



INTRODUCING IFA V6



IFA v6 is **GLOBALG.A.P.**'s flagship standard in a new and improved format. It has a simplified structure and language, extended criteria on key issues such as sustainability and animal welfare, and – for the first time – continuous improvement at producer level. Overall, it's a smarter standard, fit for the future.

Elmé Coetzer-Boersma
Managing Director





DEVELOPMENT OF IFA V6 FOR FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

- GLOBALG.A.P. standards are developed **by the industry, for the industry.**
- To develop IFA v6 for fruit and vegetables, **four public consultation** periods took place over **two years.** All stakeholders from the industry were invited to participate and give feedback.
- There were **79 virtual World Consultation Tour** meetings on fruit and vegetables topics.
- We received over **2,300 comments** on the IFA v6 for fruit and vegetables documents.
- The revised standard addresses the **needs and demands of the market.**





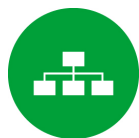
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – WHAT IS IFA V6?

IFA v6 is the **latest revision of GLOBALG.A.P.'s flagship standard, IFA.**

It takes a **holistic approach** to farm assurance through the following topics:



FOOD
SAFETY



LEGAL, MANAGEMENT,
TRACEABILITY



PRODUCTION
PROCESSES



ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY



ANIMAL HEALTH
AND WELFARE



WORKERS'
WELL-BEING



RESPONSIBLE FARMING PRACTICES



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – WHAT IS IFA V6?

IFA v6 for fruit and vegetables covers the **entire primary production process**.

Principles and criteria include topics such as:



FOOD
SAFETY



BIODIVERSITY
AND HABITATS



WASTE
MANAGEMENT



WATER
MANAGEMENT



MANAGEMENT
AND TRACEABILITY



ENERGY
EFFICIENCY



FERTILIZERS
AND
BIOSTIMULANTS



INTEGRATED
PEST
MANAGEMENT



PLANT
PROTECTION
PRODUCTS



WORKERS' HEALTH,
SAFETY, AND
WELFARE



HYGIENE



TRACEABILITY



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – WHAT IS IFA V6?

Topic	Goal
Management	Continuous integration of site-specific knowledge and practical experience
Traceability	Reconcile products with the implemented practices and distinguish certified from noncertified products*
Workers' health, safety, and welfare	Ensure safe working conditions and competence developed through training
Biodiversity	Enhance biodiversity on the farm to benefit from ecological services
Hygiene and food safety	Mitigate risks associated with primary production processes
Fertilizers and biostimulants	Protect soil and promote efficient plant nutrition in a way that minimizes negative environmental impact
Water management	Promote the efficient use and protection of water sources
Integrated pest management	Protect the crop while minimizing the risk of toxicity
Plant protection products	Complement plant protection through the proper and safe use of authorized products
Waste management	Avoid pollution, ensure that waste is disposed of properly, and that recycling practices are in place
Energy efficiency	Optimize energy use, minimize nonrenewables and greenhouse gas emissions

* The term "certified products" refers to products originating from a farm with GLOBALG.A.P. certified production processes.



EXPECTED LAUNCH DATES

26 April 2022:

Launch of IFA v6 (interim version)
Publication of **English** documents

Q2 2022:

Launch of IFA v6 (interim version) in further languages

- German and Spanish

September 2022:

Launch of IFA v6 (final version)

- German, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Dutch, French, Japanese

Date TBC

Launch of further scopes/product categories TBC



THE MAIN CHANGES

Compared to version 5

- Certificates **issued at scope level**
- Some key changes to the **GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations**
- Transition from a prescriptive to an **outcome-oriented approach**
- Streamlined, **customized checklists**
- Stronger focus on **environmental/sustainability issues**
- Introduction of a **continuous improvement plan** for producers
- **Two IFA v6 editions:** one adapted for GFSI recognition





SCOPES AND PRODUCT CATEGORIES

An explanation

- IFA v6 is available for **multiple scopes and product categories**.
- Each product category has its own **checklist**.
- The crops scope is now called **plants**.
- Sub-scopes are now called **product categories**.
- IFA v6 was published on 26 April 2022 for the **following scopes and product categories**:



Fruit and
vegetables
(plants scope)



Hops
(plants scope)



Flowers and
ornamentals
(plants scope)



Finfish, crustaceans,
molluscs, and seaweed
(aquaculture scope)



SCOPES AND PRODUCT CATEGORIES

Changes to certificates and accreditation

- For IFA v6, certificates are issued at **scope level**.

