The Delta Project

Eliane Augareils, Project Manager
Key Project Info
Delta Sustainability Framework
Process and timeline
Sustainability goals and indicators
Delta Project

Key Information

- **Funded** by ISEAL Innovation Fund for 3 years (2019-2021)
- **Partners**: BCI, ICAC, Global Coffee Platform, and International Coffee Organisation
- **Project's aim**: Bridging the gap in measuring and reporting sustainability performance for the benefit of both ends of the value chain
  - Build multi-stakeholder, international **consensus** for sustainability measurement
  - **Harmonize approaches** to assess the impact of global commodities production
  - **Add value** for farmers from their sustainability performance data
1. Develop a Sustainability Framework: impact indicators, guiding principles and data standardization

- For the sustainability community: common language on sustainability across agricultural commodity sectors

2. Link sustainability performance to business actors and governments: method and guidance

- For companies & private sector: standardised sustainability information to customers/stakeholders, simplified data consolidation, consistent data collection

- For government & public sector: SDG commitments reporting, evidence-based decision making for agricultural policies & services
3. **Add value for producers:** feedback performance data to farmers, contextualise data by establishing links to open data sources (e.g. weather, market information), enhance the development of farmer-centred services (e.g. extension services, finance, insurance, etc.)

   ➢ **Farmers:** better learning and decision making, (improved) access to services
Delta Sustainability Framework
Delta Sustainability Framework
3 components

1. Guidelines for Sector Sustainability Information – Farm level

➢ Define the sector’s sustainability information do’s and don’ts
➢ How to derive claims from the sustainability information generated through the common set of indicators
➢ How to communicate sustainability information to customers and other stakeholders, building on the principles of reliability, relevance, clarity, transparency and accessibility
Delta Sustainability Framework
3 components

2. A common set of cross-commodity impact and outcome indicators
   - Farm-level
   - Impact / Outcome
   - Limited number
   - Relevance in terms of measuring progress and capacity to adapt to other commodities

3. Data standardization and indicators’ digitization
   - Standardization of data points
   - Data and information quality requirements
   - Confidentiality and disclosure
   - Data use options
Delta Sustainability Framework Timeline

Consultations
June 2019 – January 2020
Sustainability goals and indicators

Implementation protocols
Feb – August 2020
Guidelines and data protocols

Delta Sustainability Indicators V0
Feb – August 2020
Guidelines and data protocols

Delta Sustainability Indicators V1
Jan – Mar 2021
Refining the framework

First indicator set: 24 options
BCI
Cotton 2040 Impact Alignment Workstream
SEEP
ISEAL
ICO
GCP
Coffee

Working groups:
- Pesticides
- Expert consultations:
  - CO2eq
  - Soil
  - Gender
  - Water

Stocktaking
May-June 2019
Desk review of successful sustainability frameworks

2021
Cotton and coffee season
Indicator testing phase

October -December 2020 (tentative)
Pilot testing

WE ARE HERE
Main reference sources for the selection of the indicators

- SDG indicator framework
- ISEAL Common Core Indicators
- ICAC-SEEP framework
- GCP Coffee Data Standard
Main purpose of the consultations

➢ Share and confirm key sustainability goals for the cotton and coffee sectors;
➢ Integrate learnings and perspectives from all stakeholders into the development of the set of Delta Sustainability Indicators;
➢ Foster both commodity specific and cross-commodity collaboration in the alignment of sustainability metrics

Modalities

➢ Physical workshops and webinars
➢ One-to-one calls
➢ On-line surveys
Delta Sustainability Framework Consultations

Cotton standards & codes
Cotton 2040 Impact Metrics
Alignment Working group

Public and research organizations
SEEP Panel

Other sustainable standards
ISEAL Members

UN Agencies
Over 30 organizations involved as of today
Delta Sustainability Goals and Indicators
Delta Sustainability Indicators
3 pillars of sustainability & SDGs

Sustainability themes and sub-themes across the three pillars: environmental, economic and social.
Delta Sustainability Indicators
Sustainability goals for cotton

