Section 1 - Ownership, Development and Maintenance

Name of Certification Programme: GLOBALG.A.P. IFA v5.4 **0**

GFSI Benchmarking Requirements version 2020.1			CPO self assessment	Benchmark leader assessment	
1.1	Ownership	The Certification Programme Owner shall be a legal entity, or a partnership of legal entities.	Financial and legal ownership and responsibility for FoodPLUS GmbH is held by the EHI Retail Institute via its 100% subsidiary EHI-Verwaltungsgesellschaft mbH. The EHI Retail Institute also operates the European Retail Academy, a global network of research institutes linked to retail activities and topics. Documented evidence will be provided to GFSI.	yes	
1.2	Ownership	The Certification Programme Owner shall have the authority to establish and amend the Certification Programme.	Please see the governance documentation on the website: https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/who-we-are/governance/index.html Quote from website: "The GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat supports the work of the Board and all the committees. This function is fulfilled by FoodPLUS GmbH, a private limited company based in Cologne, Germany, that acts as a single management platform for GLOBALG.A.P. The executive management of FoodPLUS GmbH, i.e. its Managing Director, bears responsibility for the implementation of policies and standards, as well as facilitates the GLOBALG.A.P. benchmarking process, manages the GLOBALG.A.P. Database and enforces the decisions made by the ISC. Financial and legal ownership and responsibility for FoodPLUS GmbH is held by the EHI Retail Institute via its 100% subsidiary EHI-Verwaltungsgesellschaft mbH. The EHI Retail Institute also operates the European Retail Academy, a global network of research institutes linked to retail activities and topics." Documentation of legal ownesrship will be provided to GFSI.	yes	
1.3	Ownership	The Certification Programme Owner shall neither have conformity assessment nor certification activities for the Certification Programme. In particular, the Certification Programme shall not be developed, managed or owned by a Certification Body or group of Certification Bodies.	Please see the governance documentation on the website: https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/who-we-are/governance/index.html Quote from website: Financial and legal ownership and responsibility for FoodPLUS GmbH is held by the EHI Retail Institute via its 100% subsidiary EHI-Verwaltungsgesellschaft mbH. The EHI Retail Institute also operates the European Retail Academy, a global network of research institutes linked to retail activities and topics." GLOBALG.A.P partners with Certification Bodies, but does not own a CB nor it it owned by a CB. The relationship held to CBs if explained on our website, noting the parternship without ownership: https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/what-we-do/the-gg-system/certification/Approved-CBs/index.html	yes	
1.4	Ownership	The Certification Programme Owner shall not provide any consultancy on their Certification Programme.	GLOBALG.A.P. does not offer consulting services to producers or other entitites. We do offer a training program for private and independent consultants on our standard through the Farm Assurer Program. No other consulting services are offered, advertised, or supported by the corporate functions. Quote from website: "Farm Assurers are independent, GLOBALG.A.P. trained and approved consultants who provide expertise to help producers implement Good Agricultural Practices. With first-hand knowledge about the GLOBALG.A.P. System and the latest industry developments, they make the standard easier to understand and help simplify audit preparations." https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/what-we-do/the-gg-system/gg-farm-assurers/#	yes	

1.5	Self-promotion	The certification process shall not be 'self-promoting' or 'self-expanding' by mandating that products or services from the certified organisation shall contain components which are certified under a Certification Programme owned by the Certification Programme Owner.	Evidence of this can be found in review of the CPCCs, which do not endorse specific services or products owned or managed by GLOBALG.A.P. All Certification Bodies meeting the requirements for acceptance are allowed to offer the GLOBALG.A.P. standard. Each standard is a stand-alone, with voluntary add-ons based upon market requirements (e.g GRASP, FSMA, etc. are not mandated by the general IFA standard)	yes	
1.6	Product Labelling	The Certification Programme Owner shall not allow products produced under the conforming Certification Programme to be labelled, marked or described in any manner which implies they meet specific food safety criteria.	GR Part I, Annex I.1, 1 iii) - The GLOBALG.A.P. trademark shall never appear on the product, consumer packaging of products intended for human consumption or at the point of sale where it is in direct connection with single products. 151005:GG:Licence_and_Certification_Agreement_V4.2.en.pdf 2.8e, p8 3. OWNERSHIP OF THE TRADEMARK AND THE QR CODE LOGO 3.1 The Trademark and the QR Code Logo licensed hereunder are the sole property of GLOBALG.A.P. During the term of this Agreement and thereafter, CB/VB shall not attack GLOBALG.A.P.'s title to the mark, or aid others in questioning or disrupting the validity of the marks or this Agreement; and that all use of the mark by CB/VB inures to the benefit of GLOBALG.A.P. 3.2 CB/VB shall provide documents and information reasonably necessary with respect to activities required to maintain GLOBALG.A.P.'s rights in the Trademark and the QR Code Logo, and to confirm GLOBALG.A.P. license ownership of those rights. CB/VB shall cooperate with GLOBALG.A.P. in obtaining and maintaining applications and registrations as may be required, for example by providing usage information. 150227_GG_Sublicence-and-Certification-Agreement_V4_en.pdf 4.12, p7 GLOBALG.A.P. License and Certification Agreement 4.12 CP shall not use the Trademark, GGN, LGN, CoC Number and the QR Code Logo in any manner that discredits or tarnishes the reputation or goodwill of GLOBALG.A.P.; is false or misleading; violates the rights of others, any law, regulation, or other public policy; or mischaracterizes the relationship between GLOBALG.A.P. and CB/VB and/or between GLOBALG.A.P. and CP. ------ AF 12.1 - Is the GLOBALG.A.P. word, trademark, GLOBALG.A.P. QR code or logo and the GGN (GLOBALG.A.P. Number) used according to the GLOBALG.A.P. General Regulations and according to the 'Sublicense and Certification Agreement'? The producer/producer group shall use the GLOBALG.A.P. word, trademark, GLOBALG.A.P. QR code or logo and the GGN, GLN or sub-GLN according to the General	yes	

1.7	Product Labelling	The Certification Programme shall specify the use of off-product logo or mark and shall ensure that Certification Bodies communicate those rules to applicant / certified organisations.	CBs sign a License agreement with GLOBALG.A.P., and a sublicense agreement with the producer or producer group. GR Part I, Annex I.1, 1 iii) The GLOBALG.A.P. trademark shall never appear on the product, consumer packaging of products intended for human consumption or at the point of sale where it is in direct connection with single products. 151005:GG:Licence_and_Certification_Agreement_V4.2.en.pdf 2.8e (e) CPs are entitled to use the GLOBALG.A.P. or localg.a.p. name and Trademark and the QR Code Logo in business-to-business communication according to the rules of the applicable Licensed Services as the GLOBALG.A.P. Claim. OWNERSHIP OF THE TRADEMARK AND THE QR CODE LOGO 3.1 The Trademark and the QR Code Logo licensed hereunder are the sole property of GLOBALG.A.P. During the term of this Agreement and thereafter, CB/VB shall not attack GLOBALG.A.P.'s title to the mark, or aid others in questioning or disrupting the validity of the marks or this Agreement; and that all use of the mark by CB/VB inures to the benefit of GLOBALG.A.P. 3.2 CB/VB shall provide documents and information reasonably necessary with respect to activities required to maintain GLOBALG.A.P.'s rights in the Trademark and the QR Code Logo, and to confirm GLOBALG.A.P. license ownership of those rights. CB/VB shall cooperate with GLOBALG.A.P. in obtaining and maintaining applications and registrations as may be required, for example by providing usage information. 150227_GG_Sublicence-and-Certification-Agreement_V4_en.pdf 4.12, It is not allowed to use the GLOBALG.A.P. label to imply that the certified product meets food safety criteria. (iii) The GLOBALG.A.P. trademark shall never appear on the product, consumer packaging of products intended for human consumption or at the point of sale where it is in direct connection with single products.	yes	
1.8	Certification Programme Development and Maintenance	The Certification Programme shall be developed and maintained with the participation of technically competent representatives of direct stakeholders, or be subjected to formal review by such parties and subsequently determined as appropriate.	See explanation of stakeholder input, techincal committeees, and membership-based governance on our website: Quote: " GLOBALG.A.P. Committees: - GLOBALG.A.P. standards and implementation are developed and defined by various Technical Committees, Focus Groups and the Certification Body Committee. National Technical Working Groups support the work of the committees on a local level. The Integrity Surveillance Committee (ISC) assesses integrity issues and certification body non-conformances,defines correctional measures and proposes sanctions." https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/who-we-are/governance/index.html Focus groups are also established when standards are created or updated: https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/who-we-are/governance/focus-groups/ Technical commitees provide feedback and review standard updates: https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/who-we-are/governance/technical-committees/ Local interpretations and input is offered through National Technical Working Groups, with more information found here: https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/who-we-are/ntwgs/	yes	
1.9	Certification Programme Development and Maintenance	The number and interests of the stakeholder representatives involved with the Certification Programme development shall be reflective of the sector(s) of the food supply chain for which the Certification Programme is intended.	Technical working groups are mainatined for Crops, Livestock, Acquaculture, Sytems and Rules, and GRASP : https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/who-we-are/governance/technical-committees/ For Crops, allowable representation from retail members and producers is split evenly.	yes	

1.10	Certification Programme Development and Maintenance	The Certification Programme shall be subjected to extensive stakeholder consultation during its development.	Please see the document "GLOBALG.A.P. Standard Setting Procedure", which outlines the consultation periods and stakeholder participation. The TCs offer input input into standard delevelopment and each standard goes through a period of public comment, as explained in the supporting procedure and evidenced in practice on the webiste. https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/what-we-do/globalg.a.p.-certification/standard-setting/	yes	
1.11	Certification Programme Development and Maintenance	The consultation period shall allow sufficient time for stakeholders to review the Certification Programme under development and send their comments to the Certification Programme Owner.	See "GLOBALG.A.P. Standard Setting Procedure" - Quote from Section 4.3: "The public consultation phase during the development of a standard or module will normally include two rounds of comment submissions by interested parties, each lasting 40 to 60 days. When appropriate justifications are in place, the Board may agree that one round of consultation is sufficient or that three rounds are necessary."	yes	
1.12	Certification Programme Development and Maintenance	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure due consideration to comments received from stakeholders during the consultation.	See "GLOBALG.A.P. Standard Setting Procedure" - Quote from Section 4.3: "In the case of developing a new standard or module, the first round of public consultation shall be after the initial draft proposal as prepared by GLOBALG.A.P. and/or the Focus Group. The second round will be after the completion of a minimum of two trial audits and/or self-assessments in the field. The second round may be shorter based on an acceptable justification." Minutes from all TC meetings where standards are reviewed and updated are kept on file. Evidence of how those decisions are incorproated are evidenced in the minutes. Results of the public consultations are kept on file via Excel sheets. Section 4.5 Feedback and Comments - All comments shall be processed by the Secretariat and discussed by the respective Technical Committee(s) and/or Focus Group. Evidence on how they were evaluated and incorporated shall be kept. The Secretariat shall prepare feedback to the parties who submitted comments, where appropriate. When comments/changes/amendments need to be discussed at Focus Group or Technical Committee level to decide whether it must be included or not, consensus should be reached (see Terms of Reference of respective committees regarding decision-taking).	yes	
1.13	Certification Programme Development and Maintenance	The Certification Programme's normative documents shall be established by consensus and issued using a formalised and documented approval process.	The normative documents consist 1) of the General Regulations: Part I - General Rules Part II - Rules for Multisite with a QMS and Group certfiication Part III - Rules for Certification Bodies and Accreditation Rules In addition there are scope specific rules - Crops Rules, Aquaculture Rules. and 2) of the Standards: Integrated Farm Assurance Fruit and Vegetables Integrated Farm Assurance Aquaculture These documents are developed based on the standard setting policy and procedures. Standard setting procedure: 170925_P_Standard-Setting_Procedure_public_V3_en.pdf	yes	

1.14	Certification Programme Development and Maintenance	The Certification Programme's normative documents shall be appropriately controlled and publicly available. The documents submitted to GFSI shall be translated into English and their translation appropriately controlled.	All GLOBALG.A.P. Standard documents are available online, free of charge and in English. General Regulations Part 1, 2.1 2.1 Document Control a) The latest versions of all normative documents can be downloaded free of charge from the GLOBALG.A.P. website. b) Language: Original documents are in English. GLOBALG.A.P. documents are translated into other languages and published on the GLOBALG.A.P. website. Once published, these official GLOBALG.A.P. documents are the only ones that shall be used for certification in that language. In case of discrepancy between translations, the English version shall prevail. c) Changes to documents: 1. Normative documents are identified with a unique document code and a version number and date. 2. The date in the version name indicates the date of publication of the document. The date in the 'Version/Edition Update Register' indicates the date when the document comes into effect. 3. Version number: A change in the first or second digit (e.g. change from 4.1 to 5.0; or 5.0 to 5.1) indicates changes in the requirements and thus a version change. A change in other digits (e.g. change from 5.0 to 5.0-1) indicates updates that do not introduce changes to the requirements. 4. Updates can be made independently in the GR and CPCC documents. 5. The updates are sent to all GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs as official communications. It is the responsibility of the CBs to inform their clients of such updates. 6. A summary of changes is indicated in the 'Version/Edition Update Register' section. This section is published separately for a version update or at the end of a document for new editions.	yes	

1.15	Certification Programme Development and Maintenance	The Certification Programme's normative documents shall be reviewed and re-issued as appropriate to remain current and address stakeholders' expectations. This shall include revision in accordance with the issuing of new versions and sub-versions of the GFSI Benchmarking Requirements.	All GLOBALG.A.P. Standard documents are available online, free of charge and in English. General Regulations Part 1, 2.1 2.1 Document Control a) The latest versions of all normative documents can be downloaded free of charge from the GLOBALG.A.P. website. b) Language: Original documents are in English. GLOBALG.A.P. documents are translated into other languages and published on the GLOBALG.A.P. website. Once published, these official GLOBALG.A.P. documents are the only ones that shall be used for certification in that language. In case of discrepancy between translations, the English version shall prevail. c) Changes to documents: 1. Normative documents are identified with a unique document code and a version number and date. 2. The date in the version name indicates the date of publication of the document. The date in the 'Version/Edition Update Register' indicates the date when the document comes into effect. 3. Version number: A change in the first or second digit (e.g. change from 4.1 to 5.0; or 5.0 to 5.1) indicates changes in the requirements and thus a version change. A change in other digits (e.g. change from 5.0 to 5.0-1) indicates updates that do not introduce changes to the requirements. 4. Updates can be made independently in the GR and CPCC documents. 5. The updates are sent to all GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs as official communications. It is the responsibility of the CBs to inform their clients of such updates. 6. A summary of changes is indicated in the 'Version/Edition Update Register' section. This section is published separately for a version update or at the end of a document for new editions.	yes	

1.16	Certification Programme Development and Maintenance	The Certification Programme Owner shall inform key stakeholders, including GFSI, of any changes to the Certification Programme, in particular those changes that are relevant to the recognition status of the Certification Programme.	"Working Instruction – Communication Standard Updates and New Developments." Section 3.2 Release of final communication Agreed and finalized text shall then be shared by the project manager on publication of the documents with the following departments for release to the various user groups: • Certification Body Operations (-> target group: certification bodies and accreditation bodies) • Benchmarking (-> target group: benchmarked schemes) • Public Relations team (-> publication to relevant stakeholders) • PA of the CEO (-> target group: Board members), • Standard & development team o NTWG liaison (-> target group: NTWGs) o Support o (-> update of work stream document) o Technical committee coordinator o (-> information to the relevant committees/focus groups) o CSO o (-> information to the Global Food Safety Initiative technical team) The text shall also be shared for general actions needed to: • Management team (VPs and Team Leaders) (-> share with team members as information) • Product manager	yes	
1.17	Certification Programme Development and Maintenance	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that stakeholders and other interested parties can make effective contact with the Certification Programme Owner, or authorised authority, to clarify any interpretation.	All staff member information is available on the website There is a "Contact us" page as well. The Technical Key Account Information is posted, so stakeholders can find someone in their region who speaks the same langauges that they do. There is also a "Comments" page for all public consultation https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/contact/ https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/who-we-are/about-us/The-Team/	yes	
1.18	Documentation requirement	The Certification Programme Owner shall establish, implement and maintain a Quality Management System.	Reference to a Quality Manual and Document Register with relevant procedures to support the GLOBALG.A.P. Quality Management System. Internal audits are done by the CPO on processes associated with standard setting. The integrity program rigorously manages the quality of supporting Certification Bodies. Reports from the integrity program will be provided, as well as a description of how the integrity program (termed CIRPO) functions. Audits conducted by CIPRO are available for review, and trends captured. All functions relating to standard setting are central - with a single standards team based under the direction of one VP controlling all final reviews and standards devisions.	yes	

1.19	Complaint procedure	The Certification Programme Owner shall implement an effective documented complaint procedure. This procedure shall be publicly available without request.	The email for complaints is available online: https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/contact/index.html There is a dedicated complaint management webpage: https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/what-we-do/globalg.a.p.-certification/complaint-management/index.html There is a dedicated incident complaint form that is available for download.	yes	
1.20	Data Management	The Certification Programme Owner shall have in place a clearly defined data management system holding and maintaining data for the effective management and operation of the Certification Programme.	GLOBALG.A.P. has ist own database where all producers are registered, receive an individual GLOBALG.A.P. Number (GGN) to identify it in the system. CB must upload all producer contact information in the Database. Certification status must also be uploaded wihtin certain timeframes and there is an online certificate that shows the real time status of a producer. THere are various levels of Data Access that the producers agree upon and based on a viewer's access rights he/she is able to see various information about the producer. There is also a "search" function avaialble. https://database.globalgap.org/globalgap/search/SearchMain.faces?init=1 Database booklet: 180703_Database_Booklet_en.pdf is available to public on document center. A webpage explaining the database: https://wiki.globalgap.org/index.php/Main_Page A webpage explaining functionalities: https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/buyers/Sourcing-Certified-Products/index.html	yes	
1.21	Data Management	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the data management system shall incorporate data in relation to the GFSI Benchmarking Requirements and the annual assessment questionnaire. This system shall allow to estimate as a minimum: •Number of qualified auditors; •Number of valid certificates; •Number of issued certificates within a given period; •Number of suspended certificates; •Number of withdrawn certificates.	GR Part III, 3.3 CB Certification Data Communication with GLOBALG.A.P. a) The objective is to “know at any point in time, instantly and worldwide”: (i) The present status and status history (ii) The certified products, per (iii) Area / volume, for (iv) Each unique producer (legal entity), in (v) All schemes and Options (per product), with (vi) Central validation of certificates by market participants (online validation tool), and (vii) Audit/inspection and compliance details b) Therefore the CB data communication with GLOBALG.A.P. shall: (i) Ensure that as soon as the CB has made the certification decision, no certificate is issued before the product status is updated to “certified” in the GLOBALG.A.P. Database. (ii) Ensure that as soon as a sanction has been issued, the producer’s status shall be changed in the GLOBALG.A.P. Database to the relevant status (time between issuing the sanction and updating the database shall not exceed more than one working day). (iii) Ensure that the status of all other producers shall be sufficiently updated so as to ensure that the status of a producer on the GLOBALG.A.P. Database is up-to-date. (iv) Ensure availability of immediately accessible information on all audit and inspection details (including those of the unannounced inspections and audits) as well as details for each certificate. GENERAL COMMENT: The GLOBALG.A.P. database manages all CB information. Every auditor/inspector needs to be registered in the database once approved. Every certificate is indicated in the database and linked to the GGN of the producer or group All statuses are also indicated per GGN - and among those statuses are the "delisted" statuses of "suspended", open non-conformance", "self-declared suspended" as well as "cancelled". This can be verified during the office visit where a GGN may be entered to show what these statuses look like.	yes	