For example, if a producer gets certified for both fruit and vegetables and flowers and ornamentals, they will receive **one certificate for plants** – with **fruits and vegetables and flowers and ornamentals listed as product categories**.

- Certification bodies (CBs) will need to get **accreditation on scope level**.

There will be one bigger training and test per scope, and **no product category (sub-scope) limitation later**. There is no registration, approval, witness, maintenance of competency, or minimum number of audits per product category (sub-scope).

Product categories that are not part of the initial launch in April 2022 will not form a part of the expanded training and will therefore have to be completed at a later date when the relevant product category becomes available.





IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE GLOBALG.A.P. GENERAL REGULATIONS

- Self-assessment contains **comments for all not applicable and non-compliant Major Must and Minor Must principles and criteria** (i.e., no comments for all Recommendations and Major/Minor Musts that have been complied with).
- 10% of audits by CBs must be **unannounced**. This 10% no longer counts as additional audits, but is included in the original number of certification audits.
- **Three-year cycle rule** (with annual on-site audit) further reduces the content of the checklist to the applicable points and shortens the on-site audit duration.
 - Initial audit (for v6): All requirements are included in the **applicable checklists** (quality management system (QMS) and farm).
 - Subsequent 2 (operational items, as identified in the checklist)
 - Subsequent 3 (operational items, as identified in the checklist)



OUTCOME-ORIENTED APPROACH

What is it?

The IFA v6 approach focuses on the **outcomes achieved, rather than the specific measures**. This provides greater flexibility as it allows producers to demonstrate compliance in a way that is most appropriate for their production practices.

“Control points” and “compliance criteria” from IFA v5 are therefore replaced by “**principles**” and “**criteria**” in IFA v6.

Principles are graded as Major Musts, Minor Musts, or Recommendations.

Principles

- **Rules** that set the foundation of a GLOBALG.A.P. requirement.
- **Statement** instead of question form.
- Describe the **outcome** to achieve.

Criteria

- **Methods** that producers can use to demonstrate a principle to be true.
- Compliance can be evidenced by **data**, a **procedure**, a **record**, etc.



STREAMLINED, CUSTOMIZED CHECKLISTS

How is this achieved?

- **Reduced number** of principles and criteria in IFA v6 compared to IFA v5.

Level	V5	V6 Smart	V6 GFS
Major Musts	93	102	117
Minor Musts	114	68	54
Recommendations	15	20	20
Total	222	190	191

- Principles and criteria which are not applicable due to the **producer's risk assessment of the production practices** will already be labeled as N/A in the checklist. This means that the **checklists are now customized** to some extent, according to a producer's specific situation.



CUSTOMIZED PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA IN PRACTICE

An example

Risk

Irrigation system on farm

Accompanying principles and criteria

E.g., “Tools are routinely used to calculate and optimize crop irrigation” and “Restrictions indicated in water/permits are complied with.”

Reason for being not applicable

The producer only uses rainwater on their farm and no irrigation system.

Solution

Principles and criteria related to irrigation systems are marked as not applicable on the checklist for this producer.



A STRONGER FOCUS ON SUSTAINABILITY

How?

Environmental sustainability is a major focus of IFA v6.

While some principles and criteria have been developed based on the control points and compliance criteria from IFA v5, some topics are **new or more rigorous**.

New sustainability topics in IFA v6:

- Greenhouse gases and climate change
- Ecosystem restoration
- Food waste management
- Plastics management
- Carbon neutrality
- Deforestation prevention
- Animal welfare
- The farm as an agricultural ecosystem
- Continuous improvement

Updated sustainability topics in IFA v6:

- Biodiversity
- Integrated pest management
- Soil management and conservation
- Water management
- Energy efficiency
- Waste management
- Fertilizers
- Plant protection products



