

ANNUAL REPORT

2022



SRP



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Foreword

from the Board Chair and Executive Director

We are pleased to present the 2022 Annual Report of the Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP). This report provides an overview of our activities and SRP member achievements over the past year.

Thanks to the continuing support and commitment of our members, 2022 saw significant progress across a number of areas. Membership grew to 110 organizations, with over 20 member-led Registered Projects reaching over 150,000 farmers. The Authorized Training Program continued to attract growing attention, and 181 new SRP Authorized Trainers were certified through 12 SRP Authorized Training Courses. The SRP Assurance Scheme continued to gain visibility and uptake among downstream actors. By year-end the area of SRP-Verified rice had increased to over 32,000 hectares, with SRP-Verified rice available at major food retailers in 11 EU Member States.

The key roles of rice in the global food system, and its status as both contributor to, and victim of, climate change have taken center stage in the wake of the Paris Agreement and became central themes in SRP's policy and advocacy work. As well as our participation in UN Sustainable Food System events, we continue to engage in dialogues in climate change, carbon markets, digitization, and sustainable finance.

The establishment of SRP National Chapters in four countries will further contribute to national-level advocacy to drive wide-scale adoption of climate-smart, sustainable rice farming practices.

Addressing sustainability challenges in the rice sector requires a holistic, landscape-level perspective. As a founding member of the Sustainable Rice Landscapes Initiative, SRP works with its strategic development partners (UNEP, FAO, IRRI, World Business Council for Sustainable Development and GIZ) to incorporate and scale up adoption of the SRP framework within institutional portfolios. Since SRLI's establishment in 2018, SRLI projects funded through the Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund and other multilateral funding instruments have secured over \$50 million in direct grants to deliver landscape-level benefits through large-scale rice projects in Asia. Mobilization of these government-led projects in 2023-24 will help advance national policy goals such as livelihoods, food and water security as well as contribute to international obligations under the Paris Agreement.

On the knowledge-sharing front, 2022 saw the publication of a number of reports and normative documents, including a 10th Anniversary Report - a stocktake of SRP's evolution as a driver of sector transformation over the past decade.

SRP also co-published with WBCSD the report: Scaling private sector investment in sustainable rice: Needs and opportunities. This paved the way for a significant new GEF-funded SRLI project to establish sustainable rice finance facilities in three Asian countries - helping rice smallholders and other actors access the finance they need, when they need it.

We are proud of SRP's progress over the past year. These achievements are a testament to the dedication and commitment of our members and partners. We thank each and every SRP member for your continuing support and contributions to this growing movement and look forward to working together with you on our transformative journey in 2023 and beyond.

Keith Jones
Board Chair

Wyn Ellis
Executive Director



Our vision & mission

Our vision is to “Feed the world. Sustainably”.

The Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP) is a global multi-stakeholder alliance comprising over 100 institutional members from public and private stakeholders, research, civil society and financial institutions. Together with its members and partners, SRP aims to transform the global rice sector by improving smallholder livelihoods, reducing the social, environmental and climate footprint of rice production, and by offering the global rice market an assured supply of sustainably produced rice.

Our mission is to catalyze transformation of the global rice sector by developing tools and mobilizing rice stakeholders to promote on-farm adoption of sustainable best practices, linking farmers to markets and offering an objective normative basis for policymaking.

2022

in numbers

110

SRP members

in 36

| in 19

countries

24

Registered SRP
Projects

32,290

(2021: 30,193)

hectares of SRP-
Verified rice

7,375

(2021: 3,640)

SRP-Verified
Producers

11

(2021: 5)

countries in which
SRP-Verified rice is
available via
retailers

12

SRP Authorized
Training Courses
conducted

455

SRP Authorized
Trainers

2

National Chapters
established

2

National Chapters
under establishment

2022

Highlights

The Annual Report 2022 highlights key activities and milestones over the year, focusing particularly on SRP's key areas (SRP membership, Registered SRP Projects, SRP Training Program, SRP Assurance Scheme and SRP National Chapters).

Key milestones achieved in 2022 are summarized below.

SRP-Verified rice

After the launch of SRP-Verified rice in supermarkets in June 2021, interest from retailers has grown and by end of 2022 SRP-Verified rice was available in 11 countries via major retailers and brands including Lidl, Kaufland, Albert Hein, LT Foods and Riso Gallo.



SRP-Verified Label one of the 12 top quality labels in the Netherlands

In June 2022, the SRP-Verified Label was selected as one of the 12 top quality labels in the Netherlands by Milieu Centraal, a Dutch independent information organization aiming to help consumers to shop more sustainably.

SRP rice survey 2022 indicates growing interest in sustainable rice

Findings of a survey conducted by SRP among a broad base of stakeholders in the global rice sector indicated a significant level of interest and support for the concept of sustainably produced rice.

Continued brand engagement

SRP continued to engage the BEHOLD Sustainable Venture Group to build and support our brand engagement and market strategies, specifically in Europe. The team supported close engagement with downstream actors and SRP members to establish appropriate positioning for SRP-Verified rice in key markets and build awareness of SRP.

New interview series: Meet our Members

SRP launched the interview series "Meet our Members", featuring SRP members giving insights into main trends and developments they see in the rice industry, their vision for the sector as well as their overall engagement with SRP.

ISEAL Community Membership

In January 2022, ISEAL announced the acceptance of SRP as an ISEAL Community Member. As an ISEAL Community Member, SRP collaborates with other sustainability standards and similar systems to scale and demonstrates positive impact. SRP commits to continually improve its systems and impacts and is transparent about how the SRP system works and how it measures its impacts.

