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Regenagri Auditing and Certification requirements

November 2025

Table of content

Misuse of Claims	4
Edit history	4
Log of Updates	5
Acronyms.....	6
Definitions	7
1. Certification Procedures	10
2. Audit Procedure.....	11
3. Certification body and audit requirements	13
4. Audit Preparation.....	15
5. On-farm audit	20
6. Completion of audit and data verification	30
7. Final data reporting in the Regenagri platform and certification	31
8. Monitoring and continuous improvement	32
9. Change of scope.....	39
10. Data Integrity and Issue Management requirements	41

Misuse of Claims

Organisations can make claims related to Regenagri only when they have a valid license Agreement with Regenagri C.i.C. Claims shall be made according to the terms of the license Agreement.

Regenagri C.i.C. may suspend the license Agreement temporarily with immediate effect while a suspicion of breaching the terms of the Agreement or the Regenagri® standards and principles are being investigated.

In the case of misuse or suspicious misuse of Regenagri claims the licensed organisations will receive a written request for clarifications accompanied by a notification of the temporary suspension of the license. The licensed organisation has two weeks from the date of notification to confirm receipt and provide Regenagri C.i.C. with the required clarifications. The temporary suspension shall remain in effect for a maximum period of one month after the licensed organisation has provided clarifications. If the misuse is confirmed, the temporary suspension is extended for an additional three months, during which the licensed organisation shall provide Regenagri C.i.C. with confirmation of correcting and preventive measures. Regenagri C.i.C. will review these corrective and preventive actions and will confirm in writing to the licensed organisation whether the license is reinstated or terminated.

Edit history

Version 1.0 - March 2023

Version 1.1 - January 2024

Version 2.0 - June 2024

Version 2.1 – July 2024

Version 2.2 – November 2025

Log of Updates

Update	Update date	Effective date
Log of updates	21 June 2023	1 July 2024
Update of sampling criteria for group of farms	21 June 2023	1 July 2024
ICS requirements	21 June 2023	1 July 2024
List of mandatory supporting documents for certification	21 June 2023	1 July 2024
Due diligence policy	21 June 2023	1 July 2024
Update of soil sampling requirement	21 June 2023	1 July 2024
Clarification for combined scope – farm and CoC	21 June 2023	1 July 2024
Water sampling requirements	21 June 2023	1 July 2024
Update of the name of the Document	8 July 2024	8 July 2024
Clarification on checklist and management plan update	8 July 2024	8 July 2024
Clarifications on Improvement plan details – 8.3.2.	26 August 2025	26 August 2025
Clarifications on Change in Scope (Section 9); Clarification on sampling requirements for surveillance audits (4.1.), clarifications on CI (Section 8) and new added Section 10 – Data Integrity and Issue management. 4. Audit preparation – added pre-audit requirements	24 October 2025	04 November 2025

Acronyms

CB - Certification body
CPP - Crop Protection Product
FAO - Food and Agriculture Organisation
GHG - Greenhouse Gases
HHP - Highly Hazardous Pesticide
IPM - Integrated Pest Management
PPE - Personal Protective Equipment
SC – Scope certificate
SOC – Soil Organic Carbon
SOM - Soil Organic Matter

Definitions

Audit – An independent evaluation of compliance with the requirements of the RegenagriCS and Chain of Custody (CoC) certification standard by a certification body as part of the certification process.

Biodiversity plan – refers to a strategic document that outlines actions to conserve, enhance, and sustainably use biological diversity within a specific context, such as a country, region, or sector. These plans include assessments of current biodiversity, identification of key threats, and the development of targeted actions to address these challenges, ensuring the preservation and sustainable use of biological resources.

Certification body (CB) – An independent body that is accredited to ISO 17065 by an accreditation body and approved by Regenagri to conduct certification audits against the requirements of the RegenagriCS and Regenagri CoC Certification Standard.

Conservation area – Areas that are exempt from agricultural activities, ensuring their preservation and fostering a thriving ecosystem. These areas encompass a wide spectrum of natural environments, from hedgerows and windbreaks to undisturbed forests and grasslands, serving as havens for biodiversity and ecological balance.

Conservation Tillage – A system that minimises soil disturbance (0-20cm) during field preparation, which can help to preserve SOM-contents, facilitate nutrient cycling, and improve water dynamics. The four main types of conservation tillage are mulch tillage, ridge tillage, zone tillage, reduced tillage (tillage that does not turn the soil over), and no-tillage (direct drilling). Along with tillage practices, conservational tillage also involves the presence of crop residue management, depending on the context of each farm operation (residue integration, soil cover, compost, and manure).

Conventional Tillage – A tillage system that uses cultivation for seedbed preparation and weed prevention. This includes ploughing and harrowing, where soil is inverted, incorporating, and destroying plant debris, and exposing soil pests. The average depth of conventional tillage ranges between 15 and 50 cm. The crop residues are often removed, and the soil is left bare.

Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) – refers to a set of principles, regulations, technical recommendations, methods and standards applied in farming to produce safe and healthy food, protect the environment, ensure the welfare of workers and animals, and maintain economic sustainability of the farm.

Grazing Plan – A comprehensive strategy designed to ensure that livestock are positioned appropriately, exhibiting optimal behaviour, and adhering to a specific schedule. This plan seamlessly integrates livestock production with crop, wildlife, and forest production for a holistic approach to land management.

Integrated Pest Management plan (IPMP) – a plan aligned with FAO’s definition which is based on a careful consideration of all available pest control techniques and subsequent integration of appropriate measures that discourage the development of pest populations and keep pesticides and other interventions to levels that are economically justified and reduce or minimize risks to human health and the environment. IPM emphasizes the growth of a healthy crop with the least possible disruption to agro-ecosystems and encourages natural pest control mechanisms.

Medium and large size farm – a farm with more than 10 Ha of land under cultivation or pasture.

Nature-based and organic fertilisers – Fertilisers coming from nature-based sources, naturally produced, elaborated, or extracted from organic matter or the earth.