Sustainable Cotton Farming is expected to aim at the following goals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Headline impact areas</th>
<th>Environmentally sustainable agricultural practices (SDGs 3, 6, 12, 13, 14, 15)</th>
<th>Decent livelihoods/poverty reduction (SDGs 1, 8, 10)</th>
<th>Social wellbeing, equality &amp; empowerment (SDGs 2, 3, 6, 8, 10, 16)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common goals</td>
<td>Minimise contamination of natural resources</td>
<td>Make cotton farmers and workers earn a decent income</td>
<td>Ensure respect human rights on cotton farms, with no forced and child labour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Protect and regenerate ecosystem services</td>
<td>Be economically viable and farmers to be economically resilient</td>
<td>Ensure healthy &amp; safe working conditions for all farmers and workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build resilience to climate change</td>
<td>Alleviate poverty</td>
<td>Enhance equality and empowerment, including in gender, for cotton farmers and workers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Delta Sustainability Indicators Criteria

- **Monitor progress** towards the 9 goals and towards sustainable agricultural commodities.
  - **Relevance**: progress towards goals and credibility
  - **Usefulness**: global commitments, comparability and aggregation, stakeholders' needs
  - **Feasibility**: easy of data collection and costs.

- **15 farm-level, outcome/impact indicators**

- **Interdependences** between social, economic and environmental sustainability pillars
  - Indicator set to be seen as a whole.

- **Not prescriptive** on specific tools to use but setting minimum requirements and providing guidance
## Delta Sustainability Indicators
### Environmental dimension

### Environmental Indicators

1. **Use of highly hazardous pesticides**  
   *Unit:* kg active ingredient (a.i.) of highly hazardous pesticide per ha of harvested land

2. **Pesticide risk indicator**  
   *Alternative:* pesticide use by active ingredient kg per ha

3. **Water management (in irrigated farms)**
   - 3.1 **Quantity of water used for irrigation**  
     *Unit:* mega litres per ha of harvested land  
   - 3.1 **Water use efficiency**  
     *Unit:* percentage of water used for the crop out of water withdrawn/diverted from its source  
   - 3.3 **Water crop productivity**  
     *Unit:* mega litres per tonnes of cotton lint or Green Bean Equivalent (GBE)

4. **Top soil carbon content**  
   *Unit:* grams of organic carbon per kg of soil

5. **Fertiliser use by type**  
   *Unit:* kg a.i. per ha of harvested land  
   *In future:* nitrogen use efficiency

6. **Forest, wetland and grassland converted for cotton or coffee production**  
   *Unit:* ha of forest, wetland or grassland converted to cotton or coffee production

7. **Greenhouse gas emissions**  
   *Unit:* kg CO$_2$ equivalent per kg cotton lint or GBE

*Units: GBE coffee Green Bean Equivalent; ha hectare; kg kilogram*
## Delta Sustainability Indicators

### Economic dimension

### Economic Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Economic Indicators</th>
<th>Unit Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td><strong>Average yield</strong></td>
<td><strong>Unit:</strong> kg cotton lint or GBE per ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td><strong>Net average returns from cotton and coffee production</strong></td>
<td><strong>Unit:</strong> USD per ha seed cotton or GBE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>In future:</strong> Living Income</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td><strong>Price at farm gate</strong></td>
<td>Only for premium-based standards. <strong>Unit:</strong> local currency/tonne of seed cotton per kg of GBE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td><strong>Proportion of workers earning a legal minimum wage</strong></td>
<td><strong>Unit:</strong> daily average earnings for farm labour compared to (rural) minimum wage in US$ or local currency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Units:</strong> GBE coffee Green Bean Equivalent; ha hectare; kg kilogram</td>
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</table>
### Delta Sustainability Indicators

#### Social dimension

<table>
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<th>Social Indicators</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 Incidence of the worst forms of child labour</td>
<td>Unit: number of children aged 5 to 17 years engaged in child labour, by sex and age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Incidence of forced labour</td>
<td>Unit: number of people engaged in forced labour, by sex and age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Women empowerment</td>
<td>Composite indicator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Number of fatalities and non-fatalities on the farm</td>
<td>Unit: number of incidences per 1 million people</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you!
Do you want to participate?

www.deltaframework.org