1. Industry challenges
2. The GLOBALG.A.P. solution
3. IFA v6 aquaculture standard content
4. The GLOBALG.A.P. portfolio
5. Benefits of IFA certification
6. GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems
7. Certification bodies and Registered Trainers
8. Costs
9. Five steps to certification
10. Upcoming developments
As the fastest growing food sector, standards are needed to ensure responsible farming operations address extensive and rising consumer demands.

Food and feed safety associated with aquaculture is a vital concern for both consumers and supply chain stakeholders.

Animal health and welfare is at the heart of sustainable production processes.

An increasing interaction between the environment and aquaculture resulting from growing demand risks biodiversity loss if not managed effectively.
Workers’ health, safety, and welfare is essential for socially responsible seafood production, addressing key social and economic issues such as labor exploitation and human rights.

Barriers to tracing seafood back to its source inhibit both targeted improvement and transparency for buyers.

The essential role of aquaculture for food security and nutrition has received elevated recognition from the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) in the context of climate change and a growing global population.
THE GLOBALG.A.P. SOLUTION
Integrated Farm Assurance for aquaculture (AQ)

- A global standard for good aquaculture practices since 2004, offering a platform for producers to demonstrate responsible farming practices and for supply chain stakeholders to support sustainability

- Acts as a practical manual for producers, taking a holistic approach to food safety, biodiversity and environmental sustainability, and compliance with animal health and welfare and workers’ health, safety, and welfare requirements

- One standard covering all aquatic species of finfish, crustaceans, molluscs, and seaweed

- Covers the entire production chain for maximum transparency and product integrity – from compound feed, broodstock, and hatchery through to grow-out, harvesting, and transportation
• Only aquaculture certification standard at farm level recognized by GFSI (Global Food Safety Initiative)

• Only aquaculture certification standard recognized by GSSI (Global Sustainability Seafood Initiative) for all species of finfish, crustaceans, molluscs, and seaweed

• Covers all four pillars of the FAO Technical Guidelines on Aquaculture Certification

• Covers the OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health) Aquatic Animal Health Code

• Contributes to seven of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
THE GLOBALG.A.P. SOLUTION
Considers the four pillars of the FAO Technical Guidelines

FAO Technical Guidelines on Aquaculture Certification

- **Food safety**
  - Only scheme recognized by GFSI for aquaculture at farm level

- **Animal health and welfare**
  - Covers the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code requirements

- **Environmental integrity**
  - Recognized by GSSI for all species in the GLOBALG.A.P. product list

- **Socioeconomic aspects**
  - GLOBALG.A.P. Risk Assessment on Social Practice is a mandatory part of IFA for AQ
• IFA compliance is **audited annually** by accredited and independent third-party certification bodies (CBs).

• A successful CB audit results in a **certificate valid for one year**.

• Certification options for both **individual producers** and **producer groups**

• Certification status of all production stages is visible in the **GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems** for transparency in the supply chain.

• The **GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program** ensures consistent delivery and implementation of the standard worldwide.
The strength of GLOBALG.A.P. standards is matched by the system which underpins and monitors their implementation. The Integrity Program is the first of its kind in food certification – promoting trust and transparency throughout the GLOBALG.A.P. system since 2008.
IFA V6 AQ STANDARD CONTENT
GLOBALG.A.P. standards are developed through extensive consultation with stakeholders across the aquaculture sector. This includes producers, suppliers, buyers, NGOs, and consumers. For IFA v6, four public consultation periods were held over two years. There were 50 World Consultation Tour webinars on topics relevant to aquaculture, resulting in 485 comments on the IFA v6 AQ documents. This ensures that the revision addresses market needs and demands.
IFA takes a holistic approach to responsible farming through six key topics:

- Food Safety
- Animal Health and Welfare
- Environmental Sustainability
- Legal, Management, Traceability
- Production Processes
- Workers' Well-Being
IFA v6 is available in two editions: **IFA v6 Smart** and **IFA v6 GFS**.

- **IFA v6 Smart** is designed for producers who do not require GFSI recognition, or in circumstances where GFSI rules are not appropriate. It is better suited to farming operations when referring to factors such as group certification and unannounced CB audits.

- **IFA v6 GFS** is appropriate for producers who require GFSI recognition.