Nutrient management plan – A systematic strategy designed to efficiently regulate nutrient use, aiming to conserve financial resources and mitigate environmental risks. It shall include both a farm record sheet (for the whole farm) and a field record sheet (for each field), which shall include nutrient applications and soil analysis, field areas and farm map, crop to be grown and previous crop grown, soil type, soil nutrient analysis, a manure/litter/slurry application map, and details of all imports and exports of organic manure, including manure/slurry/litter.

Perennial crop – Plants that live for more than two years and produce a harvest for several years. They offer several advantages over annual crops, including resilience to environmental stress, reduced tillage needs, and deeper root systems for carbon sequestration.

Remote audit – The auditing process by which Regenagri-approved CBs accredited to ISO 17065 perform an audit without the need to be physically present. A remote audit refers to any audit that is conducted off-site, using digital communication tools like video conferencing, file sharing, remote desktop applications, etc. It mirrors an on-site audit, covering interviews, document reviews, and even virtual tours of facilities where feasible. The auditor may request real-time demonstrations, share screens, and ask for immediate document access.

Rotation Plan – A structured agricultural strategy outlining the designated crops to be planted on each field and their corresponding planting schedules. This plan, formulated with a minimum 3-year vision, considers various species, and strategically incorporates their rotation to enhance yield, promote soil health, and bolster overall farm resilience, with a reduced reliance on synthetic inputs.

Rotational Grazing Management Plan – A plan that subdivides the ground and matches the allocated area with stock, including the numbers of animals and days on each plot.

Soil Management Plan – A soil management plan shall be field-by-field and aid in the identification and management of soil related issues. Such a plan shall take into consideration local climate and rainfall patterns, soil type, and crop type. It shall include field and soil identification, management issues, and proposals.

Scope of certification – The activities covered by the organisation’s supply chain certification.

Small farm – A farm with an area under cultivation or pasture of less than 10 Ha.

Stakeholders – any individual, group, or organisation that can affect or be affected by the implementation, operation, outcomes, or impacts of Regenagri-related activities. This includes, but is not limited to farmers and producers involved in regenerative agriculture practices, certification bodies (CBs) and auditors conducting assessments, supply chain actors such as processors, traders, and brands using Regenagri certified materials, implementing organisations, technical support providers, and consultants, local communities and indigenous groups, consumers, especially those relying on product carrying certification claims, NGOs, civil society organisations, and regulators with an interest in sustainable agriculture, environmental impact, or social performance.

Suspension of Scope certificate – means that the Certification Body (CB) has temporarily invalidated a client's Scope Certificate for a specified period of time. During suspension, the client must not make any certification claims or request any Transaction Certificates issuance related to the suspended scope.

Synthetic fertilisers – Fertilisers manufactured synthetically and contain one or more of the nutrients necessary for plant growth.

Water Management Plan – For farms using irrigation, a plan shall include a list of irrigation efficiency measures, and good watershed management in local the context (climate, soil, type of farm operation).

Withdrawal of Scope certificate – means that the Certification Body has permanently cancelled the client's Scope Certificate. Once withdrawn, the certificate holder loses the right to use any certification claims, logos, or issue further TCs (refer to RegenagriCS) under the withdrawn scope.

1. Certification Procedures

The following list presents the certification process in sequential order, with detailed explanations for specific steps provided in subsequent sections of this document.

1. Application from Organisation
 - 1.1. Online application forms are available here: <https://Regenagri.org/apply-for-Regenagri/>
2. Regenagri Licence
3. Registration of Projects in Regenagri Platform
4. Contracting for auditing and certification services with approved CB
5. Audit Period and Audit Cycles
6. Audit Preparation
 - 6.1. Farms sampling criteria (groups of farms)
 - 6.2. Requirements of partial farms certifications
 - 6.3. Gathering farm documents
7. On-Farm Audit
 - 7.1. Supporting documents and gathering information
 - 7.2. Yield procedure
 - 7.3. Soil Sampling
8. Completion of Audit and Data Verification
9. Final Data Reporting in the Regenagri Platform
10. Certification decision and scope certificate issuance
11. Monitoring and Continuous Improvement
12. Change of Scope

It is important to note that the agreement between the CB and Regenagri mandates the periodic provision of certification data, with a frequency of at least quarterly reporting.

2. Audit Procedure

2.1 Application from organisations

The application process is designed to collect essential information that defines the project's scope – whether for farm certification, chain of custody certification, or licensing (encompassing platform and advisory projects). Following the review of the submitted application, the approved service provider and/or Regenagri will issue a service and licensing proposal based on the provided details.

Organisations applying for farm certification shall demonstrate compliance with the Regenagri conservation criteria as defined in the Regenagri Standard – Farms. Compliance with the mandatory social requirements is also a prerequisite for programme enrolment. These requirements address critical aspects such as:

- Child labour
- Workplace violence and harassment
- Freedom of association
- Wages and benefits
- Working hours
- Health and safety
- Living conditions
- Subcontracting practices
- Community involvement

Further details are available in the Regenagri Standard – Farms, accessible via www.regenagri.org.

Activities extending from first processing through to finished products fall within the scope of the Regenagri Content – Farms and Regenagri Chain of Custody Standard. Organisations seeking to make product-related claims referencing Regenagri certification shall hold a valid Regenagri Chain of Custody Certificate.

Organisations engaged in both farming and processing activities (including first processing) are required to comply with both the Regenagri Standard – Farms and the Regenagri Chain of Custody Standard. Where such organisations wish to make claims referring to Regenagri-certified products, they shall hold both types of scope certificates—the Regenagri Farm Certificate and the Regenagri Chain of Custody Certificate.

This framework supports Regenagri's overarching vision of promoting regenerative agriculture, emphasising environmentally responsible and socially equitable practices across the entire supply chain.

2.2 Regenagri licensing

There are three types of contracts within the Regenagri framework:

1. *Contracts for Regenagri services, including certifications:*

- Between the applicant organisation and the approved certification body.
- Entails the provision of audit and certification services related to the Regenagri programme, specifically for farms.

2. *Contract for Regenagri chain of custody certification:*

- Between the applicant organisation and the approved certification body.
- Focused on the provision of audit and certification services related to the Regenagri programme, particularly for the chain of custody.

