



AIC Sustainability Programme Standard - Draft

Pillar 1 – Deforestation and Land Conversion

Confidential Draft for Consultation

16th August 2023

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Note: Although this document may be translated into various languages for the convenience of users, the English version remains the definitive reference document in the event of any dispute.

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope

Certification against this Pillar is available to any Participant, who complies with its requirements.

This Pillar is based on the general principles that raw materials and products are supplied with assurance regarding:

- No legal or illegal deforestation has taken place since 31st December 2020
- No land which is part of a natural ecosystem has been legally or illegally converted from its natural state since 31st December 2020

Participants compliant with this Pillar will be certified with the scope:

Certified under the AIC Sustainability Programme Pillar 1 Deforestation and Land Conversion

To achieve certification against this Pillar, Participants must provide evidence that they have taken all reasonable steps to avoid products that are not compliant, entering their supply chain at any point.

Robust traceability and control at all stages of the supply chain will be essential in achieving certification to this Pillar. The Participants' certification will therefore be confirmed in the scope of certification on three separate levels:

Level 1 – Participant Activity (the Participants' identified activities of processing, storage, transport, etc.)

Level 2 – Origin (the identified location(s)/ growing area(s) from which agricultural or natural products are sourced)

Level 3 – Supply Chain (the various identified stores, ports and transport mechanisms through which certified assured products will travel)

Participants may therefore be certified against this Pillar to Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3 and any combination of the three levels, depending upon the controls in place.

To achieve certification against this Pillar, audits will include verification at all levels of the supply chain necessary to confirm the effectiveness of a Participant's controls. This may include visits to the Participants' own operations, the regions from which any raw materials or products are being sourced and the supply chains along which they travel.

1.2 Food/ Feed Safety

It is a pre-requisite of this Programme that ALL raw materials/ feeds are ALSO certified under a food/ feed safety programme recognised by AIC.

For Participants in the Food/ Feed Sectors, this Pillar must be applied in addition to any food/ feed safety programme recognised by AIC. Participants must contact the Certification Body to confirm that any feed safety certification that they are considering using to partner this Pillar is recognised by AIC.

1.3 The Principles of the AIC Sustainability Programme

The AIC Sustainability Programme has been developed to explicitly assure end-users of the sustainability credentials relating to the products delivered to them.

The Programme is divided into three Pillars:

Pillar 1 – Deforestation and Land Conversion

Pillar 2 – Social

Pillar 3 – Good Environmental Practices

Participants may seek certification against a single Pillar, two Pillars or all three Pillars. Against each Pillar, Participants may seek certification against any of the three Levels described in 1.1 above.

The Programme is based on the principles of risk assessment and Good Operating Practices. Participants certificated under this Programme will have demonstrated that they have rigorous controls in place that meet standards currently recognised as international 'good practice'.

Where a Participant operates multiple sites, each site will be assessed for compliance against the Programme, in its own right.

The AIC Sustainability Programme is a product certification programme. Each product supplied by a Participant will be assessed on its own merits and the scope of any certificates of compliance issued will specify:

- The products for which compliance is being certificated.
- Each Pillar against which the product is being certificated.
- The Level to which the product is being certificated against each Pillar.

Where activities or functions relevant to the requirements of the AIC Sustainability Programme are outsourced to a third party, the Participant remains responsible for ensuring that these are carried out in a manner which meets the requirements of the Programme.

Depending on the Pillars and Levels being certified, audits may include:

- The original selection and sourcing of raw materials/ products by Participants, with specific reference to sustainability
- All transport to and from the Participants premises or designated store(s)
- The processing of any products
- The storage of raw materials, intermediate and finished products

Although the AIC Sustainability Programme represents ‘good practice’, compliance with this Pillar does not in itself absolve or diminish obligations that may be incumbent upon a Participant as a result of any client, statutory or regulatory requirements. In addition to the requirements of this Pillar, Participants must ensure that all products they supply meet the current legislative requirements of both the country in which they are produced and the countries in which the Participant places them on the market.

1.4 Statements Regarding Sustainable Products

Participants who achieve successful certification against this Pillar are reminded that this is part of a product certification programme. Claims of certification may only be made in relation to the specific scope shown on the Certificate of Conformity.

1.5 Application for Certification and the Assessment Process

1.5.1 Application for Certification

Participants must apply for certification against this Pillar to the authorised Certification Body. Details of the authorised Certification Body are available from the AIC website.

1.5.2 The Assessment Process

Participants are required to undergo an assessment process to ensure that their operations comply with the requirements of this Pillar, before a Certificate of Conformity can be issued.