1.22	Data Management	The Certification Programme Owner shall have a process in place to verify the authenticity of the certificate.	Certificate issuance is made only upon full recommendation by a CB. All certificate holders are issued a GGN, which can be validated and verified in the database. The database is the single point of truth, and is openly acessible to all members of the public. By using the GGN, people can determine that the producer is certified and their certificate is authentic and not a forgery. Certification data is also shown. See the Retailers and Supliers datebase Wiki online: https://wiki.globalgap.org/index.php/Retailers_%26_suppliers Quote from Certification section which explains how to validate using the database that a producer is certified: "Certified - The product status certified is set upon product certification and triggers the one year certificate cycle. The new certificate cycle is linked with a GLOBALG.A.P. certificate number per product, which is generated by the database. The certified status shows always that products result from a certified process, so you will see Yes for single producers (option 1) and producer groups (option 2 - or also option 1)."	yes	
1.23	Internal Review	The operations of the Certification Programme Owner shall be subject to formal annual internal review of its relevance and compliance to internal processes, and, where appropriate, revised.	GLOBALG.A.P. conducted an internal audit by an ISO-qualified contracted staff member, with support of our legal and document control team. The document will be available for review by the benchmark leader, as it is not public informaiton online.	yes	
1.24	Internal Review	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the formal internal review assesses the management of the Certification Programme, and address any issues or concerns raised by stakeholders.	GLOBALG.A.P. conducted an internal audit by an ISO-qualified contracted staff member, with support of our legal and document control team. The document will be available for review by the benchmark leader, as it is not public informaiton online. Findings and recommendations are noted in the document.	yes	
1.25	Internal Review	The review and any arising actions shall be fully documented.	The internal audit report and results wil be available for review and transmitted directly to the benchmark reviewer.	yes	

Section 2 - Accreditation

Name of Certification Programme: GLOBALG.A.P. I

GFSI Benchmarking Requirements version 2020.1				CPO self assessment		Benchmark leader assessment
2.1	Certification Process	The Certification Programme shall include a certification process based on one of the following standards: ISO / IEC 17065 for product Certification Bodies or ISO / IEC 17021-1 with ISO / TS 22003 for management system Certification Bodies.		CBs shall apply to an Accreditation Body (AB) for accreditation to ISO/IEC 17065 in the relevant GLOBALG.A.P. Sub-Scope(s) and Approved Modified Checklists or in the relevant Full Benchmarked Scheme (see GLOBALG.A.P. Benchmarking Regulations). A copy of the confirmation of this application to the AB shall be forwarded to the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat. Through requiring ISO 17065 accreditation GLOBALG.A.P. ensures that the accredited certification bodies comply with the requirements of ISO 17065. In case the certification body does not comply with the requirements of ISO 17065, the accreditation is suspended. I think this point is not about what the ABs do, but about name the two possible accreditation standards: ISO 17065 or ISO 17021. We cannot have such an agreement with the AB that if they accredit a CB for ISO 17065, the CB should really comply with ISO 17065. Additionally please see the Memorandum of Understanding between FoodPLUS and IAF http://www.iaf.nu/upFiles/451410.IAF-GLOBALGAP-MoU_Signed_090529_clean.pdf	yes	
2.2	Certification Process	Where scoring, ranking and grading systems are applied, these shall be clearly explained by the Certification Programme Owner and publicly available.		General Regulations Part I, Section 6.1: 6.1 Non-Compliance and Non-Conformance a) Non-compliance (with a control point): A Minor Must or Recommendation in the GLOBALG.A.P. checklist is not fulfilled according to the compliance criterion. b) Non-conformance (with the GLOBALG.A.P. certification rules): A GLOBALG.A.P. rule that is necessary for obtaining the certificate (see 6.2) is infringed (e.g. non-compliance with one or more Major Musts, or more than 5 % of applicable Minor Musts). c) Contractual non-conformances: Breach of any of the agreements signed in the contract between the CB and the producer related to GLOBALG.A.P. issues. Case examples: Trading with a product that does not comply with legal requirements, false communication by the producer regarding GLOBALG.A.P. certification, GLOBALG.A.P. trademark misuse, payments not made in accordance with contractual conditions, etc. General Regulations Part 1, Section 6.2: 6.2 Requirements to Achieve and Maintain GLOBALG.A.P. Certification The Control Points and Compliance Criteria document consist of 3 types of control points: Major Musts, Minor Musts, and Recommendations. To obtain GLOBALG.A.P. certification, the following are required: Major Musts: 100 % compliance with all applicable Major Must and QMS control points is compulsory. Minor Musts: 95 % compliance with all applicable Minor Must control points is compulsory. Recommendations: No minimum percentage of compliance required. The producer shall comply with the agreements signed ('GLOBALG.A.P. Sublicense and Certification Agreement' and CB service agreement in their current version) and with the requirements defined in the General Regulations in their current version.	yes	
2.3	Scope of certification	The Certification Programme Owner shall define clear scope(s) of certification related to the sector of the food supply chain for which the Certification Programme is intended and commensurate to the GFSI scope(s) of recognition.		The scope of certifications is defined by the names of the types of certificaiton offered. For example, the Integrated Farm Assurance Standard Fruit and Vegetables and the IFA Acquaculture Standard. The name defines the scope, as the scope is further defined by the product list, published in the document center. The name of the scope and standard with the appropriate version reference aligns with the GFSI benchmarked version. The database includes what standard and scope a producer is certified against, and this information appears on the certificate.	yes	

2.4	Relationship with Accreditation Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall establish regular exchanges and communication with their respective Accreditation Bodies. This shall include an agreement with the Accreditation Bodies to ensure accredited Certification Bodies comply with the requirements of ISO / IEC 17065 or ISO / IEC 17021-1 with ISO / TS 22003.		GLOBALG.A.P. holds an annual AB meeting once a year. Minutes from these meetings exist. It is Organized with IFS and BRC. A sample of the minutes is kept on file.	yes	
2.5	Relationship with Accreditation Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall formally appoint a representative in charge of contact with the Accreditation Bodies.		Andras Fekete, VP of Integrity, is the offical representative in charge of ABs. Formal evidence of this is found in the "IAF Representatives, Liaisons and Contacts" document from April 2020.	yes	
2.6	Relationship with Accreditation Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall have an agreement with the Accreditation Bodies to ensure that the Certification Programme Owner is informed if a Certification Body has its accreditation withdrawn or suspended.		The GLOBALG.A.P. General Regulations make reference to the AB being a signatory of the IFA MLA for product certification with GLOBALG.A.P. The AB OAA (for CBs CPS and Primus Chile) is listed as a IAF Member. OAA has also adopted the IAF-GLOBALG.A.P. MoU. According to this MoU, under the clause Exchange of Information, the AB is to inform GLOBALG.A.P. in case of a CB being suspended or withdrawn. General Regulations Part III 2. Certification Body Approval Process: 2.3 Accreditation Body Requirements: (a) The AB to which the CB applies shall be a signatory of the IAF MLA for product certification with GLOBALG.A.P.. In addition, the AB shall have signed the MoU with GLOBALG.A.P. MoU between FoodPLUS and IAF (dated 2009) page 2 of 3 1. Exchange of Information 1.2 IAF product MLA signatories working in the food sector shall inform GLOBALG.A.P. of the following: 1.2.1 Whenever the accreditation of a CB has been suspended or withdrawn, OAA is listed as a IAF Member. https://www.iaf.nu/articles/IAF_MEM_USA__all/112 OAA has also adopted the IAF-GLOBALG.A.P. MoU (dated August 2017) https://www.iaf.nu/upFiles/Summary_ListMoUAdoptions_15082017.pdf Reference to EA-1/22 A-AB : 2020 ; EA Procedure and Criteria for the Evaluation of Conformity Assessment Schemes by EA Accreditation Body Members License and Certification Agreement clauses 8. ACCREDITATION	yes	

2.7	Relationship with Accreditation Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall inform Accreditation Bodies if activities with a Certification Body is withdrawn or suspended for reasons related to the requirements of the accreditation standard.		The GLOBALG.A.P. General Regulations make reference to the AB being a signatory of the IFA MLA for product certification with GLOBALG.A.P. The AB OAA (for CBs CPS and Primus Chile) is listed as a IAF Member. OAA has also adopted the IAF-GLOBALG.A.P. MoU. According to this MoU, under the clause Exchange of Information, GLOBALG.A.P. to inform the AB in case of a CB being suspended or withdrawn. General Regulations Part III 2. Certification Body Approval Process: 2.3 Accreditation Body Requirements: (a) The AB to which the CB applies shall be a signatory of the IAF MLA for product certification with GLOBALG.A.P.. In addition, the AB shall have signed the MoU with GLOBALG.A.P. MoU between FoodPLUS and IAF (dated 2009) page 2 of 3 1. Exchange of Information 1.2 IAF product MLA signatories working in the food sector shall inform GLOBALG.A.P. of the following: 1.2.1 Whenever the accreditation of a CB has been suspended or withdrawn, OAA is listed as a IAF Member. https://www.iaf.nu/articles/IAF_MEM_USA__all/112 OAA (IAF member) has also adopted the IAF-GLOBALG.A.P. MoU (dated August 2017) https://www.iaf.nu/upFiles/Summary_ListMoUAdoptions_15082017.pdf Reference to EA-1/22 A-AB : 2020 ; EA Procedure and Criteria for the Evaluation of Conformity Assessment Schemes by EA Accreditation Body Members License and Certification Agreement clauses 8. and 9.8. ACCREDITATION	yes	
2.8	Relationship with Accreditation Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall inform Accreditation Bodies of any relevant information and developments related to the Certification Programme.		Both CBs and ABs are issued updates to the Certification Program through our Technical News newsletter, which is published multiple times a year and also on an as needed basis. The newsletter is also available to public in the document center.	yes	

2.9	Relationship with Accreditation Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall agree on their process for the extension of the scope of activities of Certification Bodies with the Accreditation Bodies.		GEneral Regulations Part III 2.1.1 f) f) CBs shall apply to an accreditation body (AB) for accreditation to ISO/IEC 17065 in the relevant GLOBALG.A.P. sub-scope(s) and approved modified checklists or in the relevant full benchmarked scheme (see 'GLOBALG.A.P. Benchmarking Regulations'). A copy of the confirmation of this application to the AB shall be forwarded to the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat. General Regulations Part III 2.2: 2.2 Extension of Scopes, Sub-scopes, Approved Modified Checklists, and Benchmarked Schemes a) GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs that want to extend their scope of GLOBALG.A.P. certification shall follow all steps and requirements mentioned in 2.1 and shall apply for the accreditation of the new scope before signing the agreement of extension of scope with GLOBALG.A.P. Standards such as PSS, HPSS, CFM, AMCs, benchmarked schemes, etc., or localg.a.p. programs and GLOBALG.A.P. Add-ons will be considered as new scopes. b) GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs that want to extend their sub-scope of certification within a scope, shall have a minimum of 1 inspector or auditor who complies with specific GLOBALG.A.P. inspector or auditor sub-scope requirements (Annexes III.1 and III.2 respectively). A formal application shall be sent to the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat. The CB shall apply for the accreditation of the new sub-scope. c) The precondition for scope or sub-scope extension (provisionally approved status) is the availability of an in-house trainer for the new sub-scope(s). In the absence of training opportunity, the CB at least has to register for the next upcoming training. The provisional approval shall be withdrawn where the CB does not attend or fail the applicable in-house training. d) GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs willing to extend their approval to an AMC or benchmarked scheme -within the same scope and sub-scope- shall send an application request to the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat.	yes	
2.10	Certification bodies list	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that a list of active Certification Bodies is publicly available without request. This list shall include the scope of activities of the Certification Bodies.		The website at https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/what-we-do/the-gg-system/certification/Approved-CBs/index.html allows users to select scope, subscope, and region to see what CBs are operating.	yes	
2.11	Certification Bodies Requirements	The Certification Programme Owner shall have documented requirements for Certification Bodies to operate the Certification Programme.		General Regulations Part 3 is a complete treatment of the Certificataion Body and Accreditation Rules.	yes	

2.12	Accreditation of Certification Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that all activities resulting in the issuing of certificates are delivered by Certification Bodies accredited by Accreditation Bodies, members of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and signatories to the Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) for the appropriate scope. NB: All the IAF MLA signatories demonstrate conformance with ISO / IEC 17011.		please see the Memorandum of Understanding between FoodPLUS and IAF http://www.iaf.nu/upFiles/451410.IAF-GLOBALGAP-MoU_Signed_090529_clean.pdf 1.2. IAF product MLA signatories working in the food sector shall inform GLOBALGAP of the following: 1.2.1. Whenever the accreditation of a CB has been suspended or withdrawn,	yes	
2.13	Accreditation of Certification Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall define clear scope(s) of accreditation for the Certification Bodies.		The General Regulations Part III defines a clear process for scope extensions. The website with CB information clearly states what scopes a CB is approved for. General Regulations Part III: 2.2 Extension of Scopes, Sub-scopes, Approved Modified Checklists, and Benchmarked Schemes. a) GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs that want to extend their scope of GLOBALG.A.P. certification shall follow all steps and requirements mentioned in 2.1 and shall apply for the accreditation of the new scope before signing the agreement of extension of scope with GLOBALG.A.P. Standards such as PSS, HPSS, CFM, AMCs, benchmarked schemes, etc., or localg.a.p. programs and GLOBALG.A.P. Add-ons will be considered as new scopes. b) GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs that want to extend their sub-scope of certification within a scope, shall have a minimum of 1 inspector or auditor who complies with specific GLOBALG.A.P. inspector or auditor sub-scope requirements (Annexes III.1 and III.2 respectively). A formal application shall be sent to the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat. The CB shall apply for the accreditation of the new sub-scope. c) The precondition for scope or sub-scope extension (provisionally approved status) is the availability of an in-house trainer for the new sub-scope(s). In the absence of training opportunity, the CB at least has to register for the next upcoming training. The provisional approval shall be withdrawn where the CB does not attend or fail the applicable in-house training. d) GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs willing to extend their approval to an AMC or benchmarked scheme -within the same scope and sub-scope- shall send an application request to the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat.	yes	
2.14	Accreditation of Certification Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the scope of accreditation of Certification Bodies shall be publicly available and precisely defined in terms of the exact name of the Certification Programme in scope, its revision number and / or date and its sector of application reference (e.g. industry sector).		The website at https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/what-we-do/the-gg-system/certification/Approved-CBs/index.html allows users to select scope, subscope, and region to see what CBs are operating.	yes	

2.15	Accreditation of Certification Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies undertaking audits against a GFSI-recognised Certification Programme have the named Certification Programme and its revision number included in their scope of accreditation.		We have a guideline for the ABs to know what to publish on the accrediation certifcate. Only for ABs, it's updated yearly. Please see document titled "200109 Scopes of ISO IEC 17065 Accreditation for GLOBALGAP.pdf	yes	
2.16	Accreditation of Certification Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the accreditation standard used by all Accreditation Bodies for their Certification Programme is consistent and, where appropriate, facilitates a harmonised agreement on behalf of the contracted Certification Bodies.		Final versions of standard documents are available on the CB internet and publically in the website document center. Careful version control ensures that the CBs and ABs are aligned with versioning. The standard control points are numbered, and easily followed to ensure full alignment.	yes	
2.17	Accreditation of Certification Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies seeking accreditation for the Certification Programme shall be accredited within 12 months from the date of application to an Accreditation Body.		General Regulations Part III: 2.3 a) The accreditation body to which the CB applies shall be a signatory of the IAF Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) for product certification (IAF Product MLA) with GLOBALG.A.P. sub-scope of the MLA (level 4 and 5). In addition, the AB shall have signed the 'Memorandum of Understanding' (MoU) GLOBALG.A.P. Part III 2.1.2 - a) CBs shall obtain ISO/IEC 17065 accreditation within 6 months after the date of provisional approval. This period can be extended for an additional time span of 6 months if the AB provides justified reasons explaining the delay. The CB shall submit the justified reasons to GLOBALG.A.P.	yes	
2.18	Accreditation of Certification Bodies	In the event that accreditation is not granted within 12 months, the Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the Certification Body contract shall be terminated, and potential actions reviewed. In situations where there is a delay, the Certification Body shall provide a plan to the Certification Programme Owner for approval to achieve accreditation.		General Regulations Part III 2.1.1 - 2.1.2 Final Approval The CB shall complete the steps below before issuing any accredited GLOBALG.A.P. certificates or operating any accredited GLOBALG.A.P. Add-on and before final approval can be granted. a) CBs shall obtain ISO/IEC 17065 accreditation within 6 months after the date of provisional approval. This period can be extended for an additional time span of 6 months if the AB provides justified reasons explaining the delay. The CB shall submit the justified reasons to GLOBALG.A.P. b) Once accreditation has been obtained, the CB shall send a copy of the accreditation evidence to the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat. c) If accreditation has not been achieved within a maximum period of one year, the provisional approval may be withdrawn, and the CB shall not appear as provisionally approved on the GLOBALG.A.P. website and cannot issue any GLOBALG.A.P. certificates, unless the CB submits justification for the delay. The CB may re-apply for provisional approval again.	yes	

