
Sustainable Rice Platform Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation



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Authors

This document represents version 3.0 of the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation. It is the result of the dedicated work of the SRP Working Groups on Cultivation, Social & Economy, and Carbon. The development of this standard involved extensive consultations with relevant experts beyond SRP members in the rice sector, ensuring a comprehensive and inclusive approach to sustainable rice cultivation. While no major changes have been made, this version provides clearer guidelines and upgraded requirements to enhance the sustainability and effectiveness of rice cultivation practices.

Disclaimer

The views expressed in this document are those of the Sustainable Rice Platform and may not in any circumstance be regarded as representing an official position of the organizations involved.

About the Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP)

The Sustainable Rice Platform e.V. (SRP) is a global multi-stakeholder alliance comprising over 100 institutional members from public, private, research, civil society and the financial sector. Co-convened by the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and private sector partners. SRP works with its members and partners 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.

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BACKGROUND

In 2015, the Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP) launched the world's first Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation along with a set of Performance Indicators. These tools were designed to benchmark and objectively compare the sustainability of various rice systems. Together, they serve as a working definition for sustainable rice production, providing a foundation for policymakers and the global rice supply chain to adopt sustainable best practices on a wide scale.

The SRP Standard was developed over a two-year period with broad stakeholder participation. The first public version of the SRP Standard (Version 1.0) was released for field-testing in October 2015. SRP members and external stakeholders conducted pilots using the SRP Standard (Version 1.0) with farmers in diverse agro-ecological contexts over a period of one to two crop seasons. Data and farmer feedback from these field pilots provided invaluable guidance in refining the Standard.

In 2017, SRP launched a review process using the ISEAL Standard-Setting Code of Good Practice. The objective of the revision was to improve the clarity, consistency, and utility of Version 1.0 and to respond to common issues identified during field-testing. SRP held a Standard and Performance Indicators Revision Workshop in Bali, Indonesia in August 2017, followed by an open online public consultation from September to November 2017 to identify areas for potential revision and proposed changes. Inputs were assessed and incorporated during December 2017 to November 2018, in consultation with members of the SRP Working Group on Farmer Support, Performance Measurement, and Assurance, together with external experts.

The SRP Standard (Version 2.0) was launched at the SRP 8th Plenary Meeting and General Assembly in Siem Reap, Cambodia on January 2019. Further clarifications in the wording of requirement 2 (Record keeping) are reflected in the SRP Standard Version 2.1, launched in January 2020. No changes have been made to scoring or thresholds. SRP Standard Version 2.2 was launched in August 2023, incorporating user feedback to refine wording, correct typographical errors, and enhance overall clarity.

The next review of the SRP Standard (resulting in Version 4.0) is planned for 2030, while minor revisions may be announced in the interim at SRP's discretion to reflect new scientific knowledge and latest best practice recommendations.

SRP wishes to extend its heartfelt thanks to the individual experts who joined the SRP Standard revision working groups and the stakeholders who provided valuable consultations throughout the process.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all stakeholders, including policymakers, rice farmers, researchers, and industry partners, for their invaluable contributions to the development and continuous improvement of these standards and tools. Your collaboration and dedication are vital to advancing sustainable rice cultivation globally.

INTRODUCTION

To effectively monitor progress and impact in sustainable rice cultivation, SRP offers policymakers and the global rice supply chain a proven set of instruments to facilitate wide-scale adoption of sustainable best practices in the global rice sector, including the following closely interlinked instruments:

1. **SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation**, a framework with 42 requirements structured under eight major themes.
2. **SRP Performance Indicators for Sustainable Rice Cultivation**, quantitative measures to assess sustainability impacts at the farm level. The initial set was released in April 2015, with the latest version (2.1) launched in January 2020.
3. **SRP Assurance Scheme**, launched in December 2019 to demonstrate compliance with the SRP Standard and measure impact using the Performance Indicators. Significant updates were introduced in Version 2.0 (effective January 2024) to enhance efficiency and transparency.
4. **SRP Internal Management System (IMS) Standard**, designed to help producer groups manage and monitor compliance with sustainable rice practices. The IMS Standard Version 1.1 was introduced in November 2023 to align with the updated Assurance Scheme.

By using these interlinked instruments, SRP aims to promote and verify the adoption of sustainable rice cultivation practices globally. The continuous refinement of these tools ensures they remain relevant and effective in driving sustainability in the rice sector.

THE SRP STANDARD ON SUSTAINABLE RICE CULTIVATION (VERSION 3.0)

Scope

The Standard applies to all farm-level processes in rice production, including postharvest processes under the farmer's control. The Standard can be applied by individual of all genders, smallholder farmer groups, as well as larger farms, and focuses on ensuring relevance, practicality, equality and impact, especially for smallholder farmers in developing countries.

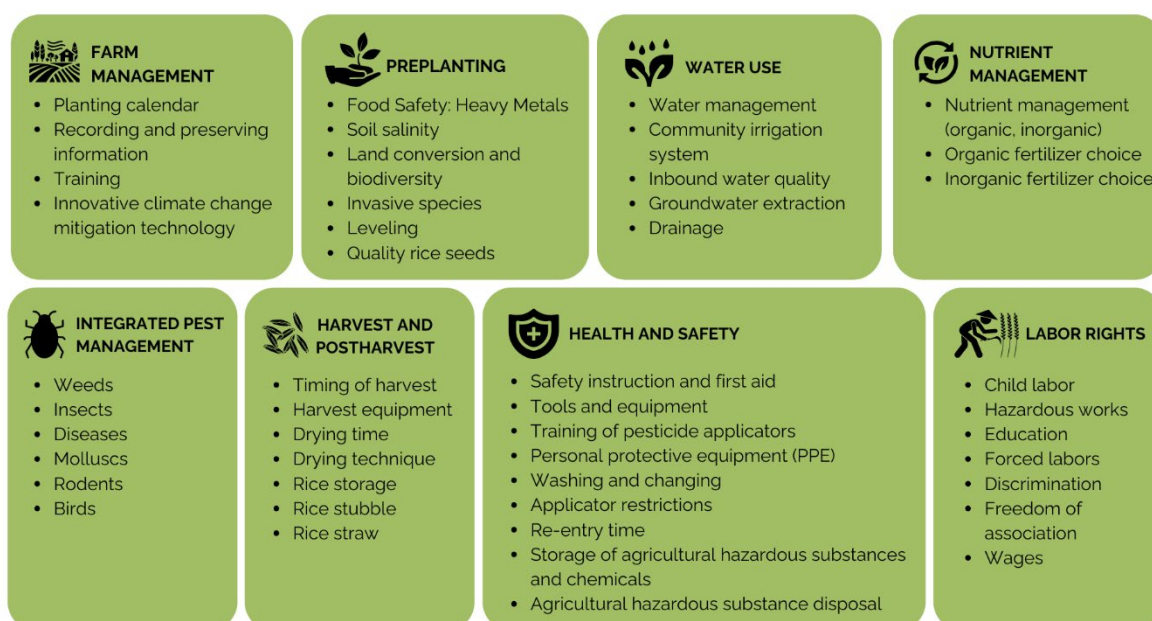
If applied by an individual farm with multi-plots or a smallholder farmer group, it requires an internal management system (IMS) to support farmers in implementing the Standard, measuring results, and identifying measures for continuous improvement using [SRP Internal Management System \(IMS\) Standard](#) and [SRP Internal Management System \(IMS\) Guidelines](#).

It is important to protect the integrity and core requirements of the SRP Standard while maximizing its relevance and practical applicability within diverse national contexts - including production systems, agroecological environments, socio-ecological circumstances and legal and regulatory frameworks. While the Standard offers normative guidance, practitioners may need locally relevant guidance on appropriate best practice recommendations that support the requirements of the Standard. National Interpretation Guidelines may therefore be developed to serve as a bridge between the global standard and local field application using [SRP Protocol for Developing National or Regional Interpretation Guidelines](#).

Structure

The Standard comprises 42 requirements structured under eight themes (see Figure 1).

Figure 1. Themes and Requirements in the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation



Each requirement in the Standard is aimed at achieving one or more of the SRP Performance Indicators. The links between the requirements in the Standard and the Performance Indicators are shown below (Table 1). These relationships are also made explicit in the impact column of the Standard.

Table 1. Relationships between the SRP Standard Requirements and the SRP Performance Indicators

SRP STANDARD	SRP PERFORMANCE INDICATOR											
	Profitability: Net Income	Labor productivity	Productivity: Grain yield	Water use efficiency	Nutrient use efficiency: N	Nutrient use efficiency: P	Biodiversity	Greenhouse gas emissions	Food safety	Worker health and safety	Child labor & youth engagement	Women's empowerment
REQUIREMENT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1 Planting calendar	X		X									
2 Recording and preserving information	X		X									
3 Training	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4 Innovative climate change mitigation technology								X				
5 Food Safety: Heavy Metals									X			
6 Soil salinity	X		X	X								
7 Land conversion and biodiversity							X	X				
8 Invasive species							X					
9 Leveling	X		X	X			X					
10 Quality rice seeds	X		X									
11 Water management	X		X	X				X				
12 Community irrigation system				X								
13 Inbound water quality				X					X			
14 Groundwater extraction				X								
15 Drainage				X			X					
16 Nutrient management (organic, inorganic)	X		X		X	X	X	X				
17 Organic fertilizer choice	X		X		X	X			X			
18 Inorganic fertilizer choice	X		X		X	X		X				
19 Integrated pest management	X		X				X		X			
20 Timing of harvest	X		X						X			
21 Harvest equipment									X			
22 Drying time	X		X					X				
23 Drying technique	X		X						X			
24 Rice storage	X		X						X			
25 Rice stubble					X	X		X				
26 Rice straw					X	X		X				
27 Safety instruction and first aid										X		
28 Tools and equipment										X		
29 Training of pesticide applicators										X		
30 Personal protective equipment (PPE)										X		

The total score against the Standard is presented on a 0-100 scale. This score is based on the total number of points a farmer has scored, divided by the maximum achievable number of points (135), multiplied by 100.

$$\text{Score Standard (0- 100)} = \frac{\text{Total numbers of points corresponding to actual performance} \times 100}{\text{Maximum number of points possible}}$$

Certain requirements may be non-applicable in some situations; these will be excluded from the scoring. Non- applicability may exist in the following cases:

- When a farmer produces under rainfed conditions (no irrigation), requirements 12, 13, 14, and 15 shall not apply.
- When a farmer does not dry their rice themselves, requirement 23 shall not apply.
- When a farmer does not store their rice themselves, requirement 24 shall not apply.
- When a farmer does not use pesticides, requirements 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35 shall not apply.
- When a farmer has no children below the age of 18 working on the farm, requirements 36 and 37 shall not apply.
- When a farmer has no children of school age, requirement 38 will not apply.
- When a farmer has no hired workers, requirements 39, 40, 41 and 42 shall not apply.
- When a farmer does not apply a new climate change mitigation innovation, requirement 4 shall not apply.