There are a number of types of audit within the AIC Sustainability Programme:

- i) **Pre-Audit** – (voluntary for new Participants). Pre-Audits will evaluate new Applicants’ ability to meet the requirements of this Pillar and confirm the Levels being certified. At the Certification Body’s discretion, pre-audits will involve either an on-site or ‘desktop’ audit to confirm that appropriate controls are in place.
- ii) **Initial Audit** – Formal, in-depth, on-site audits to confirm that Applicants comply with the requirements of this Pillar. The duration of Initial Audits is dictated by the time required to fully assess the systems and procedures of the Applicant. The number of days required will be indicated prior to audit but may be extended if circumstances require this. Certificates are only issued on satisfactory correction of all non-conformances identified at Initial

- Audit. The details and scope of certification for certified sites will be added to the AIC Assurance Checker.
- iii) **Surveillance Audit** – annual audit for certified Participants.
 - iv) **Short Notice Audit** – an audit carried out at least once during the 3 year certification period. The Participant will be informed on the working day prior to the audit taking place.
 - v) **Unannounced Audit** – The Certification Body will carry out unannounced audits on a number of sites each year. Selection criteria for sites may include:
 - a) Response to reports or intelligence suggesting a significant issue or breach of Programme rules and requirements.
 - b) Current or emerging risks
 - c) A random selection to demonstrate the integrity of the Programme
 - vi) **Extra/ Immediate Audit** – The Certification Body will carry out extra / immediate audits at their discretion; these may be unannounced. Extra audits may be on site or a desk top exercise at the discretion of the Certification Body. Circumstances where they may be required include, but are not limited to:
 - a) Signing off action points following an audit, particularly if the action points relate to Major or Critical non-conformances.
 - b) Supplier Audit – an audit of a non-certified supplier to the Participant, carried out at the discretion of the Certification Body or as indicated in the relevant Pillar.
 - vi) The Certification Body or the nominated inspection body will assess a Participant’s conformance with this Pillar. The Certification Body shall be given access to all relevant information needed to confirm conformance with the Pillar and the right to inspect third parties subcontracted to perform work covered by the Pillar, at the Participant’s cost.
 - vii) The scope of the Verification Audit, (Initial, Surveillance or Unscheduled), will, at the discretion of the authorised Certification Body, include elements from each Level of the supply chain being certified. This will be based on risk management principles and the validation of effective controls. Where farms are to be assessed, a minimum of 3 supplying farms will be included in each audit unless they are already certified under a feed safety and sustainability scheme recognised by AIC.

1.6 AIC Sustainability Programme Certified Status

1.6.1 Issue of Certificates

A specific AIC Sustainability Programme Certificate will be issued to Participants who are in compliance with this Pillar. This will specify:

- The products for which compliance is being certificated.
- Each Pillar against which the product is being certificated.
- The Level to which the product is being certificated against each Pillar.

1.6.2 Compliance with Scheme Rules

Participants must comply at all times with the AIC Sustainability Programme Scheme Rules.

1.7 The AIC Assurance Checker

Those companies that achieve AIC Sustainability Programme certification are listed on the AIC Assurance Checker. The Checker includes details of the scope under which certificates have been granted. Interested parties may view the Assurance Checker via the AIC website at:

<https://www.agindustries.org.uk/sectors/trade-assurance-schemes.html>

1.8 Comments and Updates to this Pillar

Updates to this Pillar may be made from time to time. Any amendments will be notified to Participants and the latest version of the Pillar will be available on the AIC website.

Comments regarding this Pillar should be sent to AIC:

First Floor, Unit 4
The Forum
Minerva Business Park
Lynch Wood, Peterborough
PE2 6FT
United Kingdom

1.9 Definitions

For the purposes of this Standard, the following definitions apply:

Area Mass Balance: A supply chain model that combines mass balance and book & claim. Collectors / traders who buy a physical flow of material/product on the regular market can buy ‘credits for responsible production’ from growers. These credits must come from growers working in the same area where the physical material/product is purchased. The certificates of the purchasing area are administratively linked to the delivery of the material or product from that area via a mass balance model.

(Source: FEFAC Soy Sourcing Guidelines 2023, Cefetra & GMP+)

Chain of Custody: Process by which inputs and outputs and associated information are transferred, monitored and controlled as they move through each step in the relevant supply chain.

Check: Monitoring and measuring of processes and products against policies, objectives and requirements for the product, with the reporting of results.