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT AT FARM LEVEL

New for IFA v6

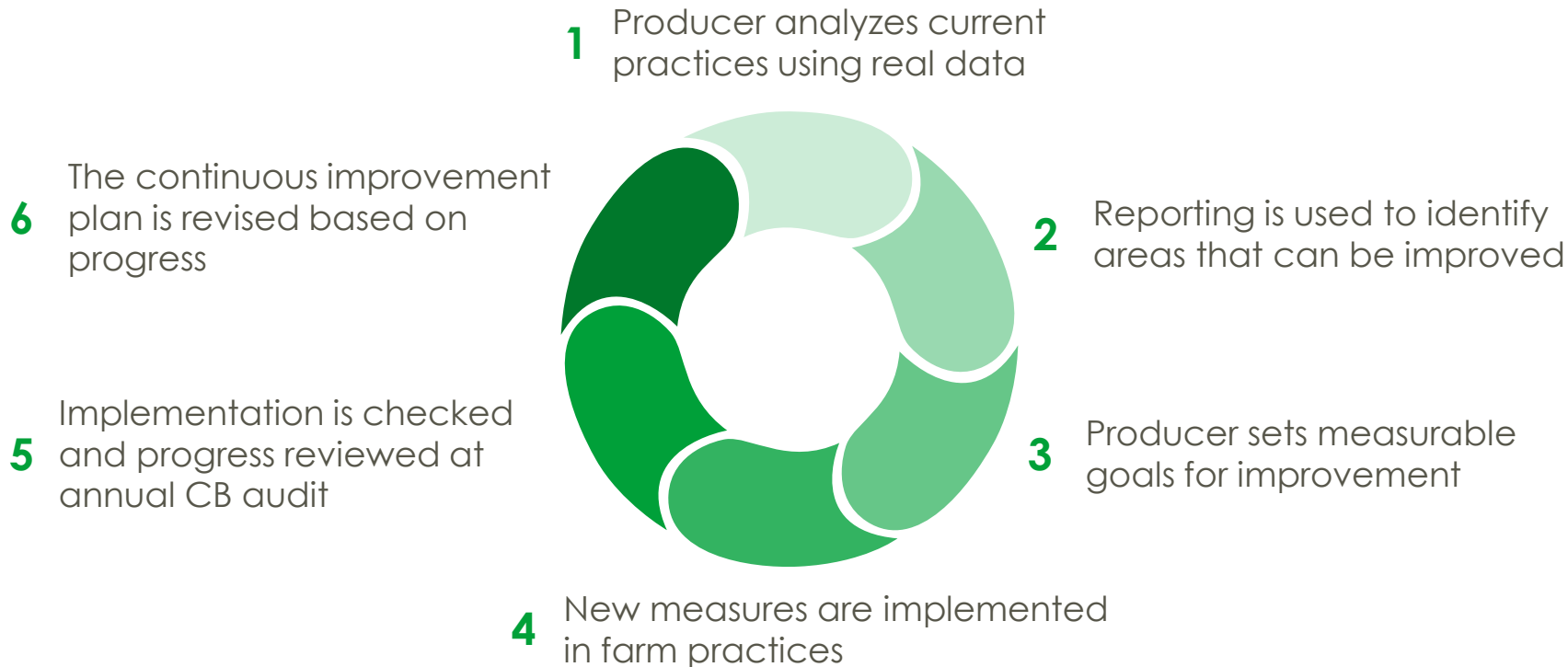
“Continuous improvement” used to mean updating farm assurance standards regularly to get better and better. In IFA v6, for the first time, continuous improvement will be relevant on an **individual producer level**.

- Producers are required to implement a plan to **analyze current practices**.
- They then **identify “hot spots”** and **set clear, measurable goals** for improvement in this area, e.g., improve energy efficiency, reduce use of plant protection product X.
- Year-on-year, producers demonstrate their efforts towards improving sustainability, food safety, and workers’ well-being.



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT AT FARM LEVEL

New for IFA v6





WORKERS' WELL-BEING

New for IFA v6

There is evidence that the provided **personal protective equipment (PPE)** is used by the workers.

Workers are informed of their rights related to the standard and there is a grievance mechanism available and implemented through which workers can file concerns in a confidential way and without fear of retaliation.