New SRP Authorized Training Courses

Two new authorized training courses were added to the SRP training course catalog: SRP Internal Management System (IMS) and SRP Chain of Custody (CoC) Policy and Standard.

Updated Theory of Change

As part of working toward ISEAL code compliance, the SRP Board and Secretariat reviewed and updated the SRP Theory of Change, which was finalized following a public stakeholder consultation held in October 2022.

SRP

Resources

In 2022, SRP published and co-published the following normative documents and reports. All normative documents are available on [SRP's website](#).

New/updated SRP normative documents

- [SRP Chain of Custody Standard v 2.0](#)
- [Overview of Changes SRP CoC v 1.0 to v 2.0](#)
- [Guidance for SRP CoC v 2.0](#)
- [Self-Assessment Checklist for SRP CoC v 2.0](#)
- [SRP Assurance Scheme Info Note No.3](#)
- [SRP Assurance Scheme Info Note No.4](#)
- [SRP Assurance Scheme Info Note No.5](#)
- [Overview of SRP Assurance Scheme \(update\)](#)
- [Internal Management System Checklist v 2.1](#)
- [Step-by-Step to getting SRP-Verified](#)
- [Thai translation of the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation](#)
- [SRP Brand Manual \(update\)](#)

Reports

- [SRP Anniversary Report: 10 years of transforming the global rice sector - Anniversary Report](#)
- [“Scaling private sector investment in sustainable rice: Needs and opportunities”](#), co-produced by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), the Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP) and the Just Rural Transition (JRT), with technical input from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- [Gender and Inclusion Recommendations Sustainable Rice Platform \(SRP\) – Final Report](#) (funded by Oxfam under the GRAISEA programme)
- [Proposed Gender Strategy Sustainable Rice Platform \(SRP\)](#) (funded by Oxfam under the GRAISEA programme)

SRP

Membership

SRP membership is an alliance of organizations that share a common vision and commitment to a sustainable global rice sector.

In 2022, **25 new organizations** joined SRP, bringing **total membership** from 92 (end 2021) to **110 institutions** by year-end.

Total membership revenues increased by 19.6% from €356,375 (2021) to €441,250 (2022).

Service, input and equipment providers

17%



Public sector

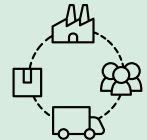
21%



110
members

Supply chain actors

38%



Civil societies

24%



SRP members are based in Asia (58%), Africa (4%), Europe (27%), the Americas (9%) and Oceania (2%).

New

members 2022

Civil society organization

Centre of Excellence on environmental strategy for GREEN business (VGREEN)
Thailand