Contamination: The undesired introduction of impurities of a chemical or microbiological nature or of foreign matter during production, sampling, packaging or repackaging, storage or transport.

Conversion: Change of a natural ecosystem to another land use or profound change in a natural ecosystem’s species composition, structure, or function. Conversion includes severe degradation or the introduction of management practices that result in substantial and sustained change in the ecosystem’s former species composition, structure, or function (Source: FEFAC Soy Sourcing Guidelines 2023 and The Accountability Framework).

<https://accountability-framework.org/operational-guidance/applying-the-definitions-related-to-deforestation-conversion-and-protection-of-ecosystems/>

Corrective Action: Any action to eliminate both a non-conformity and the cause of the non-conformity.

Cross-Contamination: Contamination of a material or product with another material or product.

Deforestation: Loss of natural forest as a result of: i) conversion to agriculture or other non-forest land use; ii) conversion to a tree plantation; or iii) severe and sustained degradation. Loss of natural forest that meets this definition is considered to be deforestation regardless of whether or not it is legal. The Accountability Framework’s definition of deforestation signifies “gross deforestation” of natural forest where “gross” is used in the sense of “total; aggregate; without deduction for reforestation or other offset (Source: FEFAC Soy Sourcing Guidelines 2023 and The Accountability Framework).

Deforestation-free: See No-deforestation.

Feed (or Animal Feed): Any Substance or product, including additives, whether processed, partially processed or unprocessed, intended to be used for oral feeding to animals. (Regulation (EC) No 178/2002)

Food (or Foodstuffs): Any substance or product, whether processed, partially processed or unprocessed, intended to be, or reasonably expected to be ingested by humans.

‘Food’ includes drink, chewing gum and any substance, including water, intentionally incorporated into the food during its manufacture, preparation or treatment.

‘Food’ shall not include: feed; live animals unless they are prepared for placing on the market for human consumption; plants prior to harvesting; medicinal products; cosmetics; tobacco and tobacco products; narcotic or psychotropic substances; residues and contaminants. (Regulation (EC) No 178/2002)

GAP: Good Agricultural Practice – a collection of principles applied to on-farm production and post-production processes resulting in safe for consumption products whilst taking into account economic, social and environmental sustainability

GMP: Good Manufacturing Practice is a system designed to ensure that products are consistently controlled and manufactured to defined standards (often with respect to hygiene and safety).

Mass Balance: A chain of custody model in which materials or products with a set of specified characteristics are mixed according to defined criteria with materials or products without that set of characteristics. The proportion of the input with specified characteristics might only match the initial proportions on average and will typically vary across different outputs (Source ISO 22095).

No-conversion: Commodity production, sourcing, or financial investments that do not cause or contribute to the conversion of natural ecosystems (as defined by the Accountability Framework). No-conversion refers to no gross conversion of natural ecosystems, which the Accountability Framework specifies as the appropriate policy and goal on this topic for companies and supply chains.

No-deforestation: No-deforestation refers to no gross deforestation of natural forests, which the Accountability Framework specifies as the appropriate policy and goal on this topic for companies and supply chains.

Participant: A producer or processor seeking certification or certified against this Module.

Purchaser: The party supplied with the product by the participant.

Quality/Responsible Sourcing Management System: An organised system of documented procedures, controls and practices with the specific purpose of ensuring that the standards intended by the company are met during the course of its activities.

Raw Materials: All materials used by participants for manufacturing, processing or blending into finished products.

Record: A document providing evidence of a necessary action having been carried out.

Risk: A function of the probability of an adverse effect and the severity of that effect.

Risk Analysis: The process of collecting and evaluating information on risks to decide which are significant and therefore must be effectively managed.

Safe for Consumption: Products shall be deemed to be safe for consumption if they do not have an adverse effect on human or animal health when consumed and, in the case of feed, do not make the food derived from food-producing animals injurious to health or unfit for human consumption when used as intended and in accordance with normal practice.

Segregation: A chain of custody model in which specified characteristics of a material or product are maintained from the initial input to the final output. Addition of material with different characteristics and/or grade to the input is not allowed. Commonly, material from more than one source contributes to a chain of custody under the segregated model (Source ISO-22095).

Site: Factories / buildings sharing the same premises, under the same senior management control and involved in various stages of the same continuous process.

Specification: A list of tests, references to analytical procedures, and other criteria showing the numerical limits or ranges that must be met by a product for it to be deemed acceptable for its intended use.

Supplier: The external organisation or person that provides the raw materials or processed products from which the participant will produce his own products or which the participant will trade onwards without further processing.