TWO IFA V6 EDITIONS

An explanation

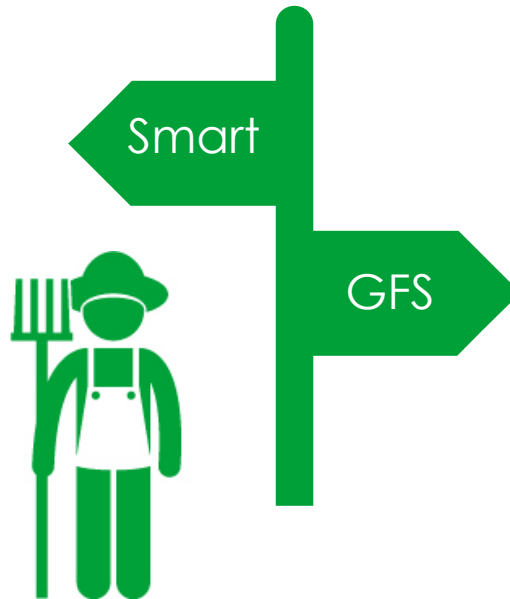
- IFA v6 will be available in **two editions**:

IFA v6 Smart and IFA v6 GFS

- They are available **in parallel** and are **equally valid**.



When referring to IFA v6:
If an edition is not specified
by name (Smart/GFS),
both IFA v6 editions
are meant.





TWO IFA V6 EDITIONS

Why?

- Until now, all IFA versions have been **GFSI recognized** (for fruit and vegetables and aquaculture).
- GFSI has requirements that are **not relevant for all producers**, and which change frequently. The requirements restrict the ways in which GLOBALG.A.P. standards can be written and implemented.
- It is not possible to offer IFA v6 checklists that are **simplified, outcome-oriented, and customized** and which also fulfill GFSI requirements perfectly.
- Feedback from stakeholders during public consultation – including producer and retailer members in the GLOBALG.A.P. technical committees – showed a preference for **flexible IFA options**, rather than reducing v6 ambitions to retain GFSI recognition.
- To continue providing options for all producers, GLOBALG.A.P. is offering two IFA v6 editions. **IFA v6 Smart** will not be submitted to GFSI benchmarking. This flagship edition is appropriate for most producers. The second edition (**IFA v6 GFS**) has been adapted for GFSI requirements.



TWO IFA V6 EDITIONS

An overview

IFA v6 Smart



Flagship edition,
broadly applicable



By stakeholders,
for stakeholders



Six topics for
responsible farming
practices



100% outcome-oriented,
customized checklists; accepted
for BRC and IFS certified post-farm
gate product handling units

Why *Smart*?

The name resulted from a need to differentiate between the two different editions. “Smart” is a commercial name. Since this edition fully embodies our vision of GLOBALG.A.P. smart solutions for the coming years*, using “Smart” as the name for our flagship edition felt like the natural choice! The other edition is distinguished by the GFSI elements and is identified with the “GFS” tag.

*See our vision for the future in the download entitled “Smart farm assurance solutions”



TWO IFA V6 EDITIONS

An overview

IFA v6 GFS



Applicable for smaller number of producers



Driven largely by US markets



Six topics for responsible farming practices



Adapted for GFSI recognition (not 100% outcome-oriented); accepted for BRC and IFS certified post-farm gate product handling units



The application for **GFSI benchmarking** for IFA v6 GFS will take place in mid 2022.



TWO IFA V6 EDITIONS

Scopes and product categories



IFA v6
Smart

- Producers who do not require certification with GFSI recognition

IFA v6
GFS



- Producers who require certification with GFSI recognition (mostly US markets)



TWO IFA V6 EDITIONS

A comparison

Similarities	Differences
Both have evolved from IFA v5 with full support from GLOBALG.A.P. technical committees.	V6 Smart is intended for the majority of producers, v6 GFS is specifically adapted for GFSI .
Same six topics , same holistic approach.	GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations for the GFS edition have a few extra requirements.
The topics of environmental sustainability, animal health and welfare, and workers' well-being are covered in the same way in both editions.	The principles and criteria relating to the topics of legal, management and traceability, food safety, and production processes are more prescriptive to accommodate GFSI benchmarking.
Content and user experience have been aligned as closely as possible.	Less than 15% of the principles and criteria in the GFS and Smart editions differ from each other. There is one extra principle and respective criteria in the GFS edition for fruit and vegetables (190 vs. 191 total).
Both editions are accepted for BRC and IFS certified post-farm gate product handling units	Compliance levels: The GFS edition has 15 more principles and criteria graded as Major Musts, while the corresponding points in the Smart edition are Minor Musts.
	Recertification audit: Remote audit (fully remote) is included as an emergency procedure for the Smart edition only. Initial certification based on a fully remote audit is not possible.