3. *Contract for Regenagri licensing:*

- Between the applicant organisation and Regenagri C.i.C.
- Encompasses the licencing agreement for the utilisation of Regenagri, including its Standards and Methodologies, the Regenagri Platform, and Regenagri claims and trademarks.

2.3 Registration of projects in Regenagri Platform

Upon finalising the licensing contract and payment of the applicable licensing fees, the licensed organisation shall be granted access to the Regenagri Platform.

2.4 Contracting for services with the service provider

Upon completion of the licensing contract, when auditing and certification services are required, Regenagri shall notify the approved service provider to initiate the contracting process for audit and certification services.

Approval of service providers authorised to conduct audits and certification against the Regenagri Standards is granted by Regenagri. As a minimum requirement, such service providers shall be certification bodies accredited to standards relevant to the scope of services they deliver, including but not limited to ISO 17065, ISO 14064, and ISO 14065.

Under the Regenagri programme, the scope of services includes:

- Conducting audits,
- Preparing and submitting audit reports,
- Making certification decisions, and
- Issuing scope certificates.

3. Certification body and audit requirements

1. Approval and Licensing

Audits shall be conducted only by certification bodies (CBs) approved by Regenagri, and only after a valid license agreement has been signed between Regenagri and the organisation seeking Regenagri certification.

The certification body shall:

- Be formally approved by Regenagri and comply with all Regenagri requirements.
- Ensure that all Regenagri audits are conducted exclusively by qualified auditors and certifiers who have successfully completed the Regenagri training and passed the Regenagri qualification exam (refer to Regenagri CB's auditor and certifier qualification requirements)
- Incorporate these qualification requirements into its internal competence procedure, which shall be shared with Regenagri upon request.

Auditors or certifiers who have not successfully passed the Regenagri exam or do not meet the qualification requirements shall not be considered competent to conduct audits or make certification decisions.

Regenagri shall maintain and regularly update a list of all approved and qualified auditors and certifiers.

2. Audit conducting requirements

2.1. Audit period

Regenagri audits may be conducted at any time during the calendar year. The preferred audit period is post-harvest of one or more of the main cash crops (defined as the crop generating the highest farm revenue), allowing the auditor to evaluate complete crop management practices.

The approved CB is responsible for scheduling the audit at the most appropriate time.

If the audit takes place before harvest, the auditor shall collect relevant information and review supporting documentation (if necessary, collect) for forthcoming crop data, including but not limited to:

- Fertilisation and crop protection product plans.
- Yield forecasts (based on previous harvest data and current climatic conditions).

All audits shall be completed within calendar 30 days of the last on-site audit date. An audit is considered complete when all required data and supporting documentation have been submitted to the certifier for review.

The certifier's review shall be completed within 15 working days of receiving all necessary information.

Upon completion of the review, the certifier shall submit the final audit data and the checklist to Regenagri. The Regenagri report shall be generated within 15 working days following the completion of the certifier's review.

2.2. Audit cycles

Once a certification cycle has commenced, annual surveillance audits shall be carried out each year over the three-year certification cycle.

- Each annual surveillance audit shall occur no earlier than 12 months after the last audit date and no later than 15 months after it (allowing for a maximum 90-day grace period).
- The re-certification audit – the final audit in each cycle, shall take place before the scope certificate expires, and no later than one month prior to the certificate's expiry date.

4. Audit Preparation

The audit preparation stage is intended to equip the licensed organisation with the necessary information and guidance to implement the Regenagri Programme or to undergo an audit in accordance with Regenagri requirements. Preparation activities may include training on the Regenagri Standard – Farms, as well as development of audit procedures and audit planning.

A pre-audit shall be conducted by the CB – either remotely or onsite, to ensure that all relevant information about the client’s farming operations is collected, verified, and properly understood before audit preparation and the formal audit begins. This process also establishes mutual clarity on audit expectations, evidence requirements, and documentation formats.

During the pre-audit, the CB undertakes the following activities:

- Information gathering

Collect and confirm key operational data, including:

- geolocation of farms or farm groups and the number of regions covered
- agroecological conditions (climate and weather patterns – temperature, rainfall, humidity; soil type and fertility; topography and water availability)
- Confirming conditions across each region
- crop types and farm management practices
 - use of conservation tillage
 - planting of cover crops and soil-covering practices
 - participation in other sustainability or certification standards (e.g., Organic, Rainforest Alliance, etc.), and whether all farms or crops are included.
- Client briefing on audit requirements
 - Provide clear guidance to the client on what will be checked during the audit, including key focus areas.
 - Clarify the types of records and documents that need to be available for review (e.g., production records, input logs, training records, soil management plans, etc.).
 - Confirm the format and process for evidence collection and submission, specifying whether the CB will collect data directly from the client or only review them; collect documentary or photographic proofs;
 - Define the acceptable format of evidence (e.g., digital copies, signed records, geo-tagged photos, field maps – in .KML or .KMZ, spreadsheets, etc.) and ensure the client understands all evidence requirements before the audit.

After the pre-audit is finalised and during the next phase – the preparation phase, and where applicable, the approved certification body (CB) shall:

- Select and confirm to the licensed organisation the sample of farms to be assessed during the on-site audit;
- Define any soil sampling requirements applicable to the project.

These records shall form part of the supporting documentation of the certification process.

Prior to the on-site visit, the auditor shall be informed if soil sampling is required to ensure sufficient time is allocated for the audit. Soil sampling and analysis during on-site audits shall be initiated at the first Regenagri audit and repeated every three years thereafter. Additional sampling may be conducted earlier if deemed necessary; however, soil analyses shall always be based on samples that are no more than three years old.

Before visiting the farm, the certification body may coordinate with the audited organisation to collect all supporting documents necessary for the certifier's review. This preliminary documentation review – commonly referred to as a desk audit – facilitates an efficient audit process and ensures compliance with mandatory documentation review requirements.

The approved certification body shall also perform a risk review prior to each audit, using a risk matrix approved by Regenagri. This review shall be conducted annually, and where appropriate, the sample size and/or audit intensity shall be adjusted based on the assessed risk level.