Traceability: The ability to trace and follow a substance through all stages of production, processing and distribution.

Validation: Obtaining evidence of effectiveness.

Verification: The application of methods, procedures, tests and other evaluations to determine compliance.

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| AIC Sustainability Programme - Pillar 1 Deforestation and Land Conversion | |
| Section A General Requirements | |
| A 1 Scheme and Legislative Requirements | |
| A 1.1i | The Participant must have access to current copies of all relevant AIC Sustainability Programme documents and implement all applicable requirements (including any changes or updates) by the effective date(s). |
| A 1.1ii | Participants in the Food/ Feed Sectors must hold current certification against the relevant AIC Feed Safety Standard(s) (i.e. FEMAS, UFAS, TASC) or another food/ feed safety scheme recognised by AIC, to qualify for certification against this Pillar. |
| A 1.2 i | The Participant must be aware of and comply with laws and regulations relevant to this Pillar, in the countries where they are certified. |
| A 1.2 ii | The Participant must be aware of and comply with laws and regulations relevant to this Pillar, in the countries where their raw materials and/ or feeds are sourced. |
| A 1.2 iii | The Participant must be aware of and comply with laws and regulations relevant to this Pillar, in the countries where they place feed on the market. |
| A 1.3 | The Participant must demonstrate that they have systems and procedures in place that ensure they stay up to date with regulatory requirements relevant to this Pillar. |
| A 1.4 | A review of regulations relevant to this Pillar must be carried out at least every 12 months. |
| A 2 Management Commitment | |
| A 2.1 i | The Participant must have a Policy Statement, endorsed by Senior Management, committing the business to compliance with this Pillar, and the provision of all resources necessary for compliance. |
| A 2.1 ii | The policy statement must be made publicly available (for example via the Company website). |
| A 2.1 iii | The policy statement confirming compliance with this Pillar, must be reviewed at least every 12 months. |
| A 2.2 i | The Participant must establish, implement and maintain an effective documented Management System encompassing the requirements of this Pillar. |
| A 2.2 ii | The Participant's documented Management System must be updated to comply with changes to legislation and other developments related to this Pillar, as they occur. |

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| A 2.3 | There must be a designated and competent person(s) within the business, responsible for the implementation of the requirements of this Pillar. |
| A 2.4 | Management must provide adequate resources for the implementation and control of the systems and processes that ensure compliance with the requirements of this Pillar. |
| A 2.5 i | Management must review at least every 12 months, evidence from internal and external sources to demonstrate the performance of the business against the requirements of the documented Management System and its continuing suitability and effectiveness in meeting the requirements of this Pillar. |
| A 2.5 ii | The management review of the documented Management System must include opportunities for improvement in implementing a comprehensive approach to sustainable sourcing. |
| A 3 Communication with the Certification Body | |
| A 3.1 | Participants and Applicants must advise the Certification Body in writing of any significant changes to their business that may materially affect compliance with this Pillar. |
| A 3.2 | Participants and Applicants must promptly advise the Certification Body in the event of being subject to a formal investigation by a Competent Authority, relating to any areas covered by this Pillar. |
| Section B Documents and Records | |
| B 1 Documents | |
| B 1.1 | The Participant must establish and maintain documentation to implement the requirements of this Pillar. |
| B 1.2 | Changes to documents must only be made by designated and competent personnel. |
| B 1.3 | Changes to documents must be communicated to all relevant personnel. |
| B 1.4 | The title and purpose of the documents must be clear. |
| B 1.5 | Documents must be dated and document control systems must ensure that only the current versions are in use. |
| B 2 Records | |
| B 2.1 | All records must be legible and indelible. |
| B 2.2 | All records must demonstrate the actions taken, and when/ where they were completed. |
| <i>Interpretation</i> | <i>This should be sufficient to provide traceability and may include date, time and/ or location the record was created.</i> |