International Fertilizer Industry Association
France

Lok Sanjh Foundation
Pakistan

Service, input and equipment provider

BASF SE (Agricultural Solutions)
Germany

Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd.
India

CoreCarbonX Solutions Private Limited
India

Preferred by Nature OÜ
Estonia

Straw Innovations Ltd.
United Kingdom

Supply chain actor

Amiha Agro Pvt. Ltd.
India

BENEO-Remy
Belgium

Castor River Inc.
United States

Fatima Rice Mills Limited
Pakistan

Grimp Shwebo Rice Mill
Myanmar

Hla Taw Land Company
Myanmar

Meskay & Femtee Trading Company (Pvt.) Ltd.
Pakistan

Shwe Oo Wai Rice Mill
Myanmar

Supreme Rice Mills (Private) Limited
Pakistan

U Aung Myint Rice Mill
Myanmar

U Aung Naing Win Huller Rice Mill
Myanmar

U Kyaw Myint Huller Rice Mill
Myanmar

U Mya Aye Harlar Rice Mill
Myanmar

U Myo Min Tun Huller Rice Mill
Myanmar

U Win Bo Trading
Myanmar

Veetee Rice Ltd
United Kingdom
Supply chain actor

Public sector

CIRAD (Agricultural Research Centre for International Development)
France

All members

- Africa Rice Center
- Agricultural Food and Marketing Association for Asia and the Pacific
- Agrocolor,S.L.
- AgroFrontera
- AKC Commodities, Inc
- Alliance for Water Stewardship
- Allied Development Corporation
- Al-Wahab Rice Mills (Pvt) Ltd
- Amiha Agro Pvt. Ltd.
- Asian Center of Innovation for Sustainable Agriculture Intensification, Asian Institute of Technology
- Association for Gender Awareness & Human Empowerment (AGAHE)"
- Atlas Food (Pvt.) Ltd.
- BASF SE (Agricultural Solutions)
- Battambang Rice Investment Co Ltd
- Bayer
- BENE0-Remy
- Castor River Inc.
- Center for Fertilization and Plant Nutrition
- Center for Sustainable Rural Development
- Centre of Excellence on environmental strategy for GREEN business (VGREEN)
- CIRAD (Agricultural Research Centre for International Development)
- Clarmondial AG
- Control Union Co., Ltd.
- Core CarbonX Solutions Private Limited
- Corteva Agriscience
- Dept of Agriculture / PhilRice, Philippines
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ)
- Ebro Foods
- Ecocert
- EURICOM S.p.A.
- Fairtrade International
- Fatima Rice Mills Limited
- Flying Trade India Private Limited
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- Foodtech Solutions (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
- Galaxy Rice Mills (Pvt) Ltd
- Global Rice Sourcing Co Ltd
- GLOBALG.A.P.
- Golden Sunland
- Grameen Foundation, USA
- Grimp Shwebo Rice Mill
- HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation
- Hla Taw Land Company
- Indonesian Center for Food Crops Research and Development
- Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development
- Instituto Nacional de Investigacion (INIA) Uruguay
- International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF) aka World Agroforestry Centre
- International Fertilizer Industry Association
- International Finance Corporation
- International Potash Institute
- International Rescue Committee, Inc
- International Rice Research Institute
- Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd.
- Kilimo Trust
- Koninklijke Ahold Delhaize NV
- Lidl Stiftung & Co KG
- Loc Troi Group Joint Stock Company
- Lok Sanjh Foundation
- LT Foods Limited
- Mars Food
- Matco Foods (Pvt) Ltd
- Meskay & Femtee Trading Company (Pvt.) Ltd.
- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries, Cambodia
- Natcap Sustainable Solutions
- Netafim Ltd
- Network for Aquaculture Centres in Asia and the Pacific (NACA)
- NetZeroAg Ltd (NZA)
- Olam Global Agri Pte Ltd
- Orillion
- Pakistan Agriculture Research Council
- Pakistan Basmati Heritage Foundation
- Partners in Prosperity Society
- Peterson Services Vietnam Co.,Ltd.
- Preferred by Nature F.M.B.A
- Preferred by Nature OÜ
- PRIME Farms Myanmar Ltd
- Provivi, Inc.
- Quality Certification Services
- REEDS Pakistan
- Rice Department of Thailand
- Rice Exchange
- RICE TILLER - Cheshinovo
- Rikolto
- Riso Gallo
- Sansom Mlup Prey Organization (SMP)
- Sharsid Overseas Pvt. Ltd.
- Shwe Oo Wai Rice Mill
- Straw Innovations Ltd.
- SunRice
- Supreme Rice Mills (Private) Limited
- Swisscontact
- Syngenta
- Taj Food Pvt Ltd
- U Aung Myint Rice Mill
- U Aung Naing Win Huller Rice Mill
- U Kyaw Myint Huller Rice Mill
- U Mya Aye Harlar Rice Mill
- U Myo Min Tun Huller Rice Mill
- U Win Bo Trading
- UN Environment Programme
- UN Women
- Veetee Rice Ltd
- VSO Cambodia
- Westmill Foods Co Ltd
- Wildlife Conservation Society (CAM)
- Winrock International
- World Business Council for Sustainable Development
- World Food Programme
- WWF Pakistan

Registered SRP Projects

Registered SRP Projects are initiated and managed independently by SRP members. Their goal is to promote adoption of SRP tools and build the capacity of partners, farmer groups and farmers to shift to sustainable rice cultivation practices. Projects involve in-person training and technical assistance at field level.

These projects are implemented at varying scales in 19 countries across Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas, and together, they are reaching over 150,000 farmers¹.

Registered SRP Project	Country	Organization	Number of SRP farmers reached ¹
Better Rice Initiative Asia II: Promotion of integrated pest management in Thailand (BRIA IPM)	Thailand	German Government, CropLife International, GIZ	3500
Climate-Smart Project in Myanmar	Myanmar	Helvetas swiss development organization, NORAD, Swiss Agency for Development and Corporation (SDC)	155
Competitive African Rice Initiative (CARI)	Nigeria, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Tanzania, Sierra Leone, Cote-d'Ivoire	German Government, BMGF, GIZjijmh	83,500
IL RISO PRIMA DI TUTTO (SRP Italy)	Italy	Mars Food	72
Market-oriented Smallholder Value Chains (Better Rice Initiative Asia II)	Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam	German Government, Olam International, GIZ	18,775
Oryzonte	Spain	Mars Food, Ebro, Danone	0
Promotion of Sustainable Rice Production and Standards by SRP in Rice Sector in Pakistan (Atlas Food)	Pakistan	Atlas Foods Private Limited	754
Regenerative Rice Farming in Thailand phase 1	Thailand	GIZ, Livelihoods Funds	155

¹ Number of SRP farmers reached: Number of rice farmers to whom a Registered SRP Project has delivered one or more capacity building or incentive measures that are designed to enable the adoption of sustainable rice cultivation practices following the SRP Standard.

Registered SRP Project	Country	Organization	Number of SRP farmers reached ²
Regional Economic Development Program (RED IV)	Cambodia	German Government, DEZA, GIZ	400
Rice Production Under SRP Standard	Vietnam	Loc Troi Group	0
Rikolto Rice Cluster for Sustainable Rice Sector Transformation	Vietnam, Indonesia, Tanzania, Uganda, Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, DR Congo, Senegal, Benin	Rikolto, Belgian DGD, AGRA, WorldBank	57.933
SRP and Water USA	USA	Mars Food	0
Sustainable and Controlled Farming (LT Food)	India	LT Foods Limited	4,094
Sustainable Aromatic Rice Initiative Thailand (SARI)	Thailand	GIZ, Mars Food	1,200
Sustainable Jasmine Rice Production Battambang	Cambodia	IFC, Mars Food	1,200
Sustainable Jasmine Rice Production Kampong Thom	Cambodia	Mars Food	0
Sustainable Rice Cultivation in Steung Chinit South	Cambodia	Wildlife Conservation Society, ADB	0
Sustainable Rice Production	Dominican Republic	Agrofrontera, USAID	200
Sustainable rice project (Olam Agro India Private Limited)	India	Olam Agro India Private Limited, International Finance Cooperation	0
Sustainable Rice Vietnam	Vietnam	Mars Food	0
Thai Rice Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (Thai Rice NAMA)	Thailand	GIZ, NAMA Facility (BMU/BEIS)	13600
Thai-German Climate Program - Agriculture Component (TGCP)	Thailand	GIZ, BMU	0
Water Productivity Project Pakistan (WAPRO)	Pakistan	Swiss Agency for Development and Corporation (SDC), Netherlands Enterprises Agency (RVO), Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation & Swiss Solidarity, MARS Food, Rice Partners Pvt Ltd (Better Grain Ltd), Galaxy Rice, Westmill Foods	1,100
Water Productivity Project, India (WAPRO)	India	Mars Food, Swiss Agency for Development and Corporation (SDC)	1,385