TWO IFA V6 EDITIONS

A comparison

IFA v6 principle	Difference in level/principle and criteria wording*
FV 01.01	Level; principle and criteria wording
FV 01.02	Level
FV 01.03	Principle and criteria wording
FV 02.02	Level
FV 03.01	Level; principle and criteria
FV 05.01	Level; principle and criteria
FV 05.02	Level
FV 11.01	Principle and criteria wording
FV 12.01	Level; principle and criteria
FV 13.01	Principle and criteria wording
FV 13.03	Principle and criteria wording
FV 14.01	Principle and criteria wording
FV 15.01	Level; principle and criteria
FV 16.01	Level; principle and criteria
FV 19.01	Principle and criteria wording
FV 19.07	Level
FV 25.01	Principle and criteria wording
FV 30.01.01	Principle and criteria wording
FV 32.07.02	Principle and criteria wording
FV 33.01.03	Level
FV 33.01.04	Principle and criteria wording
FV 33.02.02	Principle and criteria wording
FV 33.03.01	Level
FV 33.05.01	Level
FV 33.06.01	Level; principle and criteria
FV 33.07.01	This principle and its respective criteria does not exist in IFA v6 Smart

Where differences in level exist, the principles and criteria are Major Musts in IFA v6 GFS and Minor Musts in IFA v6 Smart.



GLOBAL G.A.P.

IFA V6 AND THE NEW ERA OF SMART FARM ASSURANCE SOLUTIONS

How will it impact you?





ELIGIBILITY

- Covers **hundreds of products**
- Covers **all types of production systems**, e.g., hydroponics and covered or uncovered production areas
- Get certified in **any country** where a GLOBALG.A.P. approved CB is willing to conduct an audit
- **Smallholders and large-scale producers** – certification options for every size and type of farm





WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

Streamlined, customized checklists

Outcome-oriented approach

Digital, data-driven certification

Certificates issued at scope level

Flexibility with choice of two editions

Higher level of integrity behind
GLOBALG.A.P. certificates

Stronger focus on sustainability
and animal welfare

Continuous improvement plan



IFA V6 AND SMART FARM ASSURANCE SOLUTIONS

Benefits for producers

- **Streamlined, customized checklists**
Removal of irrelevant and duplicated principles and criteria reduces audit burden. Simpler, more efficient, and customized for the producer – reduced audit time.
- **Transition from a prescriptive to an outcome-oriented approach**
Focus on outcomes over measures means flexibility in demonstrating compliance. Enhanced standards and sustainability requirements are more attractive to buyers.
- **Introduction of a continuous improvement plan**
Aids the identification of target areas to improve by analyzing practices. Improves farming practices holistically and reduces environmental impact.
- **Choose the IFA v6 edition that best suits your needs**
Two parallel editions with the option of GFSI recognition for producers who require it.



IFA V6 AND SMART FARM ASSURANCE SOLUTIONS

Benefits for supply chain stakeholders

- **Stronger focus on sustainability issues**
New and updated requirements on topics such as plastics, waste, carbon neutrality, etc.
Reduced environmental impact increasingly important to consumers.
- **Simplified benchmarking for clarity in the market**
Only equivalent approved modified checklists or benchmarked schemes.
Removal of “resembling” option.
- **Greater integrity**
Uniform certificates are generated in a closed system and validated online.