Claims

The SRP name and logo are registered trademarks and any use, such as a claim referring to the SRP Standard, needs to comply fully with the relevant provisions set out in the SRP Assurance Scheme and [SRP Brand Manual & Claims Guidelines](#).

The SRP Standard allows for the evaluation of farmers according to their level of implementation of sustainable rice cultivation practices. This supports two objectives:

1. Defining what is sustainable

The SRP Standard offers a framework to enable users to claim that their rice is sustainably cultivated or sourced. Such a claim must correspond to verifiably high overall compliance with defined levels of compliance. SRP has set specific thresholds for minimum scores and mandatory compliance levels for each requirement to support the claim of 'sustainably cultivated rice.' By ensuring thorough documentation and verification of sustainable practices by third-parties, SRP aims to meet the premier standards of global sustainability claims, making it relevant and credible across diverse markets. The SRP Standard's holistic approach covers environmental, social, and economic viability, including aspects like water management, soil health, pest management, nutrient management, harvest & post-harvest, fair labor practices, and financial resilience.

2. Promoting improvement

The SRP recognizes that many farmers are already on the path of working towards sustainable rice cultivation, and that improving sustainability performance is an incremental process. In this version, SRP introduces the concept of Aspiring Producers/Producer Groups, who can make claims that they are working towards sustainable rice cultivation under specific conditions outlined in Table 2. SRP has set a minimum required score and a set of mandatory requirements to guide and reward progress. The compliance levels (thresholds) that must be achieved to meet a claim of "Working toward sustainable rice cultivation" are 5, 7, 19.1-19.5, 24, 25, 26, 30, 34, 35, 36, and 37, which relate to biodiversity and farmers' health & food safety. Continuous improvements should be demonstrated to maintain such a claim by any supply chain actor.

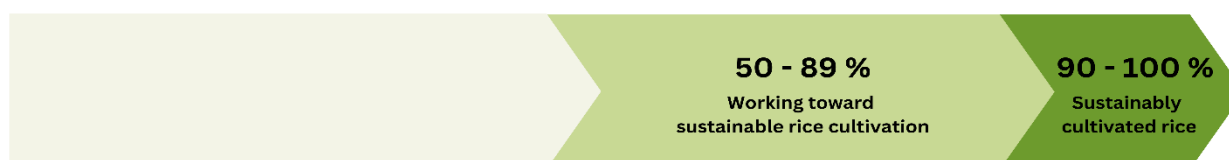
The essential compliance level (threshold) for each requirement in the SRP Standard is indicated by an asterisk (*) next to the corresponding level of compliance. A claim of sustainable rice cultivation can only be made if all mandatory thresholds are met, and a minimum score of 90% is achieved.

In line with these objectives, the SRP Standard allows the following claims. The SRP has defined the conditions needed to meet for each claim level (see Table 2 and Assurance Scheme).

Table 2. Claims and Conditions

CLAIM	NAME	CONDITION TO INITIALLY MEET THIS CLAIM LEVEL	CONDITIONS TO CONTINUE TO MEET THIS CLAIM LEVEL IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS
Sustainably cultivated rice	SRP Verified Producer/ Producer Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieve a minimum score of 90 points or above on the 1-100 scale and Meet the essential compliance level (threshold) for all applicable requirements 	Maintain the level of compliance indicated in the left-hand column
Working toward sustainable rice cultivation	Aspiring Producer/ Producer Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieve a minimum score of 50 points or above on the 1-100 scale (50–89) and Meet the essential compliance level (threshold) for mandatory requirements relate to biodiversity, farmers' health and food safety (if requirements are applicable) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain or improve overall score on second year Meet essential compliance level (threshold) for all mandatory requirements Continue receiving the "Progress Recognition Statement" on second year if the above conditions are met. Verified on third year The "Progress Recognition Statement" only available in year 1 and year 2.

Figure 3. SRP Scoring Claims



SRP allows development of nationally appropriate interpretations of the Standard to provide additional specifications according to the relevant national legal and regulatory framework and local production contexts. However, SRP National Interpretation Guidelines must maintain the scoring system and minimum mandatory compliance levels (thresholds) to ensure equivalence of claims.

Any communication on claims must comply with the SRP Brand Manual & Claim Guidelines as well as SRP Assurance Scheme, which defines how actors can measure compliance, demonstrate improvements, and use SRP trademarks (claims or logos). Use of the SRP label and on-pack claim must obtain SRP approval prior to use, in accordance with the SRP Brand Manual & Claims Guidelines. Only SRP members and farmer organizations are entitled to seek approval for SRP trademark use in relation to verification claims, or value statements on compliance or improvement based on the SRP Assurance Scheme.

List of definitions

Alternate wetting and drying (AWD): A water management practice where irrigation is applied at intermittent intervals, resulting in alternating wet and dry soil conditions. AWD under the SRP standard refers to implementing single or multiple drying events during the cultivation period. An eligible drying cycle is:

1. A drying cycle that starts after 2 weeks after transplanting or 4 weeks after wet seeding
2. Terminal drainage will not be counted as a drying cycle as part of AWD
3. Demonstration of evidence that water depth falls to approximately 15 cm below the surface of the field during each drying event, for example, using field water tube or through sensors.

Biocharⁱ: A high-carbon, charcoal-like material created by heating waste organic matter (biomass) to high temperatures with low oxygen.

Broad spectrum insecticide: An insecticide designed to eliminate a wide variety of insect species, including both harmful pests and beneficial insects. These insecticides are not selective, meaning they can impact many different insects in the environment. Common examples include chemicals like organophosphates, carbamates, pyrethroids, and neonicotinoids.

Child labor: Children engaged in hazardous child labor, or children below 18 working on commercial farms. Non-hazardous activities of young workers on family farms are excluded.

Command area: Total area that can be economically irrigated via an irrigation system or scheme without considering the limitation on the quantity of available water. It includes otherwise uncultivable areas (e.g., ponds, residential areas).

Continuously flooded production system: Rice paddies cultivated in water-logged soils where the land is flooded before puddling, then continuously flooded until crop maturity (i.e., a few days before harvesting).

Crop calendar: A written plan and schedule of the cropping season from the fallow period and land preparation, to crop establishment and maintenance, to harvest and storage. A crop calendar allows farmers to plan for input purchase and use, determine labor requirements, organize contractors, and other aspects of farm management.

Crop rotation: The practice of growing a series of crops in the same area in sequenced seasons. A crop rotation may span a period of more than one year if multiple crop types are included in a sequential schedule that takes more than one year to complete (e.g., a rice-sugarcane rotation where the sugarcane is grown for 12 to 18 months following rice).

Crop stimulant or a bio-stimulantⁱⁱ: wide and growing array of microbial and non-microbial compounds that can be applied to seed, plant or soil to enhance the growth of a crop. Biostimulants work by stimulating plant nutrition processes independently of the product's nutrient content, improving nutrient use efficiency, stress tolerance, quality traits or the availability of confined nutrients in soil or rhizosphere.

Cropping season: Duration of a single crop. For rice crops the cropping season generally starts with land preparation and includes seeding either into a nursery or directly into the field, and ends after the fallow period following the harvest.

Deforestation: Direct human-induced conversion of forested land to non-forested land.

Direct seeding: The process of establishing a rice crop from seeds sown in the field rather than by transplanting seedlings from the nursery. Crops can be surface-broadcasted (wet or dry), drill-seeded or broadcasted and incorporated when sown on dry fields.

Drainage: Natural or artificial removal of surface water and sub-surface water from the field or landscape.

Dry land: zones where precipitation is balanced by evaporation from surfaces and by transpiration by plants (evapotranspiration). The United Nations Environment Program defines drylands as tropical and temperate areas with an aridity index of less than 0.65.

Ecosystem services: Benefits generated or provided by ecosystems that contribute to humans' life and wellbeing. Ecosystem services are grouped into four broad categories: provisioning, such as the production of food and water; regulating, such as the control of climate and disease; supporting, such as nutrient cycles and oxygen production; and cultural, such as spiritual and recreational benefits.

Effective puddling: Tillage process that turns water-rich soil into soft structureless mud. The effectiveness is measured as the decrease in the rice season's total or vertical percolation (i.e., passing through) of water.

Farm: All land and facilities used for agricultural production and processing activities covered by a single management entity and using the same operational procedures.

Farmer: The individual, including both men and women, (or organization) responsible for management of the farm or farm estate.

Farmer group (or "Group"): A group of farmers organized in an association or cooperative or managed by a supply chain partner (such as a miller or exporter) or another entity; also referred to as the "group".

Highly hazardous pesticide (HHP): as defined by the FAO/WHO 2016 Guidelines on Highly Hazardous Pesticides: [Guidelines on highly hazardous pesticides. International code of conduct on pesticide management](#)

Integrated pest management (IPM): An ecosystem management approach to keep pest populations below economically damaging levels while minimizing hazards to humans, animals, plants, and the environment. This is achieved through a combination of techniques such as use of resistant varieties, conservation of natural enemies through habitat modification and minimization/avoidance of pesticide application, and modification of cultural practices.

Invasive species: Animals, plants or other organisms introduced by man into places out of their natural range of distribution, where they become established and disperse, generating a negative impact on the local ecosystem and species. Invasive species can negatively impact human health, the economy (i.e., tourism, agriculture), and native ecosystems. These impacts may disrupt the ecosystem processes, introduce diseases to humans or flora and fauna, and reduce biodiversity.

Irrigation: A farm system where supply of water to land or crops is controlled and intentional, with mutual understanding among main actors (e.g., government, service providers, communities, farmers) on when farmers or farmer groups will receive water.

Irrigated production system—flood-prone: A farm system where: (1) there are low-lying areas that are flooded by river overflow, rain, or tidal inflow, where water remains stagnant for three weeks or more but not the continuous flooding throughout the season; and (2) there are irrigation cycles which are controlled and intentional, with mutual understanding among main actors (e.g., government, service providers, communities, farmers) on when farmers or groups will receive water.

Irrigated production system—not flood-prone: A farm system where (1) irrigation is controlled and intentional, with mutual understanding among main actors (e.g., government, service providers, communities, farmers) on when farmers or groups will receive water, and (2) there are areas where

water stagnation can be managed and there are intentional irrigation events.

Key Biodiversity Area^{TMiii}: The World Database of Key Biodiversity AreasTM hosts data on Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs). This database can support strategic decisions on protected areas by governments or civil society and guides the identification of sites under international conventions and in the setting of private sector policies and standards. The database is managed by the KBA Partnership, which is served by the KBA secretariat hosted jointly by BirdLife International and the International Union for Conservation of Nature. See World Database of Key Biodiversity AreasTM:

Large farms/group of large farms: A producer or a group of producers who manage a total accumulative planted area of rice exceeding 20 hectares (ha), that have some mechanization for rice cultivation.

Methanotrophs: A type of bacteria that play a crucial role in the oxidation of methane (CH₄), a significant greenhouse gas. They utilize methane as their primary carbon and energy source, converting it into less harmful substances. This process is vital for mitigating methane emissions, especially in environments like wetlands and flooded rice fields, which contribute significantly to global methane emissions.