² Number of SRP farmers reached: Number of rice farmers to whom a Registered SRP Project has delivered one or more capacity building or incentive measures that are designed to enable the adoption of sustainable rice cultivation practices following the SRP Standard.

SRP Training Program

Two new authorized training courses

The SRP Internal Management System (IMS) and SRP Chain of Custody (CoC) Policy and Standard authorized training courses were officially launched and added to the training course catalog in 2022. All are available either online or in-person.

SRP Authorized Training Courses:

1. Understanding the SRP Standard and Performance Indicators (SPI)
2. Understanding the SRP Assurance Scheme (AS)
3. Understanding the SRP Internal Management System Standard and Guidelines (IMS)
4. Understanding the SRP Chain of Custody Policy and Standard (CoC)

In line with the new courses, designations of SRP Authorized Trainers were updated accordingly:

Designation	SRP Authorized Training Courses			
	SPI	AS	IMS	CoC
SRP Authorized Trainer (SPI)	✓			
SRP Authorized Trainer (AS)	✓	✓		
SRP Authorized Trainer (IMS)	✓ or	✓	✓	
SRP Authorized Trainer (CoC)		✓		✓

New Authorized Training Providers

SRP Authorized Training Providers in 2022:

- GLOBALG.A.P.
- International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) Education
- Preferred by Nature
- Peterson Services Vietnam Co., Ltd.

Preferred by Nature and Peterson Services Vietnam Co., Ltd. were recognized as SRP Authorized Training Providers³, bringing the total number of Authorized Training Providers to four. The Academy for International Cooperation (AIZ) did not extend their role as Authorized Training Provider.

SRP Training Program 2022 in numbers

In 2022, SRP Authorized Training Providers conducted a total of **12 SRP Authorized Training Courses** which resulted in **181 new successful trainees certified as SRP Authorized Trainers**.

SRP Authorized Training Courses in 2022

SPI
6

AS
2

IMS
2

CoC
2

Trainer designation of SRP Authorized Trainers certified in 2022

SPI
111

AS
7

IMS
29

CoC
34

Since launch of the Authorized Training Scheme, SRP has recognized **455 SRP Authorized Trainers based in 38 countries**.

³ SRP Authorized Training Providers are institutions endorsed by SRP to deliver SRP-approved training courses per the authorized topic(s).

SRP Assurance Scheme & Market Development

By December 2022, the cumulative area of SRP-verified rice had expanded from 30,193 in 2021 to 32,290 hectares across six countries (India, Myanmar, Pakistan, Spain, Thailand, and Vietnam). This figure reflects an approximate 7% increase in the verified rice area. Simultaneously, outreach to farmers grew by over 100%, as the number of SRP-Verified producers rose from 3,640 in 2021 to 7,375 in 2022.

SRP Approved Verification Bodies (VBs)

- Preferred by Nature
- AGROCOLOR, SL
- Control Union Certifications B.V.
- Ecocert Environnement SAS

Following the June 2021 launch of SRP-Verified rice in the EU, retailer interest has gained traction and by end of 2022 SRP-Verified rice was available in 11 countries via major retailers and leading brands including Lidl, Kaufland, Albert Hein, LT Foods and Riso Gallo.



In June 2022, the SRP-Verified Label was selected as **one of the 12 top quality labels in the Netherlands** by Milieu Centraal, a Dutch independent information organization aiming to help consumers to shop more sustainably.





SRP survey results show growing interest in sustainable rice

Annual Rice Survey 2022

Findings of a survey conducted by SRP among a broad base of stakeholders in the global rice sector indicated a **significant level of interest and support for the concept of sustainably produced rice.**



of respondents consider sustainability as important to their organization.



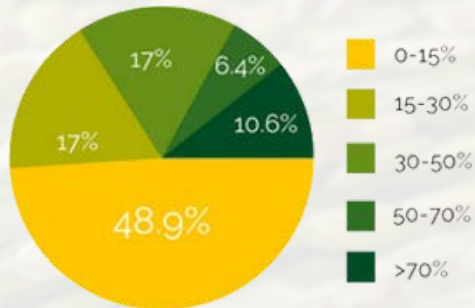
see it as a **priority** to work with sustainably produced rice in the coming 5 years.

74% of respondents reported that they are currently either sourcing sustainable rice or working with projects involving sustainable (social and/or environmentally responsible) rice. The majority (84%) of those who do not source or work with projects involving sustainable rice have plans to do so in the short to medium term.

Sourcing sustainable rice – status quo and volumes

- 57% of respondents are currently sourcing sustainable rice – or planning to source it in the near future.
- Pakistan, India, Thailand and Vietnam are the countries from which sustainable rice is currently primarily being sourced – or planned to be sourced from.
- 46% of respondents source more than 5,000 tons of rice per year.

