



# **GLOBALG.A.P.**

## **Impact-Driven Approach to Sustainability Add-on (for Flowers and Ornamentals)**

### **General Rules Specifications**

ENGLISH VERSION 1.0

VALID FROM: 2 NOVEMBER 2020

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## 1 GENERAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Name and version of the add-on:  | Impact-Driven Approach to Sustainability add-on (for Flowers and Ornamentals) v1.0 |
| Scope:   | Flowers and Ornamentals  |
| Scheme ID:   | 288  |
| Application in country(ies):   | All  |
| The applicable add-on control points and compliance criteria (CPCCs) name and version: | Impact-Driven Approach to Sustainability add-on (for Flowers and Ornamentals) v1.0 |

## 2 GENERAL INFORMATION

### 2.1 Definitions

**Producer:** Farmers/Growers (or producer groups organized via a quality management system) who are certified against the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrated Farm Assurance standard for the sub-scope Flowers and Ornamentals or assessed against the localg.a.p. Primary Farm Assurance standard for Flowers and Ornamentals and who intend to use the Impact-Driven Approach whereby specified data is shared with GLOBALG.A.P.

**Service Provider:** The use of a farm management system (FMS) software to facilitate data sharing is required. The GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat registers and approves FMSs to facilitate the data sharing. Details and providers can be found on the GLOBALG.A.P. website [https://www.globalgap.org/uk\\_en/what-we-do/the-gg-system/Impact-Driven-Approach/](https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/what-we-do/the-gg-system/Impact-Driven-Approach/).

**Peers:** Flowers and Ornamentals producers in the same region, growing the same crop, with the same product category, same growing conditions, and who share data with GLOBALG.A.P. in the Impact-Driven Approach for comparison reports.

### 2.2 Data governance

GLOBALG.A.P. shall aggregate the shared data and prepare comparisons. Consolidated reports will be presented electronically for comparison on a monthly basis.

- Producers register environmental metrics (inputs such as fertilizer/plant protection products use and water and energy use) in a digital platform to share with GLOBALG.A.P.
- GLOBALG.A.P. processes this data to:
  - collect information on historic trends of input. This will be used as a performance indicator when assessing implemented practices.
  - compare input between similar producers.
- Data about individual producers *shall not be shared with other parties*.
- Reports with aggregated data will be shared only with producers using the GLOBALG.A.P. Impact-Driven Approach. With time, GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat may decide how aggregated data could be shared with stakeholders other than participating producers.
- Data *shall not be used as a tool to classify producers as being more or less sustainable*.

### Processing data and reporting back to producers

1. GLOBALG.A.P. will process data to create comparison reports of peer producers.
2. Criteria to define producers as peers are based on location, type of crop, and size of farm.
  - Type of crop: ideally same crop, product category (as per the GLOBALG.A.P. product list), or farm.
  - Soil or soilless cultivation.
  - Covered or open field cultivation
  - Size of farm
3. GLOBALG.A.P. will provide comparison reports via the FMS to producers in the same region or within certain radiuses from the site of production.

## 3. GENERAL RULES SPECIFICATIONS

This document contains the general rules specifications exclusively applicable to the Impact-Driven Approach add-on. The basis for this document is the latest [GLOBALG.A.P. general add-on rules](#), which should be consulted while reading these general rules specifications.

The GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations parts I, II, and III and Crops rules or Primary Farm Assurance general rules (when applicable) in their current version apply for the add-on unless otherwise specified in the add-on rules below.

| Section<br>(Numbering Based on GLOBALG.A.P. General Add-on Rules) | General Add-on Rule  | Requirements for the Impact-Driven Approach Add-on   |
|---|--|--|
| <b>3. APPLICATION OPTIONS</b>                                     |  |  |
| Preconditions:  |  |  |
| 3.1 Option 1 – Individual Producer                                |  |  |
| 3.1.1   | Option 1 – Multisite without implementation of a QMS   | This option is possible.   |
| 3.1.2   | Option 1 – Multisite with implementation of a QMS  | This option is possible. Data shall be shared per legal entity.  |
| 3.2 Option 2 – Producer Group                                     |  | This option is possible. Data shall be shared on group level and/or per individual member level.   |
| <b>4. REGISTRATION PROCESS</b>                                    |  |  |
| <b>4.1 Certification Bodies</b>                                   |  |  |
| a)  | Applicant registration   | With the same certification body (CB) that conducts the Integrated Farm Assurance (IFA) or equivalent benchmarked scheme audit/inspection or same verification body (VB) or CB that conducts the Primary Farm Assurance (PFA) assessment.  |
| c)  | Information on approved CBs is available for every add-on and published on the GLOBALG.A.P. website. | <p>The applicant shall register with a GLOBALG.A.P. approved or provisionally approved CB for the scope of 1) the IFA standard v5 for Flowers and Ornamentals (FO), or 2) equivalent benchmarked scheme against the IFA standard v5 for FO, or with an approved VB/CB for the scope of PFA .</p> <p>A list of GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs and VBs and the GLOBALG.A.P. fee table are available on the GLOBALG.A.P. website. <i>Customize the search for CBs by selecting the region, country, and scope.</i></p> |