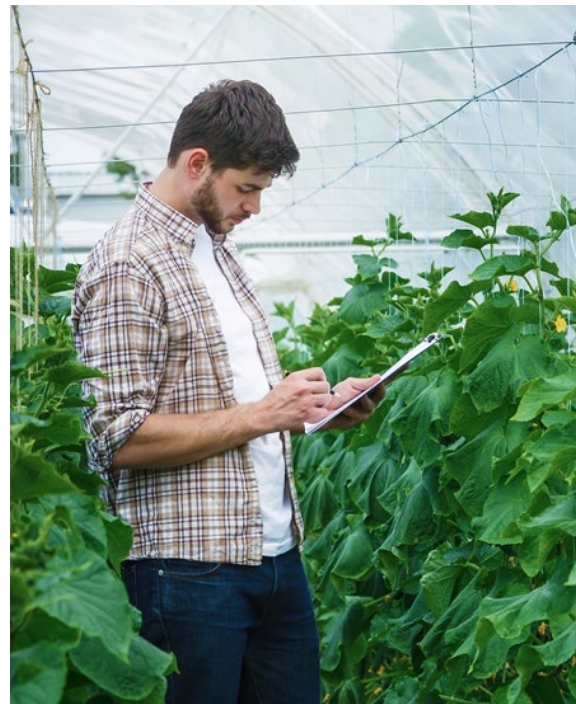




IFA V6 AND SMART FARM ASSURANCE SOLUTIONS

Benefits for CBs

- **A more digital, data-driven certification experience**
Use of Audit Online Hub to upload audit data and generate reports.
Electronically issued certificates through Validation Service.
Reduced audit time and environmental impact from less paper use.
- **Certificates issued at scope level**
Streamlined process with listed product categories rather than multiple certificates.
Stronger integrity of certificates through Validation Service.
- **Easier accreditation and auditor qualification**
Expanded initial training and test without product category limitation later.
Removal of minimum number of audits per product category (product categories are merged into scopes)





GLOBALG.A.P.

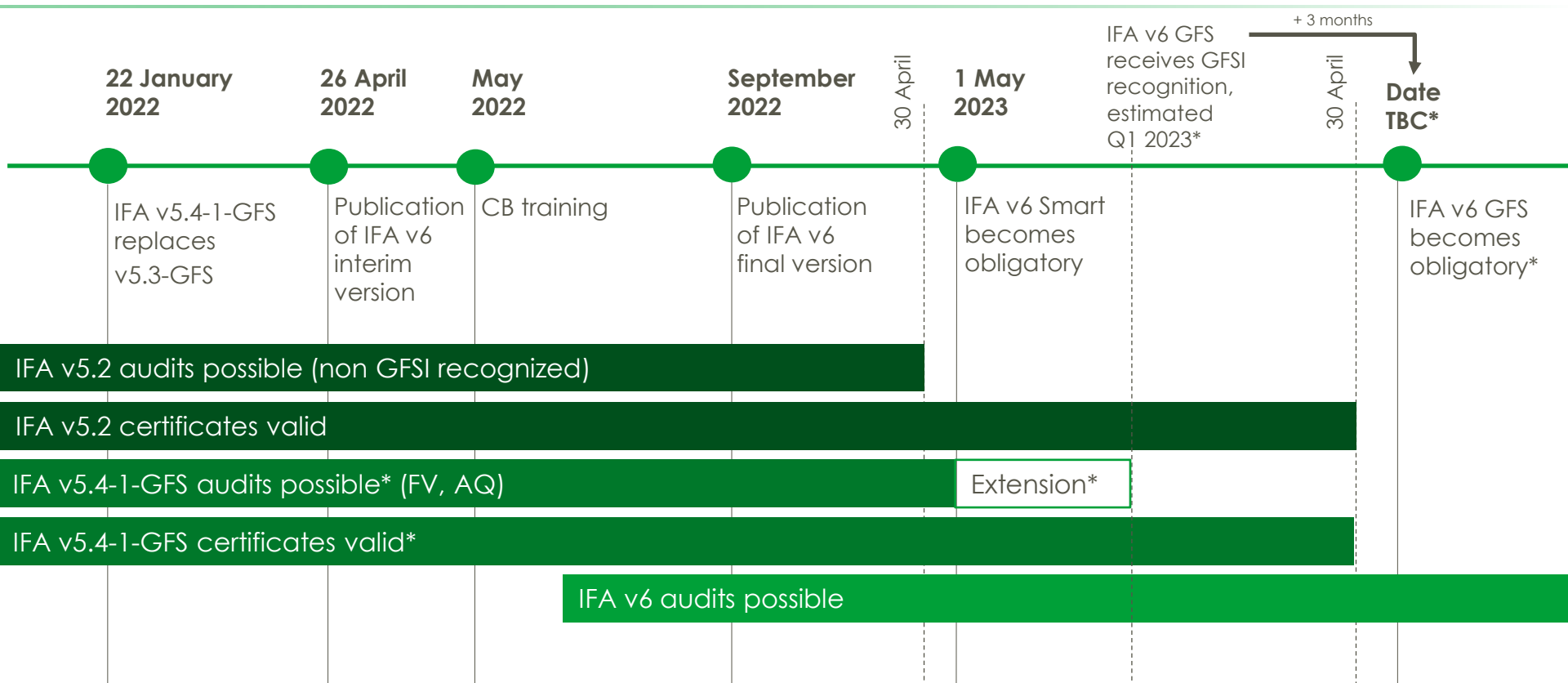
FAQs

IFA v6 in the smart era





WHAT IS THE TRANSITION PERIOD FROM IFA V5 TO V6



*V5.4-1-GFS remains valid until **three months after** IFA v6 GFS receives GFSI recognition. The exact date for this is still unknown.