4.1 Group of farms - farms sampling criteria

A project consisting of more than five farms shall be classified as a Farm Group.

Farms located across multiple countries or geographical regions (e.g. state) may be registered under a group certification; however, each farm or each group of farms within a given country or geographical region (e.g. state) shall be assessed independently. Each country-based farm group shall undergo a separate audit, with sampling conducted at the country (or state) group level as described in the relevant sections below.

Farms or farm groups within a country or state that do not meet the required threshold shall not be included in the scope of certification.

When an applicant organisation seeks certification for a group of farms, an Internal Control System (ICS) shall be established and registered by the approved certification body. The organisation shall provide the certification body with a comprehensive list of all farmers included in the group. This list shall include, at a minimum:

- Full names.

- Farm addresses.
- Size of each farm.
- Crops and/or livestock.
- Additional schemes info, such as organic certification.

Where required, the certification body (CB) may provide a template to support the development of the Internal Control System (ICS).

The CB shall audit the ICS and approve it only after verifying and confirming that 100% of the registered farms within the group have undergone at least one internal inspection conducted by the ICS.

The ICS shall be audited by the CB in accordance with the certification cycle and prior to any farm-level audits.

The CB shall audit a representative sample of farms to assess the effectiveness of the ICS and its compliance with all requirements of Regenagri Standard – Farms.

The number of sampled farms shall be representative of the total group. The sample size shall be determined through a risk assessment of the project, conducted by the CB using a risk matrix approved by Regenagri. This risk review shall be conducted annually, and the sample size and/or audit intensity adjusted as necessary based on the level of risk identified.

Requirements for initial audits (first year of the certification cycle):

- For low-risk projects (as categorised by the CB), the minimum number of farms to be sampled shall be five (5) or the square root of the total number of farms (or total surface area) within the group, whichever is greater.
- For high-risk projects (as categorised by the CB), the CB shall determine the appropriate sample size, which shall be no less than 1.4 times the square root of the total number of farms in the group.

Requirements for annual surveillance audits (second and third year of the certification cycle):

- For annual surveillance audits, the sample size shall be calculated using the same methodology as outlined above. Once the total sample size is determined, the certification body shall ensure that:
 - 40% of the sample consists of farms audited during the first-year audit, and
 - 60% consists of farms not previously audited during the initial or consecutive audits.

In cases of uncontrollable events (e.g. extreme weather such as drought, floods, fires, or storms), deviations from the standard sampling selection may be permitted. While temporary adjustments to continuous improvement targets may be allowed (refer to Section 8), sampling requirements shall still be fulfilled.

If the required sampling cannot be achieved due to such events, the certification body shall conduct an additional (follow-up) audit before the subsequent year's audit to ensure full compliance with requirements of the Regenagri Standard – Farms. This additional audit shall cover only those farms that did not receive the regular audit.

The certification body is responsible for selecting a representative sample that reflects the diversity within the farm group. The sample shall be selected based on the following principles:

- Variability in environmental conditions (e.g. soil type, climate, geography);
- Variability in farming operations (e.g. crop types and production systems);
- Variability in crop management practices (e.g. nutrient management and crop protection strategies).

The farms selected for sampling shall vary across audit cycles. The certification body is responsible for annual sample selection and for ensuring representativeness across all audits.

Representative samples may be organised into clusters, defined as segments of the overall production area where farms exhibit homogeneous management practices. Clustering shall be based on geographical proximity and similarity in production systems, with each cluster encompassing farms within a 5-kilometre radius.

- If a farm within a cluster deviate from the homogeneity criteria, it shall undergo an additional audit, in addition to the sample farms selected from the cluster.
- Each cluster shall be associated with at least one Regenagri audit report (checklist). Where a farm within a cluster lacks homogeneity, its audit report shall be prepared separately.
- Clusters may include post-harvest or primary processing operations, where applicable, which shall be assessed under the Regenagri Chain of Custody Standard.

4.2 Requirements of partial farms certifications

The certification audit shall cover the entire farm, not limited to specific crops or selected areas. The assessment shall include all crops, integrated or not livestock (where applicable), as well as conservation areas and non-productive land.

In cases where the applicant organisation is unable to implement the Regenagri Programme across the entire farm at the start of the certification cycle, an initial partial certification may be permitted under the certain conditions. An initial audit and certification may be conducted on a minimum of 50% of the total land area (including conservation and non-productive areas), provided that the criteria below are met:

- Conditions for individual farms
 - The total land area (including conservation and non-productive land) exceeds 5,000 hectares (Ha).
- Conditions for groups of farms
 - The project includes more than five farms, categorised as a group of farms; and
 - The average land area per farm within the group exceeds 2,000 hectares (Ha).

Where partial farm certification is undertaken, the following requirements shall apply:

- A plan to extend certification to cover the entire land area shall be formally agreed upon and contracted with Regenagri and the CB.
- The scope of certification shall be expanded to include 100% of the total land area within three years of the first certification audit. This expansion may be implemented incrementally over the three-year period (e.g. 20% additional area in Year 2 and 30% in Year 3).
- The planned extension of scope shall be explicitly stated and contracted within the certification agreement between the licensed organisation and the CB.
- Regenagri licence fees shall apply to the entire land area, regardless of the initial percentage

Reductions in the certified land area are not permitted, except in exceptional circumstances, such as the sale or lease of land. Any such cases shall be formally submitted to the approved certification body, which shall evaluate the justification and notify Regenagri accordingly.

5. On-farm audit

5.1 Supporting document checklist

For the certification procedures to be completed, the certifier shall review supporting records; and evaluate evidence supporting the audit data for all applicants and certified organisation annually. Evidence and objective information shall be an integral part of the certification project and shall be made available to Regenagri.

This list is intended as a guideline only. Some documents may not be relevant to all operations.

Administrative:

- Application form
- Offer letter
- Farm list (if more than one farm) – mandatory to be collected and attached to the checklist
- Selected sample farm/field list (if more than one farm/field)
- Farm maps (which covers scope area, cultivation area, forest, water bodies, conservation area and buildings) – mandatory to be collected and attached to the checklist in the following format: .KML and/ or .KMZ.
- Training record of farmers and workers on regenerative practices and good agriculture practices and standard criteria.