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| B 2.3 | The name of the person making any entry or alteration must be identifiable. |
| B 2.4 | The nature of any change to a record must be clear, so that the original entry is still legible. |
| B 2.5 | All relevant records must be retained for a period not less than three years. |
| <i>Further Information</i> | <i>Retention periods required by legislation or customer requirements may be significantly longer than this.</i> |
| B 2.6 | Records must be kept in suitable conditions to prevent deterioration and be easily retrievable. |
| <i>Interpretation</i> | <i>Participants should consider defining a retrieval time for records. Participants should consider protecting electronic records from failures of IT systems.</i> |
| B 2.7 | The Participant need not hold all records relating to the requirements of this Pillar, but they must be capable of accessing such records, if required to do so. |
| Section C Internal Audits | |
| C 1 Internal Audits | |
| C 1.1 | Participants must have a current programme of internal auditing to ensure the documented quality system is effective, implemented and up to date. |
| <i>Interpretation</i> | <i>An effective internal audit should as a minimum:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>collect evidence of compliance, as well as non-compliance</i> • <i>record documents and records reviewed as part of the audit</i> • <i>include evidence of follow-up actions.</i> |
| C 1.2 | Findings from internal audits and any corrective actions must be recorded and completed in a timely manner to preserve compliance with this Pillar. The follow up must be effective and prevent recurrence. |
| <i>Interpretation</i> | <i>An effective internal audit will collect evidence of compliance, as well as non-compliance, and will record documents and records reviewed during the audit.</i> <i>The internal audit will be more valuable if carried out at a different time of year to the annual, external audit.</i> |
| C 1.3 | Internal audits and their outcomes in relation to this Pillar must be documented and any nonconformances corrected within an appropriate timescale. |
| C 1.4 | Where Participants delegate to third-parties, duties that are critical in meeting the requirements of this Pillar, Participants must include these activities within their own internal auditing schedule unless the third parties are themselves certified to this Pillar (or another equivalent assurance programme recognised by AIC), under a scope that includes the raw materials or feeds concerned. |

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| Section F Land Use and Environmental Protection | |
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| F 1 Land Use | |
| F 1.1 | <p>Level 1 – Participants must not operate on land that has been illegally deforested or converted since 31st December 2020 or the date mentioned in national legislation, whichever is earlier.</p> <p>Level 2 - Raw materials must not be sourced from farms/ locations where land has been illegally deforested or converted since 31st December 2020 or the date mentioned in national legislation, whichever is earlier.</p> <p>Level 3 – No ports, stores, terminals or other logistical hubs in the supply chain(s) may be operated on land that has been illegally deforested or converted since 31st December 2020 or the date mentioned in national legislation, whichever is earlier.</p> |
| F 1.2 | <p>Level 1 – All facilities operated by Participants within the scope of certification must comply with regulations relevant to land use.</p> <p>Level 2 – All raw materials/ products must originate only from farms/ locations where suppliers comply with legislation relevant to the expansion of production.</p> <p>Level 3 – All ports, stores, terminals or other logistical hubs in the supply chain(s) must comply with regulations relevant to land use.</p> |
| <i>Interpretation</i> | <i>Legislation relevant to this Pillar includes, but is not restricted to, protection of biodiversity, protection of forested land and land management.</i> |
| F 1.3 | <p>Level 1 – Where facilities are operated by Participants, any areas assigned as legal reserves, conservation areas or subject to other legal protection, must have been preserved unharmed since 31st December 2020.</p> <p>Level 2 – All raw materials/ products must originate only from farms/ locations where areas assigned as legal reserves, conservation areas or subject to other legal protection, have been preserved unharmed since 31st December 2020.</p> <p>Level 3 – All ports, stores, terminals or other logistical hubs in the supply chain must only be included in the supply chain where areas assigned as legal reserves, conservation areas or subject to other legal protection, have been preserved unharmed since 31st December 2020.</p> |
| <i>Interpretation</i> | <i>A derogation may be granted where a credible and independent expert confirms that restoration work has effectively restored damaged areas to their former state, and it is demonstrated that these areas will now be protected. Applications for derogations should be made in writing to AIC via the Certification Body.</i> |
| F 1.4 | <p>Level 1 - Where any legal requirements for preserved areas at facilities operated by Participants were contravened prior to 31st December 2020, any affected area must be subject to a programme of restoration to its former state.</p> <p>Level 2 - Where any legal requirements for preserved areas on supplying farms/ locations were contravened prior to 31st December 2020, any affected area must be subject to a programme of restoration to its former state.</p> <p>Level 3 - Where any legal requirements for preserved areas at ports, stores, terminals or other logistical hubs in the supply chain were contravened prior to 31st December</p> |