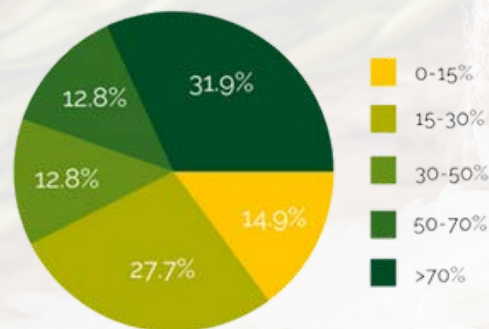
Approximately what percentage of your current volume do you source sustainably?



- 49% of respondents worked with volumes lower than 15% of sustainable rice.
- 40% of respondents worked with volumes between 15 and 70% of sustainable rice.
- 11% of respondents worked with volumes higher than 70% of sustainable rice.

Looking ahead - expectations to source sustainably by 2025

What percentage of your volume do you expect to source sustainably by 2025?



- 15% of respondents expect to source volumes lower than 15% of sustainable rice by 2025.
- 53% of respondents expect to source volumes between 15 and 70% of sustainable rice by 2025.
- 32% of respondents expect to source volumes higher than 70% of sustainable rice by 2025.

Sourcing sustainable rice – motivation and challenges

Motivation

Respondents indicated that their main motivations for sourcing sustainable rice are consumer interest in sustainability, and compliance with corporate sustainability policy.

Farmers and environment – drivers for sustainable rice

Respondents indicated themes such as boosting smallholder farmers, protecting the environment, reducing use of chemicals, mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, improving land and water management, and conserving biodiversity as most relevant to their operations.

Obstacles

The main obstacles to procuring sustainable rice identified by participants were insufficient supply, lack of consumer demand, high prices, and lack of traceability.

If you are interested in receiving the full survey presentation, contact info@sustainableice.org.
Author: Jennifer Gonzales, SRP retail & brands engagement Europe

National-Level Activities

National Chapters

SRP National Chapters are country-level coalitions established among national-level rice stakeholders, including institutions from the public and private sector, international agencies and development partners, research institutes, non-profits and producer groups.

SRP National Chapters reflect SRP's vision, mission and approaches and aim to drive adoption of climate-smart, sustainable rice farming practices through policy advocacy and market-led approaches.

By end of 2022, **SRP National Chapters had been initiated in four countries**, following the SRP Protocol for Establishing National Chapters: Cambodia, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Thailand.

The Thailand National Chapter finalized the official Thai translation of the SRP Standard which was endorsed by the SRP Technical Committee and is now published via the [SRP website](#).

In addition, leading SRP members in other countries have expressed interest and are preparing to initiate the process according to the Protocol, including Vietnam and Indonesia.

Project

Partnerships

Sector transformation requires collaboration across a broad range of strategic partners across the stakeholder spectrum in order to drive wide-scale adoption of climate-smart, sustainable best practices among rice smallholders. 2022 saw the conclusion of two important SRP-led scaling projects.

Water Productivity Project (WAPRO)

Led by Helvetas, the **Water Productivity Project (WAPRO)**, funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) was first implemented between 2015 and 2018 in four countries in Asia by a consortium of nine partners including SRP, with a budget of about CHF 6.76 million, and involving 23,600 farmers. The project offered a holistic 'Push-Pull-Policy' approach that encourages water stewardship – collective action towards the sustainable use of water, focusing on rice and cotton. SRP was a project steering partner; scaling adoption and compliance with the SRP Standard was a cornerstone for driving long-term sustainability of rice production in the project countries.

Phase 2 of the project saw an expansion to 16 countries in Asia and Africa, with 22 partners and a budget of about CHF 17.5 million, aspiring to improve the lives of 60,000 farmers.

The project closed in December 2022; key outcomes for rice are summarized in Figure 1.

Read [WAPRO Phase 2 Final Report](#).

WAPRO Impacts

- 84,000 SRP rice farmers (India, Myanmar, Pakistan)
- Water productivity among SRP farmers over 4 cropping seasons increased by 21 %, 30% and 63% in Pakistan, India and Myanmar, respectively
- Crop productivity for SRP farmers over 4 years increased from 6% to 31% across the three countries
- Reductions of up to 44% in CH₄ emissions from adoption of AWD in Myanmar
- Net incomes of farmers increased by up to USD 56 per ha per crop season

Figure 1: WAPRO Impacts

Myanmar Climate-Smart Rice Project: Transformation of rice value chains through wide-scale adoption of climate-smart and resource-efficient sustainable best practices.

The Climate Smart Rice Project (CSR Project) was a four-year initiative aimed at supporting the agri-business sector and smallholder rice farmers to stimulate transformation of the rice sector towards sustainability. The project started in January 2019 and closed in 2022. The project was implemented in three diverse locations in Myanmar: Mandalay region, Southern Shan State, and Mon State/Bago region.

Focusing on rice-inclusive farming systems, the project prioritized enhancement of the livelihoods of smallholders through private sector development and partnerships aimed at the promotion of climate-smart and resource-efficient best practices in compliance with the Sustainable Rice Platform Standard (SRP Standard). This overall objective was pursued through the following three project outcomes using a simple “push-pull-policy” (PPP) approach.

The first objective “pushed” producers to embrace sustainable and climate-smart rice production techniques; the second objective used the influence of downstream market demand to “pull” producers towards adopting sustainable practices, while the third objective intervened at the “policy” level to establish a conducive policy framework that incentivizes a shift to climate-smart, sustainable rice production. The project engaged directly with private sector actors including rice millers and value chain actors.