2.19	Accreditation of Certification Bodies	If a Certification Body has a pending application for extension of their scope with an Accreditation Body, the Certification Body shall inform the Certification Programme Owner. The Certification Programme Owner shall acknowledge and hold written notification from the Certification Body of such a circumstance.		In the GLOBALG.A.P. system, provisional approval is per subscope. For every subscope we have provisional approval. General Regulations Part III 2.1.1 - 2.1.2 Final Approval The CB shall complete the steps below before issuing any accredited GLOBALG.A.P. certificates or operating any accredited GLOBALG.A.P. Add-on and before final approval can be granted. a) CBs shall obtain ISO/IEC 17065 accreditation within 6 months after the date of provisional approval. This period can be extended for an additional time span of 6 months if the AB provides justified reasons explaining the delay. The CB shall submit the justified reasons to GLOBALG.A.P. b) Once accreditation has been obtained, the CB shall send a copy of the accreditation evidence to the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat. c) If accreditation has not been achieved within a maximum period of one year, the provisional approval may be withdrawn, and the CB shall not appear as provisionally approved on the GLOBALG.A.P. website and cannot issue any GLOBALG.A.P. certificates, unless the CB submits justification for the delay. The CB may re-apply for provisional approval again.	yes	
2.20	Accreditation of Certification Bodies	In the event that the range of certification services offered by a Certification Body is wider than the range of those accredited, the Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the Certification Body makes clearly and publicly available the limits and scope of their accreditation.		https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/what-we-do/the-gg-system/certification/Approved-CBs/index.html A list of all approved CBs is available on the website, with details of their accreditaiton. Text from website: Find Your GLOBALG.A.P. Approved Certification Body (CB) You can search the full list of approved certification bodies by region, country, scope, sub-scope and status. We provide you with all the information you need to contact the different certification bodies. This will help you in your process of evaluating and comparing the various certification bodies to find the one that best suits your need. Definition of Website Comments on the Status of Certification Bodies (CB) Provisional: The CB has successfully passed the first steps of the GLOBALG.A.P. approval process according to General Regulations Part III and is allowed to issue non-accredited certificates to a limited number of producers for a respective scope and sub-scope(s). Approved: The CB has completed all the steps of the GLOBALG.A.P. approval process (including accreditation) and is allowed to issue an unlimited number of accredited certificates for a respective scope and sub-scope(s). Yellow Card: Sanction imposed on the CB according to General Regulations Part III point 9.3.3. Red Card: Suspension of the CB according to General Regulations Part III point 9.3.4	yes	

2.21	Accreditation of Certification Bodies	In the event that the range of certification services offered by a Certification Body is wider than those accredited, the Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that those are transparent, not conflicting and distinguished from those that are accredited.		https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/what-we-do/the-gg-system/certification/Approved-CBs/index.html A list of all approved CBs is available on the website, with details of their accreditaiton. Text from website: Find Your GLOBALG.A.P. Approved Certification Body (CB) You can search the full list of approved certification bodies by region, country, scope, sub-scope and status. We provide you with all the information you need to contact the different certification bodies. This will help you in your process of evaluating and comparing the various certification bodies to find the one that best suits your need. Definition of Website Comments on the Status of Certification Bodies (CB) Provisional: The CB has successfully passed the first steps of the GLOBALG.A.P. approval process according to General Regulations Part III and is allowed to issue non-accredited certificates to a limited number of producers for a respective scope and sub-scope(s). Approved: The CB has completed all the steps of the GLOBALG.A.P. approval process (including accreditation) and is allowed to issue an unlimited number of accredited certificates for a respective scope and sub-scope(s). Yellow Card: Sanction imposed on the CB according to General Regulations Part III point 9.3.3. Red Card: Suspension of the CB according to General Regulations Part III point 9.3.4	yes	

Section 3 - Relationship with Certification Bodies

Name of Certification Programme: GLOBALG.A.P. IFA v5.4

GFSI Benchmarking Requirements version 2020.1			CPO self assessment		Benchmark leader assessment	
3.1	Relationship with Certification Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall have contractual and enforceable arrangements with all Certification Bodies accredited to ISO / IEC 17065 or ISO / IEC 17021-1 with ISO / TS 22003 to operate their Certification Programme.		General Regulations Part 3, 1, Part 4. LICENSE AND CERTIFICATION AGREEMENT a) The License and Certification Agreement establishes the rights and obligations of the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat as the GLOBALG.A.P. System co-coordinator and of the Certification Body (CB) as the neutral organization for auditing, inspection, certification and licensing activities within the framework of the GLOBALG.A.P. System. b) The License and Certification Agreement, including its updates, shall be accepted and signed by the CB as part of the application procedure to become and to remain a GLOBALG.A.P. approved CB and to be listed as such on the GLOBALG.A.P. website. c) The License and Certification Agreement, the Sublicense and Certification Agreement and the General Regulations complement each other and GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs shall continuously comply with all.	yes	
3.1.2	Relationship with Certification Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that IAF MD4 (current version) is included as a normative reference for their certification programme(s).		General Regulations Part III - 5.7 Using Information and Communication Technology for the Off-Site Module (Option 1 or Option 2) (Based on IAF MD4:2018) Information and communication technology (ICT) refers to the use of technology for gathering, storing, retrieving, processing, analysing, and transmitting information. It includes software and hardware such as smartphones, handheld devices, laptop computers, desktop computers, drones, video cameras, wearable technology, artificial intelligence, e-mails, and others.	yes	
3.2	Relationship with Certification Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall require that Certification Bodies notify them of any withdrawal or suspension of their accreditation.		9.1 CB/VB shall immediately inform GLOBALG.A.P. of all changes in personnel relevant for the management of the GLOBALG.A.P. System (e.g. change of the Scheme Manager, In-House Trainer, etc.), changes that may affect its performance as an independent CB/VB, in particular any changes in its accreditation status including suspension, withdrawal of accreditation or any changes to its corporate structure (including the change of its ownership, legal entity or d/b/a/ name, legal entity type, primary location and contact information).License Agreement Clause 9 -	yes	

3.3	Relationship with Certification Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that a designated Certification Body employee is responsible for the quality system's development, implementation and maintenance. This designated employee shall also have the responsibility for reporting on the performance of the quality system for the purposes of management review and subsequent system improvement.		3.2 Training and Qualification of Staff a) Every CB approved by the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat shall nominate one contact person, called the GLOBALG.A.P. Scheme Manager, who will be the representative of the CB before the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat. This person: (i) Shall be fluent in English (ii) Shall at least qualify as a GLOBALG.A.P. inspector (see requirements for GLOBALG.A.P. inspectors in Annex III.1) for one of the approved sub-scopes (iii) Shall be committed to assist in any harmonization activities performed by the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat (iv) Shall be available in-house; i.e. not hired occasionally by the CB, and be part of the operational and/or management decision-making process of the CB (v) Shall be responsible for returning to the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat the requested signed reception of any communication requiring written receipt (vi) Shall be responsible for communication and administration of users within the GLOBALG.A.P. system (vii) Shall respond to GLOBALG.A.P. operational enquiries as required in the communication. If the GLOBALG.A.P. Scheme Manager is not available, a substitute shall assume these responsibilities. (viii) Shall distribute all communication received from the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat to all CB staff involved in GLOBALG.A.P. activities in all countries (ix) Shall attend the annual Scheme Manager (update) meeting. This is a yearly task of the CB. If the Scheme Manager changes in the middle of the year, attendance of the SMU meeting is not required again for that same year. If the Scheme Manager is on medical leave (e.g. maternity), the CB may send another competent GLOBALG.A.P. representative. (x) The Scheme Manager may be the same person as the in-house trainer. (xi) The Scheme Manager has the responsibility for reporting on the performance of the quality system for the purposes of management review and subsequent system improvement	yes	
3.4	Relationship with Certification Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies use the Certification Programme in its entirety for the relevant GFSI scope of recognition.		The complete GLOBALG.A.P. checklists with all control points must be assessed: General Regultaions Part 1 Section 5 - 5 ASSESSMENT PROCESS In order to achieve certification, a registered party shall perform either a self-assessment (Option 1 and Option 1 multisite without QMS) or internal inspections/audits (Option 1 multisite with QMS and Option 2) and receive inspections/audits by the chosen CB. During any of these assessments, except the self-assessments, comments shall be supplied for all Major Musts and all non-compliant and not applicable Minor Must control points. General Reglations Part III 3.1 a) All the points described in the General Regulations shall be accepted and included in the relevant operational document of the CB for GLOBALG.A.P. certification of all scopes, sub-scopes and approved modified checklists, and be available for accreditation body evaluation. This requirement for approved modified checklists is fulfilled by the compliance with the relevant sub-scope requirements.	yes	

3.5	Relationship with Certification Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies make the following information available at all times to the Certification Programme Owner: - Evaluation procedures and certification processes in relation to the Certification Programme; - Details of complaints, appeals and disputes procedures; - A comprehensive list of all certified organisations against the scope(s) of the Certification Programme.		General Reguations Part III 3.1 c: c) The CB is responsible for communicating to its GLOBALG.A.P. registered clients all relevant updates, as well as the date of first application and grace period of any new GLOBALG.A.P. versions of normative documents. g) g) Certification bodies shall actively cooperate with GLOBALG.A.P. during management of complaints related to the CB or to the producers contracted by the CB. • Evaluation procedures and certification processes used in relation to GLOBALGA.P. business - Each CB must only issue certificates according to our rules and regulations, detaied in the GRs. The License Agreement states in Section - 5.1 CB/VB shall be responsible for carrying out the registration, verification or inspection and certification activities in compliance with the relevant GLOBALG.A.P. System rules (all Annexes) and/or other regulations as specified in this Agreement. • Details of complaints, appeals and disputes procedures - This is an ISO/IEC 17065 requirement: see 7.13.1 The certification body shall have a documented process to receive, evaluate and make decisions on complaints and appeals. The certification body shall record and track complaints and appeals, as well as actions undertaken to resolve them. In GLOBALG.A.P. GR Part I, 6.5a there is reference to Notifications and Appeals by producers to their CBs. ISO/IEC 17065 Guide - 4.6 d) GR part I, 6.5 a) p13 • A comprehensive list of all certified organizations - This is our database. The status of the CB is updated continually and is publically available.	yes	
3.6	Relationship with Certification Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies notify the Certification Programme Owner of changes to ownership, management personnel and management structure or constitution in a timely manner.		License and Certificaiton Agreement Clause 9 - 9. CHANGES AFFECTING ACTIVITIES OF CERTIFICATION BODY/VERIFICATION BODY 9.1 CB/VB shall immediately inform GLOBALG.A.P. of all changes in personnel relevant for the management of the GLOBALG.A.P. System (e.g. change of the Scheme Manager, In-House Trainer, etc.), changes that may affect its performance as an independent CB/VB, in particular any changes in its accreditation status including suspension, withdrawal of accreditation or any changes to its corporate structure (including the change of its ownership, legal entity or d/b/a/ name, legal entity type, primary location and contact information).	yes	

3.7	Relationship with Certification Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall agree on appropriate actions with Certification Bodies to mitigate any situations which could result in bringing their Certification Programme or GFSI into disrepute, and notify GFSI of such situation.		License and Certification Agreement clauses 15.2 - 15.2. Notwithstanding clause 15.1 above, either Party is entitled to terminate this Agreement in exceptional circumstances and for material reasons. Exceptional circumstances include, but are not limited to, instances where: a) One of the Parties breaches a provision of this Agreement, and after having received written notice of the breach, fails to cure the breach within thirty (30) days thereafter, (clause 14. shall remain unaffected); or b) CB/VB is no longer bound by contractual obligations within the GLOBALG.A.P. System. This is the case where all Sublicense and Certification Agreements between CB/VB and the CPs within the GLOBALG.A.P. System is terminated, or where the owner of the AMC terminates its contract and/or withdraws its approval with CB/VB. License Agreement Clause 22 - ARBITRATION All disputes arising in connection with this Agreement or its validity shall be finally settled in accordance with the Arbitration Rules of the German Institution of Arbitration (DIS) without recourse to the ordinary courts of law. The number of arbitrators is three (3). The place of arbitration is Frankfurt am Main, Germany and the language of the arbitration proceedings shall be English. General Regulations Part III: Section 3.1 - g) Certification bodies shall actively cooperate with GLOBALG.A.P. during management of complaints related to the CB or to the producers contracted by the CB. The GLOBALG.A.P. Internal Complaints Management Procedure - Section 5.3 - informing GFSI in case of a dispute that may bring GFSI into disrepute,	yes	
3.8	Relationship with Certification Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall inform Certification Bodies of any relevant information and developments related to the Certification Programme. This shall include any changes to the Certification Programme.		Certification bodies receive updates through Scheme Manager Trainings and the published Techincal News. Editions of the Techincal News, published multiple times a year, are available in the document center. Technical News editions are available for review in the document center.	yes	

3.9	Relationship with Certification Bodies	The Certification Programme Owner shall publish guidance / requirements to Certification Bodies on transition arrangements when a new version of the Certification Programme is issued. The Certification Programme Owner guidance / requirements may encompass elements such as the following: - Terms and conditions of transition period between previous and new versions; - defined timeline for transition; - Comparative information between previous and new versions; - Timeline in which Certification Bodies are required to cascade information to all auditors and certified organisations.		Communication Standard Development SOP, as well as Technical News Updates to indicate timelines for transition periods for new standard versions. Transition and obligatory dates for the standards PHA 1.2 and HPSS 1.2 are specifically addressed in the Technical Newsletter for CBs 5/2020 and available to CBs in the GLOBALG.A.P. CB Extranet. GLOBALG.A.P. Standard Setting Procedure: 6. Transition Periods: For any change in the version, transition periods are established and indicated on the relevant documents to allow sufficient time for adaption to all stakeholders. Normally the transition period for new versions is one year. For minor updates the transition period is minimum 3 months. 7. Operational Implementation and Communication .... new version or update are communicated to all interested and involved stakeholders... CBs can download the technical update information (e.g. Technical News) in the Certification Body Extranet). GLOBALG.A.P. Communication Standard Development SOP 4.2 External communication shall be via the procedures of each department. This may be technical newsletter, public newsletter or social media. GLOBALG.A.P. Transition Periods New versions of standard documents subject to GFSI benchmarking will become mandatory 6 months after the benchmarking process being successfully completed Reference to Technical Newsletter for CBs issue 4/2020, Publication date 15 July 2020 for validity dates: IFA v5.4 will replace v5.3 three months after IFA v5.4-GFS has gained GFSI recognition.	yes	
3.10	Integrity Programme	The Certification Programme Owner shall implement a risk-based programme to monitor and regularly review the performance of Certification Bodies, and their compliance to the Certification Programme's requirements. This programme shall consider the number, size and complexity of audits carried out by the Certification Bodies.		CIRPO Program is described on website: https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/what-we-do/the-gg-system/integrity-program/CIPRO/index.html General Regulations Part III - 9.2.1 Integrity Program Selection Process for CBs to Review Selections for review under the integrity program may be made based on the following factors: a) the number of countries in which a Certification Body operates; b) the number of auditors employed; c) languages in which audits are undertaken; d) number of certified companies; e) number of centralised Certification Body offices; f) number of audits undertaken per auditor; g) grading and number of non-conformances; h) product recalls; i) number of relevant complaints.	yes	

3.11	Integrity Programme	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that results of the integrity programme are communicated to and reviewed with the Certification Bodies at least once a year.		Reference to GLOBALG.A.P. Certification Bodies: KPI Specifications v1.0 (Oct 2017) The performance of CBs is formally reviewed every six months but input is continuous (e.g. each time a new CIPRO report is available). Each CB will receive detailed data of the values which sum up their final score. Before the final score is published on the GALOBALG.A.P. website, CBs will have two weeks to comment on these details and on the final score. Reference to GLOBALG.A.P. Certification Integrity Assessments Program (CIPRO) Process version 3.1 (file name 20200518_CIPRO Process_v3.1_en) After leaving the CB office, the Integrity Assessor shall complete the form CB-T10 and send both the CB-T8 and the CB-T10 to IPAS for storage and review. General Regulations Part III Sectio 9.2.2 b) Each Certification Integrity Program assessment report is sent to the CB, to the accreditation body and, where applicable, to the ECSO/AMCO. Accreditation bodies are encouraged to use it as an input for their next assessment. CBs and ECSO/AMCO shall use these reports as a management feedback for their continuous improvement processes. 2018 Intgerity Report : The CBs are then informed about their proposed performance classification and are given the opportunity to respond in a written statement within 14 days after notification.	yes	
3.12	Desktop Assessment	The Certification Programme Owner shall implement a risk-based programme of desktop assessments of Certification Body performance on audit and auditor records.		(file name 20200518_CIPRO Process_v3.1_en) Off site CBO assessment: Specific Aim: Perform CB Office assessment to small CBs, CB's located in dangerous or difficult to access locations and rationalize travels and efficient use of CIPRO assessors' time. This type of CBO is also used when travelling is not possible (e.g. pandemic). In order to communicate to the CB that they have been selected for an off-site CB office assessment and explain them the process, a communication letter (CB-DT1, with attachment CB-T2) will be sent from the Ipro account to the CB Scheme Manager. Correspondent AB is copied, according to CB-DT1. In case a BMS/AMC is included in the scope of the assessment, the Scheme owner shall also be informed. Information provided by the CB through form CB-T2 shall be compared with information analysed during preparation step. All this information is used to select the certification and qualification files that are going to be requested to the CB. In order to communicate to the CB which documentation the CB Scheme Manager shall send or make available to the designated CIPRO assessor, a communication letter will be sent by the CIPRO assessor to the CB Scheme Manager (CB-DT3). Files selected will depend on analysis performed during preparation. They shall include the most risky situations and the variability of the CB's scopes and countries of activities and include minimum one file from each category.	yes	