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| | 2020, any affected area must be subject to a programme of restoration to its former state. |
| F 1.5 | <p>Level 1 - Any areas of natural vegetation around bodies of water (riparian vegetation and flood plains) at facilities operated by Participants must be maintained or restored.</p> <p>Level 2 - Raw materials must be sourced only from farms/ locations where any areas of natural vegetation around bodies of water (riparian vegetation and flood plains) are being maintained or restored.</p> <p>Level 3 - Any areas of natural vegetation around bodies of water (riparian vegetation and flood plains) at ports, stores, terminals or other logistical hubs in the supply chain must be maintained or restored.</p> |
| F 1.6 | <p>Level 1 - Any areas of natural vegetation in locations sensitive to erosion (steep slopes and hills) at facilities operated by Participants must be maintained or restored.</p> <p>Level 2 - Raw materials must be sourced only from farms/ locations where any areas of natural vegetation in locations sensitive to erosion (steep slopes and hills) are being maintained or restored.</p> <p>Level 3 - Any areas of natural vegetation in locations sensitive to erosion (steep slopes and hills) at ports, stores, terminals or other logistical hubs in the supply chain must be maintained or restored.</p> |
| F 1.7 | <p>Level 1 - Any wetlands must be protected at facilities operated by Participants.</p> <p>Level 2 - Raw materials must be sourced only from farms/ locations where any wetlands are protected.</p> <p>Level 3 - Any wetlands must be protected at ports, stores, terminals or other logistical hubs in the supply chain.</p> |
| <i>Interpretation</i> | <p><i>The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands is the intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.</i></p> <p><i>The Convention was adopted in the Iranian city of Ramsar in 1971 and came into force in 1975. Since then, almost 90% of UN member states, from all the world's geographic regions, have acceded to become 'Contracting Parties'.</i></p> <p><i>The Convention's mission is 'the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world'.</i></p> |
| F 1.8 | <p>Level 1 - No natural ecosystems may have been converted after 31st December 2020 at facilities operated by Participants.</p> <p>Level 2 - Raw materials must be sourced only from farms/ locations where no natural ecosystems have been converted after 31st December 2020.</p> <p>Level 3 - No natural ecosystems may have been converted after 31st December 2020 at ports, stores, terminals or other logistical hubs in the supply chain.</p> |
| <i>Interpretation</i> | <p><i>Note that this criterion applies even where such conversion may be legal. Natural ecosystems include: natural forest, native grasslands, wetlands, swamps, peatlands, savannas, steep slopes and riparian areas.</i></p> |
| F 1.9 | <p>Level 1 – Any rare, threatened, or endangered wildlife species at facilities operated by Participants must be protected.</p> <p>Level 2 - Raw materials must be sourced only from farms/ locations where any rare, threatened, or endangered wildlife species on the farm/ location is being protected.</p> <p>Level 3 – Any rare, threatened, or endangered wildlife species at ports, stores, terminals or other logistical hubs in the supply chain must be protected.</p> |

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| F 1.10 | <p>Level 1 - Native vegetation must be maintained and safeguarded to provide habitat for wildlife species at facilities operated by Participants.</p> <p>Level 2 - Raw materials must be sourced only from farms/ locations where native vegetation is maintained and safeguarded to provide habitat for wildlife species.</p> <p>Level 3 - Native vegetation must be maintained and safeguarded to provide habitat for wildlife species at ports, stores, terminals or other logistical hubs in the supply chain.</p> |
| F 1.11 | <p>Level 1 - Where native vegetation is being protected at facilities operated by Participants, there must be maps available showing the relevant areas where native vegetation is either being preserved or allowed to recover.</p> <p>Level 2 - Where raw materials are being protected, there must be maps available showing the relevant areas where native vegetation is either being preserved or allowed to recover.</p> <p>Level 3 - Where native vegetation is being protected at ports, stores, terminals or other logistical hubs in the supply chain, there must be maps available showing the relevant areas where native vegetation is either being preserved or allowed to recover.</p> |
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| Section G Management and Trading of Raw Materials and Products Under the AIC Sustainability Programme | |
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| G 1 Managing Suppliers of Raw Materials and Products | |
| G 1.1.1 | Approved suppliers of raw materials/ products must be certificated in their own right against a Sustainability Standard recognised by AIC or be managed by the Participant in accordance with the Levels of this Pillar included in the Participant’s scope of certification. |
| G1.1.2 | Approved suppliers of feed must additionally be certificated in their own right against a Food/ Feed Safety Standard recognised by AIC or be managed by the Participant in accordance with the requirements of the relevant AIC Food/ Feed Safety Standard (i.e. UFAS, FEMAS, TASCC). |
| G 1.2 | There must be a designated person responsible for the selection and approval of suppliers of raw materials and/ or products within the Participant’s scope of certification. |
| G 1.3 | A list/ database of current approved suppliers of raw materials and/ or products must be maintained. The list/ database must include details of each supplier’s status relevant to the Participant’s scope of certification. The list/ database must be made available to all sites operated by the Participant that are certified to this Pillar. |
| G 1.4 | The list/ database of approved suppliers of raw materials and/ or products must be subject to a review at least every 12 months, including the assured status and scope of any certified suppliers. Additional reviews must be undertaken where significant non-conformities have occurred. |
| <i>Guidance</i> | <i>See the AIC website for the current list of Sustainability and Food/ Feed Safety Schemes recognised by AIC.</i> |
| G 1.5 | If a supplier has their Sustainability or Food/ Feed Safety certification suspended or withdrawn during the execution of a contract or agreement, the Certification Body (for this Standard) must be consulted as to any further action to be taken. |
| G 2 Sales Contracts/ Agreements/ Specifications | |
| G 2.1 | Specifications and contract/delivery notes associated with feed supplied in compliance with the AIC Sustainability Programme, must precisely specify the Pillar(s) and Level(s) against which the product has been certified. |
| <i>Interpretation</i> | <i>Information on certification should be provided to customers in the same format as the following examples:</i> <i>i. (Product) certified under the AIC Sustainability Programme: Pillar 1 Deforestation and Land Conversion - Level 1 Participant Activity and Level 2 Origin</i> |