Native Ecosystem: an ecological system made up of plants, animals, and other organisms that naturally occur in a specific region, without human introduction, and have evolved over time to develop intricate relationships with each other and the local environment. Native ecosystems contribute significantly to biodiversity and environmental resilience by providing essential habitats and food sources for native species, supporting complex interdependencies that sustain the local flora and fauna.

Non-application zones Non-target areas, water bodies (including main irrigation channels), small diversion canals, protected areas, and areas within 5 meters of human activity (including schools, occupied buildings, roads, and pathways). Application of pesticides (biological and chemical) must avoid these zones. To support targeted application, pesticides should be applied in the absence of conditions that may generate drift (e.g., strong winds), when field conditions (e.g., soil moisture, crop health) are ideal for the particular product at the time of application, and according to product label instructions.

Obsolete pesticides: Pesticides unfit for further use. This may be the case if a product has been de-registered locally or banned internationally. More commonly, however, a stock of pesticides becomes obsolete as a result of long-term storage, during which the product and/or its packaging degrade.

Paddy: refers to rice grains that is still in its harvested state and has not yet had the husk (or hull) removed.

Pesticides: Insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, disinfectants, rodenticides, molluscicides, and any other substances or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, or controlling any pest, including unwanted species of plants, animals, or microorganisms, causing harm during production, processing, storage, transportation, or marketing of food or other agricultural commodities.

Preharvest interval: The time interval permitted between the final pesticide application in the season and the date of harvest of treated crops or in the treated area.

Primary forest: A forest that has never been logged and that has developed following natural disturbances and under natural processes, regardless of age. "Direct human disturbance" refers to intentional clearing of forest by any means (including fire) to manage or alter the landscape for human use. Also included as primary forests are forests used inconsequentially by indigenous and local communities living traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity (source: FAO: www.cbd.int/forest/definitions.shtml).

Protected area: A clearly defined, officially designated geographic space, recognized, dedicated, and managed through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values. Examples include national parks, wilderness areas, community-conserved areas, and nature reserves.

Rainfed production system: A farm system that is not part of an irrigation system or network, not irrigated through groundwater pumping, and not irrigated through river diversion.

Ramsar Sites: Designated sites that meet the nine Criteria for identifying Wetlands of International Importance under the Convention on Wetlands (1971). The first criterion refers to sites containing representative, rare or unique wetland types, and the remaining eight cover sites of international importance for conserving biological diversity. See the List of Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar List): www.ramsar.org

Re-entry time: The safe minimum number of days following pesticide application when it is safe to re-enter the sprayed area without protective equipment.

Rice: A cereal grain that serves as a staple food for a significant portion of the world's population. Initially harvested as paddy, rice is encased in its husk (or hull) and undergoes various processing stages. Removing the husk transforms paddy into different forms such as brown rice and white rice, depending on the extent of milling and processing.

Risk assessment: A systematic process for identifying and evaluating hazards. Hazards can be identified in an external environment (e.g., economic trends, climatic events, competition) and within an internal environment (e.g., people, process, infrastructure). When these hazards interfere with objectives—or can be predicted to do so—they become risks.

Secondary forest: A forest that has been logged and has recovered naturally or artificially. It also includes degraded forest, which is a secondary forest that has lost, through human activities, the structure, function, species composition, or productivity normally associated with a natural forest type expected on that site (source: FAO: www.cbd.int/forest/definitions.shtml).

Self-saved seeds: Seed materials maintained at farm from previous harvest(s). The process includes: 1) Cleaning and selecting full and uniform seeds after harvest; 2) Drying seeds to 12-14% moisture content; and 3) Storing seeds in sealed airtight containers until ready for planting. If properly stored, self-saved seed may be used within a year.

Short or medium-duration varieties: Short duration varieties mature between 90 and 110 days, and medium varieties in 120–140 days. Varieties maturing in more than 140 days are considered long-duration.

Site-specific (Field-specific): Specific to a given area (e.g., a field). For example, optimal timing of application of nutrients when the plant needs it, in the right amount and at the specific area and root depth.

Smallholder: A producer who relies primarily on family or household labor, including reciprocal workforce exchange with other members of the community. Smallholders cultivate with a total accumulative planted area of rice that is smaller than or equal to 20 hectares (ha).

SRP Authorized Trainer: Persons authorized and registered on the SRP webpage who have successfully passed the SRP official training program and calibration to conduct the "Driving Sustainable Rice Cultivation: Understanding the SRP Standard and Performance Indicators".

Water body: Any significant accumulation (natural or artificial) of water, including, for example, lakes, lagoons, ponds, reservoirs, wetlands, rivers, streams, and canals.

Worker: A person, including both men and women, who performs work on a farm or for a farmer or farmer group and is paid for his or her work. This definition covers all types of workers, including permanent, temporary, migrant, transitory, and piece workers.

Additional guidance

Discrepancies may occur between the Standard and requirements under national or regional law. In such cases, the stricter of the two requirements shall apply, unless explicitly stated otherwise.

If contracted labor or services is used, the contracting party (smallholder, group management, or large farm) remains responsible for compliance by the contractor. For example, if pesticide application is contracted to a service provider by the farmer or group, the farmer or group is responsible for compliance of the service provider with relevant requirements (e.g., tools and equipment, training of applicators, personal protective equipment, washing and changing, applicator restrictions).

Where written records are required, farmers with low levels of literacy may seek the help of their children, group manager, extension workers, or others to develop and maintain written records for relevant requirements (e.g., crop calendar, record keeping).

Icons

Icons are used to suggest the level of inspection for each requirement, as described below. Further details are provided in the SRP Assurance Scheme.



This icon denotes that the farmer is responsible for tracking action and maintaining evidence of level of compliance. Verification of level of compliance is conducted at the farm level.



This icon denotes that a group (e.g., association, cooperative, miller, exporter, supply chain partner, non-governmental organization, government agency) is responsible for tracking action and maintaining evidence of level of compliance. Verification of level of compliance is conducted at the group level (e.g., through a group manager or administrator), with additional checks conducted with farmers in the group.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE SRP STANDARD FOR SUSTAINABLE RICE CULTIVATION (VERSION 3.0)

For each requirement an essential minimum performance level (threshold) has been defined. This level is indicated for each requirement by an asterisk (*) next to the level of compliance. Together with an overall score of 90% or more, these thresholds must be met in order to claim, "Sustainably Cultivated Rice".

FARM MANAGEMENT			
Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability	1. PLANTING CALENDAR A written annual crop calendar is developed in advance for each cropping season. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This calendar should provide a comprehensive schedule, including expected implementation dates to guide farmers through all stages of rice cultivation. The actual implementation should be recorded in farmer record keeping as per requirement #2. The calendar should be flexible and updated as needed to account for changing circumstances such as weather conditions or pest problems. <p>The planting calendar should include the following key components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Timely scheduling key activities such as land preparation, planting plot, planting date, harvest date and crop management activities. Management of rice fertilizer application (e.g., division) and water management (e.g., irrigation). Regular monitoring pest threats and damage levels, including activities like surveying rice fields to identify and count pest species. Planning for hiring labor or agricultural services such as agricultural machinery to ensure timely completion of tasks. Incorporate plans for crop diversification (such as integrating legumes or implementing rice-fish systems). This promotes soil fertility, pest management, and farm resilience, aligning with multiple SRP Performance Indicators. 	a) Crop calendar includes the expected and actual dates for all activities (if applicable).	3
Productivity		b) Crop calendar includes the expected and actual dates for activities 1, 2, 3, and 4, (if applicable) only	2
		c) Crop calendar includes the expected and actual dates for activity 1, 2, and 3 or 1, 4, and 5 only.	1*
		d) Nothing or less than 3 components are applied.	0



Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability Productivity	<p>2. RECORDING AND PRESERVING INFORMATION</p> <p>Maintain records of rice growing activities for each season, including the actual implementation date of each activity. These records should include both basic information that are easily collected by farmers and include data at the intermediate information level which may require collection by IMS or external partners for more detailed data collection. The introduction of digital tools for data recording is encouraged but should be adapted to the local context to avoid exacerbating digital literacy gaps.</p> <p>Basic information (if applicable):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Size of farming area (in local units) 2. Seed variety 3. Production costs (including land, labor, seed, agrochemicals, water, services) 4. Number of irrigations during and after land preparation 5. Fertilizer applied (number of times applied, amount applied, synthetic or organic) 6. Pesticide applied (number of times applied, active ingredient, amount of pesticide per area, timing of application) 7. Amount of paddy harvested 8. Sales price of paddy <p>Intermediate Information (if applicable):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Basic quantitative information should be converted to international units (SI system or units accepted by the SI system), such as hectares for area, kilograms for weight, liters for volume, and US dollars for expenses. 2. Basic quantitative data must be recorded with gender disaggregation. This enables organizations to better understand the unique contributions and challenges of each gender within the production process, supporting more targeted and equitable interventions. In-depth Information for Analysis of Sustainable Practices (all items below must be recorded): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water management: Recording irrigation water volume, total rainfall, the number of days of flooding, and the number and duration of dry-down events. • Nutrient management: Including 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Records are kept of applicable data at the intermediate level. b) Records are kept of applicable data using a mix of basic and intermediate data levels. c) Records are kept of applicable data at the basic data level. d) No records are kept. 	<p>3</p> <p>2</p> <p>1*</p> <p>0</p>



Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
	<p>nitrogen (N) and phosphorus (P) analysis of fertilizers applied, and the amount of organic material incorporated into the soil.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pest management: Recording pest damage data and the application of pest control products. • Training on separate washing for pesticide-contaminated clothing and awareness of chemical use guidelines is essential for wise pesticide use. • Soil Health: Farmers are encouraged to conduct scientific soil health assessments from certified labs, focusing on physical, biological, and chemical parameters. <i>Points may be allocated to farmers who report on soil health assessments.</i> • Other Topics: Any other relevant data that supports sustainable rice farming practices. <p>For specific details on basic and intermediate data level measuring units please refer to the SRP Performance Indicators.</p>		

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
All	<p>3. TRAINING</p> <p>The training plan should be gender inclusive, developed based on assessment results, including internal and external assessments, and tailored to farmers' needs while considering SRP compliance challenges.</p> <p>A structured training plan must be in place, with training provided at least every three years to ensure calibration and refresh farmers' knowledge.</p> <p>To ensure quality and consistency, training must be delivered by SRP Authorized Trainers.</p> <p>Farmers are expected to apply the knowledge gained from these sessions in their farming practices. Training records must be maintained and made accessible for audits</p>	<p>a) Farmers receive training from trainers that have been trained by SRP Authorized Trainer every three years, have maintained a structured training plan, and apply the knowledge gained.</p> <p>b) The training is conducted every three years, but records are incomplete or only partially accessible.</p> <p>c) Farmers receive training less frequently by authorized trainer or the content is not consistently applied in practice.</p> <p>d) No training is conducted, or training delivered by non-authorized trainer and no records of training are available.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>2</p> <p>1*</p> <p>0</p>





Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Greenhouse gas emissions	<p>4. INNOVATIVE CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION TECHNOLOGY/ SOLUTION</p> <p>Producers who implement and demonstrate the effectiveness of innovative technologies or method that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions shall be recognized and rewarded.</p> <p>Eligible technologies or practices need to be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) not already included in the Standard. 2) has been approved by the SRP Technical committee (based on the data provided). 3) reduce GHG emissions and/or enhance carbon sequestration such as but are not limited to, improved water management, low-emission fertilizers, renewable energy sources, use of methanotrophs or other sustainable practices. <p>For pre-approved technology, must provide verifiable data on specific technology or products and demonstrate the application as per solution provider/ government recommended protocol to address the climate change in accordance with SRP standards. This data must be made available for verification by auditors.</p>	<p>a) The producer has fully implemented multiple unique innovative climate change mitigation technologies or methods and can provide complete, verifiable data demonstrating a significant reduction in emissions. The data is available for third-party assessment.</p>	2
		<p>b) The producer has fully implemented an innovative climate change mitigation technology or method and can provide complete, verifiable data demonstrating a significant reduction in emissions. The data is available for third-party assessment.</p>	1



PREPLANTING			
Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Food safety	<p>5. FOOD SAFETY: HEAVY METALS</p> <p>Farmers, farmer groups or business partners should assess the risk of soil contamination^{iv} from heavy metals such as arsenic, cadmium, chromium, mercury, and lead</p> <p>Milled grain shall be safe from heavy metals. Milled grain is safe when there are no detectable levels of heavy metals in the milled grain as set by international authorities on food safety^v, or by national law or regulations (whichever is stricter).</p> <p>In the presence of (risk of) soil contamination from heavy metals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A group level soil analysis is conducted in contaminated areas at least every 5 years. 	<p>a) There is proof (not older than 5 years) that the milled grain is safe from heavy metals.</p>	3
		<p>b) There is proof (not older than 5 years) (by a group soil analysis or a reliable external source) that the level of heavy metals in the soil of the group or region does not exceed background levels.</p>	3
		<p>c) A group risk assessment (not older than 5 years) does not show risk from heavy metal contamination (see Annex A: Risk Assessment Checklist).</p>	2*
		<p>d) In case of risk, a group level soil analysis is carried out at least every 5 years; in case of the presence of soil contamination from heavy metals, soil remediation techniques are implemented.</p>	1

PREPLANTING

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
	2. Soil remediation techniques are implemented. ^{vi}	e) None of the above.	0
			


Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability	<p>6. SOIL SALINITY</p> <p>Farmers, farmer groups or business partners should assess risk of soil salinity^{vii}</p> <p>The soil should have a salinity of not more than 3 dS / m and the water should have a salinity of not more than 5 g / L.</p> <p>In the case that the analysis results exceed the specified values, measures must be taken to reduce or adapt include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of salinity-tolerant varieties. • Monitoring of salinity in field water. • Management of salinity through maintained water pressure in the field • Management of inflow/outflow in quantity and timing to minimize salinity. • Expert advice and subsequent action. 	a) There is documented proof, not older than 3 years (per any method in footnote iv), that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no (risk of) soil salinity within the group or region, or • Soil salinity within the group or region is at an acceptable level (i.e., not in excess of 3 dS/m for soil or 5 g/L for water). 	3
Productivity		b) There is a risk of soil salinity and the mitigation or adaptation measures taken are proving effective, as demonstrated by a reduced yield gap and other positive outcomes compared to areas not affected by soil salinity.	2
Water use efficiency		c) There is (risk of) soil salinity, and mitigation/ adaptation measures are taken.	1*
		d) None of the above.	0
			

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Biodiversity	<p>7. LAND CONVERSION AND BIODIVERSITY</p> <p>Rice growing areas established after 2009^{viii} must not impact the environment by causing conversion within proposed native ecosystem sites, protected areas, Ramsar Sites (wetlands), primary forests, or secondary forests (native).</p> <p>At the field level, producer or producer group must maintain and/or enhance site-specific biodiversity elements, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-field habitat / refuge 	Smallholders/group of smallholders:	
Greenhouse gas emissions		a) There has been no conversion of described areas after 2009, and farming practices maintain and/or enhance site-specific biodiversity and ecosystem services.	3
		b) There has been no conversion of described areas after 2009, and farming practices maintain and/or enhance site-specific biodiversity.	2

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field margins Non-cropped area Plant species which host beneficial natural enemies Trees (replanted if harvested or felled, in the same catchment) <p>There has been no conversion of described areas after 2009, and farming practices maintain and/or enhance site-specific biodiversity and ecosystem services.</p> <p>In the case of individual large producer, must conduct an independent formal identification and risk assessment before the first soil systematization for rice production; and conduct a formal stakeholder consultation in accordance with Annex B^{ix}, process to support the identification and risk assessment.</p> <p>In the case of group administrators of large producers, must adhere to the same rules as the individual large farms.</p>	<p>c) There has been no conversion of described areas after 2009.</p> <p>d) There has been conversion of described areas after 2009.</p> <p>Large farms/group of large farms:</p> <p>a) There has been no conversion of described areas after 2009, and farming practices maintain and/or enhance site-specific biodiversity and ecosystem services. Large producer or groups of large producers have conducted an independent risk assessment with a supportive formal Stakeholders consultation process.</p> <p>b) There has been no conversion of described areas after 2009, and farming practices maintain and/or enhance site-specific biodiversity and ecosystem services. Large producer or groups of large producers have conducted an independent risk assessment with a formal Stakeholders consultation process.</p> <p>c) There has been no conversion of described areas after 2009. Large producer or groups of large producers have conducted an independent risk assessment without a formal stakeholders consultation.</p> <p>d) There has been conversion of described areas after 2009, and there is no risk assessment.</p>	<p>1*</p> <p>0</p> <p>3</p> <p>2</p> <p>1*</p> <p>0</p>



Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Biodiversity	<p>8. INVASIVE SPECIES</p> <p>No invasive species (e.g., water hyacinth, golden apple snail) have been introduced intentionally by the farmer or group since 2009.</p>	<p>a) No invasive species are introduced intentionally by the farmer or group since 2009.</p> <p>b) Invasive species are introduced intentionally by the farmer/group since 2009; and are effectively managed.</p>	<p>3*</p> <p>1</p>

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
	In the presence of invasive species, farmers or groups of farmers must manage to limit invasive species and protect local species.	c) Invasive species are introduced intentionally by the farmer/group since 2009; and are not effectively managed 	0




Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability	9. LEVELING <i>Instructions: Identify the system that applies to the majority of land under cultivation. SRP standard covers three types of system as follows:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flat land or terraces • Sloping land without terraces • Rainfed (without irrigation) 		
Productivity			
Water use efficiency			
Biodiversity			
	9.1 RICE CULTIVATED ON FLAT LAND OR ON TERRACES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If laser leveling is used, the land or terraces are leveled up to 1/1000 within-plot slope. • If laser leveling is not used, visual observation confirms that the field does not have high and low spots when filled with water (i.e., no undulating) and crop stand is uniform in height 	a) Land has been leveled up to 1/1000 within-plot slope (confirmed through the elevation survey). b) Land has been leveled manually. c) Land has not been leveled.	3 2* 0
	9.2 RICE CULTIVATED ON SLOPING LAND WITHOUT TERRACES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use physical methods to conserve soil such as planting rice across slopes (contour farming), creating lines to prevent soil erosion) • Utilize cultural soil conservation practices, such as non-invasive cover cropping and mulching, alongside horticultural methods like planting cover crops without invasive alien species and using mulch. These approaches work together to effectively conserve soil. 	a) Both physical and cultural soil conservation practices are used. b) Only physical soil conservation practices are used. c) No soil conservation practices are used.	3 2* 0
	9.3 RICE CULTIVATED ON RAINFED (WITHOUT IRRIGATION): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No leveling is required, but in the case 	a) No leveling is required, but in the case of sloping land either physical (e.g., contour farming) or cultural (e.g., mulching) soil	3



Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
	of sloping land either physical (e.g., contour farming) or cultural (e.g., mulching) soil conservation practices are used.	<p>conservation practices are used.</p> <p>b) Leveling is required and it is done either manually or with laser</p> <p>c) Levelling is required and it is not done</p>	<p>2*</p> <p>0</p>
		<p>d) Leveling is required, but in the case of sloping land no conservation practices are used</p>	0




Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability	<p>10. QUALITY RICE SEEDS</p> <p>Pure quality seeds are free of weeds seeds, pests, and diseases*.</p> <p>Seeds must meet the following criteria based on their type:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certified seeds must comply with applicable national law/regulation or the regulation of the destination market. Non-certified seeds with quality control (not certified) must meet criteria for varietal purity, be free of weed seeds, pass germination testing, and be stored safely with fungal control. Self-saved seeds with quality control must meet criteria including safe storage, rouging (removal of all off-types or mixtures of plants) in the field before harvest, and others. The practice of self-saving seeds should not exceed 3 crop cycles. 	<p>a) Farmer uses certified seed that is suitable for local conditions and meets criteria for certified seeds.</p>	3
Productivity		<p>b) Farmer uses seed with quality control that is suitable for local conditions and meets criteria for seeds with quality control.</p>	3
		<p>c) Farmer uses self-saved seeds that meet criteria for self-saved seeds with quality control for a maximum of 3 crop cycles.</p>	2*
		<p>d) Farmer uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uncertified seeds, Seeds without quality control, Self-saved seeds without quality control, or Self-saved seeds for more than 3 crop cycles. 	0





WATER USE			
Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability	11. WATER MANAGEMENT		
Productivity	<i>Instructions: Identify the local production system that applies to the majority of land under cultivation. Respond only for the corresponding requirement for that system:</i>		
Water use efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rainfed production system (11.1) • Irrigated production system— flood-prone (11.2) • Irrigated production system— not flood-prone (11.3) 		
Greenhouse gas emissions	<p>11.1 RAINFED PRODUCTION SYSTEM</p> <p>Farmers follow measures to increase efficiency in water use and management as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Start planting at the right time^{xi} with regular rain according to local climate. 2. Direct seeding or effective puddling, and strong bunds 3. Use of varieties suitable for local climate (e.g., short or medium-duration varieties). 4. Provision of rainwater storage facility in the area for irrigation. 	<p>a) Farmer implements all four measures.</p> <p>b) Farmer implements measures 1, 2, and 3 only.</p> <p>c) Farmer implements measures 1 and 2 only.</p> <p>d) None of the above.</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>2</p> <p>1*</p> <p>0</p>
	<p>11.2 IRRIGATED PRODUCTION SYSTEM— FLOOD-PRONE</p> <p>Farmers follow measures to increase water use efficiency and reduce risks as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adjust the rice planting schedule to avoid submergence damage during anticipated flooding periods. 2. At least one dry-down event (i.e., midseason drainage of 7 days drained period/aeration), if possible. 3. Land levelling to improve the drainage. 4. Use rice varieties that are tolerant to flooding. 	<p>a) Farmer implements measure 1 and any two additional measures.</p> <p>b) Farmer implements measure 1 and any one additional measure listed.</p> <p>c) Farmer implements measure 1 only.</p> <p>d) None of the above.</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>2</p> <p>1*</p> <p>0</p>
	<p>11.3 IRRIGATED PRODUCTION SYSTEM— NOT FLOOD-PRONE</p> <p>Farmers follow measures to increase efficiency in water use and management as follows:^{xii}</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One dry tillage before flooding if soil is cracked. 2. Leveling and strong bunds. 3. Dry seeding, a puddled system (wet seeding or transplanting), where soaking, puddling, and tillage completed within 1 week. 4. Alternate wetting and drying 5. Use of short or medium-duration varieties with similar yield potential as long duration varieties. 6. Termination of irrigation at least 10- 15 days before harvesting. 	<p>a) Farmer implements all six measures with at least a single drying cycle, preferably multiple drying cycles of AWD.</p> <p>b) Farmer implements measures 2, 3, 5 and 6 only.</p> <p>c) Farmer implements measures 2 and 5 only.</p> <p>d) None of the above.</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>2</p> <p>1*</p> <p>0</p>