3.13	Office Visits	The Certification Programme Owner shall implement a risk-based programme of Certification Bodies office audits, focusing on the implementation of the Certification Programme's requirements by the Certification Bodies. Risk factors may include: - the number of countries in which a Certification Body operates; - the number of auditors employed; - languages in which audits are undertaken; - number of certified companies; - number of centralised Certification Body offices; - number of audits undertaken per auditor; - grading and number of non-conformances; - product recalls; - number of relevant complaints.		(file name 20200518_CIPRO Process_v3.1_en) On site CBO assessment: In order to communicate to the CB that they have been selected for an on-site CB office assessment and explain them the process, a communication letter (CB-T1, with attachment CB-T2) will be sent from the Ipro account to the CB Scheme Manager (CB SM). Correspondent AB is copied, according to CB-T1. In case a BMS/AMC is included in the scope of the assessment, the Scheme owner shall also be informed. Information provided by the CB through form CB-T2 shall be compared with information analysed during preparation step. All this information is used to select the certification and qualification files that are going to be requested to the CB during the CBO. The assessment date, starting time and working hours shall be agreed with the CB SM. This includes confirmation of GLOBALG.A.P. head office location, where the CBO assessment shall take place. All this information about the CBO assessment is confirmed to the CB SM through the assessment plan (CB-T6). The correspondent AB and, if applicable, Scheme owner of BM Scheme/AMC are copied. The full CIPRO program is described here: https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/what-we-do/the-gg-system/integrity-program/ AND https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/what-we-do/the-gg-system/integrity-program/CIPRO/index.html The Certification Integrity Program (CIPRO) monitors and assesses the performance of all GLOBALG.A.P.-approved certification bodies. It ensures that certification bodies are conducting their audits in line with GLOBALG.A.P guidelines and procedures and verifies that the same criteria and quality standards have been used on a consistent basis. CIPRO sets into place an ongoing process of quality assurance, improvement transparency. This	yes	
3.14	Key Performance Indicators	The Certification Programme Owner shall define and monitor Key Performance Indicators for Certification Bodies including complaints, results of desktop assessments and office visits. The Key Performance Indicators shall be communicated to and reviewed with the Certification Bodies at least once a year.		See document "CB KPIs". The CBs are informed of their KPI scoring, and are given 2 weeks to offer comment (see section 2.3.1). Final evaluation is reviewed and published twice a year. Website contains KPI information: https://www.globalgap.org/uk_en/what-we-do/the-gg-system/certification/Approved-CBs/index.html	yes	

Section 4 - Certification Bodies Personnel

Name of Certification Programme: GLOBALG.A.P. IFA v

GFSI Benchmarking Requirements version 2020.1			CPO self assessment		Benchmark leader assessment	
4.1	Certification Body Personnel Competence	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that all management, administrative, technical and auditing personnel meet the competence required by the Certification Bodies, the Certification Programme and the GFSI Benchmarking Requirements.		ISO/IEC 1706 ISO 17065. clause 6.1 Certification body personnel and 6.2 Resources for evaluation. GR Part III, 2.1 f) CBs shall apply to an Accreditation Body (AB) for accreditation to ISO/IEC 17065 in the relevant GLOBALG.A.P. Sub-Scope(s). A copy of the confirmation of this application to the AB shall be forwarded to the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat. The ISO 17065 is not that specific, rather generic. Because it is generic, it includes all staff. The clause 6.1 Certification body personnel and 6.2 Resources for evaluation does refer to all staff (inlc. admin functions) involved in the certification process: ''personnel to cover its operations related to the certification schemes'' ISO 17065, 6.1.1 General 6.1.1.1 The certification body shall employ, or have access to, a sufficient number of personnel to cover its operations related to the certification schemes and to the applicable standards and other normative documents. NOTE The personnel include those normally working for the certification body, as well as persons working under an individual contract or a formal agreement that places them within the management control and systems/procedures of the certification body (see 6.1.3). 6.1.1.2 The personnel shall be competent for the functions they perform, including making required technical judgments, defining policies and implementing them.	yes	

4.2	Certification Body Personnel Competence	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the Certification Bodies require all personnel involved with the certification process to sign a contract or agreement, which clearly commits them to: - Complying with the rules of the Certification Body, with particular reference to confidentiality and independence from commercial or personal interests; - Declaring any issues in relation to personal conflicts of interest.		General Regulations PART III ANNEX III.1 AND III.2 Section 4.3 Independence and Confidentiality (Inspectors and Auditors_ a) Inspectors/Auditors are not permitted to carry out any activities that may affect their independence or impartiality, and specifically are not permitted to accept bribes and to have carried out consultancy activities in the last 2 years for the producers they are performing inspections on. Training is not considered to be consultancy, provided that, where the course relates to management systems or auditing, it is confined to the provision of generic information that is freely available in the public domain, i.e. the trainer cannot provide company-specific solutions. b) Inspectors/Auditors shall strictly observe the producer's and the CB's procedures to maintain the confidentiality of information and records. ISO 17065 - Section 6.1.3 Contract with the personnel The certification body shall require personnel involved in the certification process to sign a contract or other document by which they commit themselves to the following: a) to comply with the rules defined by the certification body, including those relating to confidentiality (see 4.5) and independence from commercial and other interests; b) to declare any prior and/or present association on their own part, or on the part of their employer, with: 1) a supplier or designer of products, or 2) a provider or developer of services, or 3) an operator or developer of processes to the evaluation or certification of which they are to be assigned; c) to reveal any situation known to them that may present them or the certification body with a conflict of interest (see 4.2). Certification bodies shall use this information as input into identifying risks to impartiality raised by the activities of such personnel, or by the organizations that employ them (see 4.2.3).	yes	

4.3	Certification Body Personnel Competence	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the Certification Bodies clearly document all requirements of ISO / IEC 17065 or ISO / IEC 17021-1 with ISO / TS 22003 , and IAF MD4, relating to personnel and make them known to their employees. This shall include systems and procedures to ensure that auditors conducting assessments meet the capabilities described in ISO / IEC 17065 or ISO / IEC 17021-1 with ISO / TS 22003, and the requirements of IAF MD4.		5. Assessment Process 5.7 Using Information and Communication Technology for the Off-site Module - based on IAF MD4 : 2018 5.7.1. Security and Confidentiality 5.7.2 Planning and Scheduling 5.7.3 Performing the Off-site Inspection/Audit with ICT IAF MD 4 : 2018 Mandatory Document 4.2.4 When using ICT, auditors/assessors and other involved persons shall have the comptentency and ability to understand and utilize the information and communication technologies employed to achieve the desired results of audit(s). The auditor shall also be aware of the risks and opportunities of the information and communication technologies used and the impacts that they may have on the validity and objectivity of the information gathered. Reference to document GLOBALG.A.P. Remote Interim Final Version 1.2 (Valid from 15 May 2020): 3. Rules for conducting GLOBALG.A.P. Remote (Based on IAF MD 4 : 2018) - this document has been provided to CBs via the Technical news updates. ISO/IEC 17065, 4 and 7, GR Part III, Annex III.1, 4.3a) , GR Part III, Annex III.2, 4.4, GR Part III, 9------Auditors are not permitted to take ultimate certification decisions regarding own audits or inspections they have carried out themselves. Auditors are not permitted to carry out any activities, which may affect their independence or impartiality. Auditors must strictly observe the producer's and the CB's procedures to maintain the confidentiality of information and records. Absence of these attributes in an auditor, would lead to poor auditing, which would be detected by the internal audits by the CB, the AB audits and the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity program, and of course	yes	
4.4	Certification Body Personnel Competence	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the Certification Bodies hold and maintain records regarding the qualifications, training and experience of all personnel involved in the certification process. All records shall be dated. The information shall include, as a minimum: -Name and address of trainees; -Affiliation to the Certification Body and position held;		ISO 17065 Section 6.1.2.2 The certification body shall maintain the following records on the personnel involved in the certification process (see Clause 7): a) name and address; b) employer(s) and position held; c) educational qualification and professional status; d) experience and training; e) the assessment of competence; f) performance monitoring; g) authorizations held within the certification body; h) date of most recent updating of each record.	yes	

4.5	Certification Body Personnel Competence: Certification Personnel	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Body's competence requirement for the personnel carrying out the technical review include understanding of the Certification Programme's normative documents and of the Certification Programme's requirements on the completion of audit's report and checklist.		Scheme Managers are apointed - License Agreement Part 11:. NOMINATION OF SCHEME MANAGER 11.1 CB/VB shall nominate one contact person ("Scheme Manager") who is proficient in English with at least inspector qualification in compliance with the compulsory criteria of the relevant GLOBALG.A.P. System rules to be the representative of CB/VB with GLOBALG.A.P. The Scheme Manager shall assist GLOBALG.A.P. in carrying out coordination activities and communicate with GLOBALG.A.P. where required. 11.2 CB/VB shall bear all expenses relating to the activities of the Scheme Manager unless otherwise specified by GLOBALG.A.P. General Regulations Part III 3.2 c) All finally approved CBs shall have a sub-scope and version (i.e. IFA Version 5) specifically trained CB in-house trainer, who shall be responsible for ensuring that all their registered GLOBALG.A.P. auditors and inspectors comply with the requirements set in Annex III.1 and Annex III.2. This person: (i) Needs to have passed the CB in-house trainer training exam for the relevant sub-scope and version. Failing any part of the exam twice will require re-attending a GLOBALG.A.P. CB in-house training course and successfully passing the exam. (ii) Shall be available in-house; i.e. not hired occasionally by the CB. The person may be the same person as the Scheme Manager and the CB may have more than one in-house trainer covering different standards or sub-scopes. (iii) Shall comply with at least inspector qualification requirements for the respective sub-scope (iv) Shall be responsible for training all the respective GLOBALG.A.P. auditors and inspectors (based on GLOBALG.A.P.) (v) Shall complete the required training within 3 months in case of a change in personnel. If this is not feasible, the new person shall register within 3 months for an upcoming course.	yes	

4.6	Auditors Behaviour	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the Certification Bodies have a system in place to ensure auditors conduct themselves in a professional manner. This shall be evaluated through a defined witness audit process confirming acceptable auditor performance as specified by the Certification Program Owner. The following includes examples of required personal attributes and behaviour: - Ethical; i.e. fair, truthful, sincere, honest and discreet, - Open minded; i.e. willing to consider alternative ideas or points of view, - Diplomatic; i.e. tactful in dealing with people, - Observant; i.e. actively aware of physical surroundings and activities, - Perceptive; i.e. instinctive, aware of and able to understand situations, - Versatile; i.e. adjusts readily to different situations, - Tenacious; i.e. persistent, focussed on achieving objectives, - Decisive; i.e. timely conclusions		GR Part III, Annex III.1, 4.3a) GR Part III, Annex III.2, 4.4 GR Part III, 9 Auditors are not permitted to take ultimate certification decisions regarding own audits or inspections they have carried out themselves. Auditors are not permitted to carry out any activities, which may affect their independence or impartiality. Auditors must strictly observe the producer's and the CB's procedures to maintain the confidentiality of information and records. Absence of these attributes in an auditor, would lead to poor auditing, which would be detected by the internal audits by the CB, the AB audits and the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity program, and of course by the CB during the qualification process of the assessor. Initial training and sign-off by the CB, shadow and witness inspection/audits). Auditors without these attributes would not be considered competent by their CB, respective AB and GLOBALG.A.P. Added: GFSI guidance doc requires that: ''The Scheme Owner shall assure that Certification Body shall have a system in place to ensure auditors conduct themselves in a professional manner.'' The requirement is here is about the conduct in a professional manner. The listed attributes are examples only. GLOBALG.A.P. does not included that list of personal attributes in its normative documents. We do require that in GR part III. ANNEX III.1&2; 3.4 Initial Training Before Sign-Off by the CB g) As a minimum requirement, the CB shall verify competence in the following topics: ... - Having the sufficient communication and behavioral skills as to be able to conduct an inspection/audit .	yes	
4.6.1	Auditors Behaviour	If the Certification Programme Owner allows the use of ICT to assess auditor behaviour as per 4.6, the Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that IAFMD4 is included as a normative reference of their Certification Body requirements on assessing auditor behaviour.		General Regulations Part III Annex III 3. Technical Skills and Qualifications 3.5 Maintenance of Competency Where the witness inspection is done remotely using ICT, the relevant clauses of IAF MD4 shall apply. IAF MD 4 : 2018 Mandatory Document 4.2.4 When using ICT, auditors/assessors and other involved persons shall have the comptentency and ability to understand and utilize the information and communication technologies employed to achieve the desired results of audit(s). The auditor shall also be aware of the risks and opportunities of the information and communication technologies used and the impacts that they may have on the validity and objectivity of the information gathered. General Regulations Part III - 5.7 Using Information and Communication Technology for the Off-Site Module (Option 1 or Option 2) (Based on IAF MD4:2018) Information and communication technology (ICT) refers to the use of technology for gathering, storing, retrieving, processing, analysing, and transmitting information. It includes software and hardware such as smartphones, handheld devices, laptop computers, desktop computers, drones, video cameras, wearable technology, artificial intelligence, e-mails, and others.	yes	

4.7	Auditors' Scopes of Activity	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies base the scopes of auditors' activities on the sectors described in table 1 and the scopes of certification defined by the Certification Programme Owner.		GR Part III, Annex III.1&2, 3.4 Initial Training Before Sign-Off by the CB Because of the inspector/auditor needs very specific formal (educational, diploma) qualification there is only a limited possibility that a person can extend the scope of activity. In GLOBALG.A.P. languages it is sub-scope extension within a scope. It is not possible that a crops scope inspector/auditor extend to livestock based on experience in crops. It is however possible that within crops scope the inspector/auditor extend to different sub-scope based on experience in crops. This is described in GR part III. Annex III.1 3.3.i) and Annex III.2, 3.2 g) (See the table too in the GR) To audit/inspect an additional specific sub-scope/group within a scope, proof of a formal course of production practices and sub-scope/group specific working experience (i.e.: one year working experience or 10 days witness assessments) are required. The formal courses (mentioned in points a), b), d), e), and f) above) can be part of the formal qualifications (degree/diploma) or can be separate courses that were taken by the inspector. The inspector shall present proof of qualification. If it was part of the degree/ diploma, it shall be in the syllabus of the course. If it was acquired separately, there shall be a separate certificate, which shows that a course that covered these issues was completed (including an exam).	yes	
4.8	Auditors' Industry Experience	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies appoint auditors with experience in the food or associated industry, including at least two years full time work in quality assurance or food safety functions and requirements defined in table 1, column 4.		The degree/formal education/diploma related requirement can be found GR Part III, Annex III.1 and III.2 p27 and p31 2. FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS AND WORK EXPERIENCE a) At least a post high school (post secondary education) diploma or equivalent (minimum course duration of 2 years) in a discipline related to the scope of certification AND A minimum of 2 years experience gained after finishing post high school studies and overall 3 years experience in the agricultural industry OR b) A post high school (post secondary education) diploma with a minimum duration of 2 years in a food related discipline AND A minimum of 4 years industry experience either in a practical capacity on farm/site or in a technical production management role in the relevant scope of certification	yes	evaluation of auditor is to be conducted onsite only

4.9	Auditors Training	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the Certification Bodies appoint auditors that have the required education, as described in table 1, column 3, and Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) / Hazard and Risk Assessment training course relevant to their sector of activities.		GR Part III, Annex III.1 and III.2 a) Training in HACCP principles either as part of formal qualifications or through the successful completion of a formal course based on the principles of Codex Alimentarius (the formal course may be an internal training by the CB). The minimum training duration shall be 8 hours. Duration and content shall be indicated on the evidence available for this requirement (course certificate, evidence of training included in formal qualifications, etc.). b) Food hygiene training either as part of formal qualifications or through the successful completion of a formal course (the formal course may be an internal training by the CB). The formal course duration shall be a minimum of 8 hours. Duration and content shall be indicated on the evidence available for this requirement (course certificate, evidence of training included in formal qualifications, etc.). The Food Hygiene training course shall cover: site management, water, fertilizer, equipment, facilities and personal hygiene, and it shall also include practical case studies. Already approved inspectors have a one-year transition period after the publication of GLOBALG.A.P. IFA Version 5 to complete this training. Both trainings in points a) and b) can be taken together in the same formal course (minimum duration 16 hours). A Food hygiene course is not required for Flowers and Ornamentals and/or Plant Propagation Material inspectors c) GLOBALG.A.P. Online Training, with the successful completion of all online tests and the respective updates within 3 months after release in the inspector's language. d) For Crop Scope: Plant protection, fertilizer and IPM training, either as part of formal qualifications, or through the successful completion of a formal course. Hops-specific training for the Hops sub-scope. e) For Livestock and Aquaculture Scopes: Basic veterinary medicine and stockmanship training including animal health and welfare issues. f) For Aquaculture Standards: Basic experience in food processing (to inspect AB.12 and 13) and GRASP training (according to the GRASP General Rules).	yes	

4.10	Initial Auditor Qualification	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies have a documented program for initial auditor qualification. This shall include as a minimum that auditors will be assessed on their performance during at least 3 food safety audits against the GFSI-recognised Certification Programme the auditor is being qualified for, including at least one witness audit, and until they are assessed as competent.		General Regulationsi Part III Annex III.1 Section 3.4 Initial Training Before Sign-Off by the CB 3.4 Initial Training Before Sign-Off by the CB a) The CB shall put a training program in place customized to the candidate/trainee. b) The applicant inspector shall take part as an observer in a minimum of one Option 1 producer or one Option 2 producer group member inspection of the relevant sub-scope. In case the CB takes over (hires) an approved (for the currently valid version) inspector, the rule "to observe a minimum of one Option 1 producer or one Option 2 producer group member inspection of the relevant sub-scope'' does not apply. c) The CB shall witness a minimum of one inspection of an Option 1 producer or an Option 2 producer group member by an already qualified inspector or auditor respectively per sub-scope. d) The CB shall have a program for the assessment of auditing skills. This should include as a minimum that inspectors are assessed on their performance in 5 inspections in accordance with the CB's written program and as a prerequisite to meeting applicable requirements of the GLOBALG.A.P. standard. The auditing-skills assessment includes at least one witness inspection (as listed under 3.4. c)), and the rest may be done by further witness inspections on-site or by document review. The sign-off process may only be concluded after a successful auditing-skills assessment consisting of a minimum of 5 inspections. After the initial successful witness inspection, but before the final sign-off, the conducted inspections may be registered for the inspector-in-training and the producer may be certified.	yes	
4.10.2	Initial Auditor Qualification	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the witness audit(s) carried out as part of the certification body's initial auditor qualification follows the standard audit plan agreed with the certified organisation, including the use of ICT if applicable, as long as this does not compromise the effectiveness of the assessment. The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the witness assessor is present on site for parts of the audit carried out on site.		ANNEX III.1: GLOBALG.A.P. CB INSPECTOR QUALIFICATIONS 3.4 Initial Training Before Sign-Off by the CB d) The CB shall have a program for the assessment of auditing skills. This should include as a minimum that inspectors are assessed on their performance in 3 inspections in accordance with the CB's written program and as a prerequisite to meeting applicable requirements of the GLOBALG.A.P. standard. The auditing-skills assessment includes at least one witness inspection (as listed under 3.4. c), and the rest may be done by further witness inspections on-site or by document review. The sign-off process may only be concluded after a successful auditing-skills assessment consisting of the minimum of 3 inspections. After the initial successful witness inspection, but before the final sign-off, the conducted inspections may be registered for the inspector-in-training and the producer may be certified. Witness audits are treated the same in the GLOBALG.A.P. system as any other audit, thus governed by the same regulations required for all other audits and inspections. Like a fully trained auditor, the witness auditor is required to comply with all ICT rules as described in the GR Part III. Likewise, the witness audits must toward issuing certificates, and therefore must comply with all noted audit-related rules. There is no lesser standard for witness audits.	yes	