Crop

- Management plan addressing all mandatory requirements implementation such as cover cropping, conservation tillage, crop rotation, perennial cropping, synthetic inputs (including Integrated Pest Management Plan), soil management, biodiversity management, livestock management etc.
- Yield/ harvest records (for all crops grown during that agricultural year)
- Invoices for seed
- Fertiliser records
 - Type of fertiliser
 - Application rate
 - Invoices for fertilisers
- Nutrient management plan (based on local geography, climate, soil, crop etc.)
- Crop Protection Products records
 - Type of CPP
 - Application rate
 - Invoices for CPP
 - Recommendations of professionals
 - Training of operators for application

Livestock

- Grazing management plan – shall include maximum grazing periods, rest periods, grazing duration, stock density. The plan shall ensure the pasture (including permanent pastures) are managed in a way that minimize overgrazing and promote recovery.
- Animal health plan
- Livestock medicine records
- Animal feeding records – including delivery documentation of feed materials (such as invoices, lot numbers, ingredients and composition etc.)

Farm management:

- Water
 - List of water bodies and limits for overused, including records with relevant stakeholders.
 - Irrigation records
 - Irrigation equipment
 - Water abstraction permits
 - Water management plan
 - Evidence of rainwater harvesting
 - Water quality analysis
- Soil management plan and analysis (see more in chapter 5.3) – the auditor shall evaluate if the soil management plan ensures that the soil health is enhanced through practices and monitoring requirements described in the Soil Management Plan. These include strategies such as implementing strategic crop rotation, integrating animals in croplands, applying green manure or composted products, growing perennials with deeper root system, and controlled nutrient management.
 - Soil Analysis report
 - Soil Management Plan – shall address factors that impact soil health, including, but not limited to, soil erosion, carbon sequestration, biomass accumulation, tillage, synthetic inputs, and other practices that cause soil disturbance. Additionally, it shall incorporate mitigation strategies to minimize these negative effects on soil health and include a monitoring plan for a three-year cycle.
 - Sampling strategy aligned FAO sampling protocol.
 - Cover crop management (to ensure that during the off-season the soil is not left bare for more than 4 weeks to maintain soil health and vitality through continuous root activity from living roots year-round, unless a justifiable event occurs which is appropriately documented).
 - Crop rotation complexification (cover crops can be included here) – including different plant families.

- Biodiversity
 - Biodiversity plan – shall ensure the implemented measures protect and enhance the biodiversity (including maintenance of vulnerable areas, conservation-priority zones, species-rich permanent pasture, non-ploughing practices or expand the area of permanent pasture).
 - List of actions and proof of practice
 - Monitoring plan (if not present ask to start one) – the monitoring plan shall include expected outcome.
 - Methodology of data collection
 - Results – evaluations of the achieved outcome resulting in updated biodiversity plan and measures.
- Waste management
 - Solid waste management plan – all waste types shall be identified and disposed safely and legally.
 - Water waste management plan
 - Plastic management plan
- Energy
 - Diesel usage records (Diesel invoices or GPS used on tractors)
 - Electricity records
 - Green energy bills
- Improvement plan (applicable for all farms after the initial audit) – mandatory to be collected and attached to the checklist.
- Extreme weather event records (applicable for farms which have been subject to extreme weather events) – mandatory to be collected and attached to the checklist
- Fertiliser records, including Recommendations of professionals and training of operators for application

Non-conformities (NCs)

- A report confirming the NCs closure – mandatory to be collected and attached to the checklist

During the audit, evidence of the above-mentioned topics should be reviewed, recorded on the checklist and where indicated as mandatory to be collected to support audit data and information on practices and measured outcomes.

5.1.1 Due Diligence Policy

Below here a list of elements needed to comply with sustainability policies and due diligence

- List of crops & commodities regulated by the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR).
- Geographical Information (geographical coordinates of their farming land).
- Documentation ensuring that all farming practices comply with local environmental laws and regulations, including those related to land use, forest conservation, environmental, climate, indigenous peoples', community and human rights (e.g. documentation proving legal ownership and rightful use of the land for agriculture).
- Risk Assessment of farming operations, including reviewing the history of the land, current farming practices, and any future expansion plans.
- Mitigation strategies
- Documentation and traceability records
- Monitoring plans, records and reports

5.2 Yields records

During the on-site audit, each farm shall provide yield data for all crops produced within the scope of certification. Two approaches are acceptable, depending on the timing of the audit:

- If the crops have already been harvested, the auditor shall review and record the actual yield data for all crops within the certification scope since the date of the previous audit.
- If the audit takes place prior to harvest, the farm shall provide the auditor with forecasted yield data. The auditor shall review and evaluate the assumptions and methods used by the farm to estimate these yield forecasts. Forecasted yield data shall be clearly identified as “forecast” within the applicable audit recording system.

Following each annual surveillance audit or earlier, if the farm subsequently submits verified yield data with supporting records—the certification body shall:

- Update the yield data in all relevant documentation; and
- Notify Regenagri of the updates made.

5.3 Soil sampling and analysis

5.3.1 Scope & Aim

Soil analysis shall be performed by laboratories accredited to ISO standards (or equivalent) applicable to such analysis. Soil analysis shall include soil organic carbon (SOC) and/or soil organic matter (SOM) measurements.

The purpose of the soil analysis procedure is to allow the farmer to create a baseline (if needed) and to monitor improvements that occur when adopting regenerative practices in their fields.

The key metrics that shall be present within a soil sample are:

- SOM levels
- SOC levels
- pH of the soil
- Cation-exchange capacity (CEC) of the soil
- NPK levels
- Magnesium levels
- Bulk density

Other optional measurements that might be interesting to follow the soil health evolution include:

- Earthworm count
- Infiltrations rates
- Audit of soil biology (DNA testing)
- Heavy metals
- Any other soil health indicators considered relevant for the project

Soil analysis data shall be recorded in the Regenagri audit report as well as in the Regenagri platform. As part of the Regenagri certification audits, soil sampling and analysis shall be conducted every 3 years. The auditor shall verify the soils analysis records (if all parameters are covered, if recognised methodology is used for sampling collection and if the analysis is conducted by accredited laboratory) which shall not be older than three years. Refer to the Regenagri Standard – Farms for requirements related to soil analysis.