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| | <p><i>Pillar 2 Social – Not certified</i> <i>Pillar 3 Good Environmental Practice – Not certified'</i></p> <p>ii. <i>'(Product) certified under the AIC Sustainability Programme: Pillar 1 Deforestation and Land Conversion - Level 1 Participant Activity and Level 2 Origin Pillar 2 Social - Level 1 Participant Activity Pillar 3 Good Environmental Practice – Not certified'</i></p> <p>iii. <i>'(Product) certified under the AIC Sustainability Programme: Pillar 1 Deforestation and Land Conversion - Level 1 Participant Activity, Level 2 Origin and Level 3 Supply Chain Pillar 2 Social - Level 1 Participant Activity and Level 2 Origin Pillar 3 Good Environmental Practice – Level 1 Participant Activity'</i></p> |
| G 2.2 | Where any additional sustainability status has been met by the product, this must be specified. |
| Interpretation | <p><i>Additional status would include any other certifications approved by AIC. Examples include but are not restricted to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Supply of soybeans certified by the Roundtable on Responsible Soya and/ or RTRS Add 'Soybeans certified by the RTRS'</i> • <i>Supply of feeds derived from RTRS-certified soybeans Add 'Derived from RTRS-certified soybeans'</i> • <i>Supply of feeds derived from oil palm fruits certified by the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil Add 'Derived from oil palm fruits certified by the RSPO'</i> |
| G 3 Labelling | |
| G 3.1 | Documents accompanying feed supplied in compliance with the AIC Sustainability Programme, must precisely describe the Pillar(s) and Level(s) against which the product has been certified. |
| Interpretation | <p><i>Examples of the required label information include the following:</i></p> <p>i. <i>'(Product) certified under the AIC Sustainability Programme: Pillar 1 Deforestation and Land Conversion - Level 1 Participant Activity and Level 2 Origin Pillar 2 Social – Not certified Pillar 3 Good Environmental Practice – Not certified'</i></p> <p>ii. <i>'(Product) certified under the AIC Sustainability Programme: Pillar 1 Deforestation and Land Conversion - Level 1 Participant Activity and Level 2 Origin Pillar 2 Social - Level 1 Participant Activity Pillar 3 Good Environmental Practice – Not certified'</i></p> <p>iii. <i>'(Product) certified under the AIC Sustainability Programme: Pillar 1 Deforestation and Land Conversion - Level 1 Participant Activity, Level 2 Origin and Level 3 Supply Chain</i></p> |

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| | <p><i>Pillar 2 Social - Level 1 Participant Activity and Level 2 Origin</i></p> <p><i>Pillar 3 Good Environmental Practice – Level 1 Participant Activity'</i></p> |
| G 3.2 | <p>All feed supplied under the AIC Sustainability Programme must show confirmation of the AIC Sustainability Programme ID number of the Participant, on the packaged feed labels and/ or on the delivery documents. The information to be provided must be shown as:</p> <p>'AIC Sustainability Programme - NNNNN' where NNNNN is the Participant's AIC Sustainability Programme ID number.</p> |
| Guidance | <p><i>The AIC Sustainability Programme ID number can be found on the Certificate of Compliance (please do not use the certificate number) or under the Participant's entry in the online AIC Assurance Checker, here:</i></p> <p>https://www.agindustries.org.uk/sectors/trade-assurance-schemes</p> |

