

Sustainable Rice Platform Standard vs SAI Platform’s Farm Sustainability Assessment

The Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP) developed a sustainability standard consisting of 46 requirements covering a set of priority topics in rice cultivation. SAI Platform’s Farmer Sustainability Assessment is a set of 112 conditions related to economic, social and environmental on-farm sustainability applicable to vegetable, fruit, grain and pulse production in general. Both standards promote sustainability in the rice sector and their relevance can differ in different rice growing contexts and markets. This document presents how both relate and how they can be used complementary.

Although both standards differ in scope and content, there is much overlap. Figure 1 show that compliance to the requirement in the SRP standard would correspond to a compliance of the majority of essential and basic questions in the FSA. In addition, the SRP covers 4 essential, 11 basic and 3 advanced questions partly.

Figure 1: SRP equivalence to FSA

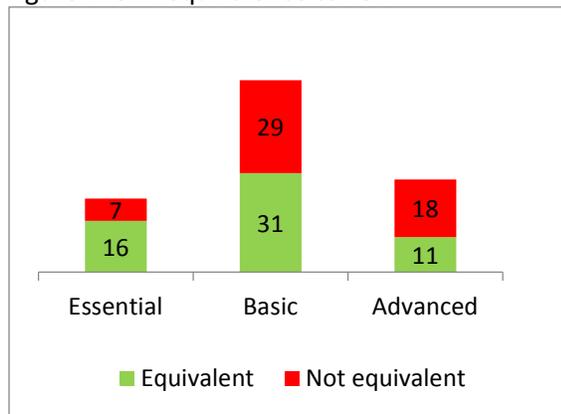


Figure 2: SRP coverage of FSA questions per theme

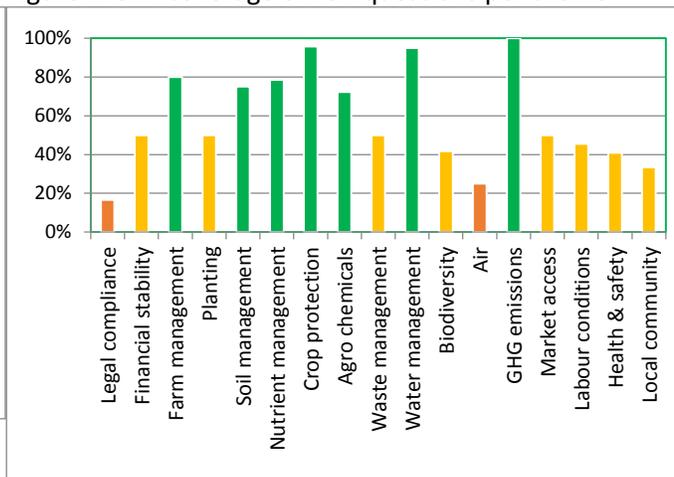


Table 1: FSA essentials which are (partly) covered by SRP

FSA essentials not covered by SRP: - FSA03 Business integrity - FSA109 On farm living conditions workers - FSA110: Land use rights	FSA essentials partly covered by SRP: - FSA02 Legal compliance - FSA65 Land conversion - FSA99 Emergency and accident procedures - FSA108 Access to safe drinking water and sanitation	SRP requirements not covered by FSA: - Soil salinity - Harvest and post-harvest practices
--	---	--

The overlap and differences between the standards offer opportunities to use both in a complementary way. The most prominent examples are:

- SRP offers rice specific requirements built upon concrete practices that can be used as rice specific guidance for FSA implementation in the rice sector.
- SRP focuses on key rice specific topics and its requirements are smallholder proof. It is designed to engage in an improvement process with smallholders. Whereas the SRP standard can be considered as ‘sustainable’ in itself, it also offers a ‘stepping stone’ to the broader scope of the FSA.

In recognition of the added value of both systems, SAI Platform and the Sustainable Rice Platform will continue to improve the linkages between both standards in its design and implementation.