**IFA V6 FOR AQUACULTURE**

Two parallel editions

IFA v6 GFS

- The standard content is **identical** in both editions.

IFA v6 Smart

- The general regulations **differ** in both editions.
Streamlined, outcome-oriented, and customized checklists

226 principles in total with corresponding criteria to fulfil (excluding postharvest operations)

Principles are graded as Major Musts, Minor Musts, or Recommendations

To pass a CB audit, producers must comply with 100% of the Major Musts and at least 95% of the Minor Musts.

Corrective actions must be proposed for all non-compliances and submitted to the CB within 28 days of the audit. Non-compliances must be verified as corrected and compliant before a certificate is issued.
Principles
• Fundamentals that set the foundation of a GLOBALG.A.P. requirement
• Written in statement form
• Describe the outcome to achieve

Criteria
• Methods that producers can use to demonstrate a principle to be true
• Compliance can be evidenced in different ways, e.g., through data, proof of procedure, a record, etc.
GLOBALG.A.P. Risk Assessment on Social Practice 23%

Food safety 13%

Environmental sustainability 20%

Animal health and welfare 24%

Workers' well-being: Workers' health, safety, and welfare 13%

Legal, management and traceability 7%

*Excluding postharvest section AQ 28
IFA v6 for aquaculture covers the entire production process. GRASP, the GLOBALG.A.P. Risk Assessment on Social Practice, is a mandatory part of the IFA standard for aquaculture and must be passed to achieve IFA certification.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food safety</td>
<td>Protects consumers through strict requirements on feed and animal health management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal welfare</td>
<td>Improves the quality of products and boosts consumer acceptance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social welfare</td>
<td>Protects workers’ well-being, ensures proper training, and boosts consumer acceptance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental/Biodiversity management</td>
<td>Provides tools for sustainable operations and boosts consumer acceptance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed management</td>
<td>Ensures efficient resource use and feed and food safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvest/Postharvest operations</td>
<td>Prioritizes animal health and welfare and food safety for consumers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hygiene</td>
<td>Supports food safety and prevents on-farm biosecurity issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pest control</td>
<td>Supports food safety and protects animal health and welfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sampling and testing</td>
<td>Supports food safety and protects animal health and welfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traceability</td>
<td>Protects product integrity and identifies the root cause of any incident</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### SAMPLING AND TESTING OF FARmed AQUATIC SPECIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>AQ 21.1</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PRINCIPLE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>A sampling program, including frequency of testing, based on likely contaminants, residues, and substances for the type and location of the aquaculture operation and feed ingredients is in place.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CRITERIA</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Farmed aquatic species tissue residue analyses are carried out based on food safety risk assessment, to verify compliance with MRLs for approved medicines, and to verify that no residues of unapproved substances are present. Lists of substances to be analyzed are based on: • Local/National legislation • Requirements given by customer(s) • Substances listed in the aquaculture health plan Frequency is determined based on the risks identified in the sampling program. Analysis results shall be available for the certification body (CB) audit. No N/A.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Major Must**
NEW IN IFA V6
Food safety

• **IFA v6 standard for aquaculture** continues to implement GFSI requirements (v2020).
• Increased **biosecurity** requirements
• Entire section on **hygiene** upgraded to Major Must, covering aspects such as design of facility to enable proper cleaning and controlled entry/exit points equipped for disinfection.
• All **outsourced processes, products, and materials** impacting food safety shall be identified, documented, controlled, and shall conform to specified requirements as well as food safety and regulatory requirements.
NEW IN IFA V6
Environmental sustainability and biodiversity

• **Environmental impact assessment (EIA) now** features effluent phosphorus, feed, and fertilizers.
• Evidence required of no significant negative impact on the **biodiversity of the benthic fauna** and/or recipient water body sediment.
• **Escape management** aiming for zero escapees, with new requirements on climate change-related accidents, such as cage structures.
• Higher level of **responsible raw material sourcing for compound feed**, with targeted criteria for fishmeal/fish oil, soy, and palm oil.
• **Collaboration between farms sharing the same water body**, including disease control and animal movement.
NEW IN IFA V6
Workers’ well-being

