CONTENTS

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
INDUSTRY CHALLENGES
Sourcing from responsible and risk-assessed production processes

- **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.
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.
THE GLOBALG.A.P. SOLUTION
IFA aquaculture industry recognition

• 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
Audits and certificates

• 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.

**THE GLOBALG.A.P. SOLUTION**

GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program

- **BRAND INTEGRITY**
  - Protecting the GLOBALG.A.P. brand

- **CERTIFICATION BODY TRAINING**
  - Maintaining a high-level knowledge base

- **RESIDUES MONITORING SYSTEM**
  - A dedicated team of experts to investigate Maximum Residue Limits (MRL) complaints

- **COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT**
  - Fast and thorough response system

- **CERTIFICATION BODY APPROVAL**
  - Ensuring a high standard of quality and integrity

- **CERTIFICATION INTEGRITY**
  - Monitoring certification body performance

- **CUSTOMER SUPPORT**
  - Providing complete, reliable, and accurate information
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 V6 FOR AQUACULTURE
Holistic approach

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

RESPONSIBLE FARMING PRACTICES
IFA v6 is available in two editions: **IFA v6 Smart** and **IFA v6 GFS**.

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

**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.
STANDARD CONTENT
Compliance requirements

- **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.
AQUACULTURE STANDARD CONTENT V6
Principles and criteria (*)

- Animal health and welfare: 24%
- GlobalG.A.P. Risk Assessment on Social Practice: 23%
- Environmental sustainability: 20%
- Legal, management and traceability: 7%
- Workers’ well-being: Workers’ health, safety, and welfare: 13%
- Food safety: 13%

*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>
<tr>
<td>PRINCIPLE</td>
<td>AQ 21.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AQ 21.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRITERIA</th>
<th>AQ 21.1</th>
<th>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.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|          | AQ 21.1 | 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. |
|          |         | Major Must                                                                                                                                 |

No N/A.
**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.
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)
NEW IN IFA V6
Animal health and welfare

- **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**
NEW IN IFA V6
Continuous improvement

Stages of a continuous improvement plan

1. Producer analyzes current practices using real data
2. Reporting is used to identify areas that can be improved
3. Producer sets measurable goals for improvement
4. New measures are implemented in farm practices
5. Implementation is checked and progress reviewed at annual CB audit
6. The continuous improvement plan is revised based on progress

• 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.
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.
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. AQUACULTURE CERTIFICATION

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

COMPULSORY

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)
COMPOUND FEED MANUFACTURING
IFA aquaculture certification

CHAIN OF CUSTODY
IFA AQUACULTURE (INCLUDING GRASP)
COMPOUND FEED MANUFACTURING
GGN label

CHAIN OF CUSTODY
IFA AQUACULTURE (INCLUDING GRASP)
COMPOUND FEED MANUFACTURING
GGN label and NON-GM/"Ohne GenTechnik" label
GLOBALG.A.P. STANDARDS AND ADD-ONS
Compound Feed Manufacturing (CFM) standard

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
**GLOBALG.A.P. STANDARDS AND ADD-ONS**

**Aquaculture solutions**

**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.
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 headquarterled 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.
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
<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></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></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>
## 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>
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

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

206,000+ certified producers in 130+ countries

GLOBALG.A.P. Academy training for 2000+ participants on 5 continents in 15+ languages

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

A consumer label making certified, responsible farming visible

GLOBALG.A.P. governed by an elected Advisory Board

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 170+ approved certification bodies

An online consumer portal for transparent farm verification and information with 600+ farm profiles

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

700+ products available for certification

A harmonization program to benchmark schemes and checklists around the world

A secure online certification database to check producers and validate certificates

Impact Driven Approach to sustainability
TIMELINE AND UPCOMING DEVELOPMENTS
WHAT IS THE TRANSITION PERIOD FROM IFA V5 TO V6? (AQ)

26 April 2022
- Publication of IFA v6 interim version

1 May 2022
- IFA v5.4-1-GFS replaces v5.3-GFS
- CB training (IFA v6)

May 2022
- V5.3-GFS audits possible
- V5.3-GFS certificates valid

September 2022
- V5.2 audits possible (non GFSI recognized)
- V5.2 certificates valid
- V5.4-1-GFS audits possible**
- V5.4-1-GFS certificates valid**
- Publication of IFA v6 final version*

30 April 2023
- IFA v6 Smart becomes obligatory
- IFA v6 GFS becomes obligatory

1 May 2023
- IFA v6 GFS receives GFSI recognition, estimated Q1 2023**

30 April 2024
- Date TBC*

1 year later
- IFA v6 GFS becomes obligatory

---

*IFA v6 final version will be published in English in September 2022. All other languages will follow by the end of 2022.

**V5.4-1-GFS remains valid until three months after IFA v6 GFS receives GFSI recognition. The exact date for this is still unknown.
<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.</td>
<td>Final version means the published version which will ultimately become obligatory. German and Spanish translations will be published by the end of 2022. Expected additional languages: Norwegian and Turkish.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# UPCOMING DEVELOPMENTS: 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Key information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<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>