TWO IFA V6 EDITIONS

Differences in GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations for producers

Additional rules for *individual producers* in IFA v6 GFS:

- Zero hours advance warning for unannounced CB audits
- Four months certificate validity extension is only possible with additional conditions



TWO IFA V6 EDITIONS

Differences in GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations for producers

Additional rules for *producer groups and multisite producers with QMS in IFA v6 GFS*:

- Four months certificate validity extension is only possible with additional conditions
- Zero hours advance warning for the 10% unannounced CB QMS audits
- No sampling for producer group members/multisite producers/product handling units classified as high-risk
 - High-risk products include fresh herbs, leafy greens, berries, cantaloupe melons
 - High-risk processes include postharvest use of water/ice/steam, preharvest and/or harvest activities where water touches the edible part of the product, preharvest use of raw organic manure applied less than 60 days before harvest
- The internal QMS auditor, the internal farm auditors, and the QMS manager must be independent from the producer group members/production sites



TWO IFA V6 EDITIONS

Differences in GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations for producers

- Annual management review and food safety policy declaration
- At least 25% of the audit sample shall be random
- At least 20% of producer group members/production sites that are audited during the certification cycle shall be audited unannounced
- The CB may additionally issue GLOBALG.A.P. certificates to producer group members if those producers were audited as part of the sample



TWO IFA V6 EDITIONS

Which is right for me as a producer?

How does a producer know which edition to use?

What role do buyer requirements play in the decision?

- Customer requirements normally determine the standard or edition that a producer will implement. Therefore, communication between the producer and their customer(s) is key. If a producer is not clear on customer requirements, the best approach is to ask the customer directly regarding topics such as which edition is required, which standard, which version, etc.

Can a producer obtain certification for Smart and GFS editions for different products?

- Yes, it is possible to have production processes certified to IFA v6 Smart for one product, and IFA v6 GFS for another. This can be done in one CB audit.

Is switching between the two editions possible?

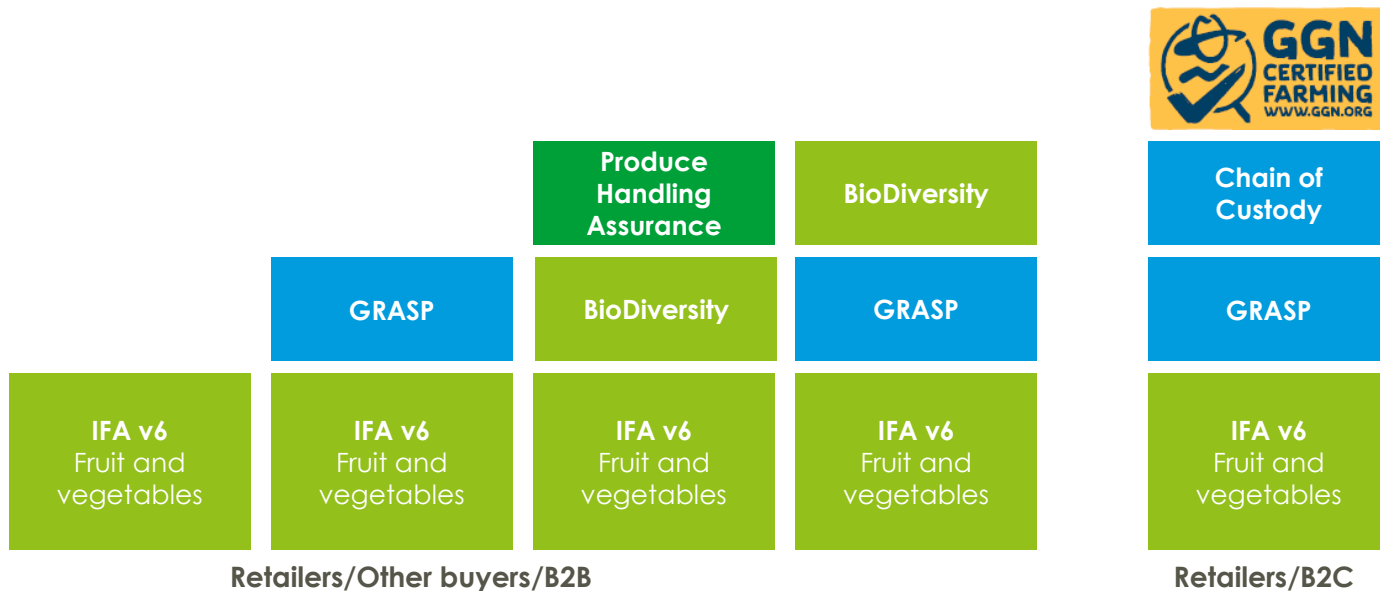
- Yes, switching between the IFA v6 Smart and IFA v6 GFS editions is possible.