| Section<br>(Numbering Based on GLOBALG.A.P. General Add-on Rules)           | General Add-on Rule  | Requirements for the Impact-Driven Approach Add-on  |
|---|--|---|
| <b>4.2 Registration</b>   |  |   |
| d)  | The duration of the service contract is set between the CB and the producer.   | Duration will be set between the CB/VB and the producer.<br><br><i>The CB/VB shall include this add-on as part of the GLOBALG.A.P. sublicense and certification agreement that is signed between the CB and the producer.</i>   |
| <b>5. ASSESSMENT PROCESS</b>  |  |   |
| <b>5.1 Self-Assessment</b>  |  |   |
| a)  | Self-assessments are required if the specific add-on includes this requirement in the control points and compliance criteria.  | Not applicable.   |
| <b>5.2 Second- or Third-Party Assessment</b>                                |  |   |
| a)  | A second (an appointed organization)-or third party (an independent certification body) shall conduct the add-on assessments.  | GLOBALG.A.P. approved or provisionally approved CB for the scope of 1) the IFA standard v5 for FO or 2) equivalent benchmarked scheme against the IFA standard v5 for FO or by an approved VB/CB for the scope of PFA.  |
| b) The assessments shall be done only by the following parties as approved: |  |   |
| i)  | CB inspectors or auditors that are already approved to conduct inspections or audits for accredited standards such as GLOBALG.A.P. IFA, or schemes successfully benchmarked to the specific sub-scope. | GLOBALG.A.P. approved or provisionally approved CB for the scope of 1) the IFA standard v5 for FO or 2) equivalent benchmarked scheme against the IFA standard v5 for FO shall assess the consistency of registered data against on-farm inspection of facilities and records and frequency and completeness of data sharing with the FMS.<br><br>Definition of a VB: A VB is a GLOBALG.A.P. licensed Farm Assurer (see definition in Annex I.4 of GLOBALG.A.P. Definitions) that has signed a license agreement with GLOBALG.A.P and acquired the rights from producers to upload and/or register these producer activities in the GLOBALG.A.P database.<br><br>GLOBALG.A.P. approved VB/CBs approved for PFA FO shall assess the frequency and completeness of data sharing with the FMS. |
| ii)   | Inspectors or auditors from GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs conducting inspections against non-accredited standards, or  | This is <i>not</i> possible.  |
| iii)  | Licensed Farm Assurers that have approval for assessing the specific add-on.   | This is <i>not</i> possible.<br><br>Licensed Farm Assurer may become a VB to be able conduct assessments against this add-on.   |