• GLOBALG.A.P. Risk Assessment on Social Practice (GRASP) continues to be a compulsory part of IFA requirements for aquaculture with GRASP v2
• Entire section on workers’ health, safety, and welfare upgraded
• Diving operations requirements expanded
• Worker handling training for increased compliance with hygiene and animal health criteria
• Aquatic species welfare training extended to include workers at all stages of production
• **Introduction of three values (metrics)**
  necessary as part of the audit report, in addition to the audit criteria:
  
  - **Percentage of mortalities** linked to causes of death
  - **Average fish meal and fish oil percentage** (including origin, where possible), and fish in:fish out information
  - **Economic feed conversion ratio** (eFCR) – the quantity of feed used to produce the quantity of fish harvested (net production refers to the live weight)
• Predator exclusion plan extended, including addition of requirements on non-lethal control practices
• Aquaculture health plan (AHP) provides transparency on antimicrobials, the management of chemical use, and a negative list of prohibited substances
• Banning of seedlings sourced from shrimp females with eyestalk ablation from April 2024
• Environmental enrichment concept adopted
• Stricter humane slaughter practices to reference the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code
• Prevention of pathogen spreading expanded
• Animal welfare parameters established for transport
Producers are required to implement a plan to **analyze current practices** at farm level.

Producers then **identify “hot spots”** and set **clear, measurable goals** for improvement in a defined area.

Year on year, producers **demonstrate their efforts** towards improving aspects such as sustainability, food safety, and workers’ well-being.
NEW IN IFA V6
Example of a continuous improvement plan

1. Producer analyzes mortality rate as an indicator of welfare and collects data.

2. Reporting is used to identify the percentage of mortalities linked to cause of death.

3. Producer sets measurable goals for improvement of mortality rate.

4. New measures are implemented in farming practices.

5. Implementation is checked and progress is reviewed at annual CB audit.

6. The continuous improvement plan is revised based on the progress of mortality reduction.
ELIGIBILITY

- Covers all species of finfish, crustaceans, molluscs, and seaweed included in the GLOBALG.A.P. product list

- Covers all types of aquaculture production systems:
  - Net enclosures
  - Flow-through systems
  - Closed recirculation systems
  - Pond farming
  - Mollusc/Seaweed substrate systems

- Available for all – get certified in any country where a GLOBALG.A.P. approved CB is willing to conduct an audit
THE GLOBALG.A.P. PORTFOLIO
GLOBALG.A.P. offers solutions for B2B certification, compound feed manufacturers, consumer labeling, and traceability systems.

IFA is a building block – adapt and upgrade your assurance with other GLOBALG.A.P. standards and add-ons.

Each add-on is targeted to a specific product or aspect of farming and is audited in combination with IFA to reduce the audit burden.
THE GLOBALG.A.P. PORTFOLIO
Aquaculture solutions

GLOBALG.A.P. Compound Feed Manufacturing - CFM

GLOBALG.A.P. Integrated Farm Assurance – Aquaculture (hatchery, farm, post-harvest) includes GRASP (GRASP risk assessment on social practices)

GLOBALG.A.P. Chain of Custody - CoC when legal entity different than the farm

GLOBALG.A.P. AQUACULTURE CERTIFICATION

VOLUNTARY NON-GM

Non-GM/“Ohne Gentechnik” Module 1 - CFM

Non-GM/“Ohne Gentechnik” Module 2 – Farm/Producer

Non-GM/“Ohne Gentechnik” Module 3 – Processing Facility

POSSIBLE LABELING
THE GLOBALG.A.P. PORTFOLIO
Aquaculture solutions

IFA AQUACULTURE (INCLUDING GRASP)
CHAIN OF CUSTODY
IFA AQUACULTURE (INCLUDING GRASP)
CHAIN OF CUSTODY
IFA AQUACULTURE (INCLUDING GRASP)
CHAIN OF CUSTODY

COMPOUND FEED MANUFACTURING

IFA aquaculture certification
GGN label
GGN label and NON-GM/"OhneGenTechnik" label

NON-GM/"Ohne GenTechnik"
All inputs must originate from production processes with CFM certification.

The CFM standard is applicable for commercial compound feed for food-producing animals that are covered by the IFA standards for livestock and aquaculture.

**CFM covers all the production steps**, from the purchase, handling, and storage of raw materials for ingredients to the processing and distribution of finished compound feed.