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Water use efficiency	12. IRRIGATION SYSTEM AT COMMUNITY LEVEL The irrigation system under command of the farmer or group (supplied by surface and/or ground water) complies with the following criteria: 1. The command area has sufficient internal canals for supply and drainage. 2. There are no leakages in dikes. 3. Water gates (if any) are functioning well. 4. There is stakeholder involvement in decision making on the irrigation system.	Farmer produces under rainfed conditions (no irrigation).	n/a
		a) All four of the listed criteria are met. 3 b) Any three of the listed criteria are met. 2* c) Any two of the listed criteria are met. 1 d) None of the above. 0	
		 	

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Water use efficiency Food safety	13. INBOUND WATER QUALITY Inbound water is obtained from clean sources that are free of biological, saline, and heavy metal contamination ^{xiii and xiv} . Farmer need to provide a test report confirming that inbound water is free of biological and saline contamination. In addition, farmer should also demonstrate inbound water is free from heavy metal contamination or, alternatively, provide the proof that grains are free from heavy metals. In the presence of (risks of) contaminated water, a minimum water quality test must be conducted or based on the test results, corrective measures must be taken, such as, installation of a filtration system or selection of alternative varieties if available.	Farmer produces under rainfed conditions (no irrigation).	n/a
		a) There is documented proof, not older than 3 years (per any method in footnote xii and xiii), that the inbound water is obtained from clean sources. 3 b) Same as a, but the documented proof is older than 3 years. 2 c) In case of (risks of) contaminated water, mitigation measures are taken to reduce the potential impact of contaminated water. 1* d) None of the above. 0	
			

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Water use efficiency	14. GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION Groundwater extraction is legal and sustainable. Sustainable groundwater extraction avoids depletion of water resources beyond the watershed recharge capacity and balances the competition for its use.	Farmer produces under rainfed conditions (no irrigation).	n/a
		a) Groundwater extraction complies with sustainable water extraction licensing policies. 3 b) Within the past 3 years, professional advice on sustainable groundwater use is sought and followed. 2* c) There is active participation in watershed management and community groundwater water infrastructure projects. 1	

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
		d) None of the above.	0
			

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Water use efficiency	15. DRAINAGE Intentional surface (sideways) drainage after surface application of agrochemicals is sufficiently delayed avoiding contamination from agrochemical runoff, or according to the product label to avoid contamination that can have negative effect on biodiversity or the environment in natural water sources (e.g. waterways and waterbodies).	Farmer produces under rainfed conditions (no irrigation).	n/a
Biodiversity		a) There is no intentional surface (sideways) drainage, due to having good practices in place.	3
		b) There is surface (sideways) drainage, but no use of agrochemicals.	3
		c) Surface (sideways) drainage is delayed after surface application of agrochemicals by at least 4 days for fertilizers and 14 days for pesticides, or according to the product label.	2*
		d) Surface (sideways) drainage is delayed after surface application of agrochemicals, but for fewer days due to unexpected need to protect crops.	1
	e) None of the above.	0	
			

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT			
Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability	<p>16. NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT (INORGANIC AND/OR ORGANIC)</p> <p>Efficient and site-specific nutrient management is applied and documented^{xv}. Measures for efficient nutrient management include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apply fertilizer (inorganic and/or organic; N, P, and/or K) at intervals according to the growth stage and needs^{xvi} of the rice plants. Follow the locally adapted recommendations for each area or according to the instructions on the label (if any). 2. Apply fertilizer (inorganic and/or organic; N, P, and/or K) at the appropriate rate according to the soil's fertility level and according to quantity of produce expected to be received or according to recommendations for each area or according to instructions specified on the label (if any). 3. Improve the soil fertility using other management practices (e.g., crop rotation, intercropping, and/or non-invasive cover cropping). 	a) Farmer complies with all elements listed in the requirement.	6
Productivity		b) Farmer complies with any two elements listed.	4*
Nutrient use efficiency		c) Farmer complies with any one element listed.	2
Biodiversity		d) Farmer is non-compliant with any of the elements listed.	0
Greenhouse gas emissions			



Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability	<p>17. ORGANIC FERTILIZER CHOICE</p> <p>Organic material (e.g., animal manure, green manure, mulch, rice straw, microbials, biochar) is used as fertilizer/crop stimulant if the conditions are favorable.</p> <p>Favorable conditions include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use organic materials that are completely decomposed or that are in the process of decomposing in fields that are not flooded. 2. There is sufficient time for its decomposition prior to flooding. 3. Use organic materials found in the area (approximately within 50 km radius) and use in the appropriate amount. 	a) Farmer uses organic material as fertilizer if all three conditions are present.	3
Productivity		b) Farmer uses organic material as fertilizer if conditions 1 and 2 are present, but not condition 3.	2
Nutrient use efficiency		c) Farmer does not use organic material as fertilizer because one or more of the listed conditions cannot be met.	2*
Greenhouse gas emissions		d) Farmer does not use organic material as fertilizer even though farmer is aware of conditions and all conditions are present.	1
		e) Farmer incorporates organic material into flooded soils.	0



Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability	18. INORGANIC FERTILIZER CHOICE Inorganic fertilizers (chemical fertilizers) can be used only if they are registered and come from a noncounterfeit source.	a) There is no use of inorganic fertilizers.	3*
Productivity		b) Farmer uses inorganic fertilizers that are registered and come from a noncounterfeit source.	3*
Nutrient use efficiency		c) Farmer uses inorganic fertilizers that are not registered and/or come from a counterfeit source.	0
Greenhouse gas emissions			



PEST MANAGEMENT

19. INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM)

INTRODUCTION ON INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM)

Principles of IPM include:

- Evaluating pest threat and damage levels regularly (scouting).
- Using action thresholds recommended by local government extension experts.
- Evaluating all available pest control methods.
- Selecting a pest control method that maximizes human safety, minimizes environmental impact, is economically justifiable, and prevents food safety risks for all crops, and allows economic trade.
- *Aligning pesticide use with crop registration, sensitizing farmers on pre-harvest intervals, and promoting the use of pesticides registered for rice.*

IPM combines preventative and curative pest control methods. Preventative pest control methods help to manage conditions to avoid pest build-up and can include: resistant varieties, crop rotation, intercropping, sanitation, ecological engineering, and others. Curative pest control methods help to treat pest build-up that has occurred and can include: mechanical control (e.g., hand weeding), biological control (e.g., biological control agents), and chemical control (e.g., synthetic pesticides).


In alignment with FAO/WHO 2016 guidance on highly hazardous pesticides, SRP is fully committed to the phase-out of these substances in the rice sector. The SRP Standard seeks to encourage ongoing preventative pest control actions, and punctual curative pest control actions when preventative methods are not effective on their own. Pesticides are used only if and when action thresholds are exceeded, and the severity of the pest is expected to cause significant damage or loss. Actions should be as targeted as possible to avoid unintended impacts. Measured actions can support cost-reduction for farmers.

All farmers implementing SRP must be trained by trainers who have been endorsed by an SRP-authorized trainer. This ensures that farmers are knowledgeable about the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) concept, including historical weed emergence records, the use of rice registered pesticides with shorter Pre-Harvest Interval (PHI) and minimum impact on environment.

Requirements 19.1-19.6 list common preventative pest control methods and the conditions for appropriate use of pesticides for six types of pests.

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability	<p>19.1 WEED MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Preventative weed control methods can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good soil preparation and good water management • Use of certified seeds • Crop rotation • Controlling water retention in the rice fields (if water is abundant) • There is no use of fire for weed control <p>Farmer follows IPM principles and the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preventative weed control methods are used, before considering curative methods. 2. Herbicide is used only if other curative methods (e.g., manual and mechanical weeding) are ineffective on their own and severity of the weeds cause significant damage or loss. 3. Selected herbicide should be registered for use in rice, comes from a non-counterfeit source, and it is not an HHP including on any of the following international lists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Persistent Organic Pollutants in the Stockholm Convention ✓ 1A or 1B under World Health Organization classification ✓ Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention^{xvii} 4. Herbicide selection and use responds to the target weed species, consider using them during the time when the rice plants are growing and the leaves are not yet covering the area, and consider information about weed resistance in the area (for efficiency of use). Application of pre-emergence or early post emergence herbicides will support higher crop yield potential. 5. Herbicide application is targeted to avoid non-application zones. 6. Herbicide application method is according to the product label instructions, follows specified preharvest interval, and does not exceed specified dosage (for worker safety and food safety). 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) No curative weed control methods are required. <p>Curative weed control methods are required and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> b) Farmer effectively controls weeds without the use of herbicide. c) Farmer meets all six criteria listed. d) Farmer meets criteria 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 only. e) Farmer meets criteria 1, 2, and 3 only. f) Farmer does not meet criteria 1, 2, and 3. 	<p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>2*</p> <p>1</p> <p>0</p>
Productivity			
Biodiversity			
Food safety			



Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability	<p>19.2 INSECT MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Preventative insect control methods can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balanced nutrient application (e.g., avoid excessive application of nitrogen) Promotion of beneficial natural enemies (e.g., insects, spiders) and increasing habitat diversity around rice fields Synchronized planting Use of resistant/tolerant varieties Promotion of other predators (e.g., birds, bats, frogs) Crop rotation or extended fallow period <p>Farmer follows IPM principles and the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Preventative insect control methods are used, before considering curative methods. Insecticide is used only if other curative methods (e.g., insect pheromones, biological control agents) are ineffective on their own, the action thresholds ^{xviii}are exceeded, and the presence of a specific insect cause significant damage or loss. Broad spectrum insecticide is not used within the first 40 days after planting in the production field (unless in accordance with IPM recommendations given by local government extension experts). Selected insecticide should be registered for use in rice, comes from a non-counterfeit source, and it is not an HHP¹⁶ including on any of the following international lists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Persistent Organic Pollutants in the Stockholm Convention ✓ 1A or 1B under World Health Organization classification ✓ Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention¹⁷ Insecticide selection and use responds to the target insect species, considers optimum timing for the target species, and considers local information on insecticide-resistant insects (for efficiency of use). Insecticide application is targeted to avoid non-application zones. Insecticide application method is according to the product label instructions, follows specified preharvest interval, and does not exceed specified dosage (for worker 	<p>a) No curative insect control methods are required.</p> <p>Curative insect control methods are required and:</p> <p>b) Farmer effectively control insects without the use of insecticide.</p> <p>c) Farmer meets all seven criteria listed.</p> <p>d) Farmer meets criteria 1,2,3,4,6 and 7.</p> <p>e) Farmer meets criteria 1,2,3 and 4.</p> <p>f) Farmer does not meet criteria 1,2,3 and 4.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>2*</p> <p>1</p> <p>0</p>
Productivity			
Biodiversity			
Food safety			
			

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
	safety and food safety).		