As part of the preparation for the certification audit, the certification body shall check if the farm(s) have soil analysis records available. In case no soil analysis records are available before the audit, the following is required:

- The auditor or farm shall carry out soil sampling. The soil sampling shall be carried out following the requirements in this document as well as requirements and instructions from globally recognized methodologies such as FAO soil sampling protocol.
- If the soil sampling is done by the farm, the certification body shall retrieve the sampling information (including the location of the sample, farm name, name of person collecting the sample, etc) and register them into the audit report.
- Soil samples shall be secured in suitable containers and labelled with the sampling information. A sample collection form shall be completed and, when the sampling is not done by the certification body, shall be provided to the certification body.
- Additional sets of soil samples shall be retained.

- The soil samples shall be retained at the organisation's site, until further instruction by the certification body. The farm may however proceed with the testing of the soil samples before receiving further instructions by the certification body.

If soil sampling or analysis is not made available as described above, the certification process shall be paused until valid soil analysis results are submitted and verified by the certification body.

5.3.2 Method of soil sampling

The following section outline who is qualified to conduct the sampling procedure, when to collect the samples, where to collect the samples, and which key metrics to follow. For more information and details regarding soil sampling, please refer to Regenagri Sampling procedure.

Equipment

To conduct soil sampling effectively, the following equipment is required:

- Plastic bucket.
- Spade.
- Trowel and or soil-sampling auger.
- GPS device (smartphone).
- Unused plastic bag, clearly labelled with area and date information (name of the field, GPS coordinates, date of collection).

All equipment needs to be clean and free of soil/rust.

Person(s) responsible

The soil can be sampled by:

- A trained auditor during an on-site audit.
- The owner/an employee of the agricultural production site, before or after an on-site audit has taken place.
- A third-party service provider specialised in soil testing.

If a member of the Regenagri program wishes to use results from records created before their work with Regenagri, these results will need to be provided by an accredited lab and will be verified during the audit.

Procedure

The results of the soil analysis will contribute to the audit report and can be used afterward to give claims of soil health regeneration.

Soil analysis for on-site audits should commence at the first Regenagri audit and recur every three years. Samples can be taken earlier, if necessary, but the soil analysis shall be based on samples not exceeding three years old.

The ideal times for soil sampling are climate-dependent, context-specific and crop-specific. Sampling should occur at the same time of year to ensure the lowest seasonal variability in the soil's chemical and physical structure.

- In a temperate/continental climate we suggest that every farm should sample during the spring and autumn months.
- In a tropical climate the suggested soil sampling period is at the beginning of the dry season.
- For perennial crops it is suggested to collect soil samples after harvest independently from climatic factors. For areas recently limed or fertilized, delay sampling at least 6–8 weeks.

As the soil samples need to be representative of the land that is used in agricultural production, a representative sample is required. If the field is uniform in both soil type and management practices, one sample site will be sufficient. However, in practice, most fields are treated differently. If a farmer operates on more than one type of soil or if management practices differ across the field, the field should be divided into smaller sample areas (relative to the size of the land in question). More information on the location of sampling is provided below.

When heterogeneity is present within the project area, a composite sample shall be collected to represent the project area. The quantity of samples may vary based on factors like the uniformity of the land under review, the types of soil present, and management practices. It is essential to collect samples from all inspected areas and fields. Regenagri advises using the same criteria for determining the number of farms and cluster requirements when selecting sites for soil sampling (for instance, selecting an equal number of farms or clusters as those chosen for the audit). Each composite sample shall include GPS coordinates, which can be easily obtained from a point in the centre of the field where the samples are collected. Alternatively, a map can be used for this purpose.

The Certifier Body shall be responsible for selecting the right sample of fields and area to be representative of the project area.

To ensure the quality and representativity of a sample the following steps are required:

- Check the soil is not too wet (soil moisture level is good for sampling when soil breaks apart easily after being squeezed into a ball).
- On arable land – take a sample of soil that is a minimum of 15 cm deep and a maximum 30 cm deep.
- On grassland – take a sample of soil that is a minimum of 15 cm deep.
- Remove any surface vegetation, fresh or woody (this will provide a more accurate measurement of SOM).
- The soil needs to be sampled in a ‘W’ shape across the selected area to ensure variance in soil type is accounted for, and away from trees/other interfering factors.
- GPS coordinates shall be used to track samples.
- Mix up the soil in the hole that has been dug.
- Remove anything that may skew the sample; twigs/rocks.
- Use a clean cup to transfer the soil into a clean plastic bucket.

5.4 Water sampling and analysis

5.4.1 Scope & Aim

Water analysis shall be performed by laboratories accredited to ISO standards (or equivalent) applicable to such analysis. The purpose of the water analysis procedure is to allow the farmer to create a baseline (if needed) and to monitor the level of compliance and/ or improvements that occur when adopting regenerative practices in their fields.

The key metrics that shall be present within a water sample are:

- Antibiotics
- Industrial waste
- Heavy metals
- Pesticides
- Phosphate
- Nitrate

Water analysis data, when applicable, shall be recorded in the Regenagri audit report as well as in the Regenagri platform. For certification projects, water sampling and water analysis data may result in additional points contributing to the Regenagri score.

As part of the Regenagri certification audits, the auditor shall verify the water analysis records which shall not be older than three years.

As part of the preparation for the certification audit, the certification body shall check if the farm(s) have water analysis records available. In case no water analysis records are available before the audit, the following is required:

- The auditor or farm shall carry out water sampling when required according to the Regenagri Standard – Farms. The water sampling shall be carried out following the requirements in this document as well as requirements and instructions from globally recognized methodologies.
- If the water sampling is done by the farm, the certification body shall retrieve the sampling information (including the location of the sample, farm name, name of person collecting the sample, etc) and register them into the audit report.
- Water samples shall be secured in suitable containers and labelled with the sampling information. A sample collection form shall be completed and, when the sampling is not done by the certification body, shall be provided to the certification body.
- Additional sets of water samples shall be retained.
- The water samples shall be retained at the organisation's site, until further instruction by the certification body. The farm may however proceed with the testing of the water samples before receiving further instructions by the certification body.