The **CFM (v3) standard includes aspects such as:**

- Feed safety
- Responsible sourcing requirements for key ingredients, e.g., fishmeal/oil
- Manufacturing process criteria on energy, emissions, water, and waste
- Social governance points on labor practices
Chain of Custody (v6) standard

The Chain of Custody (CoC) standard safeguards the GLOBALG.A.P. claim up to the point of sale for the end consumer. It ensures that any product sold as originating from a GLOBALG.A.P. certified production process is actually sourced from certified production, and specifies strict requirements for the handling and segregation of these products, thereby providing transparency in the supply chain and ensuring product integrity.

NON-GM/“Ohne GenTechnik” (v1.1) add-on

Developed by request of GLOBALG.A.P. Community Members, the label is visible to consumers at the point of sale and is in line with EU legislation. The add-on is available for feed manufacturers and aquaculture producers, processors, and operators.
The **GGN label** is a cross-category, consumer-facing label based on a set of GLOBALG.A.P. certification standards. The GGN label stands for certified, responsible farming and transparency.

**How it works**

Unique number for each business (GGN or CoC Number)

Discover the companies behind the label at www.ggn.org

View farm/business profiles with detailed information
GGN LABEL
GGN label requirements for aquaculture

• IFA aquaculture certification at each production stage
• Chain of Custody certification for supply chain members
• Full compliance with the GRASP assessment at farm level
• Feed sourced from manufacturers with CFM certification (or certification from an equivalent benchmarked or accredited feed scheme)
• GGN label license for the stakeholder responsible for product labeling
ADDING VALUE TO YOUR BUSINESS
BENEFITS OF IFA CERTIFICATION FOR AQUACULTURE
Producers

• Implement good aquaculture practices to improve the efficiency of farm operations
• Demonstrate your commitment to responsible farming and sustainability
• Gain global recognition
• Enjoy a standard tried, tested, and trusted by producers across the globe
• Open the door to a range of supply chain solutions, including CoC and the GGN label
• Fulfil international supply chain requirements and take advantage of access to new markets
**BENEFITS OF IFA CERTIFICATION FOR AQUACULTURE**

Supply chain

- Certifies entire production chain, protecting product integrity
- **Demonstrates your commitment** to responsible farming and sustainability
- Easily identify suppliers that fulfil your requirements
- **Mitigates food safety**, biosecurity, and reputational risks
- **Ensure reliable and trusted supply** through a holistic approach that addresses all key consumer concerns – from animal health and welfare to environmental protection
Certification status and additional information, depending on data access rights, is visible in the GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems.

- **GLOBALG.A.P. NUMBER (GGN)**
- **COMPANY NAME**
- **LOCATION**

**Stages of production covered by certificate**

**Countries of destination**

**GGN of the CFM operation**
FACTS AND FIGURES

- 2.5 million+ metric tons of products in 27 countries certified worldwide
GLOBALG.A.P. certificates are issued by accredited third-party CBs. They are approved by, but independent from, GLOBALG.A.P.

- CBs conduct the farm audits to GLOBALG.A.P. standards.
- Producers have the freedom to choose which CB they use.
- CBs update the GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems.
- CBs can only be accredited by accreditation bodies (ABs) that have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with GLOBALG.A.P.

All GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs are listed online. CBs may have branch offices in your area even if they are headquartered elsewhere.
Registered Trainers are:

- Farming experts
- Trained by GLOBALG.A.P.
- Authorized to provide trainings on GLOBALG.A.P. standards and add-ons
- Able to support you on your journey to achieving GLOBALG.A.P. certification

Find Registered Trainers using our “Find a Registered Trainer” tool. You can recognize them by their green seal.
COSTS AND SYSTEM PARTICIPATION FEES

IFA v6 contains **three cost elements**.

Note: Each farm is unique, and the final costs depend on a combination of factors (size, location, existing policies and processes, etc.)