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| Section H Sustainable Sourcing Management | |
| H 1 Sustainable Sourcing Management | |
| H 1.1 | There must be a designated person (or persons) with deputies, responsible for the management of incidents relating to sustainable sourcing. |
| <i>Guidance</i> | <i>Incidents include any adverse information received or concerns raised with regard to sources used by the Participant, and in relation to the areas covered by this Pillar.</i> |
| H 1.2 | There must be a sustainable sourcing incident management procedure that is capable of being put into operation at any time and includes immediate notification to the Competent Authorities, affected customers and the Certification Body, where required. The procedure must include up to date contact details (including out of hours) for relevant personnel and authorities. |
| H 1.3 | Any Participant who is directly under investigation (or whose sources are under investigation) by a Competent Authority in relation to any aspect of this Pillar, must promptly inform the Certification Body (for this Standard). |

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| Section I Traceability, Segregation and Mass Balance (Chain of Custody) | |
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| I 1 Traceability | |
| I 1.1 | The Participant must have effective traceability for all activities within the scope of certification. |
| I 1.2 | Purchase records must include details relevant to this Pillar and traceability. |
| I 1.3 | Service supplier contract records must include details relevant to this Pillar and traceability. |
| I 1.4 | Intake records must include details relevant to this Pillar and traceability. |
| I 1.5 | Records of internal movements, processing and storage must include details relevant to this Pillar and traceability. |
| I 1.6 | Collection/ Delivery records must include details relevant to this Pillar and traceability. |
| I 1.7 | Sales records must include details relevant to this Pillar and traceability. |
| I 1.8 | Transport records must include details relevant to relevant to this Pillar and traceability. |
| <i>Interpretation</i> | <i>This includes transport by any method including road, rail, water and/ or air.</i> |
| I 1.9 | Raw materials/ feed with a special status must be physically segregated from raw materials/ feed of different status. If physical segregation is lost, the special status must not be assigned to the resulting mixture. |
| <i>Interpretation</i> | <i>Special status relates to food/ feed safety, legislation and contractual requirements including but not limited to: Assured/ non-assured GM/ Non-GM Organic/ Conventional. Mass balance may be used instead of physical segregation for demonstrating compliance with the AIC Sustainability Programme, as detailed below.</i> |
| I 1.10 | A traceability exercise must be carried out at a frequency determined by risk assessment and at least every 12 months. |
| <i>Interpretation</i> | <i>This should include traceability of raw material(s) and/ or feed, including any traded feed. Any traceability exercise should be reviewed and be used as part of the Management Review.</i> |

| I 2 Segregation and Mass Balance (Chain of Custody) | |
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| I 2.1 | Raw materials and/ or feed certified under the AIC Sustainability Programme must be segregated at all stages of the supply chain where the AIC Sustainability Programme Mass Balance Principles are NOT used. |
| I 2.2 | Mass balance is only permitted where the material mixed with assured product is compatible with the assured product in terms of its technical specification. |
| <i>Interpretation</i> | <i>Technical specification relates to food/ feed safety, legislation and contractual requirements including but not limited to: Feed assurance status Origin GM/ Non-GM Organic/ Conventional. Mass balance may be used instead of physical segregation for demonstrating compliance with the AIC Sustainability Programme, as detailed below.</i> |
| I 2.3 | Where Mass Balance is used in feed supply chains, commingling is only permitted for raw materials or feeds that meet the requirements of the relevant AIC Standard (UFAS, FEMAS, TASCC) or another food/ feed safety scheme recognised by AIC. |
| I 2.4 | The AIC Sustainability Programme Mass Balance Principles must be applied at all points in the feed supply chains where Mass Balance methodology is used. |
| <i>Interpretation</i> | <i>See the AIC Sustainability Programme Mass Balance Principles – Pillar 1</i> |
| I 2.5 | Where a Mass Balance approach is used with raw materials/ feeds with a claim/ special status, all consignments being commingled must be compatible in terms of their claim/ special status. |
| <i>Interpretation</i> | <i>Examples of ‘claims/ ‘special status’ include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Assured</i> • <i>Non-GM</i> • <i>Organic</i> • <i>Country of origin</i> • <i>Any other claim of special status</i> |
| I 2.6 | If at any point raw materials/ products with a claim/ special status become accidentally or intentionally commingled with other products, the claim/ special status must no longer be made. |
| I 2.7 | If at any point raw materials or products identified for inclusion in the AIC Sustainability Programme become accidentally or intentionally commingled with other products and the AIC Sustainability Programme Mass Balance Principles are NOT fully met, the resultant product must be identified as having lost its AIC Sustainability Programme status. |