| <b>Section</b><br>(Numbering Based on GLOBALG.A.P. General Add-on Rules)    | <b>General Add-on Rule</b>   | <b>Requirements for the Impact-Driven Approach Add-on</b>   |
|---|--|---|
| <b>5.2.1 Option 1 – Individual Producer (without QMS)</b>                   |  |   |
| a)  | Producer receives an annual assessment.  | <p>The producer must have 3 months of consecutive data registering history before the first assessment may take place, regardless if the producer may have changed CB during the first 12 months.</p> <p>The assessment includes checking for a) reliability of digitally registered data against farm conditions, including records kept at farm level and ways in which data is collected and recorded, b) compliance of the control points of the IDA module, and c) a confirmation that the producer digitally registered the data through the FMS for GLOBALG.A.P. on a monthly basis, as required in the control points.</p> <p>The CB/VB shall annually carry out unannounced assessments for a minimum of 10% of the producers who have not yet been assessed.</p> <p>The first assessment does not have to be at the same time as the IFA inspection or PFA assessment as the producer will share data on a monthly basis.</p> <p>Re-assessments shall be aligned with the annual IFA inspection/PFA assessment.</p> |
| b)  | The duration and timing of assessments will be part of the agreement with the CB.  | The duration of the assessment will depend on the size of the farm and the complexity of production activities as well as the number of applicable forms. The assessment is expected to take 1 to 3 hours in addition to the IFA FO inspection or the PFA FO assessment.  |
| c)  | The timing will be clarified:  | First assessment shall only be after 3 months of successful data sharing through an FMS.  |
| <b>5.2.2 Option 1 – Individual Producer with a QMS and Option 2 – Group</b> |  |   |
| a)  | The QMS and the production sites must be assessed.   | The producer group may share aggregated data, in which case the audit /assessment will take place at QMS level.   |
| b)  | The CB does not assess all production sites, just a sample. It is not the responsibility of the CB to determine the compliance of each production site (this responsibility rests with the applicant). The CB must assess whether the applicant's internal controls are appropriate. | If the producer group shares data per group member, a sample of the members shall be inspected/assessed. The sample size and sample selection shall follow the IFA sampling rules for Option 2 producer groups (or Option 1 multisite producers with QMS).  |
| c)  | The duration of the add-on assessments will be clarified:  | The duration of the assessment will depend on the size of the farm and the complexity of production activities as well as the number of applicable forms. The assessment is expected to take 1 to 3 hours in addition to the IFA FO audit/inspection or PFA FO assessment.  |
| d)  | The sampling method, frequency, timing will be clarified:  | First assessment shall only be after 3 months of successful data sharing through an FMS.  |

| <b>Section</b><br>(Numbering Based on GLOBALG.A.P. General Add-on Rules) | <b>General Add-on Rule</b>  | <b>Requirements for the Impact-Driven Approach Add-on</b>  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>5.3 Unannounced Assessments</b>                                       |   |  |
| a)   | It is possible that a specific add-on program requires that producers receive unannounced assessments.  | An unannounced assessment of this add-on shall be conducted together with any unannounced IFA audits/inspections/PFA assessments. It will replace the annual assessment for that year.   |
| b)   | If it is a requirement, 10% of the add-on producers or groups of a CB shall be assessed annually, unless stated otherwise.  | No additional rules.   |
| c)   | The assessment, if applicable, shall be announced no longer than 48 hours in advance.   | No additional rules.   |
| <b>6. APPROVAL PROCESS</b>   |   |  |
| <b>6.1 Requirements for Achieving and Maintaining Add-on Conformance</b> |   |  |
| a)   | The CPCC of the add-on program may consist of different levels; e.g., knock-out points, Major Musts, Minor Musts, or Recommendations or may have a scoring system.    | All control points are Major Musts.<br><br>Complete data for <i>all</i> points as required in the control points and compliance criteria shall be shared on a monthly basis via the chosen FMS.  |
| b)   | For each add-on program, the conformance rules are based on the constitution of the CPCC and will be stipulated:  |  |
| c)   | The compliance percentage shall be calculated, taking into account all the control points applicable to each site and product.  | Compliance with all control points is required.  |
| d)   | In all cases, after an inspection, the calculation to show compliance (or non-compliance) must be available.  | To be discussed and agreed at closing meeting as part of the summary of findings as presented by the assessor.<br><br>The producer shall receive a copy of the summary of non-compliances at the end of the assessment. Both the assessor and the producer shall sign this summary document.   |
| <b>6.2 Sanctions</b>   |   |  |
| c)   | Outstanding non-conformances identified during the first assessment shall be closed within the timeframe agreed with the certification body or approved farm assurer. | Time to close out non-compliances shall be agreed between the producer and the CB/VB.<br><br>If data has not been shared for a month via the FMS with GLOBALG.A.P., the VB/CB shall send a warning notification to the producer during the following month.<br><br>If data has not been sent in two consecutive months, at the beginning of the third month, the VB/CB shall send another warning notification to the producer.<br><br>If by the end of the third month data has not been sent, the producer is not compliant and shall have the status "Product Suspended." |