1. **Implementation costs**: Incurred by the producer to prepare for the CB audit

2. **CB service fees**: Determined by the CB to cover expenditures

3. **GLOBALG.A.P. System Participation Fees**: See table
### IFA V6 SMART FEES FOR AQUACULTURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard and scope</th>
<th>Producer type*</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Base fee (€)</th>
<th>Units to which only the base fee applies</th>
<th>Units to which unit fee 1 applies</th>
<th>Unit fee 1 (€/Unit)</th>
<th>Units to which unit fee 2 applies</th>
<th>Unit fee 2 (€/Unit)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IFA v6 Smart aquaculture, excluding molluscs</td>
<td>Individual producer (Option 1)</td>
<td>tons</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>≤ 500 tons</td>
<td>&gt; 500 – ≤ 10,000 tons</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>&gt; 10,000 tons</td>
<td>0.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFA v6 Smart aquaculture, excluding molluscs</td>
<td>Producer group (Option 2)</td>
<td>tons</td>
<td>400.00</td>
<td>≤ 2,000 tons</td>
<td>&gt; 2,000 – ≤ 10,000 tons</td>
<td>0.80</td>
<td>&gt; 10,000 tons</td>
<td>0.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFA v6 Smart aquaculture, molluscs</td>
<td>Individual producer (Option 1)</td>
<td>tons</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>≤ 300 tons</td>
<td>&gt; 300 – ≤ 10,000 tons</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>&gt; 10,000 tons</td>
<td>0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFA v6 Smart aquaculture, molluscs</td>
<td>Producer group (Option 2)</td>
<td>tons</td>
<td>400.00</td>
<td>≤ 1,200 tons</td>
<td>&gt; 1,200 – ≤ 10,000 tons</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>&gt; 10,000 tons</td>
<td>0.12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# System Participation Fees

## IFA V6 GFS Fees for Aquaculture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard and scope</th>
<th>Producer type*</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Base fee (€)</th>
<th>Units to which only the base fee applies</th>
<th>Units to which unit fee 1 applies</th>
<th>Unit fee 1 (€/Unit)</th>
<th>Units to which unit fee 2 applies</th>
<th>Unit fee 2 (€/Unit)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IFA v6 GFS aquaculture, excluding molluscs</td>
<td>Individual producer (Option 1)</td>
<td>tons</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>≤ 500 tons</td>
<td>&gt; 500 – ≤ 10,000 tons</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>&gt; 10,000 tons</td>
<td>0.025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFA v6 GFS aquaculture, excluding molluscs</td>
<td>Producer group (Option 2)</td>
<td>tons</td>
<td>500.00</td>
<td>≤ 2,000 tons</td>
<td>&gt; 2,000 – ≤ 10,000 tons</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>&gt; 10,000 tons</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFA v6 GFS aquaculture, molluscs</td>
<td>Individual producer (Option 1)</td>
<td>tons</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>≤ 300 tons</td>
<td>&gt; 300 – ≤ 10,000 tons</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>&gt; 10,000 tons</td>
<td>0.035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFA v6 GFS aquaculture, molluscs</td>
<td>Producer group (Option 2)</td>
<td>tons</td>
<td>500.00</td>
<td>≤ 1,200 tons</td>
<td>&gt; 1,200 – ≤ 10,000 tons</td>
<td>1.40</td>
<td>&gt; 10,000 tons</td>
<td>0.14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# SYSTEM PARTICIPATION FEES

## GRASP V2 FEES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard and scope</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Base fee (€)</th>
<th>Units to which only the base fee applies</th>
<th>Units to which unit fee 1 applies</th>
<th>Unit fee 1 (€/Unit)</th>
<th>Units to which unit fee 2 applies</th>
<th>Unit fee 2 (€/Unit)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GRASP v2</td>
<td>Workers</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>≤ 25 workers</td>
<td>&gt; 25 - ≤ 1000 workers</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>&gt; 1000 workers</td>
<td>0.10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FIVE STEPS TO CERTIFICATION

1. Download the documents from the GLOBALG.A.P. website
   GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations and IFA principles and criteria for aquaculture

2. Implement the standard requirements and perform a self-assessment
   GLOBALG.A.P. Registered Trainers can provide assistance during audit preparations

3. Contact a GLOBALG.A.P. approved CB and request an audit
   Search the full list of approved CBs by region, country, scope, and status

4. CB performs audit and uploads results to GLOBALG.A.P. Audit Online Hub
   All non-compliances must be corrected within 28 days and verified by the CB