The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) managed the project and served as contractual partner with the project donor (the Norwegian Agency for Cooperation and Development, NORAD). The project was co-funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

Operationally the project was managed by a Project Management Unit (PMU), led by Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation in Myanmar and including the key implementing partners UNEP, SRP, PRIME Agri Ltd., and Helvetas. Other project partners included private sector actors in Myanmar and the Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research (NIBIO).

Read the report [Myanmar Climate-Smart Rice: Lessons Learned](#).

Sustainable Rice Landscape Initiative

Launched on 25 June 2018 during the 6th GEF Assembly meeting in Danang, Vietnam, the Sustainable Rice Landscapes Initiative is a unique consortium of 6 partners, working to bring together technological, ecological, policy and market-led approaches to address rice sustainability challenges. The initiative, led by SRP, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, UNEP and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, together with the International Rice Research Institute and GIZ, aims to harness multiple opportunities to meet the growing global demand for sustainable rice, using a public-private partnership approach towards achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Accomplishing this will require transformation of rice-based production landscapes for which collaborative action is urgently needed to mobilize required resources and drive mainstreaming of sustainable best practice at farm and policy levels. At scale, these approaches will contribute to meeting national greenhouse gas reduction targets under the Paris Agreement, as well as restoring degraded landscapes and conserving biodiversity.

The Initiative builds upon SRP's efforts to drive transformative change in the rice sector, initially through national level projects submitted for funding via the Global Environment Facility under the GEF-7 Global Impact Programme on Food Systems, Land-use and Restoration (FOLUR).

Since SRLI's establishment, SRLI projects funded through the Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund and other multilateral funding instruments have secured over \$50 million in direct grants to deliver landscape-level benefits through large-scale rice projects in Asia. Mobilization of these government-led projects in 2023-24 will help advance national policy goals such as livelihoods, food and water security as well as contribute to international obligations under the Paris Agreement.

Financing Sustainable Rice

Meeting financing gaps in rice value chains will be critical to the sector's health, resilience and ability to embrace change. In April 2022, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Secretariat approved the USD 1.15 million FAO-GEF "Public-Private Blended Finance Facility for Climate-Resilient Rice Landscapes" project submitted under the auspices of the Sustainable Rice Landscapes Initiative. The project forms part of the GEF Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation, funded by GEF's Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF).

The project will support the design of a new Sustainable Rice Blended Finance Facility to catalyse public and private sector investment to scale-up adaptation and resilience-building in rice landscapes across Asia. The project's overarching objective is to catalyse public and private financing for climate-resilient rice landscapes, value chains and livelihoods. Three specific project outputs will contribute to this objective:

1. Design of an integrated financing mechanism;
2. Enhancement of financial and technical capacities of farmers (women and men), producer groups, counterparts, and intermediaries to invest effectively in climate resilience; and
3. Development and implementation of program-wide impact monitoring, governance, adaptive learning, and knowledge sharing mechanisms.

With the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) designated as the GEF implementing agency, the project will be executed by SRP in collaboration with the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), International Finance Corporation and relevant Government agencies in the three target countries.

The project will ultimately help unlock new opportunities for rice smallholders and market actors to access finance and help drive scalable sector outcomes.

SRP

Communication



SRP 10th Year Anniversary Video

In connection with the SRP 10th year anniversary in December 2021, SRP released its 10th year anniversary video, marking key milestones, while also reflecting on what more remains to be done to achieve our goal to catalyze a transformation of the global rice sector.

Interview series: Meet our Members

SRP launched the interview series “Meet our Members” in which we ask SRP members about the main trends and developments they see in the rice industry, their vision for the sector as well as their overall engagement with SRP.



Events

In 2022, SRP organized or co-organized a series of following webinars and workshops for its members:

- Agronomists experience on implementing SRP in Asia (co-organized with Mars Foods) (March)
- How to meet the growing global demand for sustainable rice? (April)
- Pakistan's role in meeting global demand for sustainable rice (May)
- Board Briefing on rice and carbon markets (June)
- GEF Sustainable Rice Finance Facility Project: Regional inception workshop (July), followed by 3 country validation workshops (October-November)
- Presentation to Board on Oxfam Assessment of Gender and Inclusivity (August)
- SRP Theory of Change public consultation (October)
- SRP Retailer/Brand Engagement Strategy 2023-24 workshop (September + November)

