5,000 farmers of sugarcane, soy, livestock, coffee, oil palm, citrus, cocoa, cotton and tea in Latin America (Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina, Colombia and Peru) and Africa (Ghana, South Africa). Based on these results, Solidaridad developed a mobile phone application called [Farming Solution](#) to foster farmers' autonomy by providing them with the information they need to set their own path towards better farming in the palm of their hands.

For companies, this approach provides a cost-effective way to reach a large number of producers and support their continuous improvement in the performance required to ensure quality and sustainability of supply. Access to aggregate data enables companies to get an overview of their suppliers' progress in real-time, identify support needs, set targets and organize support strategies. Companies committed to SAI Platform's FSA performance levels can use Solidaridad's support programme to achieve these levels and promote it.



Solidaridad

About the Farm Sustainability Assessment Programme (FSA)

First piloted in 2014, the Farm Sustainability Assessment programme (FSA) offers a simple, highly effective tool to assess, improve and communicate on-farm sustainability. Developed by the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative Platform, the FSA is used in 32 countries and available in 19 languages. Its design and purpose facilitates the understanding of industry-shared better management practices that improve farm performance and sustainability outcomes. Its Bronze, Silver and Gold performance levels are designed to be used at scale in the food supply chain and to mainstream sustainable agricultural practices.

For more information about the Farm Sustainability Assessment (FSA) programme, visit our website: fsatool.com

Contact

Joe Rushton
FSA Manager
jrushton@saiplatform.org

About the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative Platform (SAI Platform)

Founded in 2002, the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative Platform (SAI Platform) provides a pre-competitive environment for the food and drinks industry to address global sustainability challenges facing farms today, and in the years ahead. With a network of over 100 members and partners we are developing the practice of sustainable agricultural tools and principles that create secure and strong agricultural supply chains, to protect the earth's resources. Our focus on beef, dairy, arable and vegetable, and fruit and nuts as well as our pioneering benchmarking tool, the Farm Sustainability Assessment (FSA), lead the field to effective sustainable practices while delivering value to our members, farmers, their communities and consumers.

To find out more about SAI Platform, visit our website: www.saiplatform.org

Contact

Brigid Norde-McAleer
Communications Manager
bmcaleer@saiplatform.org

About Solidaridad:

As a frontrunner in the area of sustainable economic development, Solidaridad seeks to create prosperity for everyone, respecting both the people and the planet. With a track record of almost 50 years, experts in the field and pragmatic collaboration with influential partners in and around the supply chain, Solidaridad develops smart solutions that bring lasting positive impact. We focus on the production chains that matter worldwide and where changes have great impact: coffee, tea, cocoa, fruit, textiles, cotton, soy, palm oil, sugar cane, gold and livestock. Solidaridad is present in more than 40 local offices around the globe.

For additional information, visit our website at: www.solidaridadnetwork.org

Contact

Roberta Gomes
Communication Specialist
roberta.gomes@solidaridadnetwork.org