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability	<p>19.3 DISEASE MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Preventative disease control methods can include (effective for fungal, bacterial, and viral diseases):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balanced nutrient application (e.g., avoid excessive application of nitrogen) Planting at optimum densities Use of resistant varieties Synchronized planting Removal of host plants (e.g., weeds on bunds, rice stubble, volunteer rice) Managing the environment between soil and plant canopy through better water management practice (either dry or moist) depending on the type of disease. <p>Farmer follows IPM principles and the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Preventative disease control methods are used, before considering curative methods. Fungicide is used only if other curative methods (e.g., biological control agents) are ineffective on their own and severity of the disease is expected to cause significant damage or loss. Selected fungicide should be registered for use in rice, comes from a non-counterfeit source, and it is not an HHP¹⁶ including on any of the following international lists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Persistent Organic Pollutants in the Stockholm Convention ✓ 1A or 1B under World Health Organization classification ✓ Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention¹⁷ Fungicide application is targeted to avoid non-application zones. Fungicide application method is according to the product label instructions, follows the specified preharvest interval or is at least 30 days before harvest (if preharvest interval is not available), and does not exceed specified dosage (for worker safety and food safety). Fungicide responds to the target disease type, considers recent history of fungal disease and predicted weather patterns, and considers local information on fungicide-resistant diseases (for efficiency of use). 	<p>a) No curative insect control methods are required.</p> <p>Curative disease control methods are required and:</p> <p>b) Farmer effectively controls diseases without the use of fungicide.</p> <p>c) Farmer meets all six criteria listed.</p> <p>d) Farmer meets criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.</p> <p>e) Farmer meets criteria 1, 2, and 3.</p> <p>f) Farmer does not meet criteria 1,2 and 3.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>2*</p> <p>1</p> <p>0</p>
Productivity			
Biodiversity			
Food safety			




Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
	Fungicides should be applied in a timely manner and correct dose so as not to exceed maximum residue limits as indicated by label instructions.		


Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability	<p>19.4 MOLLUSC MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Preventative mollusc control methods can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical control (e.g., destruction of egg masses) Reduction of water level to prevent infestation of Golden Apple Snails during the most vulnerable phase (i.e., early growth phase) Promotion of predators (e.g., wild birds, ducks, fish) Use of sturdier seedlings during transplanting by sowing low-density nursery beds and planting older seedlings Crop rotation or extended dry fallow period <p>Farmer follows IPM principles and the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Preventative mollusc control methods are used, before considering curative methods. Molluscicide is used only if other curative methods (e.g., collection) are ineffective on their own and severity of the mollusc cause significant damage or loss. Selected molluscicide should registered for use in rice, comes from a non-counterfeit source, and it is not an HHP¹⁶ including on any of the following international lists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Persistent Organic Pollutants in the Stockholm Convention ✓ 1A or 1B under World Health Organization classification ✓ Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention¹⁷ Molluscicide application is targeted to avoid non-application zones. Molluscicide application method is according to the product label instructions, is not used before manual transplanting, follows specified preharvest interval, and does not exceed specified dosage (for worker safety and food safety). Molluscicide responds to target mollusc species and is used only within the first 3 weeks after crop establishment (for efficiency of use). 	<p>a) No curative mollusc control methods are required.</p> <p>Curative mollusc control methods are required and:</p> <p>b) Farmer effectively controls mollusc without the use of molluscicide.</p> <p>c) Farmer meets all six criteria listed.</p> <p>d) Farmer meets criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.</p> <p>e) Farmer meets criteria 1, 2, and 3.</p> <p>f) Farmer does not meet criteria 1,2 and 3.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>2*</p> <p>1</p> <p>0</p>
Productivity			
Biodiversity			
Food safety			



Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points	
Profitability	<p>19.5 RODENT MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Preventative rodent control methods can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community rodent management (e.g., rat eradication campaigns, trap crops) • Synchronized planting • Use of narrow bunds (to minimize rodent habitat) • Promotion of predators (e.g., birds of prey, snakes) <p>Farmer follows IPM principles and the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preventative rodent control methods are used, before considering curative methods. 2. Rodenticide is used only if other curative methods (e.g., trapping, hunting) are not effective on their own, if there is historical evidence of rodent problems, and if severity of the rodent cause significant damage or loss. 3. Selected rodenticide should be registered for use in rice, , comes from a non-counterfeit source, and it is not an HHP¹⁶ including on any of the following international lists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Persistent Organic Pollutants in the Stockholm Convention ✓ 1A or 1B under World Health Organization classification ✓ Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention¹⁷ 4. Rodenticide application is targeted to avoid non-application zones. 5. Rodenticide application method is according to the product label instructions, follows specified preharvest interval, and does not exceed specified dosage (for worker safety and food safety). 6. Rodenticide responds to target rodent species, is used before the reproductive growth phase of the crop to avoid an outbreak during grain filling, and is placed under protective cover (e.g., bamboo tubes, coconut husks) where not easily accessible to birds or exposed to rainfall (for efficiency of use). 	<p>a) No curative rodent control methods are required.</p> <p>Curative rodent control methods are required and:</p> <p>b) Farmer effectively controls rodent without the use of rodenticide.</p> <p>c) Farmer meets all six criteria listed.</p> <p>d) Farmer meets criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.</p> <p>e) Farmer meets criteria 1, 2, and 3.</p> <p>f) Farmer does not meet criteria 1,2 and 3.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>2*</p> <p>1</p> <p>0</p>	
Productivity				
Biodiversity				
Food safety				



Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability	19.6 BIRD MANAGEMENT Non-lethal bird control methods can include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synchronized planting • Scare/deterrent devices • Promotion of predators (e.g., birds of prey, shrikes) • Chemical repellents that do not kill birds and without negative side-effects 	a) No bird control is required.	3
Productivity		Bird control is required and:	3
Biodiversity		b) Bird pests are managed by non-lethal bird control methods.	2
Food safety		c) Bird pests are managed by live trapping and all non-pest species are released alive.	1*
		d) Bird pests are managed through discriminatory shooting (hunting).	0
	e) Birds are indiscriminately persecuted by killing, poisoning, and/or hunting.		
			


HARVEST AND POST HARVEST			
Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability	20. TIME OF HARVEST Paddy is harvested at the appropriate time to optimize grain quality ^{xix} . General indications of appropriate timing of harvest are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When 80% to 85% of the grains per panicle are mature. 2. When moisture content for mechanize harvesting is between 21% and 24%, while for hand harvest less than 20%. 3. Between 28 and 35 days after heading in dry season, or between 32 and 38 days after heading in wet season. 4. Between 130 and 136 days after sowing for late, 113 and 125 for medium, and 110 days for early-maturing varieties. 5. Grains in the lower parts of the panicle should be in the "hard-dough" stage (firm but not brittle); grains that stick to your hand are too wet. 	a) Farmer follows criteria 1 or 2	3
Productivity		b) Farmer follows criteria 3 or 4	2*
Food safety		c) Farmer follows criteria 5	1
		d) None of the above.	0
			


Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Food safety	<p>21. HARVEST EQUIPMENT</p> <p>Paddy is harvested with clean equipment to prevent contamination and mixing of varieties.</p> <p>Machines (if used) are adjusted to optimum settings and operated according to the crop and field conditions resulting in minimum quality and shattering loss.</p>	<p>For manual harvesting:</p> <p>a) Harvest equipment is cleaned before use.</p> <p>b) Harvest equipment is not cleaned before use.</p> <p>For mechanical harvesting:</p> <p>a) Harvest equipment is cleaned before use and machine settings are adjusted.</p> <p>b) Either harvest equipment is cleaned before use, or machine settings are adjusted.</p> <p>c) Harvest equipment is not cleaned before use and machine settings are not adjusted.</p>	<p>3*</p> <p>0</p> <p>3*</p> <p>1</p> <p>0</p>




Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability Productivity Food safety	<p>22. DRYING TIME</p> <p>Paddy drying on-farm starts within 24 hours after harvest. The final moisture content is documented and depends on the further use of the paddy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For mechanize harvesting is between 21% and 24%, while for hand harvest less than 20% for direct selling, for sale within 3 days. 16% or less moisture content for sale within 1 week. 14% moisture content or less for storing grains longer than 1 week. 12% moisture content or less for storing seeds^{xx} <p>Within a batch, the moisture content of a grain is not more than 1% after drying compared with the average moisture content (i.e., moisture gradient).</p> <p>If paddy is not dried on-farm (e.g., at farmer's concrete yard), it is transported to a drying (e.g., miller) or processing facility within 12 hours after harvest.</p>	<p>a) Farmer transports rice to a drying or processing facility within 12 hours after harvest.</p> <p>b) Farmer starts drying rice on-farm within 24 hours after harvest and reaches 16% or less moisture content and not more than 1% moisture gradient within 1 week.</p> <p>c) Farmer starts drying rice on-farm within 24 hours after harvest and reaches 14-18% or less moisture content and not more than 1% moisture gradient within 3 days.</p> <p>d) Farmer starts drying rice on-farm within 24 hours after harvest but cannot document 18% or less moisture content or not 1% or less moisture gradient.</p> <p>e) Farmer does not transport rice to a drying or processing facility within 12 hours after harvest or start drying rice on-farm within 24 hours after harvest.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>2*</p> <p>1</p> <p>0</p>



Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability	23. DRYING TECHNIQUE Paddy is dried by using sustainable drying techniques. For sun drying: 1. Layer thickness is 2-4 cm. 2. Paddy is turned periodically. 3. Paddy is protected from rain and dew. 4. Paddy is protected from direct contact with soil, animals, and people (e.g., on nets, mats, or canvas). For mechanical drying: 5. Use of quality dryers certified to produce optimum grain quality (no discoloration, smell, and minimized amount of broken rice). 6. Set dryer at a maximum temperature of 43°C for flat-bed batch dryers and 55°C for re-circulating batch dryers.	Farmer does not do the drying himself/herself.	n/a
Productivity		a) Farmer uses mechanical drying and follows criteria 5 and 6.	3
Food safety		b) Farmer uses sun drying and follows criteria 1, 2, 3 and 4. c) Farmer uses sun drying and follows criteria 3 and 4. d) None of the above.	2* 1 0
			