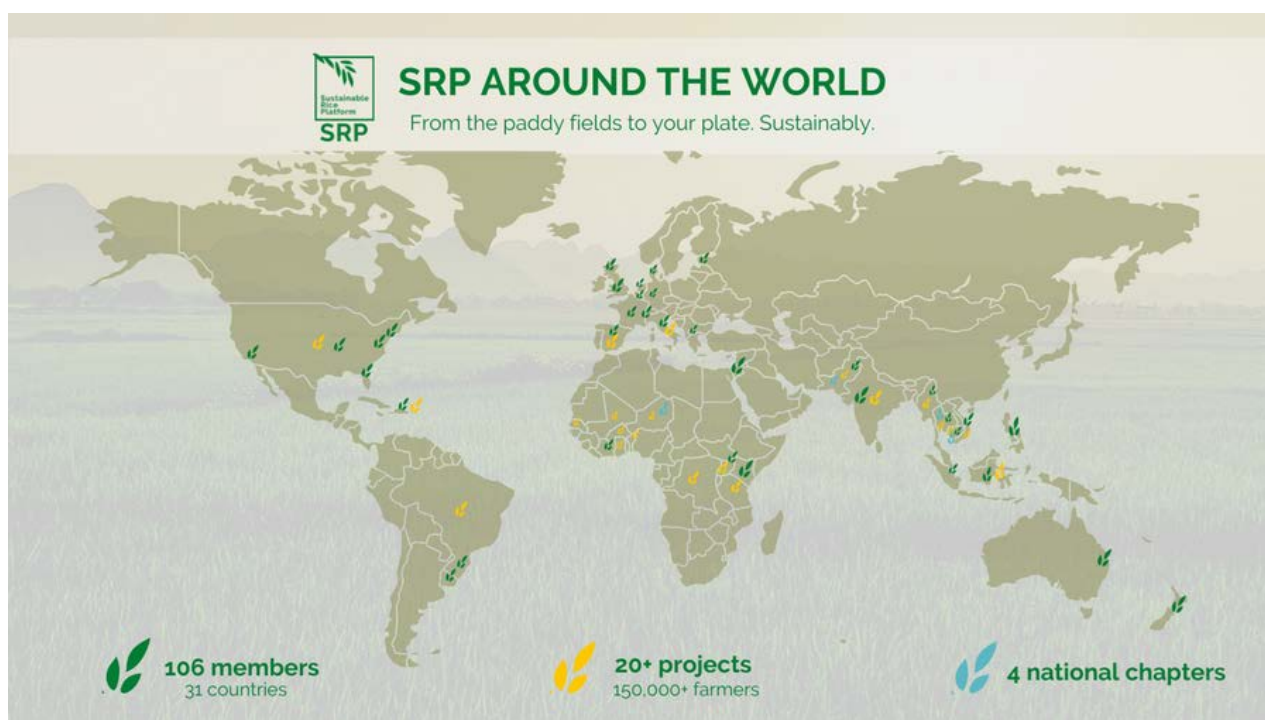


Other SRP events in 2022:

- Annual General Assembly (March)
- Governance & Risk Committee Retreat in Bonn, Germany (July)
- Extraordinary General Assembly (September)
- Board Retreat in Bangkok, Thailand (October)

SRP Around the World

To celebrate SRP's 11th anniversary, SRP together with its members and partners launched the digital campaign SRP Around the World ([#SRPAroundtheWorld](#)) to raise awareness about how SRP members are working to transform the global rice sector. The campaign showcased SRP members, Registered SRP Projects, National Chapters and SRP-Verified rice, with 13 SRP members and partners actively participating in the campaign. **The campaign drew media attention especially in the Netherlands through six published articles/press releases** in mainstream media, as well as major visibility through social media.



SRP Board

2022

- Keith Jones (Chair)
- Bas Bouman (Vice Chair)
- Bruno Fischer (Treasurer)
- Catur Utami Dewi
- Anoushka Harris
- Alan Johnson
- Arjumand Nizami
- Mark Radka
- Adrian Sym
- Shahid Tarer
- Jim Whitaker
- Bob Zeigler

Bayer, Corteva, Syngenta
IRRI (Permanent)
Foodtech Solutions (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
Rikolto
ABF UK Grocery Group/Westmill Foods Co Ltd
International Finance Corporation (World Bank Group)
Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation
UNEP (Permanent, non-voting)
Alliance for Water Stewardship
Galaxy Rice
Winrock International
Net Zero Agriculture

SRP Board 2022-25

At the SRP Extraordinary General Assembly held on 22 September 2022, the Board welcomed three new elected members: Anoushka Harris (Associated British Foods/UK Grocery Group/Westmill Foods Co Ltd), Alan Johnson (International Finance Corporation (World Bank Group)) and Shahid Tarer (Galaxy Rice).