| Section<br>(Numbering Based on GLOBALG.A.P. General Add-on Rules)                               | General Add-on Rule   | Requirements for the Impact-Driven Approach Add-on  |
|---|---|---|
| <b>6.5 Letter of Conformance and Inspection Cycle</b>   |   | <p>A letter of conformance is issued by the CB/VB once a) the producer fully complies with all the control points of the add-on, b) there is confirmation that data reported to the FMS is consistent with facilities and records on-farm, and c) the producer is registering data in the FMS on a monthly basis.</p> <p>This letter of conformance is an indication that the producer is registered for sharing the requested data and intends to share the data on a monthly basis.</p> <p>The validity period of this letter of conformance is 12 months, linked to the validity of the IFA certificate or the PFA letter of conformance.</p> <p>See Annex 2 of this document for a template of the letter of conformance.</p> <p>The letter of conformance template shall be manually uploaded by the CB/VB in the GLOBALG.A.P. database.</p> |
| <b>6.6 Certification Integrity Program (CIPRO)</b>  |   |   |
| a)  | The possibility of adding CIPRO to the add-on program shall be clarified.   | GLOBALG.A.P. reserves the right to conduct certification integrity program (CIPRO) assessments for the add-on.  |
| <b>7. CERTIFICATION BODY AND FARM ASSURER REGISTRATION RULES FOR THE ADD-ON PROGRAM</b>         |   |   |
| General Regulations, I, Annex I.1: Rules for Use of the GLOBALG.A.P. Add-on Trademark and Logo. |   | The GLOBALG.A.P. add-on logo shall be used according to the requirements stipulated in the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations part I, Annex I.1.  |
| Data Access Rights  | In the case of different types of master data as defined in the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations part I, Annex I.1: | See Annex 1 below.  |

| <b>Section</b><br>(Numbering Based on GLOBALG.A.P. General Add-on Rules) | <b>General Add-on Rule</b>   | <b>Requirements for the Impact-Driven Approach Add-on</b>  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Assessor/Farm Assurer Qualifications</b>                              | In the case of other requirements as indicated in the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations part III: | <p>Finally and provisionally approved IFA or benchmarked scheme CBs/VBs that have completed the scope extension to this add-on are allowed to conduct assessments against this add-on. Minimum requirements are the same as in the case of GLOBALG.A.P. inspectors and auditors (for CBs), as stipulated in the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations part III, Annex III.1 and Annex III.2. In the case of VBs, the minimum qualification requirements are similar to those for Farm Assurers.</p> <p>Definition of a VB: A VB is a GLOBALG.A.P. licensed Farm Assurer (see definition in Annex I.4 of GLOBALG.A.P. Definitions) that has signed a license agreement with GLOBALG.A.P and acquired the rights from producers to upload and/or register these producer activities in the GLOBALG.A.P database.</p> <p>The CB/VB shall appoint an in-house trainer (IHT) who shall complete an IHT training, as provided by GLOBALG.A.P. for the relevant add-on when offered.</p> <p>The IHT shall be responsible for ensuring that all the CB's/VB's registered Impact-Driven Approach-add-on assessors comply with the required qualification criteria.</p> <p>Assessors shall take part in an internal training on the Impact-Driven Approach-add-on provided by the CB/VB-approved IHT.</p> |
| <b>Add-on Fees</b>   | Any additional fees that may apply for the different add-ons.                                    | <p>Producer fees for this add-on will be charged in addition to the normal registration and certificate license fees for the IFA or registration fee for PFA standard (see general GLOBALG.A.P. fee table). The producer shall not pay any fees directly to GLOBALG.A.P. Fees are payable to the VB/CBs.</p> <p>Fees for CB: Scope extension fee of €500 annually (waived for 2020)</p> <p>Add-on fees for producers: See Annex 3.</p>   |