5.4.2 Method of water sampling

The following section outlines: who is qualified to conduct the water sampling procedure, when to collect the samples, where to collect the samples, and which key metrics to follow.

Equipment

To conduct water sampling effectively, the following equipment is required:

- Water Sampling Bottles: Use sterilized glass or plastic bottles; specific types may be required for different analyses (e.g., amber glass bottles for light-sensitive compounds).
- Dipper or Sampler Pole: For collecting surface water manually.
- Van Dorn or Niskin Bottles: For collecting water at specific depths in lakes or reservoirs.
- GPS Device: For recording exact locations of sampling points – smartphone.
- Coolers and Ice Packs: For sample preservation during transport.

Person(s) responsible

The water can be sampled by:

- A trained auditor during an on-site audit.
- The owner/an employee of the agricultural production site, before or after an on-site audit has taken place.
- A third-party service provider specialised in water testing.

If a member of the Regenagri program wishes to use results from records created before their work with Regenagri, these results will need to be provided by an accredited lab and will be verified during the audit.

Procedure

The results of such analysis will contribute to the audit report and can be used afterward to give claims of water health regeneration or preservation.

Water analysis for on-site audits should commence at the first Regenagri audit only for high-risk projects/ farms and recur every three years.

1. Identify water bodies

- Identify various types of water bodies such as rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, and groundwater adjacent / near the farming areas.
- Prioritize areas that are likely to be influenced by agricultural activities, including those downstream or adjacent to farms, animal feedlots, and crop fields.

2. Sampling points

- Always select sampling points both upstream and downstream of the agricultural area to distinguish between background levels and the impacts of farm runoff. Include points where runoff directly enters the water body, such as drainage ditches, stormwater outlets, and direct runoff paths from fields.

- Ensure sampling from various environments within the same water body to capture spatial variability—e.g., near the bank and in the centre of a river.

3. Sampling Frequency

- Sample during different seasons to account for variations in farm activity, such as planting, harvesting, and application of fertilizers and pesticides.
- Consider increased sampling frequency during and after significant rainfall or snowmelt events, as these can lead to elevated runoff and spikes in contaminant levels.

4. Sampling Depth and Volume

- For bodies like lakes and ponds, take samples from both surface waters and at varying depths to account for stratification in water chemistry.
- Collect enough volume to conduct all required analyses, considering some tests may require pre-concentration or multiple attempts for accurate quantification.

5. Sampling methodology

- Use for immediate analysis or when constituents are stable. Grab samples represent the condition of the water body at a specific time and location.
- Collect random samples from different areas and make a composite sample that averages out temporal variations.

6. Transportation and storage conditions

- Store samples at 4°C immediately after collection to prevent chemical and biological changes.
- Add appropriate preservatives if samples cannot be analysed within holding times; for example, acids for metals or biocides for microbial inhibitors.
- Ensure samples are transported to the laboratory under recommended conditions as soon as possible to prevent degradation.
- Maintain detailed sampling records including date, time, exact location, water body description, weather conditions, and any observations that might affect the results (e.g., visible pollution sources, agricultural activity nearby).
- Record GPS coordinates of each sampling site to ensure consistency in future sampling and to aid in data analysis and mapping.

6. Completion of audit and data verification

During the on-site audit, the certification body's (CB's) auditor shall record all verified data using the current version of the Regenagri checklist (Excel format). All mandatory supporting documents and additional evidence shall be attached or referenced, as appropriate, in accordance with the documentation requirements outlined in Section 5.1.

At the closing meeting (on the final day of the on-site audit), the auditor shall:

- Inform the organisation of any non-conformities (NCs) identified in relation to eligibility, social, and internal control system (ICS) criteria (where applicable);
- Communicate the categorisation of the NCs and the timeframe for corrective actions required to address these non-conformities; and
- Provide information regarding the certification body's complaints and appeals procedures.

Following the on-site audit, the completed checklist, together with all required supporting documentation and references to evidence, shall be submitted to the third-party certifier.

The certifier shall:

- Verify the completeness and accuracy of the data;
- Address any inconsistencies or issues prior to finalising the audit results.

The certification body shall store all audit files securely within an appropriate document management system and record certification data in the certification management platform.

To document non-conformities and corresponding corrective actions, the auditor shall use the latest version of the Regenagri Findings Report, a template shall be provided by Regenagri.

This report shall be submitted to Regenagri once all non-conformities have been satisfactorily closed, in accordance with the Regenagri Standard.

In cases where uncontrolled or extreme weather events have caused significant impacts on land within the certification scope, the auditor shall:

- Record the event and its impacts (e.g., cyclone damage to perennial crops, afforestation areas, or hedgerows) as part of the audit data;
- Provide supporting documentation and evidence substantiating these impacts, submitted alongside the checklist.

When reviewing the data and evidence, the certifier shall determine whether the extreme weather event has resulted in material damage to agricultural operations and/or land characteristics, and document this assessment accordingly.

7. Final data reporting in the Regenagri platform and certification

After review and verification of data by the CB's certifier, the audit data are finalised and are provided to Regenagri.

As part of its Due Diligence, Regenagri carries out reviews of audit data submitted by the CB, to provide extra assurance on the integrity of the data. In case clarifications on the audit data are required by Regenagri review, the CB shall provide such clarifications within 14 calendar days.

The Final report includes the total Regenagri score results (reflecting the regenerative level of the farm) as well as data and results for each of the criteria that have been assessed, including a GHG report (when applicable). In case of extreme weather events and declared harms, Regenagri takes this in account during the final review of the data and if needed adjust accordingly when preparing the final report.

If after the audit report is finalised, there is any change on data or supporting evidence, this shall be evaluated by the CB within maximum 14 working days and approved by Regenagri before an updated report is generated.

Audit data and report are registered in the Regenagri digital depositories.

The Final Regenagri report is submitted to the CB's responsible certifier who is responsible to take the certification decision.