5. Receive a GLOBALG.A.P. certificate for the relevant scope
   Certification status is visible in the GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems
## GLOBALG.A.P. AT A GLANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>530+ voluntary members form the GLOBALG.A.P. Community</th>
<th>1,000+ international experts active in Technical Committees, National Technical Working Groups and Focus Groups</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>206,000+ certified producers in 130+ countries</td>
<td>700+ products available for certification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLOBALG.A.P. Academy training for 2000+ participants on 5 continents in 15+ languages</td>
<td>A harmonyzation program to benchmark schemes and checklists around the world</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A pioneering integrity system with independent assessments to monitor the performance of our certification bodies</td>
<td>A secure online certification database to check producers and validate certificates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A consumer label making certified, responsible farming visible</td>
<td>Impact Driven Approach to sustainability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 main products with 40+ standards and programs</td>
<td>An extensive worldwide network of consultants to help producers with their certification process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,000+ inspectors and auditors working for 170+ approved certification bodies</td>
<td>An online consumer portal for transparent farm verification and information with 600+ farm profiles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHAT IS THE TRANSITION PERIOD FROM IFA V5 TO V6? (AQ)

**V5.2 audits possible (non GFSI recognized)**

- **26 April 2022**: Publication of IFA v6 interim version
- **1 May 2022**: IFA v5.4-1-GFS replaces v5.3-GFS
- **May 2022**: CB training (IFA v6)
- **September 2022**: Publication of IFA v6 final version
- **30 April 2023**: IFA v6 Smart becomes obligatory*

**V5.2 certificates valid**

**V5.4-1-GFS audits possible**

- **30 April 2023**: IFA v6 GFS becomes obligatory*

**V5.4-1-GFS certificates valid**

**V6 audits possible**

- **30 April 2024**: IFA v6 GFS receives GFSI recognition, estimated Q1 2023*

*V5.4-1-GFS remains valid until three months after IFA v6 GFS receives GFSI recognition. The exact date for this is still unknown.

1 year later
## UPCOMING DEVELOPMENTS: 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Key information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26 Apr 2022</td>
<td>Launch of interim version of IFA v6 documents in English.</td>
<td>First publication of the final standard. Minor edits e.g., typo/spelling corrections in the normative documents may occur between April and September.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 May 2022</td>
<td>IFA v5.3-GFS audits no longer possible.</td>
<td>Those requiring certification with GFSI recognition should audit to IFA v5.4-1-GFS.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2 2022</td>
<td>Launch of interim version of IFA v6 documents in German and Spanish.</td>
<td>Interim version is translated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2-Q3 2022</td>
<td>CB training for IFA v6.</td>
<td>CB audits to IFA v6 are possible as soon as CBs have been trained.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3 2022</td>
<td>Submission of IFA v6 GFS for GFSI recognition.</td>
<td>Recognition is expected to be achieved in Q2-3 2023.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 2022</td>
<td>Launch of final IFA v6 documents in English, German, and Spanish.</td>
<td>Final version means the published version which will ultimately become obligatory. Expected additional languages: Norwegian and Turkish.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Milestone</td>
<td>Key information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2023</td>
<td><strong>Final month for CB audits to v5.2.</strong></td>
<td>Any v5 certificate obtained at this time remains valid for its entire one-year cycle. V5.4-1-GFS audits can continue to take place until GFSI recognition is achieved for v6 + three months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2023</td>
<td><strong>IFA v6 Smart becomes obligatory.</strong></td>
<td>IFA v6 replaces IFA v5.2 and no further audits to this standard may occur.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2 2023</td>
<td><strong>Estimated date for achieving GFSI recognition and begin phase out of IFA v5.4-1-GFS.</strong></td>
<td>Once IFA v6 GFS has achieved GFSI recognition, a three-month transition period begins to phase out IFA v5.4-1-GFS. After this, IFA v6 GFS will be obligatory.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2-3 2023</td>
<td><strong>IFA v6 GFS becomes obligatory.</strong></td>
<td>If IFA v6 GFS has received GFSI recognition when IFA v6 Smart becomes obligatory, IFA v6 GFS also becomes obligatory. Otherwise v5.4-1-GFS remains valid until GFSI recognition is achieved for IFA v6 GFS.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>