GLOBALG.A.P. BENCHMARKING
Harmonizing Good Agricultural Practices Worldwide

www.globalgap.org/benchmarking
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One Auditor Through the Farm Gate
This is one of GLOBALG.A.P.’s main missions, and benchmarking is how we aim to achieve it. Harmonizing the requirements of different schemes and checklists cuts out duplication and takes the complexity out of certification. It reduces costs, administration, time and effort, with producers, suppliers and retailers all profiting from the benefits. And by gaining GLOBALG.A.P. approval, benchmarked schemes and checklists also enjoy international recognition - a valuable advantage in the highly competitive global market.

Benchmarking Goals
1. Eliminate duplication on farm
2. Increase market acceptance
3. Bring worldwide transparency and harmonization into the sector
4. Reduce costs
5. Promote local standards
6. Increase dialogue between all involved stakeholders for higher efficiency
**BENCHMARKING CATEGORIES**

**Schemes**
- Own G.A.P. requirements, consisting of control points and compliance criteria, that are compared against GLOBALG.A.P. Control Points and Compliance Criteria.
- Own Scheme Management Rules, covering certification procedure, sanction rules, rules for QMS (if applicable), certification body requirements, auditor qualifications, etc., that are compared against GLOBALG.A.P. General Regulations.
- The scheme owner approves the certification bodies.
- Producers are certified under Options 3 or 4.

**Approved Modified Checklist (AMC):**
- Own G.A.P. requirements, consisting of control points and compliance criteria, that are compared against GLOBALG.A.P. Control Points and Compliance Criteria.
- Uses GLOBALG.A.P. General Regulations as certification rules and quality management system rules for producer groups.
- Certification bodies need to be approved for GLOBALG.A.P. and respective AMC.
- Producers are certified under Options 1 or 2.
**BENCHMARKING RECOGNITION LEVELS**

**EQUIVALENT**
Applicant scheme or checklist that fully conforms with GLOBALG.A.P. System (Control Points & Compliance Criteria - CPCCs, and if applicable General Regulations - GR). Requirements may be stricter than GLOBALG.A.P., however not less strict.

All producers are registered in the GLOBALG.A.P. Database. Producers and CBs are subject to the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program.

**RESEMBLING**
Applicant scheme that has been found to conform with GLOBALG.A.P. System (CPCCs and/or GR) to a large extent and includes CPCC that refer to food safety, but leaves some exceptions.

Resembling schemes will be displayed on the GLOBALG.A.P. website jointly with GLOBALG.A.P. requirements that are not covered.

Resembling schemes may opt for voluntary Database registration and/or participation in GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program.

**RESEMBLING + SUPPLEMENT**
For requirements that are not covered by a resembling scheme, scheme owner may develop a so-called “Supplement” that fulfills those specific requirements not covered by a resembling scheme, in order to fully conform with the GLOBALG.A.P. System and thereby obtain recognition of equivalence.
BENCHMARKING PROCESS

Timeline

Step 1
APPLICATION BY CHECKLIST/Scheme Owner
min. 2-3 Weeks

Step 2
APPLICATION REVIEW
min. 5-8 Weeks

Step 3
INDEPENDENT TECHNICAL REVIEW
min. 2-4 Weeks

Step 4
PEER REVIEW
min. 3-5 Weeks

Step 5
BENCHMARKING COMMITTEE REVIEW
min. 3-6 Weeks

Step 6
GLOBALG.A.P. REVIEW
min. 1-2 Weeks

RECOGNITION

ON-SITE ASSESSMENT (applicable for initial application only)
BENCHMARKING PROCESS

Step 1 Application and Application Review
Scheme/checklist owner completes GLOBALG.A.P. application form and benchmarking cross-reference checklist(s). GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat makes preliminary review on completeness of documents and coordinates next steps.

Step 2 Independent Technical Review
GLOBALG.A.P. assessor reviews benchmarking cross-reference checklist(s) to evaluate if content of applicant scheme/checklist is equivalent to GLOBALG.A.P. System.

Step 3 Peer Review
GLOBALG.A.P. members may evaluate benchmarking cross-reference checklist(s) and give comments.

Step 4 On-site Assessment
Equivalence of scheme/checklist is verified in practice on farm (applicable for initial application only).

Step 5 Benchmarking Committee Review
GLOBALG.A.P. prepares summary of previous steps of benchmarking process that is reviewed by of the Benchmarking Committee. The committee members can make observations and/or raise new issues and provide recommendations concerning recognition level.

Step 6 GLOBALG.A.P. Review
GLOBALG.A.P. evaluates recommendation made by the benchmarking committee and takes final decision on recognition level.
BENEFITS OF GLOBALG.A.P. BENCHMARKING FOR SCHEME/CHECKLIST OWNERS

ACCEPTANCE BY PRODUCERS/RETAILERS
- Higher credibility in local agricultural industry and amongst international retailers.

CERTIFICATION BODIES (CB)
- CB Administration by GLOBALG.A.P. means cost reduction (applicable mainly for AMCs).
- Capacity building activities via training measures and workshops.

DATABASE REGISTRATION
- System provides full transparency of data and increases acceptance of certification.
- Possibility to know current status of certification at any point in time and worldwide.

GLOBALG.A.P. INTEGRITY PROGRAM
- Increases reliability in certificates and ensures harmonization between CBs.

MARKETING PLATFORM
- Benefit from GLOBALG.A.P. marketing and promotional activities worldwide.
BENCHMARKING COSTS
Fees for One Sub-Scope

- **Costs for Initial Application** – 2,500 EUR.

- **Annual Base Administration Fee after Recognition**
  Includes free of charge: re-benchmarking as well as voluntary GLOBALG.A.P. membership.
- 4,000 EUR for checklists.
- 6,000 EUR for schemes.

- **Annual Producer Registration Fee**
  According to GLOBALG.A.P. fee table. Equivalent schemes may opt as well for a flat fee of 10 EUR (except for flowers & ornamentals and plant propagation material) or 100 EUR (for flowers & ornamentals and plant propagation material).

- **Annual Certificate License Fee**
  For producers of checklists only.
- 25 EUR for individual producers.
- 130 EUR + 1 EUR/producer for producer groups.
BENCHMARKED SCHEMES AND CHECKLISTS

16 SCHEMES AND APPROVED MODIFIED CHECKLISTS BENCHMARKED AGAINST IFA VERSION 5 OPERATING IN 11 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD*

Equivalent Schemes
- AMAG.A.P.
- QS-GAP
- SwissGAP Hortikultur
- EHPEA Code of Practice for Sustainable Flower Production (Silver Level)
- IKB Varken Varkenshouders
- KFC Flowers & Ornamentals Sustainability Standard
- New Zealand GAP - GLOBALG.A.P. equivalent
- UNEG.A.P.
- MPS-GAP

Equivalent AMCs
- naturane
- ChileG.A.P.

Resembling Schemes
- Red Tractor Assurance for Farms Fresh Produce Standards**
- SwissGAP Früchte, Gemüse & Kartoffeln
- Florverde Sustainable Flowers
- BOPP Grower Standard**
- IKB Nederland Varkens**

5 SCHEMES AND APPROVED MODIFIED CHECKLISTS IN (RE-)BENCHMARKING PROCESS*

Equivalent Schemes
- EHPEA Code of Practice for Fruit Vegetable and Herb Production (Silver Level)

Equivalent AMCs
- AGROCALIDAD BPA
- SA GAP

Resembling Schemes
- ChinaGAP
- FlorEcuador

** Supplement to reach equivalence available | *Updated October 2018
GLOBALG.A.P. PRODUCTS - BUILT ON A SOLID FOUNDATION

GLOBALG.A.P. Certification is the product of a transparent and independent standard development system that relies on the intensive consultation, contribution and collaboration of our technical committees, focus groups, members, national technical working groups, certification bodies and the industry.

THE FIRST STEP TOWARD SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

localg.a.p. is the stepping stone toward GLOBALG.A.P. Certification. It offers emerging producers entry-level recognition where GLOBALG.A.P. Certification or the required end goal as set by the localg.a.p. program owner is not immediately possible. By providing an achievable level of assurance and reliability, localg.a.p. helps producers gain access to new local and regional markets.

THE INTERNATIONAL STANDARD FOR SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

GLOBALG.A.P. is the internationally recognized standard for farm production. By complying with a single harmonized global standard for safe and sustainable food production, producers can show their commitment to Good Agricultural Practices.

CUSTOMIZED SOLUTIONS FOR SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

GLOBALG.A.P.+ Add-on is the innovative solution for all your specific certification needs. Enhance your GLOBALG.A.P. Standard with customized add-ons that raise your status as a producer and offer buyers specific assurances tailored to their interests and preferences.
GLOBALG.A.P. AT A GLANCE
THE MOST WIDELY ACCEPTED GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES CERTIFICATION WORLDWIDE

194,000+ certified producers in 130+ countries

Capacity building for thousands of people on 5 continents and in 10 languages

A pioneering integrity system with independent assessments to monitor the performance of our certification bodies

430+ voluntary members form the GLOBALG.A.P. Community

A consumer label for seafood based on the GLOBALG.A.P. Aquaculture Standard

GLOBALG.A.P. governed by an elected Board

1,000+ international experts active in Technical Committees, National Technical Working Groups and Focus Groups

600+ products available for certification

A harmonization program to benchmark schemes and checklists around the world

GLOBALG.A.P. Benchmarking

3 main products with 40+ standards and programs

An extensive worldwide network of consultants to help producers with their certification process

2,000+ inspectors and auditors working for 160 approved certification bodies

A secure online certification database to check producers and validate certificates

An online consumer portal for transparent farm verification and information

A consumer label for plants based on the GLOBALG.A.P. Flowers & Ornamentals Standard

FIND OUT HOW GLOBALG.A.P. CAN ADD VALUE TO YOUR BUSINESS AT www.globalgap.org