IFA V6 FOR FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Part of a portfolio of solutions

Combine add-ons and assurance as required. For example:





TRANSPARENCY

GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems

Certification status is visible in the **GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems**.

Additional audit information may be visible depending on data access rights.

GGN	Reg.No	Company Type	Name1/Last Name	Name2/First Name	ZIP	City	Federal State				
4059883082586	SGS IN 170009	Producer	JFE Life Corporation		111-0051	Taito-ku	Tokyo				
Integrated Farm Assurance (IFA)											
Certification Body / Producer Group	Name1	Name2	Scheme	Certificate (online)		Certificate (PDF)		Other Information			
				Current	Next	Current	Next				
SGS IN	SGS India Pvt. Ltd.		GLOBALG.A.P.	de en		de en					
Crop based Fruit and Vegetables											
Product	GLOBALG.A.P. certificate no.	Cycle	Status	Certified/assessed process	Checklist	Valid to	Scheme GR	Scheme CPCC	Option	Multisite	Countries of destination
Lettuce	00096-HLFLF-0003	Current	certified	Yes	No checklists available.	27/07/2022	GLOBALG.A.P. GR version 5.2	GLOBALG.A.P. IFA CPCC version 5.2	1	Multisite w/o QMS	JPN, THA
Attributes current cycle											
Harvest Included	Included										
Product Handling	Facility										
Parallel Production (PP)?	No										
Unannounced reward program	No, annual announced inspection										
Parallel Ownership (PO)?	Yes										
Assessment conducted remotely?	N/A										

Audit information

Certificate expiration date

Countries of destination



TWO IFA V6 EDITIONS

Differences in GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations for CBs

Additional rules for CBs in v6 GFS:

- **Additional requirements for initial training** (before sign-off) and **maintenance of competency** by the CB.
- CBs shall **provide the final CB audit report to the producer**, including the completed audit checklist generated by Audit Online Hub if requested by the producer, within five working days of its completion.
- Additional rules for **defining high-risk products and high-risk processes** for producer group members.
- At least 25% of the square root sample of the actual number of producer group members/production sites shall be **randomly selected**.



TWO IFA V6 EDITIONS

Consequences for CBs

Have the requirements changed?

- There are **no new requirements** for CBs/auditors to qualify for the **IFA v6 GFS** edition compared to **IFA v5.4-1-GFS**.

When CBs apply for accreditation, are they accredited for both editions?

- The two accreditations (IFA v6 Smart and IFA v6 GFS) can be gained **simultaneously**.



FIVE STEPS TO CERTIFICATION

- 1 Download the documents from the GLOBALG.A.P. website**
GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations and the IFA principles and criteria for fruit and vegetables
- 2 Implement the standard requirements and perform a self-assessment**
Registered Trainers can provide assistance during audit preparations
- 3 Contact a GLOBALG.A.P. approved CB and request an audit**
Search the full list of approved CBs by region, country, scope, and status
- 4 CB performs on-site audit and uploads results to Audit Online Hub**
All non-compliances must be corrected within 28 days and verified by the CB
- 5 Receive a GLOBALG.A.P. IFA certificate for the relevant scope**
Certification status is visible in the GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems