



GFSI Benchmarking Requirements 2024

Stakeholder Consultation Response

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GFSI would like to thank all stakeholders for your invaluable contributions to the GFSI Benchmarking Requirements (BMRs) v2024 stakeholder consultation.

Your feedback and insights have been critical in driving continuous improvement in food safety systems management and ensuring that the BMRs remain relevant, robust, and aligned with industry needs.

The consultation process provided a vital platform for diverse voices within the food safety community to share their perspectives on the proposed updates.

While the consultation officially closed at midnight CET on 17th September 2024, we also received additional responses after the deadline. To ensure inclusivity, we have chosen to incorporate these into our review process.

We are deeply inspired by the passion, dedication, and thoughtful contributions of consultation respondents. Your commitment to advancing food safety requirements has been truly remarkable, and we are immensely grateful to the individuals and organisations who took the time to share their insights and professional expertise with us.

In this context, we have made a deliberate effort to carefully consider and address every comment raised by our stakeholders.

This document sets out GFSI's comprehensive response to the feedback received during the consultation. We believe this approach offers a transparent and robust foundation for the refinement of the BMRs v2024.

Erica Sheward
GFSI Director

Key Highlights

Total Responses: We received 2 672 responses from 68 individual respondents. A breakdown of respondents is provided in the pie chart below.

Outcome: The finalised GFSI BMRs v2024 will soon be published, representing a significant milestone in driving harmonisation and excellence in food safety.

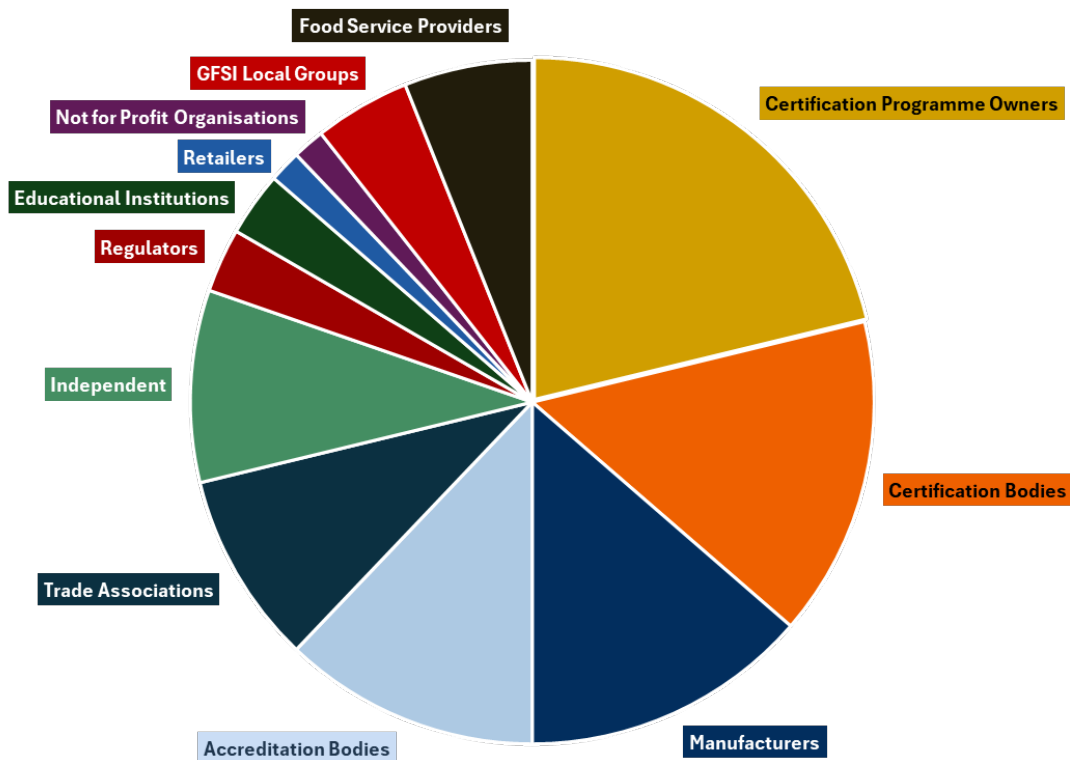
Next Steps: Applications for recognition against BMRs v2024 will commence immediately upon publication, in accordance with the guidelines outlined in GFSI BMRs v2020 Part I.

We sincerely appreciate your active participation in this important process. Your valuable input has played a key role in shaping the future of food safety requirements.

Thank you for your continued support.

Summary of Responses Received

This pie chart illustrates the breakdown of respondents by category:



Consultation Response Key

We are pleased to provide a summary of the consultation outcomes, including detailed responses to the feedback received. Each response was analyzed and categorized using a stratified RAG-rated approach. Below are the improved definitions of the response types:

Agree:

The Working Group (WG) agreed with the comment in full or, in some cases, agreed with specific elements of it. The agreed feedback was incorporated directly into the Benchmarking Requirements where relevant.

Misunderstood:

The comment indicated a misunderstanding of the intent behind the requirement, or the feedback was incorrectly aligned to a clause it did not directly address. These comments provided valuable insight into potential areas where greater clarity or explanatory guidance might be needed.

Opportunity Identified:

The comment prompted further discussion within the Working Group, identifying potential opportunities for improvement. Depending on the nature of the feedback, the comment was either actioned in the current iteration, incorporated into supplementary support materials, or earmarked for consideration in future updates.

Couldn't Reach Consensus:

The Working Group reviewed the comment or question but was unable to achieve full agreement or clarity on the matter. This may have been due to differing perspectives on the issue or difficulty interpreting the comment's intent. In some instances, a decision differing from the comment's suggestion was made after thorough deliberation.

This structured approach ensured that all stakeholder feedback was systematically reviewed, discussed, and addressed in a transparent and meaningful manner.

[Consult the Full BMRs v2024 Consultation Feedback.](#)