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Profitability	24. RICE STORAGE Paddy/rice is safely stored to maintain its quality, through the following measures (e.g. hermetic storage, mechanical silos etc.): 1. Prevent contamination with hazardous substances, such as agrochemicals. 2. Maintain 14% moisture content or less. 3. Prevent rewetting. 4. Prevent pest damage without fumigation. 5. Paddy/rice is cleaned before storage (removal of dirt, weeds, and insects).	Farmer does not store paddy/rice on-farm.	n/a
Productivity		a) Farmer practices apply all five measures.	3
Food safety		b) Farmer applies measures 1, 2, 3 and 4 only. c) Farmer applies measures 1 and 2 only. d) None of the above.	2 1* 0
			

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Nutrient use efficiency	25. RICE STUBBLE Rice stubble is managed in a sustainable way to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, minimize environmental impacts, and retain or improve soil quality ^{xxi} Rice stubble is: 1. Not burned. 2. Allowed sufficient time (at least 3 weeks) for aerobic decomposition before wetting.	a) Farmer meets criteria 1 and 2, without plowing of rice stubble under.	3
Greenhouse gas emissions		b) Farmer meets criteria 1 and 2, with plowing of rice stubble under while soil is dry	2
		c) Farmer meets criteria 1, but plows rice stubble under while soil is flooded. d) Farmer burns rice stubble.	1* 0
			



Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Nutrient use efficiency	<p>26. RICE STRAW</p> <p>Rice straw is managed in a sustainable way to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, minimize environmental impacts, and retain or improve soil quality.</p> <p>Rice straw is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Not burned. Allowed sufficient time (at least 2 weeks) for aerobic decomposition if rice straw is left on the field or plowed under. Collected, used as livestock feed and animal manure is returned to the field. Or collected, composted, and returned to the field. 	a) Farmer meets criteria 1 and 3.	3
Greenhouse gas emissions		b) Farmer meets criteria 1 and 2 only. c) Farmer meets criteria 1 only. d) Farmer burns rice straw.	2 1* 0





HEALTH AND SAFETY



Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Worker health and safety	<p>27. SAFETY INSTRUCTION AND FIRST AID</p> <p>To ensure the safety and health of workers, including household members involved in farming activities, it is essential to provide comprehensive training and resources related to pesticide risk reduction and first aid measures. The following criteria outline the key requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Workers, including household members, must receive training on Pesticide Risk Reduction. This training should cover Integrated Pest Management (IPM) alternatives, safe application procedures, awareness of health hazards, safe handling, calibration, risks of mixing, equipment washing, storage, and disposal. Special attention should be given to women. The first aid kit should be well-labeled, well-equipped for emergencies, not expired, have sufficient stock available, and be accessible either on-farm or at a designated medical center known by and easily accessible to farmers in the group. Workers must be provided with informational material in the local language that they can refer to at home. This material should include first aid instructions for pesticide poisoning. <p>Note: The SRP definition of pesticides applies to all following requirements referring to "pesticides" and "agricultural hazardous substances"</p>	a) Meet all criteria. Workers, including working household members, receive regular quality training on pesticide risk reduction, including IPM and demonstrate safe practices on farm. They receive informational materials in local language for home use, have first aid kits on farm and easily accessible medical attention. b) Meet Criteria 1 and 2. Workers, including working household members, receive safety instruction annually, and first aid kit is available on-farm or at a designated medical center known by and easily accessible to farmers in a group. c) Workers, including working household members, have received safety instruction within the last three years, and are aware of how to contact the nearest health worker or clinic. d) There is no safety instruction.	3 2 1* 0





Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Worker health and safety	<p>28. TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT</p> <p>Adequate tools and equipment for farm operations and postharvest processes are available, working, and efficient in use by regular and proper maintenance and calibration. Special attention is paid to ensure availability to women and farm workers and training on safe use.</p> <p>Tools are adequately stored. Pesticide application equipment (if pesticide(s) is (are) applied) is maintained and calibrated to prevent leakage or contamination.</p>	a) Calibration and maintenance within current crop cycle and available for contracted smallholder farmers. Training is provided.	2
		b) Calibration and maintenance within the past 2 years. Farmers are equipped with tools.	1*
		c) No calibration and maintenance within the past 2 years. Not all farmers are equipped with necessary tools.	0
		 	



Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Worker health and safety	<p>29. TRAINING OF PESTICIDE APPLICATORS</p> <p>A Risk Assessment for Pesticides has been conducted by contracting body for individual farm or by IMS for producer group. See Risk Assessment Check List in Annex C.</p> <p>Pesticide applicators, in particular ensuring women and smallholders receive training and apply good practices on the safe handling and use of pesticides, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> An explanation of the names, toxicity, health risks, storage/ disposal, washing and other relevant information related to all substances to be applied. Techniques for correct handling of substances and equipment. Preventive measures for reducing possible damage to health and the environment caused by substances. Emergency procedures for cases involving poisoning or undue contact with substances. <p>Below are extra criteria applicable and mandatory only for large farms/ group of farms:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Applicators sign consent forms acknowledging they understand the risks and will follow safe practices. Applicators receive one free health checkup annually. 	There is no use of pesticides.	n/a
		If pesticide(s) is (are) used, in the last 5 years:	
		a) Risk Assessment has been conducted and adoption of mitigation practices has been demonstrated; all good practices have been applied.	2
b) Meet only 50% of all applicable criteria.	1*		
c) None of good practices been applied.	0		
		 	



Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
	7. There is a process for Applicators to report incidents (equipment malfunction, poisoning, etc.).		



Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Worker health and safety	<p>30. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)</p> <p>Pesticide applicators use functional and good-quality PPE as recommended on the product label, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chemical-resistant gloves 2. Chemical protection masks 3. Dermal protection (e.g., long-sleeved shirt, long-trouser legs) 4. Boots 5. Chemical safety goggles during mixing and application. 6. PPE must be available in varied sizes to accommodate both men and women. 	<p>There is no use of pesticides.</p> <p>If pesticide(s) is (are) used:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) In the case of spraying: Pesticide applicators use all listed PPE items of good quality (or what is recommended on the product label). b) In the case of plane, drone, or tractor application: Pesticide applicators use chemical-resistant gloves and chemical protection masks of good quality during mixing (or what is recommended on the product label). c) In the case of spraying: Pesticide applicators use at least chemical resistant gloves and chemical protection masks of good quality. d) None of the above.  	<p>n/a</p> <p>2</p> <p>2</p> <p>1*</p> <p>0</p>


Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Worker health and safety	<p>31. WASHING AND CHANGING</p> <p>Designated areas for washing of PPE, bathing, and changing must be available for workers i.e. transplanter and pesticide applicators after finishing the application. The following conditions must be met:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All PPE worn during pesticide application is washed after use and does not enter housing. 2. Designated washing areas must be separated from household laundry areas. 3. Clothes and containers are not washed by pregnant or lactating women or by children below 18 years. 4. Facilities must be divided by gender and ensure the safety and privacy of vulnerable groups by providing well-lit and lockable spaces. 	<p>There is no use of pesticides.</p> <p>If pesticide(s) is (are) used:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) All conditions are met. b) Conditions 1, 2, and 3 are met c) None of the conditions are met  	<p>n/a</p> <p>2</p> <p>1*</p> <p>0</p>


Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
	5. Safe spaces with safeguarding measures for workers must be in place.		

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Worker health and safety	32. APPLICATOR RESTRICTIONS Pesticides, especially Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs) are not applied by pregnant or lactating women, by persons below 18 years, or by persons who suffer from chronic or respiratory diseases	There is no use of pesticides.	n/a
		If pesticide(s) is (are) used: a) Pesticides are not applied by pregnant or lactating women, by persons below 18 years, or by persons who suffer from chronic or respiratory diseases.	2*
		b) Pesticides are applied by pregnant or lactating women, by persons below 18 years, or by persons who suffer from chronic or respiratory diseases.	0
		 	


Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Worker health and safety	33. RE-ENTRY TIME Re-entry time after the use of pesticides: 1. Follows the recommendation on the product label, or after 48 hours if the label does not give a recommendation. 2. Communicate to the community the times when entry into rice fields is prohibited by posting warning sign. [Verbal warnings are not sufficient]. 3. Farmers are issued easily visible warning signs to post in their fields, when entry is prohibited.	There is no use of pesticides.	n/a
		If pesticide(s) is (are) used: a) Farmer meets all criteria.	2
		b) Farmer meets criteria 1 and criteria 2 or criteria 3.	1*
		c) Farmer does not meet any criteria.	0
		 	


Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Worker health and safety	34. STORAGE OF AGRICULTURAL HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES AND CHEMICALS Pesticides and inorganic fertilizers (including partly-empty containers) are: 1. Labeled. 2. Stored in a locked place that is separate from fuel, food, and rice and which is out of reach of children.	There is no use of pesticides.	n/a
		If pesticide(s) is (are) used: a) Farmer meets all criteria.	2
		b) Farmer meets criteria 2 only.	1*
		c) None of the above.	0
		 	

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Worker health and safety	<p>35. AGRICULTURAL HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE DISPOSAL</p> <p>Empty pesticide containers, surplus pesticides, and obsolete pesticides (e.g., past shelf life or banned) are disposed of properly, through a collection, return, or disposal service, or through good practices in pesticide disposal.</p> <p>Good practices in pesticide disposal include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Incentive or reward-based programs in place for the collection and disposal of waste. Empty containers are rinsed 3 times with water. Surplus spray and wash water is applied over an unmanaged part of the farm, away from water bodies. Containers are made unusable by crushing or puncturing before burying them on-farm. Containers are buried in a designated area at least 50 meters away from a water body. <i>However, if space is limited, they may be buried as close as 20 meters, provided the area is not in a water flow line. For farmers with small land plots, it's important to ensure the burial site does not risk contaminating water sources</i> and are not accessible to children or unauthorized persons. Obsolete pesticides are returned to the dealers or, if not possible, disposed of in a manner that minimizes exposure to humans and the environment. 	There is no use of pesticides.	n/a
		If pesticide(s) is (are) used: a) <i>Incentive or reward-based strategies exist for collection/disposal.</i> Farmer participates in a collection, return or disposal service, especially if there is a large volume of waste.	2
		b) In the absence of such a service, farmer follow 2 to 5 for good practices in pesticide disposal.	1*
		c) In the absence of such a service, farmer does not meet all four criteria for good practices in pesticide disposal.	0
d) There is a collection, return, or disposal service, but it is not used.	0		
			

LABOR RIGHTS			
Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Child labor and youth engagement	<p>36. CHILD LABOR</p> <p>Children up to 18 years are not engaged as workers.</p> <p>Family members up to 18 years of age living on family farms may participate in farming activities that consist of light, age-appropriate duties that give them an opportunity to develop skills, only if activities are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Activities that are not harmful to health and development 2. Activities that do not disturb study time and leisure time 3. Activities under adult supervision 4. Not in excess of 14 hours a week. <p>Age of workers is always verified and documented through CNIC/ Smart Card.</p>	<p>Farmer does not engage children below 18 years of age as workers.</p> <p>a) Family members below 18 years of age are living and working on the farm, and farmer complies with all four criteria.</p> <p>b) Family members below 18 years of age are living and working on the farm, and farmer does not comply with one or more criteria.</p> <p>c) Farmer engages children below 18 years of age (who are not family members living on the farm) as workers.</p>	<p>n/a</p> <p>3*</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p>
			

Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Child labor and youth engagement	<p>37. HAZARDOUS WORK</p> <p>All workers follow applicable safety rules at work (for example going indoors in case of risk of lightning)</p> <p>Children below 18 years are not assigned to work which is harmful to their safety and health^{xxii}, including their physical, mental, or moral wellbeing^{xxiii}.</p> <p>Tasks that should not be assigned include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work in dangerous locations. 2. Work with dangerous machinery, equipment, and tools (as defined by national laws and regulations). 3. Work that involves carrying heavy loads. 4. Work that involves hazardous substances 5. Work that must be done during the night. <p>The name, age, sex, CNIC/ Smart Card and contact details of workers must always be verified and recorded.</p>	<p>There are no children below 18 years of age working on the farm.</p> <p>a) There are children below 18 years of age working on the farm, and farmer complies with all five criteria.</p> <p>b) There are children below 18 years of age working on the farm, and farmer does not comply with one or more criteria.</p>	<p>n/a</p> <p>3*</p> <p>0</p>

Impact	Requirement	Level(s) of compliance	Points
Child labor and youth engagement	38. EDUCATION Farmers arrange for children under compulsory education to go to school throughout the school year. If they are unable to go to school, efforts must be made to provide education.	There are no children living on the farm within the age of compulsory schooling.	n/a
		a) Children living on the farm within the age of compulsory schooling go to school all year long.	3
		b) Children living on the farm within the age of compulsory schooling go to school, but not all year long.	2
		c) Children living on the farm within the age of compulsory schooling do not go to school, but efforts are made to provide education.	1*
		d) Children living on the farm within the age of compulsory schooling do not go to school, and no efforts are made to provide education.	0
			

Impact	Requirement	Level(s) of compliance	Points
Not linked to a specific SRP performance indicator	39. FORCED LABOR There is no forced, compulsory, or slave labor used, including trafficked and bonded labor, labor by prisoners, or the use of extortion, debt, threats, fines or penalties ^{xxiv} . The following criteria are met: 1. No withholding of (part of) the worker's salary, benefits, property, or documents (e.g., identity cards and travel documents) in order to force such worker to continue to work. 2. Workers are not charged recruiting or hiring fees that require them to be indebted to the farm (or recruiting agency). 3. Workers are allowed to leave the farm's premises at the end of their shifts. 4. Regular working hours of workers do not exceed 48 hours per week, with at least one full day of rest for every six consecutive days worked. Workers are permitted breaks every few hours for water, shade, rest, hygiene. 5. Spouses and children of contracted	Farmer does not engage any workers	n/a
		a) Farmer demonstrates full compliance with all criteria. (Smallholders may demonstrate compliance without documentation.) b) Farmer does not comply with one or more of the criteria.	3* 0
			

	<p>workers are not forced to work on the farm.</p> <p>6. Do not participate or consent to human trafficking.</p> <p>7. Safe spaces are created in particular for women (washing, rest, health & hygiene etc.) and workers are treated with dignity.</p> <p>8. Community Feedback Mechanism established and functional or complaint logbook with addressal mechanism are in place.</p>		
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Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
<p>Worker health and safety</p> <p>Child labor and youth engagement</p> <p>Women's empowerment</p>	<p>40. DISCRIMINATION</p> <p>There is no discrimination or disrespectful treatment of workers, including working household members^{xxv}.</p> <p>The following criteria are met:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No discrimination on the basis of gender, ethnic background, national origin, religion, disability, sexual orientation, pregnancy, worker organization membership, or political affiliation. 2. No distinction, exclusion, or preference to harm equality of opportunity with regard to hiring, training, task assignment, benefits, remuneration, advancement, termination, retirement, or other employment-related decision. 3. No job-related medical testing as a condition of employment (except lawful drug testing). 4. No behavior, gesture, language, or physical contact that is sexually abusive, coercive, or threatening. 5. No bullying or physical punishment. 6. Complaint Feedback Mechanism is functional, complaint log maintained and referral mechanism exists. 	<p>Farmer does not engage any workers.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Farmer demonstrates full compliance with all five criteria. (Smallholders may demonstrate compliance without documentation.) b) Farmer does not comply with one or more of the criteria. 	<p>n/a</p> <p>3*</p> <p>0</p>



Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Worker health and Safety	<p>41. FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION</p> <p>Workers have the right to establish and/or join an association of their choice without interference and take part in collective bargaining on working conditions^{xxvi}.</p> <p>The following criteria are met:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Workers can freely establish and join workers' organizations, both internal (e.g., workers' representations) and external (e.g., trade unions), and take part in collective bargaining on working conditions. Labor organizations are allowed to conduct activities on-farm. Effective functioning of labor organizations is not blocked, and representatives of such organizations are not discriminated against. Farmer complies with collective bargaining agreements. 	Farmer does not engage any workers.	n/a
Child labor and youth engagement		a) Farmer demonstrates full compliance with all four criteria. (Smallholders may demonstrate compliance without documentation.)	3*
Women's empowerment		b) Farmer does not comply with one or more of the criteria.	0



Impact	Requirement	Level of compliance	Points
Worker health and Safety	<p>42. WAGES</p> <p>The following criteria are met:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Wages of workers meet or exceed the legal minimum wage required under local or national laws and regulations. If wages are negotiated voluntarily between employers and workers' associations, the negotiated wage amount(s) apply to all workers covered under the negotiated agreement. This includes providing equal pay to men and women for work of equal value. Wages are paid in a timely manner and on a regular basis. Wages are paid in a legal currency, or in another form acceptable to workers without creating any form of dependency. Overtime is voluntary and is paid at the rate required by local or national laws and regulations, or as collectively negotiated 	Farmer does not engage any workers.	n/a
Child labor and youth engagement		a) Farmer demonstrates full compliance with all four criteria.	3*
Women's empowerment		b) Farmer does not comply with one or more of the criteria.	0



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End notes

- ⁱ [AboutBiochar_Intro-to-Biochar_IBI.pdf](#)
- ⁱⁱ [Biostimulants Explained: Your 2020 Guide](#)
- ⁱⁱⁱ [keybiodiversityareas.org](#)
- ^{iv} Methods to analyze risk of soil contamination by heavy metals include:
- (1) A group soil analysis, conducted by qualified laboratories, shows no risks from heavy metal contamination.
 - (2) A group risk assessment shows no risks from heavy metal contamination (see Annex A: Risk Assessment Checklist).
 - (3) Reliable external proof shows no risks from heavy metal contamination
- ^v Available international and national standards on food safety include:
- (1) Codex Alimentarius Commission:
www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/livestockgov/documents/1_CXS_193e.pdf
 - (2) US Food and Drug Administration:
www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfcfr/CFRSearch.cfm?fr=165.110
 - (3) European Commission: eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:1998:330:0032:0054:EN:PDF
 - (4) Australia: www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2011C00542
- ^{vi} General soil remediation techniques (not site-specific) include:
- (1) Immobilization by solidification/stabilization and vitrification;
 - (2) Reduction toxicity and/or mobility by chemical treatment, permeable treatment walls, biological treatment, bioaccumulation, phytoremediation, phytoextraction, phytostabilization, rhizofiltration, bioleaching, and biochemical processes;
 - (3) Physical separation and extraction by soil washing, pyrometallurgical extraction, in situ soil flushing, and electrokinetic treatment;
 - (4) Complexation processes using applied amendments, including clay, cement, zeolites, minerals, phosphates, organic composts, and microbes;
 - (5) Isolation by physical capping and subsurface barriers.
- ^{vii} Methods to analyze risk of soil salinity include:
- (1) A group soil or field water analysis, conducted by qualified laboratories, shows a maximum salinity level of 3 dS/m for soil or 5 g/L for water.
 - (2) A group risk assessment shows no risks soil salinity (see Annex A: Risk Assessment Checklist).
 - (3) Records of public authorities that show a maximum salinity level of 3 dS/m for soil or 5 g/L for water.
- ^{viii} 2009 marks the Copenhagen Climate Conference (COP15), which emphasized reducing deforestation as a key strategy for global climate change mitigation.
- ^{ix} See Annex B: Stakeholder Consultation & Risk Assessment for Land Conversion and Biodiversity.
- ^x Due to variation depending on local conditions, SRP recommends that criteria for certified seeds, seed with quality control, and self-saved seeds with quality control is further specified in SRP National Interpretation Guidelines.
- ^{xi} The 'right time' for planting refers to the period when regular rainfall is expected, minimizing the need for additional irrigation and supporting efficient water management in rainfed rice cultivation.
- ^{xii} In severe water-scare areas additional technologies (e.g., aerobic rice varieties, drip irrigation) may be necessary to maintain sustainable cultivation.
- ^{xiii} Methods to analyze inbound water quality include:
- (1) A group water sample analysis, conducted by qualified laboratories, shows no contamination beyond official national or regional levels.
 - (2) A group water quality risk assessment shows no risks of water contamination (see Annex A: Risk Assessment Checklist).

^{xiv} Point of measurement of inbound water quality:

- If no drained water merges with the irrigation canal, water quality should be tested at the main irrigation canal.
- If drained water merges with the irrigation canal, water quality should be tested at the inlet used by the farmer or group (i.e., after the point of merging).

^{xv} Due to variation depending on local conditions, SRP recommends that measures for site-specific nutrient management are further specified in SRP National Interpretation Guidelines.

^{xvi} Examples of fertilizer application according to plant needs include: applying N up to 30% of the total amount when plants have 3-5 leaves, and using leaf color charts or SPAD meters to identify timing of the next application; or splitting N application between basal, active tillering, and panicle initiation after sowing, and applying P and K during basal stage; or using controlled-release fertilizers.

^{xvii} Products on this list may be safe to use under controlled circumstances and justification must be provided for use.

^{xviii} The IRRI Insect Action Threshold available at [9789712200625_content.pdf](#)

^{xix} Due to variation depending on local conditions, SRP recommends that criteria for appropriate timing of harvest is further specified in SRP National Interpretation Guidelines.

^{xx} Grains need to be dried to below 14%, and seeds should be dried to below 12%. [Rice seed moisture content](#)

^{xxi} Research has identified the minimum-tillage system with stubble left on the field after grazing by livestock as a sustainable practice of treating rice stubble. SRP National Interpretation Guidelines may identify methods that are at an equivalent level of sustainability even if grazing by livestock or minimum-tillage is not practiced.

^{xxii} If national law has set the minimum age at 16 (on condition that appropriate prior training is given and the safety and health of young workers are fully protected), this age applies (ILO Safety and Health in Agriculture Convention, 2001 [No.184])

^{xxiii} ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) and Recommendation, 1999 (No.190)

^{xxiv} ILO Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) and ILO Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)

^{xxv} ILO Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100) and ILO Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111)

^{xxvi} ILO Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) and ILO Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98)