4.11	Scope Extension of Auditor Activities	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies require an auditor extending his scope of activity to undergo a programme including training in the new sector, supervised audits as per 4.10 and assessment and sign off as competent in the new sector by the Certification Body.		General Regulations Part III Section 2.2 - c) The precondition for scope or sub-scope extension (provisionally approved status) is the availability of an in-house trainer for the new sub-scope(s). In the absence of training opportunity, the CB at least has to register for the next upcoming training. The provisional approval shall be withdrawn where the CB does not attend or fail the applicable in-house training. GR Part III, Annex III.1&2, 3.4 Initial Training Before Sign-Off by the CB Because of the inspector/auditor needs very specific formal (educational, diploma) qualification there is only a limited possibility that a person can extend the scope of activity. In GLOBALG.A.P. languages it is sub-scope extension within a scope. It is not possible that a crops scope inspector/auditor extend to livestock based on experience in crops. It is however possible that within crops scope the inspector/auditor extend to different sub-scope based on experience in crops. This is described in GR part III. Annex III.1 3.3.i) and Annex III.2, 3.2 g) (See the table too in the GR) To audit/inspect an additional specific sub-scope/group within a scope, proof of a formal course of production practices and sub-scope/group specific working experience (i.e.: one year working experience or 10 days witness assessments) are required. The formal courses (mentioned in points a), b), d), e), and f) above) can be part of the formal qualifications (degree/diploma) or can be separate courses that were taken by the inspector. The inspector shall present proof of qualification. If it was part of the degree/ diploma, it shall be in the syllabus of the course. If it was acquired separately, there shall be a separate certificate, which shows that a course that covered these issues was completed (including an exam).	yes	
4.12	Maintenance of auditor skills and competence	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that auditors are regularly trained and evaluated on their understanding of the Certification Programme.		Licence Agreement requires establishment of a Scheme Manager - 11. NOMINATION OF SCHEME MANAGER 11.1 CB/VB shall nominate one contact person (“Scheme Manager”) who is proficient in English with at least inspector qualification in compliance with the compulsory criteria of the relevant GLOBALG.A.P. System rules to be the representative of CB/VB with GLOBALG.A.P. The Scheme Manager shall assist GLOBALG.A.P. in carrying out coordination activities and communicate with GLOBALG.A.P. where required. 11.2 CB/VB shall bear all expenses relating to the activities of the Scheme Manager unless otherwise specified by GLOBALG.A.P. General Regulations Part III Section 2.2 - c) The precondition for scope or sub-scope extension (provisionally approved status) is the availability of an in-house trainer for the new sub-scope(s). In the absence of training opportunity, the CB at least has to register for the next upcoming training. The provisional approval shall be withdrawn where the CB does not attend or fail the applicable in-house training. General Regulations Part III Section 3.2 - (ix) Shall attend the annual Scheme Manager (update) meeting. This is a yearly task of the CB. If the Scheme Manager changes in the middle of the year, attendance of the SMU meeting is not required again for that same year. If the Scheme Manager is on medical leave (e.g. maternity), the CB may send another competent GLOBALG.A.P. representative. (x) The Scheme Manager may be the same person as the in-house trainer.	yes	

4.13	Maintenance of auditor skills and competence	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies have a structure in place so that auditors keep up to date with industry sector best practice, food safety and technological developments, have access to and are able to apply relevant laws and regulations. The Certification Bodies shall maintain written records of all relevant training undertaken.		GR Part III, Annex III.1 4.2 General a) To maintain up-to-date files of all quality policies, procedures, work instructions and documentation issued by the CB. b) To keep abreast of developments, issues and legislative changes pertaining to the scope in which inspections are carried out. GR Part III, Annex III.2, 4.3 (same text)	yes	
4.14	Maintenance of Auditor Skills and Competence	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the Certification Bodies implement an annual programme for auditors to carry out at least five on-site audits at different organisations against any of the relevant GFSI-recognised Certification Programmes owned by the Certification Program Owner to		General Regulations Part III, Annex III.1, Section 3.5. a) The CB shall have in place a procedure to ensure that annually every inspector/auditor conducts at least 5 inspections/audits, at a number of different producers, against each GLOBALG.A.P. standard (e.g. IFA (including all sub-scopes and PSS), CoC, CFM, etc.), AMC, or fully benchmarked scheme of the same sub-scope, to maintain scheme knowledge and to stay registered in the GLOBALG.A.P. Database. GLOBALG.A.P. monitors that annually through our Database and inform the CB.	yes	

4.15	Maintenance of Auditor Skills and Competence	In specific situations where requirement 4.14 cannot be met, the Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies implement an annual programme for auditors to carry out at least five onsite audits against GFSI-approved Certification Programmes and at least one annual onsite audit against the relevant GFSI Certification Programmes.		3.5 Maintenance of Competency a) The CB shall have in place a procedure to ensure that annually every inspector/auditor conducts at least 5 inspections/audits at a number of different producers, against a GLOBALG.A.P. standard, AMC, or fully benchmarked scheme, to maintain scheme knowledge and to stay registered in the GLOBALG.A.P. Database. 3.4 Initial Training Before Sign-Off by the CB a) The CB shall put a training program in place customized to the candidate/trainee. b) The applicant inspector shall take part as an observer in a minimum of one Option 1 producer or one Option 2 producer group member inspection of the relevant sub-scope. In case the CB takes over (hires) an approved (for the currently valid version) inspector, the rule "to observe a minimum of one Option 1 producer or one Option 2 producer group member inspection of the relevant sub-scope'' does not apply. c) The CB shall witness a minimum of one inspection of an Option 1 producer or an Option 2 producer group member by an already qualified inspector or auditor respectively per sub-scope. d) The CB shall have a program for the assessment of auditing skills. This should include as a minimum that inspectors are assessed on their performance in 5 inspections in accordance with the CB's written program and as a prerequisite to meeting applicable requirements of the GLOBALG.A.P. standard. The auditing-skills assessment includes at least one witness inspection (as listed under 3.4. c)), and the rest may be done by further witness inspections on-site or by document review. The sign-off process may only be concluded after a successful auditing-skills assessment consisting of a minimum of 5 inspections. After the initial successful witness inspection, but before the final sign-off, the conducted inspections may be registered for the inspector-in-training and the producer may be certified. e) For the CB's first inspector the CB's internal procedures apply.	yes	
4.16	Auditor Register	The Certification Programme Owner shall have in place a register of approved auditors including the details of the auditors' competence, education, relevant experience and scope(s) of activities, and applicable Certification Bodies. The register shall remain current and be made available to GFSI during the office visit.		Information about the approved auditors is collected and maintained in the database system. The system is updated regularly and will be available to revie during the desk assessment	yes	

Section 5 - Management of Audit and Certification

Name of Certification Programme: GLOBALG.A.P. IFA

GFSI Benchmarking Requirements version 2020.1			CPO self assessment		Benchmark leader assessment	
5.1	Audit Programme – scope of the audit	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the Certification Bodies clarify the activities and products of the audited organisation to include in the scope of the audit.		Inspection notes for each checklist capture the products certified, if parallel production has occurred, if the producer is Option 1 or Option 2, and if handling and harvest activities have been observed.	yes	
5.2	Audit Programme – audit frequency	The Certification Programme Owner shall have a clearly defined and documented audit frequency programme: •Ensuring a minimum audit frequency of one full audit of an organisation's facility and food safety management system against the elements of the Certification Programme's normative documents per 12-month period on average; •Defining the frequency of audit for each product category covered by the scope of certification of the Certification Programme; •Defining a time window during which next recertification audit shall be conducted; •Considering a number of factors to decide the audit frequency such as activities and products of the audited organisation to include in the audit (scope of the audit), previous audit history, concerns about compliance with a Certification Programme's normative documents, seasonality of product, significant capacity increases, structural changes, changes in product technology or changes in product type.		GR Part I, 5.1.2.1 -Each producer shall undergo one announced CB inspection at the initial assessment and thereafter once per annum. Crops Rules: p7 GR Part I, 6.7.2 p13 - All crops need to be inspected(and pass the inspection) before they can be added to the certificate. During subsequent inspections of seasonal crops, grouping may take place. Crop Rules (to the General Regulations): 4.1.1(vi) Multiple Crop during first inspection: The producer may be seeking certification for more than one crop and the crops may not all have the same seasonal timing, i.e. harvest of one crop does not necessarily coincide with the harvest of other crops. The requirements above are applicable to crop groupings based on similarities in production and harvest processes and their risks. The CB shall verify all control points of these groupings, before the product(s) can be added to the certificate. 4.1.2(v) (v) Multiple consecutive crops: During the inspection, the production process of all crops included in the certification scope shall be assessed on farm via site visits, interviews with the producer and workers, review of documents, records etc. The producer shall keep evidence of compliance with the applicable control points for all registered crops. In the years during which there is no requirement to carry out the inspection during harvest season and where crops do not have the same seasonal timing, the CB shall select a date where relevant agronomic activities can be seen on farm for at least one of the products. THis is not applicable to Aquaculture certification. The certificate can be extended up to 4 moths to cover shifted harvest	yes	

5.3	Audit Programme – audit frequency	If a Certification Programme Owner has scopes of certification that include the growing or production of seasonal products and, therefore, require some limited flexibility of audit frequency to allow effective auditing of seasonal products, these variations to audit frequency shall be clearly defined.		GR Part 1, 5.1.2.1 - Each producer shall undergo one announced CB inspection at the initial assessment and thereafter once per annum. Crop Rules (to the General Regulations): 4.1.1(vi) Multiple Crop during first inspection: The producer may be seeking certification for more than one crop and the crops may not all have the same seasonal timing, i.e. harvest of one crop does not necessarily coincide with the harvest of other crops. The requirements above are applicable to crop groupings based on similarities in production and harvest processes and their risks. The CB shall verify all control points of these groupings, before the product(s) can be added to the certificate. 4.1.2(v) (v) Multiple consecutive crops: During the inspection, the production process of all crops included in the certification scope shall be assessed on farm via site visits, interviews with the producer and workers, review of documents, records etc. The producer shall keep evidence of compliance with the applicable control points for all registered crops. In the years during which there is no requirement to carry out the inspection during harvest season and where crops do not have the same seasonal timing, the CB shall select a date where relevant agronomic activities can be seen on farm for at least one of the products. THis is not applicable to Aquaculture certification. The certificate can be extended up to 4 moths to cover shifted harvest season beyond the validity of the certificate. GR I. 6.7.2. Extension of Certificate Validity a) The validity may be extended beyond the 12 months (for a maximum period of 4 months) only if there is a valid reason, which has to be recorded. Here are the only reasons that are considered to be valid:	yes	

5.4	Audit programme – re-auditing	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the Certification Bodies re-evaluate the certified organisations to assess compliance with the Certification Programme normative documents in the event of: •Significant changes which could affect the safety of product; •Changes to the normative documents of the Certification Programme; •Changes of ownership or management of the certified organisations; or if the Certification Bodies have reason to believe there could be compliance issues in relation to certification.		Sublicense Agreement GLOBALG.A.P. North America: 7.12 To maintain the integrity of the GLOBALG.A.P. system, CB and CP shall immediately report to GLOBALG.A.P. NA any event likely to have a negative impact on the GLOBALG.A.P. system as a whole, including but not limited to food safety outbreaks, recalls, and/or official investigations. Acting under the direction of GLOBALG.A.P. NA, CB shall be entitled to temporarily suspend CP's certificate for a reasonable period of time while any such event is being investigated. As part of the investigation process, CB and GLOBALG.A.P. NA wll coordinate on review and possible reinspection as needed. 8.5 At the onset of a food safety outbreak or food adulteration event, GLOBALG.A.P. NA and CB may review the most recent audit report for the contracting party associated with the event. If the food safety outbreak or food adulteration event poses a human health risk, the certificate may be suspended and additional actions, including but not limited to 3rd party auditor site visits may be required prior to lifting of the suspensions. License Agreement Part 9 - 9. CHANGES AFFECTING ACTIVITIES OF CERTIFICATION BODY/VERIFICATION BODY 9.1 CB/VB shall immediately inform GLOBALG.A.P. of all changes in personnel relevant for the management of the GLOBALG.A.P. System (e.g. change of the Schem. General Regulations Part 1 Section 6.7 GLOBALG.A.P. Certificate and Certification Cycle a) The GLOBALG.A.P. certificate can only be issued to the applicant legal entity. b) The name of the trader could optionally be mentioned on the certificate only with the following disclaimer: ''Can be exclusively traded through XYZ''.	yes	

5.5	Audit Programme – audit frequency	Irrespective of the defined minimum audit frequency, the Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the Certification Bodies undertake additional audits if there is evidence or suspicion of non-conformity within a certified organisation.		Sublicense Agreement GLOBALG.A.P. North America: 7.12 To maintain the integrity of the GLOBALG.A.P. system, CB and CP shall immediately report to GLOBALG.A.P. NA any event likely to have a negative impact on the GLOBALG.A.P. system as a whole, including but not limited to food safety outbreaks, recalls, and/or official investigations. Acting under the direction of GLOBALG.A.P. NA, CB shall be entitled to temporarily suspend CP's certificate for a reasonable period of time while any such event is being investigated. As part of the investigation process, CB and GLOBALG.A.P. NA wll coordinate on review and possible reinspection as needed. 8.5 At the onset of a food safety outbreak or food adulteration event, GLOBALG.A.P. NA and CB may review the most recent audit report for the contracting party associated with the event. If the food safety outbreak or food adulteration event poses a human health risk, the certificate may be suspended and additional actions, including but not limited to 3rd party auditor site visits may be required prior to lifting of the suspensions. General Regulations Part 9 - 9.2.2 Integrity Program. h) The CB is expected to follow-up the findings of the integrity assessment and ensure that the producer complies with the certification requirements. GR Part III, 5.5 Unannounced Inspections (Option 1 only) and Audits (QMS only) a) The selection of the 10% shall not only take into account total numbers, but shall also be calculated and carried out based on risk assessment and considering factors such as geography, legislation (where several jurisdictions are covered by the CB), crop type, compliance history, etc.	yes	

5.6	Audit Programme – unannounced audit	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies perform at a minimum: - For scopes AI, AII, BI, BII and BIII: 10% of audits unannounced per year or one audit every 4 years for each certified organisation; - For scopes C0, CI, CII, CIII, CIV, DI, E, FI, G, H, JI, K and I: one audit unannounced every 3 years for each certified organisation. For scopes FII and JII, unannounced audits may be available as an option.		Every certificate holder in the system has a 10% chance of receiving an unnanounced inspection. In the group certification, the sample of producers have a higher chance of receiving an unannounced inspection. GLOBALG.A.P. also offers an Unannounced Reward Program GR Part I, 5.1.2.3. Unannounced Reward Program (i) Producers may opt to participate in the Unannounced Reward Program. The CB shall inform the producer about this possibility and shall offer the Unannounced Reward Program. (ii) Under the Unannounced Reward Program, producers will be excluded from the additional 10% unannounced inspection. However, the annual inspection will be unannounced following the same rules described in 5.1.2.2. This may allow the CBs to reduce their inspection fee. (See also Unannounced Reward Program description in General Regulations Part III). (iii) Inspections under the Unannounced Reward System shall always be carried out using the entire IFA checklist, according to the relevant scopes and sub-scopes. (iv) Participants of the Unannounced Reward Program are excluded from the off-site module inspection methodology. (v) Participation in the Unannounced Reward Program is registered as an attribute in the GLOBALG.A.P. Database. (vi) In justified circumstances (e.g. complaint follow up), CBs still have the right to schedule unannounced inspections during the certificate validity period. (vii) If the producer also needs to be audited for an add-on and the add-on rules explicitly exclude unannounced add-on assessments, the producer will not be able to participate in the Unannounced Reward Program.	partly	up to 48hrs notice can be provided for an unannounced audit, due to the agricultural and remote issues of clients
5.7	Audit Programme – unannounced audit	Reports, certificates and grading systems shall clearly identify whether certification audits are unannounced.		The checklist inspection notes clearly asks if the audit was annouced or unannouced. This can be seen on each checklist form available in the document center.	yes	

5.8	Audit Programme – audit duration	The Certification Programme Owner shall define the expected duration of audits and the rationale for the determination of the duration of the audit; it is expected the duration of an audit to be minimum: - Half a day for scopes AI, AII, BI, BII, BIII, E, FI and FII; - One day for scopes G, I, JI and JII; - Two days for scopes C0, CI, CII, CII, CIV, DI and K; in order to effectively assess an organisation's systems and premises against the Certification Programme's normative documents and provide confidence in the certification process.		Crops Rules - 4.3 Inspection Duration a) The inspection duration shall allow for an opening meeting with the farm management, a complete evaluation of all standard requirements, completion of the applicable checklist and the presentation of the results to the producer. b) The usual GLOBALG.A.P. production site inspection duration for GLOBALG.A.P. IFA Crops is between 3 and 8 hours (Option 1 producer). c) The minimum of 3 hours duration shall apply to the simplest circumstances (one location, one or few crops, simple machinery, few workers, no produce handling, subsequent inspection, documentation is well organized, etc.). d) Option 2 producer group members might have inspections of shorter time duration depending on the complexity of the farming situation. e) Factors that will increase the minimum of 3 hours (the list is not exhaustive and is applicable for Option 1 and for Option 2 members) are as follows: • Initial inspection • Addition of new crops during subsequent inspections • Addition of new locations during subsequent inspections • Storage included • Produce handling included • Different types of products (product groups) • Different types of harvests (harvesting methods) • Multiple sites and locations • More sub-scopes (N/A to PSS and HPSS) • Subcontractors used (not checked by third party) Acquaculture Rules: 4.3 Inspection Duration a) Sufficient time shall be allowed for an opening meeting with the farm	yes	
5.9	Audit Programme – audit duration	The Certification Programme Owner shall define clear criteria, which specify the justification for deviation from the minimum audit durations, including the effectiveness of the audit such as the level and depth of assessment of management systems and GAP / GMP / GDP and premises / systems (e.g. product lines, products and product categories).		See the above Crops and Acquaculture Rules. Going below the minimum is not allowed.	yes	

5.10	Audit Programme – audit duration	The Certification Programme Owner shall implement monitoring procedures to ensure that contracted Certification Bodies comply with the defined audit duration criteria and that appropriate actions are taken if they do not meet those criteria.		Reference to GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity reviews for monitoring of audit duration (reference CIPRO reports) The Integrity Program consists of 2 pillars: a) Brand Integrity Program (BIPRO) (e.g. contractual issues, database, logo use, administrative requirements, complaint management, etc.) b) Certification Integrity Program (CIPRO) (e.g. inspection, audit or certification performance of the CB, etc.) The sanctioning procedures are illustrated in a flow chart at the end of the document.	yes	
5.11	Audit Programme – audit duration	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the audit report incorporates details of the audit duration and shall monitor such information.		Reference to GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity reviews for monitoring of audit duration (reference CIPRO reports) General Regulations Part III 5.4.1.1 - (vi) Date, time, and inspection duration of the off-site and on-site modules of each audit shall be recorded by the auditor. General Regulations Part III 6.2 - 6.2 Inspection Duration a) The inspection report shall include a recording of the inspection duration. b) A sufficient inspection duration shall allow the auditor/inspector to have an opening meeting with the farm management (re-confirm the scope, etc.), inspect all applicable control points, inspect all products of the inspection scope; visit all production, storage, processing, and other critical locations (e.g. water source), inspect the used machinery, interview personnel, evaluate the records, complete the checklist with sufficient comments and present the results to the producer right after the inspection has finished. c) Additional requirements and guidance on the minimum inspection duration are described in the respective scope-specific rules.	yes	

5.12	Audit Programme – auditor selection	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies have rules for the appointment of auditors to audits to ensure impartiality, including rotation of auditors.		General Regulations Part III Annex II.1 - 3.6 Rotation of the inspector a) The CB shall have procedures in place to ensure that the same inspector does not inspect a producer (Option 1) for 4 consecutive years (regardless of whether it is an announced or an unannounced inspection). b) Under Option 2 and Option 1 multisite with QMS, the auditor in the audit team shall rotate (no more than 4 consecutive years to audit the same QMS). However, the inspector(s) in the audit team may remain the same. For example, inspector #1 inspects a producer in years 1, 2, 3 and 4; in year 5 another inspector (inspector #2) has to do the annual inspection. In years 6, 7, 8 and 9 the inspector #1 may do 4 consecutive inspections again. This also applies for the group member inspections. c) When the CB has only one inspector in a given country/region, exceptions may be given case-by-case. The exemption period shall last for 12 months. Annex II.2 3.6 Rotation of the auditor a) The CB shall have procedures in place to ensure that the same auditor does not inspect a producer (Option 1) for 4 consecutive years (regardless of whether it is an announced or an unannounced audit). b) Under Option 2 and Option 1 multisite with QMS, the auditor in the audit team shall rotate (no more than 4 consecutive years to audit the same QMS). However, the inspector(s) in the audit team may remain the same. For example, auditor #1 audits a group QMS in years 1, 2, 3, and 4; in year 5 another auditor (auditor #2) has to do the annual audit. In years 6, 7, 8, and 9 the auditor #1 may do 4 consecutive audits again. This also applies for group member inspections. c) When the CB has only one auditor in a given country/region, exceptions may be given case-by-case. The exemption period shall last for 12 months.	yes	

5.13	Audit Reporting	The Certification Programme Owner shall have in place a clearly defined system for the generation and issue of audit reports. The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies provide the report to audited organisations within a defined timeline.		Reference to a defined timeline in GLOBALG.A.P. General Regulations: General Regulations Part III 6. Certification Process 6.1 General (o) When the producer requests it, the CB shall provide the full CB report and the fully completed inspection/audit checklist, when final, within 5 business days. However, when the report and/or checklist has not been finalized at the time of request, the report and/or checklist shall be delivered to the producer or producer group within 28 days. GR Part III, 6.1 d) On completion of the full evaluation process, a full written report will be produced which summarizes the evaluation activity undertaken (date of the inspection, sites and facilities inspected and duration of inspection/audit), provides objective evidence and information on how the producer or the producer group complies with the requirements of the standard, and where applicable, lists any non-compliances and/or non-conformances identified. 6.1i) The CB report shall contain the following: (i) All points listed in the ''inspection notes'' section of the official GLOBALG.A.P. checklist. (ii) Scope of the inspection/audit: company, site, PHU and product information according to the Annex I.2. Products, production area/quantity, sites/members, country of destination, handling and harvest included or excluded, product handling takes place in-field or in a facility or in both, broodstock or seedling purchased or not, product attributes (PP/PO, covered/non-covered, first or further harvest), etc. shall be included.	yes	
5.14	Audit Reporting	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies have processes in place to address situations when reports may be translated.		General Regulations Part III Section 6.1 - The CB shall have processes in place to address situations when reports may be translated.	yes	

5.15	Audit Reporting	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the audit report incorporates an executive summary and / or a summary of each main section of the Certification Programme's audit requirements, even in case of absence of non-conformities.		Reference to required summarizing of an audit as part of the report in the GLOBALG.A.P. General Regulations: General Regulations Part III 6. Certification Process: 6.1 General (d) On completion of the full evaluation process, a full written report will be produced which **summarizes the evaluation activity undertaken** (date of the inspection, sites, producer members and facilities inspected, and duration of inspection/audit), provides objective evidence and information on how the producer or the producer group complies with the requirements of the standard, and where applicable, lists any non-compliances and/or non-conformances identified. The structure of our report includes all pertinent comment in a summarized form. Repeating the information would be redundant. The current report structure supports quick reference to pertinent content necessary for review.	yes	
5.16	Audit Reporting	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that clear and concise details of the non-conformities are provided in the audit report when identified.		General Regulations Part III Section 6.1 - i) The CB report shall contain the following: (i) All points listed in the 'Inspection Notes' section of the official GLOBALG.A.P. checklist (ii) Scope of the inspection/audit: company, site, PHU, and product information according to the Annex I.2. Products, production area/quantity, sites/members, country of destination, handling, and harvest included or excluded, product handling takes place in-field or in a facility or in both, broodstock or seedling purchased or not, product attributes (PP/PO, covered/non-covered, first or further harvest), stage of the report, etc. shall be included. (iii) Calculation of the total applicable Major Must, Minor Must, and Recommendation control points, and % of the Minor Must non-conformances (iv) List of non-compliances, non-conformances, and follow up actions. This includes the relevant control point, the observation of what has been non-complied/conformed, evidence of non-fulfillment of the requirement, deadline for corrective action, description of the corrective action by the producer, reference to objective evidence of implementation of the corrective action, evaluation result of the corrective action (open/closed), and the relevant dates of these actions. (v) Conclusion of compliance or not	yes	

5.17	Audit Reporting	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that the audit report contains evidence that all the specified requirements of the Certification Programme related to the GFSI scope(s) of recognition have been evaluated during the audit and clearly express the outcome of the evaluation.		General Regulations Part III Section 6.1 - i) The CB report shall contain the following: (i) All points listed in the 'Inspection Notes' section of the official GLOBALG.A.P. checklist (ii) Scope of the inspection/audit: company, site, PHU, and product information according to the Annex I.2. Products, production area/quantity, sites/members, country of destination, handling, and harvest included or excluded, product handling takes place in-field or in a facility or in both, broodstock or seedling purchased or not, product attributes (PP/PO, covered/non-covered, first or further harvest), stage of the report, etc. shall be included. (iii) Calculation of the total applicable Major Must, Minor Must, and Recommendation control points, and % of the Minor Must non-conformances (iv) List of non-compliances, non-conformances, and follow up actions. This includes the relevant control point, the observation of what has been non-complied/conformed, evidence of non-fulfillment of the requirement, deadline for corrective action, description of the corrective action by the producer, reference to objective evidence of implementation of the corrective action, evaluation result of the corrective action (open/closed), and the relevant dates of these actions. (v) Conclusion of compliance or not	yes	
5.18	Audit Reporting	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that appropriate confidentiality is in place and that the audit report is only released at the discretion of the contracted organisation. Ownership of the audit report, determination of details made available and authorisation for access shall remain with the contracted organisation.		GLOBALG.A.P. has ist own database where all producers are registered, receive an individual GLOBALG.A.P. Number (GGN) to identify it in the system. CB must upload all producer contact information in the Database. Certification status must also be uploaded wihtin certain timeframes and there is an online certificate that shows the real time status of a producer. THere are various levels of Data Access that the producers agree upon and based on a viewer's access rights he/she is able to see various information about the producer. There is also a "search" function avaialble. https://database.globalgap.org/globalgap/search/SearchMain.faces?init=1 General Regulations Part III 6.1 m) Copies of the CB report, the objective evidences of implementation of the corrective actions, or the fully completed inspection/audit checklist shall only be provided to other parties if the producer provides access by written authorization except to the regulatory authorities when requested according to the applicable national legislation, and the AB and CB.	yes	

5.19	Audit Reporting	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that necessary agreements are in place with the audited organisations and the Certification Bodies so that the audit records are available on request to the Certification Programme Owner and to GFSI.		General Regulations Part III 6.1 m) Copies of the CB report, the objective evidences of implementation of the corrective actions, or the fully completed inspection/audit checklist shall only be provided to other parties if the producer provides access by written authorization except to the regulatory authorities when requested according to the applicable national legislation, and the AB and CB. p) When GLOBALG.A.P. requires it, the CB report and the completed inspection/audit checklist shall be uploaded/transferred into the GLOBALG.A.P. database.	yes	
5.20	Management of Certification	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies have a clearly defined system for the granting, suspension and withdrawal of certification for the scope of their Certification Programme.		GR Part I General Rules describe the Registration process (4), Assessment Process (5), Certification Process (6) which includes in 6.3 Certification Decision, 6.4 Sanctions (6.4.1 Warning, 6.4.2 Product Suspension, 6.4.3 Cancellation).	yes	
5.21	Management of Certification	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies have a tool in place to evaluate conformance with the Certification Programme's audit requirements.		Reference to required summarizing of an audit as part of the report in the GLOBALG.A.P. General Regulations: General Regulations Part III 6. Certification Process: 6.1 General (d) On completion of the full evaluation process, a full written report will be produced which summarizes the evaluation activity undertaken (date of the inspection, sites, producer members and facilities inspected, and duration of inspection/audit), provides objective evidence and information on how the producer or the producer group complies with the requirements of the standard, and where applicable, lists any non-compliances and/or non-conformances identified. The GLOBALG.A.P. requirements contained in the license agremeents, General Regulations, Crops Rules, CPCCs, and other normative document colletively form a system and tool thorugh with the CB executed the task of auditing and certification. These documents detail the scoring system (Major Must, Minor Must, etc.), description of treatment of non-conformance issues, and all pertinent information required to comply with the GLOBALG.A.P. system. These tools in the form of of descriptive documents are suported by the online resources of the website and database.	yes	
5.22	Management of Certification	The Certification Programme Owner shall specify the information required on the certificate.		GR Part I, Annex i.3 GLOBALG.A.P. Paper Certificate Template which is a normative document and to be used by all CBs	yes	

5.23	Management of Certification	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies verify that the audited organisation implements corrective action plans. Verification of the corrective action plan and of the implementation of the corrective actions may take various forms (further on-site assessment or the scrutiny of submitted evidence through ICT) it must be carried out by technically competent personnel of the Certification Bodies using a method appropriate to an effective verification of the corrective actions.		General Regulations Part II Section 7 - 7 NON-COMPLIANCES, CORRECTIVE ACTION, AND SANCTIONS a) There shall be a procedure to handle non-compliances and corrective actions, which may result from internal or external audits and/or inspections, customer complaints or failures of the QMS. b) There shall be documented procedures for the identification and evaluation of non-conformances and non-compliances to the QMS by the group or by its members, respectively. c) Corrective actions following non-compliances shall be evaluated and a timescale defined for action. d) Responsibility for implementing and resolving corrective actions shall be defined. e) A system of sanctions and non-conformances that meets the requirements defined in the GLOBALG.A.P. General Regulations Part I shall be operated with producers or production sites. In case of contractual non-conformances (e.g. not complying with one of the QMS internal policies), sanctions are to be decided by the QMS. f) Mechanisms shall be in place to notify the GLOBALG.A.P. approved certification body immediately of suspensions or cancellations of registered producers or production sites. g) Records shall be maintained of all sanctions including evidence of subsequent corrective actions and decision-making processes. General Regulations Part III Section 6.1. d) On completion of the full evaluation process, a full written report will be produced which summarizes the evaluation activity undertaken (date of the inspection, sites and facilities inspected, and duration of inspection/audit), provides objective evidence and information on how the producer or the producer group complies with the	yes	

5.24	Management of Certification	Evidence of corrections or corrective actions shall be returned, completed and verified by the Certification Bodies, within a timescale defined with the Certification Programme Owner, before certification can be awarded.		General Regulations Part I 6.4.1 - a) A warning is issued for all types of non-conformance detected (i.e. non-conformance with CPCC, GR, or contractual requirements). b) If a non-conformance is detected during the inspection, the producer shall be served a warning when the inspection is finalized. This is a provisional report that could be overridden by the CB certification authority. c) Initial inspection: (i) If an individual producer or producer group does not comply with 100 % of Major Must and 95 % Minor Must control points within 28 days after an initial inspection, the status “open non-conformance” is set in the GLOBALG.A.P. Database. (ii) If the cause of the warning is not resolved within three (3) months, a complete inspection shall be performed before a certificate can be issued. d) Subsequent inspection: (i) Non-conformances shall be closed within 28 calendar days. (ii) In the event of non-conformances with contracts, the General Requirements, or a Major Must, the CB shall decide what period is given to the producer for closing the non-conformance before suspending the certificate. This period shall never exceed 28 days and may be shortened according to the criticality of the non-conformance in terms of safety of workers, environment and consumers. An immediate suspension shall be issued where a serious threat to food safety, the safety of workers, the environment, consumers, and/or product integrity (i.e. sale of non-certified products as certified) is present. This will be communicated via an official warning letter.	yes	
5.25	Management of Certification	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies perform a thorough technical review of each audit report prior to granting, suspending, withdrawing or renewing certification. For the review process to be effective it shall ensure that: •Reports are accurately assessed to demonstrate satisfactory evidence of compliance with the Certification Programme; •All applicable requirements of the		GR Part III, 6 Certification Process This part describes how the CBs shall conduct audits, complete assessment reports, spend time on farm, review documents, suspend certificates, renew certifications. GR Part III, 6.1a) The person who makes the certification decision or at least one member of the certification committee of the CB shall comply with auditor qualifications as set out in Annex III.2 for the scope the certificate is being issued for. In case the certification decision is related to Option 1 and does not include a QMS, the CB still needs to have one person of the certification decision committee complying with auditor qualification.	yes	

5.26	Management of Certification	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies have in place a clearly defined and publicly available appeals procedure.		This is an ISO/IEC 17065 requirement: see 7.13.1 The certification body shall have a documented process to receive, evaluate and make decisions on complaints and appeals. The certification body shall record and track complaints and appeals, as well as actions undertaken to resolve them. In GLOBALG.A.P. GR Part I, 6.5a there is reference to Notifications and Appeals by producers to their CBs.	yes	
5.27	Management of Certification	The Certification Programme Owner shall define minimum requirements for Certification Bodies considerations when organisations switch between GFSI-recognised Certification Programmes. This should include but not be limited to an evaluation of the organisation's audit history, last unannounced audit, etc.		GLOBALG.A.P. makes no distinction between producers and producers switching from other GFSI benchmarked schemes, no prior certifcation to any scheme, or certification to a non-GFSI benchmarked scheme. All are treated as new registrants and required to comply with the registration requirements. See entire section of General Regulations Part 1 Section 4.2 - 4.2.1 General a) The application shall cover at least the information detailed in 'Annex I.2 GLOBALG.A.P. Registration Data Requirements'. By registering, the applicant commits to comply with the certification requirements at all times, the communication of data updates to the CB, and the payment of the applicable fees established by GLOBALG.A.P. and by the CB. b) This information is used by GLOBALG.A.P. to supply the applicant with a unique GLOBALG.A.P. Number (GGN), which is used as a unique identifier for all GLOBALG.A.P. activities. c) Any objective evidence found that indicates that the applicant has been misusing the GLOBALG.A.P. claim shall lead to the exclusion of the applicant from certification for 12 months after evidence of misuse. In addition, the applicant will be listed, and the list shall be checked before registration in the Database. Any case of misuse shall be communicated to the GLOBALG.A.P. members.	yes	

5.28	Management of Certification	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies have agreements in place with certified organisations ensuring that the Certification Programme Owner is informed of any significant public food safety incidents, such as significant regulatory food safety non-conformities, product recalls, etc.		Sublicense Agreement GLOBALG.A.P. North America: 7.12 To maintain the integrity of the GLOBALG.A.P. system, CB and CP shall immediately report to GLOBALG.A.P. NA any event likely to have a negative impact on the GLOBALG.A.P. system as a whole, including but not limited to food safety outbreaks, recalls, and/or official investigations. Acting under the direction of GLOBALG.A.P. NA, CB shall be entitled to temporarily suspend CP's certificate for a reasonable period of time while any such event is being investigated. As part of the investigation process, CB and GLOBALG.A.P. NA wll coordinate on review and possible reinspection as needed. General Regulations Part I, Section 6.4: 6.4 Sanctions a) If non-conformance is detected, the CB shall apply a sanction (warning, suspension, or cancellation) as indicated in this section. b) If a clear link has been established between a producer and public health outbreak by a reputable governmental regulatory authority, suspension of the certification shall be imposed, while a review of the producer's certification is performed. License Agreement - 10. INTEGRITY PROGRAM 10.1 CB/VB authorizes GLOBALG.A.P. to carry out Integrity Assessments in CB/VB's premises and in the CP's sites certified or registered by CB/VB. 10.2 CB/VB shall cooperate with GLOBALG.A.P. during Integrity Program activities and remedy any CP non-conformity found during Integrity Assessment. 10.3 CB/VB shall actively cooperate with GLOBALG.A.P. during the management of complaints related to the CP or to the CB/VB. In particular, neither CB/VB nor CP shall refuse, hinder or avoid residue, contamination, traceability, fraud or CB/VB Integrity Program investigations in the event of a complaint.	yes	