| <b>Section</b><br>(Numbering Based on GLOBALG.A.P. General Add-on Rules) | <b>General Add-on Rule</b> | <b>Requirements for the Impact-Driven Approach Add-on</b>   |
|--|----------------------------|---|
| Any additional rule/requirement not mentioned in this document:          |                            | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Producers shall register with a CB/VB for the add-on.</li> <li>2. Producers shall register with an FMS that has an agreement with GLOBALG.A.P. (listed on the GLOBALG.A.P. website).</li> <li>3. Data shall be shared with GLOBALG.A.P. on a monthly basis via the FMS.</li> <li>4. During the audit/inspection, the producer shall provide the chosen CB/VB access to records for the purpose of confirming evidence as found during on-site inspections/assessments.</li> <li>5. CBs/VBs that wish to be approved to conduct DDA add-on assessments shall send a signed letter of intent to <a href="mailto:radoslavov@globalgap.org">radoslavov@globalgap.org</a></li> </ol>   |
|  |                            | Remote assessments: This add-on follows the same process as outlined in the IFA standard.   |
| <b>Transfer between CB</b>   |                            | <p>The producer may change CB/VB any time unless it is stipulated otherwise in the contract between the producer and the CB/VB. The producer may change CB/VB only if there is an agreement between the producer and the outgoing CB/VB and may not change CB/VB if there is a pending sanction. The pending sanction may be a result of the assessment outcome or because of non-transferring data or other contractual nonconformance like non-payment. When the transfer is possible, it may be done when the producer has accepted or compliant status. The original cycle (established by the outgoing CB/VB) should be taken over by the incoming CB/VB. Transfer may not be used to further postpone the one-year deadline of digitally registering data prior to get the assessment</p> |

## ANNEX 1 – DATA ACCESS RULES FOR THE IMPACT-DRIVEN APPROACH ADD-ON

### DATA ACCESS RULES

The assessment data access rules for this add-on are the same as for the IFA or the PFA standard, except that the following product statuses are visible to the public, market participants, and VB/CB:

- a) “Not Confirmed”: Producer enters the program (registers with VB/CB, and with FMS)
- b) “Accepted”: Producer starts to register data in the FMS
- c) “Compliant”: After month 3, producer is inspected by VB/CB and fulfills all requirements
- d) “Product Suspended”: Producer either did not pass the inspection or stopped sending data (for a maximum of 3 consecutive months)
- e) “Annulled”: The acceptance cycle expires and the producer is not reconfirmed for the next cycle
- f) “Self-Declared Suspension”: A producer or producer group may voluntarily ask the respective CB/VB(s) for a suspension of one, several, or all of the products covered by the letter of conformance (unless a CB has already imposed a sanction). This can occur if the producer experiences difficulty with compliance to the standard and needs time to close any non-conformance.

This chapter refers to the visibility that different actors have on the status of a producer. Data that is digitally registered through the FMS and received by GLOBALG.A.P. in its Impact-Driven Approach IT system is processed internally and returned to the producer through the FMS. GLOBALG.A.P. does not disclose or share any of this information to any stakeholder other than the FMS and the producer themselves.

**ANNEX 2 – GLOBALG.A.P. IMPACT-DRIVEN APPROACH ADD-ON LETTER OF CONFORMANCE  
TEMPLATE**

CB Logo

GGN/LGN: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

## IMPACT-DRIVEN APPROACH ADD-ON LETTER OF CONFORMANCE

According to the Impact-Driven Approach add-on

**Option X**

Issued to

Producer group/producer  
Company name, address

**Country of production**

The annex contains details of the producer/producer group included in the scope of this letter of conformance.

The certification body/verification body [Company Name] declares that the production of the products mentioned on this letter of conformance has been found to be compliant in accordance with the Impact-Driven Approach add-on:

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| Product | Scope, Sub-scope, or Product | Number of Producers |
|---------|------------------------------|---------------------|
|         |                              |                     |

**Name of the inspector/auditor (assessor):**

**Date of assessment:**

**Valid from: xx/xx/xxxx**

**Valid to: xx/xx/xxxx**

**CB contact data**

Company name, address (incl. e-mail)

**Authorized by**  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date of approval decision: xx/xx/xxxx**

**ANNEX for GGN/LGN xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx**

**Date of issue: xx/xx/xxxx**

**Producer Group Members (Option 2)**

| GGN or GLN<br>or LGN | Producer Name and Address | Product(s) |
|----------------------|---------------------------|------------|
|                      |                           |            |
|                      |                           |            |
|                      |                           |            |

### ANNEX 3 – FEE TABLE

Impact-Driven Approach to Sustainability add-on (for Flowers and Ornamentals) fees

| Farm Size<br>Total Productive Hectares<br>Covered and Non-Covered | IDA Add-on |
|---|------------|
| < 0.5   | €50        |
| > 0.5 – < 2   | €75        |
| > 2 – < 5   | €100       |
| > 5 – < 15  | €150       |
| > 15 – < 100  | €175       |
| > 100   | €200       |