Anoushka Harris,
Associated British Foods/UK
Grocery Group/Westmill Foods
Co Ltd



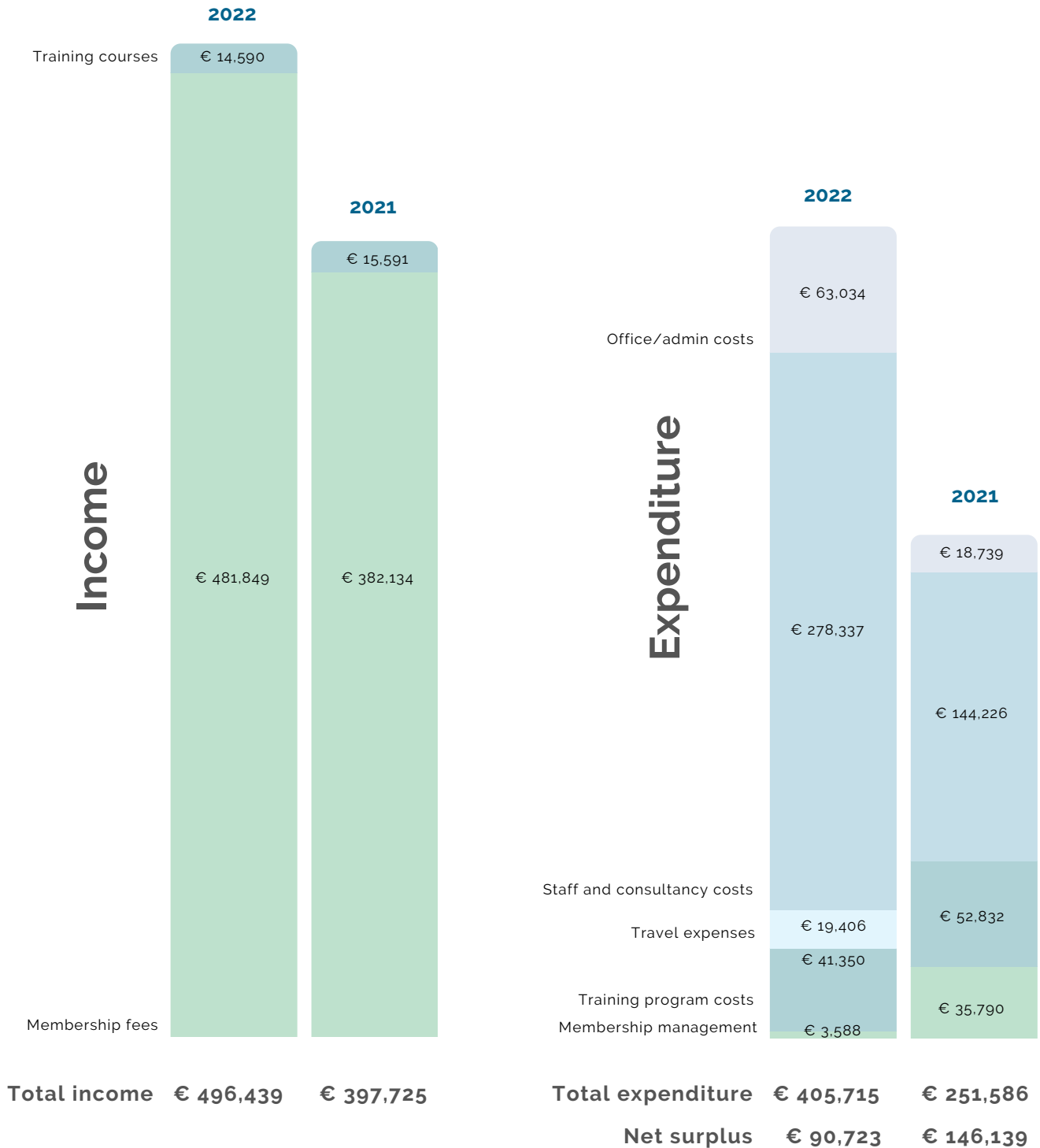
Alan Johnson,
International Finance
Corporation (World Bank Group)



Shahid Hussain Tarer,
Galaxy Rice

SRP

Financials



Source: SRP Annual Financial Statements available at www.sustainablerice.org.

Mainstreaming Sustainable Rice through the Sustainable Rice Platform project

SRP e.V. is currently supported through a cooperation project of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development's (BMZ) developPPP program. The 'Mainstreaming Sustainable Rice through the Sustainable Rice Platform' project is implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH together with Ebro Foods, Mars Food, and Olam Agri. The project aims to support SRP's organizational strengthening and growth in the period of 2020–2023.

The project design comprises six work packages, which intend to scale production of and demand for sustainable rice globally, toward sector transformation. In 2022 the following key activities were supported through the project.

Country level awareness and adoption of SRP

The project supported the design and implementation of activities to increase understanding of the importance and value of sustainable rice production in selected countries in Asia and Africa. Activities included mapping of rice sector stakeholders for potential engagement, benchmarking of local farmer practices against the SRP Standard, supporting SRP Authorized Training, and other topics.

ISEAL Community Membership

In January 2022, ISEAL welcomed SRP as an ISEAL Community Member. Throughout the year, the project continued to provide international experts on sustainability codes to guide SRP toward ISEAL code compliance. Outputs included finalizing the ISEAL improvement plan for 2022; implementing targeted improvements related to the monitoring, evaluation and learning framework, information management, risk management, stakeholder engagement, and standard-setting and revision protocols; updating the gap analyses; and developing an ISEAL improvement plan for 2023 and beyond for SRP's continued action. Recommendations were also shared on honing the SRP Strategic Plan.

Expand SRP Training Program

To support SRP Authorized Training Providers and Trainers in delivering high quality training on SRP topics, the project supported the development of two animated explainer videos about the SRP Assurance Scheme and the SRP Internal Management System.

Continued retailer and brand engagement in Europe

Retailer and brand outreach and engagement in Europe continued to be supported by international market development consultants engaged by the project until mid-year, when SRP itself took over funding for this activity. This is positively viewed in the context of transition and sustainability, that initial project investments are utilized and maintained to grow results.

Consumer survey in Asia

The project commissioned an international consumer survey firm to conduct a market study of consumers in five rice producing countries in Asia (India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Thailand, Vietnam). Aims were to understand consumer perceptions of sustainable rice, priority attributes for consumers, key factors in purchasing rice, and to test on-packaging concept statements. The study results will be utilized by SRP for refinement of key messages and development of initiatives to increase awareness among consumers, brands, and retailers in South and Southeast Asia.

Updated Theory of Change

It is critical to periodically test the continued relevance of an organizational Theory of Change, considering external changes and SRP's own evolution. As part of working toward ISEAL code compliance, the project facilitated a process with the SRP Board and Secretariat to review and update the SRP Theory of Change, which was finalized following a public stakeholder consultation held in October 2022. This included development of aligned indicators, a research agenda, and a proportionate MEL system with SRP Secretariat capacity to oversee it.

Team strengthening

The project supported implementation of an externally facilitated team-development exercise for the SRP Secretariat. This resulted in stronger shared understanding of roles with respect to driving the SRP vision and mission, and improved communication and trust horizontally and with management – toward operating as a cohesive and effective unit into the future.



SRP

Sustainable Rice Platform

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   Sustainable Rice Platform   @srp_rice