5.29	Management of Certification	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies have procedures in place to ensure the integrity of certification is maintained after such notification.		Sublicense Agreement GLOBALG.A.P. North America: 7.12 To maintain the integrity of the GLOBALG.A.P. system, CB and CP shall immediately report to GLOBALG.A.P. NA any event likely to have a negative impact on the GLOBALG.A.P. system as a whole, including but not limited to food safety outbreaks, recalls, and/or official investigations. Acting under the direction of GLOBALG.A.P. NA, CB shall be entitled to temporarily suspend CP's certificate for a reasonable period of time while any such event is being investigated. As part of the investigation process, CB and GLOBALG.A.P. NA wll coordinate on review and possible reinspection as needed. See also CPCC All Farm Base 8.1 - A documented complaint procedure is available to facilitate the recording and follow-up of all received complaints relating to issues covered by GLOBALG.A.P. actions taken with respect to such complaints. In the case of producer groups, the members do not need the complete complaint procedure, but only the parts that are relevant to them. The complaint procedure shall include the notification of GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat via the certification body in the case that the producer is informed by a competent or local authority that they are under investigation and/or has received a sanction in the scope of the certificate. No N/A. General Regulations Part 1 Section 5.3.2 - 5.3.2 Subsequent Inspections a) Each production process for products registered and accepted for certification shall be completely assessed (all applicable control points shall be verified) annually prior to issuing the certificate. This also applies if the producers change CBs. b) The subsequent inspection can be carried out at any time during an “inspection window” that extends over a period of 8 months: from 4 months	yes	
5.30	Management of Certification	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies notify them of any withdrawal or suspension of certification of an organisation.		License Agreement Part 9 - 9. CHANGES AFFECTING ACTIVITIES OF CERTIFICATION BODY/VERIFICATION BODY 9.1 CB/VB shall immediately inform GLOBALG.A.P. of all changes in personnel relevant for the management of the GLOBALG.A.P. System (e.g. change of the Scheme Manager, In-House Trainer, etc.), changes that may affect its performance as an independent CB/VB, in particular any changes in its accreditation status including suspension, withdrawal of accreditation or any changes to its corporate structure (including the change of its ownership, legal entity or d/b/a/ name, legal entity type, primary location and contact information).	yes	

5,31	Use of ICT during the audit	With the exception of audits under the scope of recognition “FII - Broker”, At least part of the annual full audit shall be carried out on site.		GR Part III - 5.2 Announced Inspections (i) The CB may divide the announced inspections into 2 modules: An off-site module and an on-site module. Both modules have to be performed by the same auditor/inspector. (ii) The off-site evaluation methodology shall be validated by the CB before putting it into practice and shall be part of the yearly management review. See 5.7 for guidance on using information and communication technology (ICT). GR Part III - 5.7 Using Information and Communication Technology for the Off-Site Module (Option 1 or Option 2) (Based on IAF MD4:2018).	yes	
5,32	Use of ICT during the audit	The Certification Programme Owner shall define what part(s) of the audit may be carried out remotely without compromising the effectiveness of the audit. On site audit activities shall include as a minimum inspection / physical verification of Good Manufacturing Practices, and verification that the Food Safety Management System (including HACCP) addresses all applicable parts of the operation of the audited organisation.		GR Part III - 5.7 Using Information and Communication Technology for the Off-Site Module (Option 1 or Option 2) (Based on IAF MD4:2018)	yes	
5,33	Use of ICT during the audit	The remote part of the audit may only be carried out with the mutual agreement of the audited organisation and the Certification Body.		GR Part III - 5.7 Using Information and Communication Technology for the Off-Site Module (Option 1 or Option 2) (Based on IAF MD4:2018)	yes	
5,34	Use of ICT during the audit	The CPO shall specify the maximum period of time between the beginning and the end of all audit activities included in the audit duration to maintain the audit efficiency and integrity. That period of time shall not exceed 30 days.		GR Part III - 5.7 Using Information and Communication Technology for the Off-Site Module (Option 1 or Option 2) (Based on IAF MD4:2018)	yes	

5.34.1	Use of ICT during the audit	In specific situations where requirement 5.34 cannot be met, the Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies have a clear dispensation process including at least the risk assessment of further extension on the efficiency and integrity of the audit. The period of time between the beginning and the end of all audit activities included in the audit duration shall not be extended beyond 90 days.		GR Part III - 5.7 Using Information and Communication Technology for the Off-Site Module (Option 1 or Option 2) (Based on IAF MD4:2018)	yes	

Section 6 - Multi-site Certification

Name of Certification Programme: GLOBALG.A.P. IFA v5.4

NB: please only complete the below table if your scope of Benchmarking include one of the below GFSI scopes of recognition:
- AI, - AII, - BI, - BII, - BIII, - G
and your programme's governance allows for multi-site certification.

GFSI Benchmarking Requirements version 2020.1			CPO self assessment		Benchmark leader assessment	
6.1	General requirements	Certification Programmes shall ensure that Certification Bodies meet or exceed the requirements defined in IAF MD1 current version.		General Regulation Part III Section 1: - : d) Certification Bodies shall comply with GLOBALG.A.P. requirements in keeping with relevant clauses of IAF MD1.	yes	Note Aquacultural no sampling all sites audited
6.2	General requirements	The Certification Programme Owner shall clearly specify the conditions for certification of multi-site organisations based on sampling.		Sampling methods for Multi-site organisations are referenced here: General Regulations Part III : CB and Accreditation Rules 5. Assessment Process 5.3 Option 2 Producer Groups and Option 1 Multisites with QMS 5.3.2 External Inspection of Producer Group Members and/or Production Sites General Regulations General Regulations Part II describes the complete set of rules governing multisite and group (Option 2) certifications. The complete set of governing rules is too encompasing to be quoted here.	yes	

6.3	General requirements	All sites included in the scope of certification of a multi-site organisation shall be operated under the same Food Safety Management System and under the control of a central function.		A QMS is required as part of the certifcation process. See QMS checklist. General Regulations Part II - 1.1 Legality a) There shall be documentation, which clearly demonstrates that the applicant is or belongs to a legal entity. b) The legal entity shall have been granted the legal right to carry out agricultural production and/or trading and be able to legally contract with and represent the group members and production sites. General Regulations Part II - 1.2.1 Requirements for Producer Members of Producer Groups (i) There shall be written contracts in force between each producer member and the legal entity. The contracts shall include the following elements: • Producer group name and legal identification • Name and/or legal identification of the producer • Producer contact address • Details of the individual production sites, including certified and non-certified products (the contract may refer to the producer group's internal register for this information) • Details of area (crops) or tonnage (livestock and aquaculture) (the contract may refer to the producer group's internal register for this information) • Producer commitment to comply with the requirements of the GLOBALG.A.P. Standard • Producer agreement to comply with the group's documented procedures, policies and, where provided, technical advice • Sanctions that may be applied in case of GLOBALG.A.P. and any other internal requirements not being met	yes	
6.4	General requirements	There shall be a legal or contractual link between the sites and the central function.		General Regulations Part II - 1.1 Legality a) There shall be documentation, which clearly demonstrates that the applicant is or belongs to a legal entity. b) The legal entity shall have been granted the legal right to carry out agricultural production and/or trading and be able to legally contract with and represent the group members and production sites. General Regulations Part II - 1.2.1 Requirements for Producer Members of Producer Groups (i) There shall be written contracts in force between each producer member and the legal entity. The contracts shall include the following elements:	yes	

6.5	General requirements	The central function shall request certification as a multi-site organisation based on sampling in their application to the Certification Body. The central function, not the individual sites, shall be contracted to the Certification Body.		General Regulations Part II - Legality - c) The legal entity shall enter into a contractual relationship with GLOBALG.A.P. through the signature of the 'GLOBALG.A.P. Sublicense and Certification Agreement' in its latest version (available on the GLOBALG.A.P. website) with a GLOBALG.A.P. approved CB, or it shall explicitly acknowledge the receipt and the inclusion of the 'GLOBALG.A.P. Sublicense and Certification Agreement' with the signature of the service contract/agreement with the CB, and the CB shall hand over a copy of the 'GLOBALG.A.P. Sublicense and Certification Agreement' to the QMS management. The legal entity becomes the sole holder of the GLOBALG.A.P. certificate.	yes	
6.6	General requirements	The central function shall be included in the scope of the certification.		Auditing of the central function (office) is referenced here: General Regulations Part III CB and Accreditation Rules 5. Assessment Process 5.3 Option 2 Producer Groups and Option 1 Multisites with QMS 5.3.1 External QMS Audits of Option 2 Producers Grouops and Option 2 Multisites (with implemented QMS) (a) to (i) inclusive. e.g. (c) The Evaluation process is divided into 2 elements: -(i) Audit of the QMS -(ii) Inspection of a sample of registered producers .... (e) The QMS audit shall be undertaken at the central office/administrative center of the producer group (i) The final report and result can only be concluded after both the QMS and the minimum sample of producer members/production sites are evaluated General Regulations Part II - Section 5: 5 INTERNAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AUDIT a) The QMS for the GLOBALG.A.P. scheme shall be audited at least annually. b) Internal auditors shall comply with the requirements set in Annex II.1. c) Internal auditors shall be independent of the area being audited. • It is permitted for the same person to initially develop the QMS and then undertake the required internal annual QMS audit, however the person responsible for the day-to-day ongoing management of the QMS is not allowed to undertake the internal QMS audits.	yes	

6.7	General requirements	The central function shall be audited by the Certification Body at least annually and before the Certification Body undertakes the auditing of sample sites. If necessary, a small number of the sample sites may be audited prior to the audit of the central function.		General Regulations Part II - Section 5: 5 INTERNAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AUDIT e) The completed QMS checklist with comments for every QMS control point shall be available on site for review by the CB auditor during the external audit. General Regulations Part III - 5.4.1 External QMS Audits of Option 2 Producer Groups and Option 1 Multisites (with Implemented QMS) a) The evaluation process shall involve a sampling of the components to assess compliance with the standard and enable certification. All documentation, sites, personnel, and operations that are declared by the group or multisite organization to be relevant and pertinent to the setting up and administration of the QMS as described in General Regulations Part II shall be evaluated. b) The evaluation process is designed to establish that the QMS and administrative structure meet the criteria and that the internal audits and inspections of producers/production sites meet the requirements of the GLOBALG.A.P. scheme. c) The evaluation process is divided into 2 elements: (i) Audit of the QMS (ii) Inspection of a sample of registered producers/production/handling sites (see General Regulations Part I 5.2) d) The CB shall send the audit plan to the management of the applicant prior to the audit. e) The QMS audit shall be undertaken at the central office/administrative center of the producer group or multisite company and at the central product handling facility/facilities.	yes	

6.8	Central Function	The central function shall ensure management commitment to the system / integrity and clearly describe the roles and responsibilities of management, internal auditors and other members of the organisation. The central function shall be separate and independent from the sites.		QMS v5.4 Checklist: QM 2.2 Competency and Training of Staff General Reguations Part II - 5 INTERNAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AUDIT a) The QMS for the GLOBALG.A.P. scheme shall be audited at least annually. b) Internal auditors shall comply with the requirements set in Annex II.1. c) Internal auditors shall be independent of the area being audited. • It is permitted for the same person to initially develop the QMS and then undertake the required internal annual QMS audit, however the person responsible for the day-to-day ongoing management of the QMS is not allowed to undertake the internal QMS audits. d) Records of the internal audit, audit findings, and follow up of corrective actions resulting from an audit shall be maintained and available. e) The completed QMS checklist with comments for every QMS control point shall be available on site for review by the CB auditor during the external audit. f) The organization (producer group or multisite company) shall have completed and signed the 'Food Safety Policy Declaration'. Completion and signature of the 'Food Safety Policy Declaration' is a commitment to be renewed annually for each new certification cycle. The central management may assume this commitment for the organization and for all its members by completing and signing one declaration at QMS level, which shall be attached to the QMS checklist used for the internal audit. In case the 'Food Safety Policy Declaration' has not been completed and signed at QMS level, each group member/individual production site shall	yes	

6.9	Central Function	The central function shall have authoritative control of the Food Safety Management System of all sites within the certification and shall maintain traceability and issue, maintain and retain all relevant documents relating to the sites within the programme.		QMS v5.4 Checklist Generral Regulations Part II - 1.1 Legality a) There shall be documentation, which clearly demonstrates that the applicant is or belongs to a legal entity. b) The legal entity shall have been granted the legal right to carry out agricultural production and/or trading and be able to legally contract with and represent the group members and production sites. c) The legal entity shall enter into a contractual relationship with GLOBALG.A.P. through the signature of the 'GLOBALG.A.P. Sublicense and Certification Agreement' in its latest version (available on the GLOBALG.A.P. website) with a GLOBALG.A.P. approved CB, or it shall explicitly acknowledge the receipt and the inclusion of the 'GLOBALG.A.P. Sublicense and Certification Agreement' with the signature of the service contract/agreement with the CB, and the CB shall hand over a copy of the 'GLOBALG.A.P. Sublicense and Certification Agreement' to the QMS management. The legal entity becomes the sole holder of the GLOBALG.A.P. certificate. d) A single legal entity can only operate one QMS per crop per country. Only a legal entity that can be certified under Option 1 can join a group for Option 2 certification. If a group or multisite joins another group or multisite, the 2 quality management systems shall merge into one to be managed by one single legal entity that will be the certificate holder. General Regulations Part II - 3.1 Document Control Requirements a) There shall be a written procedure defining the control of documents. b) All documentation shall be reviewed and approved by authorized personnel before issue and distribution.	yes	
6.10	Central Function	The central function shall have an effective customer complaint procedure.		General Regulations Part II - 4 COMPLAINT HANDLING a) The applicant shall have a system for effectively managing customer complaints and the relevant part of the complaint system shall be available to the producer members. b) There shall be a documented procedure that describes how complaints are received, registered, identified, investigated, followed up, and reviewed. c) The procedure shall be available to customers as required. d) The procedure shall cover both complaints against the applicant as well as individual producers or sites.	yes	

6.11	Central Function	The central function shall manage and maintain relations with the sites for the activities related to the scope of certification.		General Regulations Part II - 2 MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATION The QMS shall be robust and ensure that the group's registered members or production sites comply in a uniform manner with the GLOBALG.A.P. Standard requirements. 2.1 Structure a) The structure shall enable the appropriate implementation of a QMS across all registered producer members or production sites. b) The applicant shall have a management structure and sufficient suitably trained resources to effectively ensure that the requirements of GLOBALG.A.P. are met by all producers and at all production sites. Members of management shall annually conduct a documented management review and make necessary changes. The management review may be in the form of an annual staff meeting, where food safety resources, the status of actions from previous management reviews, external and internal changes that are relevant to the quality management system, and effectiveness of the quality management system are reviewed. Evidence of this management review shall be available and verified by the external CB auditor. The organizational structure shall be documented and shall include individuals responsible for: • Managing the QMS • The internal inspections of each producer member and/or production site annually (i.e. internal inspector(s)) • The internal audit of the quality management system and verifying the internal inspections (i.e. internal auditor). There shall be at least one person in the QMS structure (e.g. internal auditor) who is responsible and	yes	

6.12	Central Function	The central function shall have in place sufficient management and technical capacity to implement and maintain the internal audit programme.		General Regulations Part II - 2 MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATION The QMS shall be robust and ensure that the group's registered members or production sites comply in a uniform manner with the GLOBALG.A.P. Standard requirements. 2.1 Structure a) The structure shall enable the appropriate implementation of a QMS across all registered producer members or production sites. b) The applicant shall have a management structure and sufficient suitably trained resources to effectively ensure that the requirements of GLOBALG.A.P. are met by all producers and at all production sites. Members of management shall annually conduct a documented management review and make necessary changes. The management review may be in the form of an annual staff meeting, where food safety resources, the status of actions from previous management reviews, external and internal changes that are relevant to the quality management system, and effectiveness of the quality management system are reviewed. Evidence of this management review shall be available and verified by the external CB auditor. The organizational structure shall be documented and shall include individuals responsible for: • Managing the QMS • The internal inspections of each producer member and/or production site annually (i.e. internal inspector(s)) • The internal audit of the quality management system and verifying the internal inspections (i.e. internal auditor). There shall be at least one person in the QMS structure (e.g. internal auditor) who is responsible and	yes	

6.13	Central Function	The central function shall be subject to management review in accordance with Certification Programme requirements and shall be itself subject to internal audit.		General Regulations Part II - 5 INTERNAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AUDIT a) The QMS for the GLOBALG.A.P. scheme shall be audited at least annually. b) Internal auditors shall comply with the requirements set in Annex II.1. c) Internal auditors shall be independent of the area being audited. • It is permitted for the same person to initially develop the QMS and then undertake the required internal annual QMS audit, however the person responsible for the day-to-day ongoing management of the QMS is not allowed to undertake the internal QMS audits. d) Records of the internal audit, audit findings, and follow up of corrective actions resulting from an audit shall be maintained and available. e) The completed QMS checklist with comments for every QMS control point shall be available on site for review by the CB auditor during the external audit. f) The organization (producer group or multisite company) shall have completed and signed the 'Food Safety Policy Declaration'. Completion and signature of the 'Food Safety Policy Declaration' is a commitment to be renewed annually for each new certification cycle. The central management may assume this commitment for the organization and for all its members by completing and signing one declaration at QMS level, which shall be attached to the QMS checklist used for the internal audit. In case the 'Food Safety Policy Declaration' has not been completed and signed at QMS level, each group member/individual production site shall complete and sign the declaration individually and keep it attached to the internal inspection checklist.	yes	

6.14	Internal audit	An internal audit programme based on site and risk profile shall be in place and undertaken by the central function. This programme shall ensure audits of all sites, the central function and the management system at least annually.		General Regulations Part II - 5 INTERNAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AUDIT a) The QMS for the GLOBALG.A.P. scheme shall be audited at least annually. b) Internal auditors shall comply with the requirements set in Annex II.1. c) Internal auditors shall be independent of the area being audited. • It is permitted for the same person to initially develop the QMS and then undertake the required internal annual QMS audit, however the person responsible for the day-to-day ongoing management of the QMS is not allowed to undertake the internal QMS audits. d) Records of the internal audit, audit findings, and follow up of corrective actions resulting from an audit shall be maintained and available. e) The completed QMS checklist with comments for every QMS control point shall be available on site for review by the CB auditor during the external audit. f) The organization (producer group or multisite company) shall have completed and signed the 'Food Safety Policy Declaration'. Completion and signature of the 'Food Safety Policy Declaration' is a commitment to be renewed annually for each new certification cycle. The central management may assume this commitment for the organization and for all its members by completing and signing one declaration at QMS level, which shall be attached to the QMS checklist used for the internal audit. In case the 'Food Safety Policy Declaration' has not been completed and signed at QMS level, each group member/individual production site shall complete and sign the declaration individually and keep it attached to the internal inspection checklist.	yes	

6.15	Internal audit	The internal audit programme shall have documented procedures and be both practical and feasible in operative terms.		General Regulations Part II - 5 INTERNAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AUDIT a) The QMS for the GLOBALG.A.P. scheme shall be audited at least annually. b) Internal auditors shall comply with the requirements set in Annex II.1. c) Internal auditors shall be independent of the area being audited. • It is permitted for the same person to initially develop the QMS and then undertake the required internal annual QMS audit, however the person responsible for the day-to-day ongoing management of the QMS is not allowed to undertake the internal QMS audits. d) Records of the internal audit, audit findings, and follow up of corrective actions resulting from an audit shall be maintained and available. e) The completed QMS checklist with comments for every QMS control point shall be available on site for review by the CB auditor during the external audit. f) The organization (producer group or multisite company) shall have completed and signed the 'Food Safety Policy Declaration'. Completion and signature of the 'Food Safety Policy Declaration' is a commitment to be renewed annually for each new certification cycle. The central management may assume this commitment for the organization and for all its members by completing and signing one declaration at QMS level, which shall be attached to the QMS checklist used for the internal audit. In case the 'Food Safety Policy Declaration' has not been completed and signed at QMS level, each group member/individual production site shall complete and sign the declaration individually and keep it attached to the internal inspection checklist.	yes	

6.16	Internal audit	Clear requirements for internal auditors and technical reviewers shall be defined, documented and reviewed by the Certification Body.		ANNEX II.1 INTERNAL AUDITOR AND INSPECTOR QUALIFICATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES - Section 2 Qualfications - 2.1 Formal Qualifications 2.1.1 Inspectors: (i) A post high school diploma in a discipline related to the scope of certification (Crops and/or Livestock and/or Aquaculture); or an agricultural high school qualification with 2 years of experience in the relevant sub-scope after qualification; or any other high school qualification with 3 years of sector-specific experience (e.g. farm management, including owner operators, in the relevant products, commercial consultant in the relevant product, field experience relevant to specific products) and participation in educational opportunities relevant to their scope of certification. 2.1.2 Auditors: (i) A post high school diploma in a discipline related to the scope of certification (Crops and/or Livestock and/or Aquaculture); or an agricultural high school qualification with 2 years of experience in the relevant sub-scope after qualification; or any other high school qualification with 2 years of experience in quality management systems and 3 years of experience in the relevant sub-scope after qualification.	yes	
6.17	Internal audit	Internal auditors shall meet similar or comparable requirements to those for external auditors, as set out within each Certification Programme Owner's rules. This shall include, at a minimum, requirements related to internal auditor education, training, work experience or other qualifications. Their qualifications shall be assessed annually by the Certification Body. Certification Programme Owners may require the organisation's internal auditors to successfully complete the Certification Programme Owners specific auditor training.		ANNEX II.1 INTERNAL AUDITOR AND INSPECTOR QUALIFICATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES - Section 2 Qualfications - 2.1 Formal Qualifications 2.1.1 Inspectors: (i) A post high school diploma in a discipline related to the scope of certification (Crops and/or Livestock and/or Aquaculture); or an agricultural high school qualification with 2 years of experience in the relevant sub-scope after qualification; or any other high school qualification with 3 years of sector-specific experience (e.g. farm management, including owner operators, in the relevant products, commercial consultant in the relevant product, field experience relevant to specific products) and participation in educational opportunities relevant to their scope of certification. 2.1.2 Auditors: (i) A post high school diploma in a discipline related to the scope of certification (Crops and/or Livestock and/or Aquaculture); or an agricultural high school qualification with 2 years of experience in the relevant sub-scope after qualification; or any other high school qualification with 2 years of experience in quality management systems and 3 years of experience in the relevant sub-scope after qualification.	yes	

6.18	Internal audit	Internal auditors shall be regularly evaluated, calibrated and monitored.		General Regulations Part II Section 2.2 - d) If there are more than one internal auditor or inspector, they shall undergo training and evaluation to ensure consistency in their approach and interpretation of the standard (e.g. by documented shadow audits/inspections).	yes	
6.19	Internal audit	Internal auditors shall be assigned by the central function to sites to ensure impartiality.		General Regulations Part II Section 2.2 - 2.2 Competency and Training of Staff a) The competency requirements, training and qualifications for key personnel (those mentioned in 1.2.1, but also any other identified personnel) shall be defined and documented. These qualification requirements also apply to external consultants. b) The management shall ensure that all personnel with responsibility for compliance with the GLOBALG.A.P. Standard are adequately trained and meet the defined competency requirements: • Internal auditor competence (as set out in Annex II.1) shall be checked by management. • Internal inspector competence (as set out by Annex II.1) shall be checked by the internal auditor. • Where the internal auditor does not have the necessary food safety and G.A.P. training, but only QMS training/experience, another person with these qualifications (and identified in the QMS) shall form part of the “audit team” to perform the approval of the farm inspections. • Technical advisors to the producer group members/company shall meet the requirements described in the applicable CPCC, depending on the scope of certification (e.g. CB 7.2.1, AQ 5.2.1). General Regulations Part II, Annex II.1 - 2.4 Independence and Confidentiality a) Auditors and inspectors are not allowed to audit their own job. Their independence shall be controlled and ensured by the QMS (i.e. an internal inspector/auditor cannot evaluate his own operations or a producer he has also consulted in the last 2 years). b) Auditors and inspectors shall strictly observe the producer group’s/producer’s procedures to maintain the confidentiality of	yes	

6.20	Internal audit	Internal audit reports shall be reviewed by the central function and include addressing the non-conformities resulting from the internal audit.		General Regulations Part II 7 NON-COMPLIANCES, CORRECTIVE ACTION, AND SANCTIONS a) There shall be a procedure to handle non-compliances and corrective actions, which may result from internal or external audits and/or inspections, customer complaints or failures of the QMS. b) There shall be documented procedures for the identification and evaluation of non-conformances and non-compliances to the QMS by the group or by its members, respectively. c) Corrective actions following non-compliances shall be evaluated and a timescale defined for action. d) Responsibility for implementing and resolving corrective actions shall be defined. e) A system of sanctions and non-conformances that meets the requirements defined in the GLOBALG.A.P. General Regulations Part I shall be operated with producers or production sites. In case of contractual non-conformances (e.g. not complying with one of the QMS internal policies), sanctions are to be decided by the QMS. f) Mechanisms shall be in place to notify the GLOBALG.A.P. approved certification body immediately of suspensions or cancellations of registered producers or production sites. g) Records shall be maintained of all sanctions including evidence of subsequent corrective actions and decision-making processes.	yes	
6.21	Site audit sampling	The Certification Programme Owner shall have a system in place for the Certification Bodies to define a risk-based sampling programme that includes a minimum sample size determined by the Certification Programme Owner. The sampling programme shall include provisions to increase sample size based on various risk factors (e.g., audit scope, types of activities on-site, findings of the central management system audit, findings at sampled sites, customer requirements, etc.), size of the group or multi-site organisation and the internal structure.		General Regulations Part III Section 5.4.2.1 b) Certification bodies may, based on justifiable criteria, increase the verification rate of the total numbers of registered producers/production sites. The producer group/company has the right to appeal such a decision. Reasons for an increase could arise from any of the following: (i) Failure to comply with significant QMS and/or product handling requirements affecting the producer members' compliance (ii) Customer complaints; e.g. illegal pesticide residue detection (iii) Significant inconsistencies between the internal audit/inspection reports and the CB inspection/audit findings (iv) The possible need to determine if the NC is structural or not (v) Number of products	yes	

6.22	Site audit sampling	The Certification Programme Owner shall ensure that Certification Bodies audit a sample of the sites every year.		General Regulations Part 1 - 5.2.2 Certification Body Quality Management System (QMS) Audit a) The audit (announced and unannounced) shall be carried out by a CB auditor (see CB auditor requirements in General Regulations Part III). b) The audit (announced and unannounced) shall be based on the QMS checklist that is available on the GLOBALG.A.P. website. 5.2.2.1 QMS Announced Audits The CB shall carry out one announced audit of the QMS at the initial assessment and thereafter once per annum. The CB may divide the announced audits into 2 modules, which shall be verified by the same auditor: (i) Off-site module: This consists of a desk review of documentation sent by the QMS to the CB before the audit, including internal audit, internal register of approved producer members/production sites, 'Food Safety Policy Declaration', risk assessments, procedures required in the General Regulations Part II, residue monitoring system (frequency, parameters, sampling program), residue analysis reports, licenses, list of medicines used, list of plant protection products used, proof of lab accreditation and certificates or inspection reports of subcontracted activities, etc. (ii) On-site module: This consists of an on-site audit of the remaining content of the QMS checklist, plus the verification of the information assessed off-site and the way the management system works on-site (e.g. internal inspections, traceability, segregation and mass balance, central product handling units, etc.). The aim of the use of both modules is to reduce the time spent on-site, although the overall duration of the audit will not be reduced. The CB decides if it will offer the off-site module to its clients. In case the	yes	
6.23	Site audit sampling	The annual sampling size of the Certification Body audit sampling programme shall be based on IAF MD1 current version. The square root sample of the Certification Body's audit of the sites shall be calculated per risk category. The sampling programme can be adjusted based on the use of monitoring technologies.		General Regulations Partk III Section 5.4.2.1 c) Producers shall be classified by production type, within the respective sub-scope. These may include, but are not limited to the following examples: (i) Housed livestock (ii) Open-field livestock or crops (iii) Covered/protected crops (iv) Perennial crops (v) Fresh water activities (aquaculture) (vi) Sea sites (aquaculture) Risk categories (e.g. definition of high risk crops, etc.) are defined in the Crops Rules and Aquaculture Rules: See Section 4 in Aquaculture and Crops Rules - Assessment Process.	yes	
6.24	Site audit sampling	The programme shall be partly selective and partly non-selective, but at least 25% of the sample shall be randomly selected from the total number of sites. Selected sites shall be identified based on the organisation's internal audit programme findings and the site risk profiles.		GR Part III - 5.4.2.1 - f)) At least 25% of the square root sample of the actual number of sites of producers shall be randomly selected. Selection of sites or members of the group shall be based on the internal audit findings and risk profiles..	yes	

6.25	Management of non-conformities	Non-conformities found on sites shall be assessed to ascertain if these indicate an overall Food Safety System deficiency and therefore may be applicable to all or other sites. If non-conformities relate to all or other sites, corrective action shall be undertaken and verified both by the central function and by the Certification Body.		Genral Regulations Part III 5.4.2.1. - b) Certification bodies may, based on justifiable criteria, increase the verification rate of the total numbers of registered producers/production sites. The producer group/company has the right to appeal such a decision. Reasons for an increase could arise from any of the following: (i) Failure to comply with significant QMS and/or product handling requirements affecting the producer members' compliance (ii) Customer complaints; e.g. illegal pesticide residue detection (iii) Significant inconsistencies between the internal audit/inspection reports and the CB inspection/audit findings (iv) The possible need to determine if the NC is structural or not (v) Number of products	yes	
6.26	Management of non-conformities	In the event that non-conformities are found when auditing sites, which may not jeopardise certification but may raise concerns on conformity of the organisation, the Certification Body shall increase the sample size to ensure adequate confidence in the conformity of the organisation.		Genral Regulations Part III 5.4.2.1. - b) Certification bodies may, based on justifiable criteria, increase the verification rate of the total numbers of registered producers/production sites. The producer group/company has the right to appeal such a decision. Reasons for an increase could arise from any of the following: (i) Failure to comply with significant QMS and/or product handling requirements affecting the producer members' compliance (ii) Customer complaints; e.g. illegal pesticide residue detection (iii) Significant inconsistencies between the internal audit/inspection reports and the CB inspection/audit findings (iv) The possible need to determine if the NC is structural or not (v) Number of products	yes	
6.27	Management of non-conformities	If the central function, or any site fails to meet the critical Certification Programme requirements, then the whole organisation, including the central function and all sites, will fail to gain certification. Where certification has previously been in place, this shall initiate the Certification Body's process to suspend or withdraw its certification.		General Regulations Part I - 6.2.2. - b) In a multisite operation without QMS, the compliance level is calculated for the entire operation in one checklist. Any applicable control point common to all sites needs to be taken into account for all sites. c) In a multisite operation with QMS, the compliance level is calculated per sampled production site. Each production site shall comply with the certification requirements. Any applicable control point common to all sites (e.g. central chemical storage) needs to be taken into account for all sites. d) In a producer group, the compliance level is calculated per sampled producer. Each producer member shall comply with the certification requirements. Any applicable control point common to all producers (e.g. central chemical storage) needs to be taken into account for all producers.	yes	

NB: please only complete the below table if your scope of Benchmarking include one of the below GFSI scopes of recognition:

- AI, - AII, - BI, - BII, - BIII

and your programme's governance allows for multi-site certification.

6.28	Site audit sampling	A risk-based approach shall be in place to determine the eligibility of commodities. Certain crops or activities deemed "high-risk" shall not be eligible for multi-site or group certification.		General Regulations Partk III Section 5.4.2.1 a) The final selection and communication to the QMS of which producers/sites to inspect shall normally be carried out by the CB after the QMS audit (both off-site and on-site modules), using criteria based on the group/company structure and defined in a sampling procedure, which is risk-based. Producers/Sites with high-risk products shall be included in the yearly audit plan and not sampled. High-risk products include fresh herbs, leafy greens, lettuce, romaine, spinach, arugula/rocket, berries, cantaloupe melons, and any other product associated with known foodborne disease outbreaks. The notification shall normally not exceed 48 hours (2 working days) per producer.	yes	5.3.2.1
6.29	Site audit sampling	The sampling programme shall be determined so that all members within the group or multi-site organisation are audited within a defined period, based on the risk of the commodity, for example 3-5 years.		General Regulations Part III Section 5.4.2.1 - e) The producer selection shall aim to cover all producer members/sites of the producer group/company throughout the years, taking into consideration risk factors, new producers and random selection. Unless there is a particular reason, the subsequent assessment shall normally not include producers/sites already sampled during previous assessments. Factors for inclusion in the initial or subsequent sampling may include higher risk of operation, special status of the member, number of products, previous inspection results, multisite member, records of complaints, variations in site size, variations in shift patterns, modifications since last certification audit, environmental issues or variability, differences in language or cultural practices at sites, and geographic distribution. Producers that move from one group to another shall have a higher possibility of being included in the sample of producers chosen by the CB. All producers or sites within the group shall be sampled at least once every ten years.	yes	(max 10 years)
6.30	Site audit sampling	A proportion of the sites selected to be audited by the Certification Body shall be unannounced. The unannounced audit sample size shall be determined by the risk of the commodity, but be at a minimum of 20% of the sample size.		We already comply with at least 20% based on our current GRs.	yes	

6.31	Certificates	The Certification Programme Owner shall determine the methodology for issuing certificates to the central function and the sites. A certificate shall be issued to the central function of the group or multi-site organisation. Separate certificates may only be issued to sites that were audited as part of the sample programme. Those certificates shall be clearly distinguishable from certificates that are issued to individually certified companies and shall state explicitly that the recipient is part of a certified group or multi-site organisation, and any limitations to the scope of certification shall be transparent to customers.		General Regulations Part II - Seciton 1 - c) The legal entity shall enter into a contractual relationship with GLOBALG.A.P. through the signature of the 'GLOBALG.A.P. Sublicense and Certification Agreement' in its latest version (available on the GLOBALG.A.P. website) with a GLOBALG.A.P. approved CB, or it shall explicitly acknowledge the receipt and the inclusion of the 'GLOBALG.A.P. Sublicense and Certification Agreement' with the signature of the service contract/agreement with the CB, and the CB shall hand over a copy of the 'GLOBALG.A.P. Sublicense and Certification Agreement' to the QMS management. The legal entity becomes the sole holder of the GLOBALG.A.P. certificate. See also: ANNEX II.2 FLEXIBLE DISTRIBUTION RULE TO ACCOMPANY THE QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN THE INTEGRATED FARM ASSURANCE STANDARD FRUIT AND VEGETABLES	yes	
6.32	Certificates	If the multi-site organisation is allowed to sell their product outside of the group or multi-site organisation, in all cases the member sites shall be transparent about the source and scope of certification, by providing customers with a copy of the certificate as issued above.		ANNEX II.2 FLEXIBLE DISTRIBUTION RULE TO ACCOMPANY THE QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN THE INTEGRATED FARM ASSURANCE STANDARD FRUIT AND VEGETABLES Section 2 - 3. Any producer group member that distributes at least part of its production outside of the producer group shall be authorized for such activity in writing by the producer group as part of the contract between the producer group and the specific producer group member. The certified producer group or the producer group member shall have an agreement with the outside packhouse or packing/selling organization where the member is distributing directly.	yes	

NB: please only complete the below table if your scope of Benchmarking include one of the below GFSI scopes of recognition:

- G

and your programme's governance allows for multi-site certification.

6.33	General requirements	Multi-site certification shall only apply to organisations with more than 20 sites operating similar processes.		n/a		
6.34	General requirements	A Certification Programme shall certify each Tier 1 facility site of a company's distribution and / or warehouse operations with each T1 site having its own single certificate. However, a multi-site approach may be used to include all T2 or below (e.g. T3) satellite sites linked to the T1 organisations' certification.		n/a		

6.35	General requirements	All sites within a multi-site sampling programme shall be operating under the same storage conditions (e.g. ambient stable, refrigerated, frozen or combinations of these) and have the same risk profile (e.g. size of site, shift patterns, management structure and employee numbers). Therefore, it is recognised that an organisation could have several multi-site sampling programmes based on different process and risk profile, but these programmes shall be clearly defined and documented.		n/a		
6.36	Site audit sampling	The sample size shall meet the requirements defined in the table 2.		n/a		