



## SAI Platform Introduces FSA 2.1

Greater clarity, precision and value for farmers and the extended value chain

**BRUSSELS 17, 2018** - SAI Platform today announced the new Farm Sustainability Assessment Version 2.1. This latest version includes amendments guided by invaluable feedback from SAI Platform members using the FSA tool, to produce a clear, precise and effective update for the questionnaire. FSA 2.1 is also available in 19 languages that can be downloaded from 17 May and will be available in the FSA web-application on the 28 of May.

On the launch of the Farm Sustainability Assessment 2.1, FSA Programme Lead, Sven Sielhorst commented "*Incorporating feedback and updating as the programme grows is vital to building commitment for FSA usage and ultimately creating value for farmers and the rest of the value chain*"

Based on constructive feedback since the launch of FSA 2.0 in 2014, **FSA 2.1 is designed to ensure maximum continuity for users** by maintaining the equivalence of benchmarking results and farm level assessments. Clearly worded questions need less time for interpretation, giving users greater confidence in their answers, and allowing for more accurate responses.

Full details of the revision can be viewed in the document '[SAI Platform Farm Sustainability Assessment 2.0 vs 2.1](#)' which displays the old and new text (highlighted in yellow) side by side.

We would like to thank all of the organisations who provided feedback, with special mention to the project team members: [Agrana](#), [Diana Food \(Symrise Group\)](#), [Grain Farmers of Ontario](#), and [Nordzucker](#) who made significant contributions to help deliver the final version.



We would also like to show our appreciation and gratitude to [NIAB](#) who were hired to collate the feedback and combine it with their technical expertise.



## Enhanced Audit Guidance for Third-Party Verification of FSA

Providing more clarity, consistency and structure for FSA approved auditors and their clients

**BRUSSELS 17, 2018** - SAI Platform is introducing a set of materials to provide guidance to audit companies and auditors as well as to Farm Management Groups (FMGs) and individual farmers that want to have their FSA self-assessments third-party verified. This guidance is applicable to all FSA audits that will take place from June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

All audit guidance materials are now available for download in the [Toolbox on the FSA Tool website](#) and include:

- FSA Verification Guide for FMGs
- Clarification note on FMGs
- FSA Verification Guide for Stand Alone Farms
- FSA Audit control points

SAI Platform is confident that the new guidance documents mark a significant evolution from the existing materials. The scope of the improvements is largely focussed on providing more structure and clarification to users, as well as to specifying terminology and control points to improve understanding of required evidence. This will simplify the audit process, lead to improved levels of assurance and greater consistency between FSA audits around the globe.

The review and improvement of the FSA audit guidance materials would not have been possible without the support of FSA users at all levels in the supply chain, as well as several [FSA-approved audit companies](#). SAI Platform is grateful for this input and remains open to further suggestions.

FSA approved audit companies will be informed about the changes in more detail in a separate communication, which is available on request.



Want to know more about the Farm Sustainability Assessment (FSA) programme?

Check out our [website](#), or drop us a line at [fsatool@saiplatform.org](mailto:fsatool@saiplatform.org)