If the certification decision is positive, the certifier issues a scope certificate. The Final Regenagri report together with the certification decision and the scope certificate issued (when applicable) are provided to the licensed organisation. The scope certificate is submitted to Regenagri's team who is responsible for updating the publicly available register with certified companies on Regenagri's website: <https://regenagri.org/certified-companies/>. Full certification data (including but not limited to certificate details, the scope of certifications, farm details, and audit data) are provided only to the certified organisations after the certification process and at the time of the annual surveillance audit.

This report highlights how the agricultural operation is scoring compared to the standard criteria for farm certification: what practices and outcomes are present and what practices and outcomes are still missing.

The standard works via a "continuous improvement" approach, which is mandatory for maintaining certification over time, and which will be described in the following chapter (refer to document Section 8 of this document).

- The Regenagri certification is underpinned by data integrity; therefore, ensuring the accuracy of data is essential.
- We request further details about the concern (for example, which data are believed to have been misinterpreted or reported incorrectly).
- The issue may need to be escalated to the certification body so that they can take appropriate corrective and preventive actions, including additional verifications if required.
- If you believe the matter is critical and presents a potential reputational risk for Regenagri, please communicate that the certificate may be suspended while the investigation is in progress.

8. Monitoring and continuous improvement

8.1. Regenagri Due Diligence and monitoring

Regenagri shall maintain a comprehensive risk assessment for all licensed projects in accordance with the Regenagri Due Diligence and Risk assessment procedure. Based on this assessment, Regenagri shall conduct eligibility verification of licensed and certified projects according to the following frequency:

- High-risk projects – verification every year;
- Medium-risk projects – verification every three years;
- Low-risk projects – no verification is required.

Projects classified as high risk, whether through Regenagri's own risk assessment, may be subject to unannounced audits. These audits serve to ensure ongoing compliance with the Regenagri Standards and the maintenance of required regenerative practices throughout the certification cycle.

8.2. Continuous improvement and monitoring

The Regenagri programme is built on a continuous improvement model. This assessment methodology enables farms to evaluate their level of regenerative performance, identify areas for improvement, and monitor and measure progress and outcomes over time.

Regenagri certification follows a three-year cycle. At the end of each cycle, farms shall demonstrate measurable improvement in line with the continuous improvement targets defined in the table below, using the baseline report (first assessment in the cycle) as the reference point.

Compliance with all Regenagri Standard – Farms criteria and continuous improvement requirements shall be evaluated annually by the approved certification body. This evaluation shall cover all farm and organisational operations. The certification body shall perform appropriate due diligence to verify eligibility, ongoing compliance, and continuous improvement throughout the certification period.

8.2.1 Yearly and cycle improvement

To retain Regenagri certification over the three-year cycle, annual surveillance assessments shall confirm a marginal year-on-year improvement, as shown in the table below. This incremental progress ensures that agroecosystem regeneration is both initiated and sustained by land managers and brands, supporting a long-term regenerative vision for the farm.

Farms at the beginning of their regenerative journey are expected to show greater annual improvements compared to those that are already well advanced in their regenerative management practices. This is because farms in the early stages of their regenerative journey have more and easier opportunities for improvement, and as they progress, the rate of improvement naturally slows.

Once a farm reaches the 95% threshold, further increases in the Regenagri score are no longer required. Instead, the annual assessment focuses on verifying the permanence of practices and tracking the continued evolution of outcomes. The main objective shifts to preserving and maintaining the ecosystem services achieved in previous years.

Improvement Thresholds

<i>Audit result</i>	<i>Yearly improvement</i>	<i>Cycle improvement (3 years)</i>
65% - 69%	+6%	+16%
70% - 74%	+6%	+14%
75%-79%	+4%	+12%
80%-84%	+4%	+10%
85%-89%	+2%	+6%
90%-94%	+2%	+4%
95% and over	+0%	+0%

To maintain certification, farms shall comply with the required annual improvement targets. If a farm does not meet the yearly target, the gap will be carried over to subsequent years to ensure the overall improvement goal is achieved within the three-year certification cycle.

For example, if a farm scores 66% in the first-year audit and improves by only 4% instead of the required 6%, the remaining 2% shall be made up in the following years to reach the total 16% improvement required over the full cycle.

Achieving the continuous improvement thresholds outlined in the table above is a fundamental principle of the Regenagri programme. However, it is recognised that certain factors may prevent farms from meeting these targets, such as:

- Uncontrollable events (e.g. extreme weather events such as droughts, floods, fires, or storms).
- Management-related issues, including inadequate planning or lapses in farm management.

In cases of uncontrollable events or other comparable circumstances, Regenagri may relax the improvement requirements, with the response determined on a case-by-case basis.

In contrast, when performance issues arise from management or planning deficiencies, the certified organisation shall submit an updated Improvement plan (see Section 8.2). This plan will be reviewed and validated by both the CB and Regenagri. Failure to meet continuous improvement requirements more than once within a cycle will result in the withdrawal of certification. The farm shall wait one year before reapplying for Regenagri certification.

Each organisation under the scope of certification is required to uphold continuous improvement commitments throughout the full three-year cycle, even in the event of a scope change (see Section 9).

For group certifications, when scope changes occur (such as the addition, removal, or replacement of farms), the organisation shall maintain structural consistency, alignment of practices, and compliance with continuous improvement requirements across the entire three-year period.

If, as a result of such scope changes, continuous improvement cannot be verified or achieved, the CB will conduct an interim audit to confirm ongoing compliance, in accordance with the sampling and scope change requirements detailed in Sections 4.1 and 9.

8.2.2 Improvement Plan requirements

8.2.2.1 Obligatory Duration and Submission

The Improvement plan is designed to support farms in achieving the continuous improvement objectives required by the Regenagri program.

The Improvement plan template is provided by the CB during the certification process, along with guidance on its objectives and completion requirements (see 8.2.3). The licensed organisation shall complete the template and submit it to both Regenagri and the CB by the date of the first monitoring audit (the audit following the baseline assessment). Submission of the Improvement plan is mandatory to continue with the certification process, and the expected level of improvement is determined by the farm's first-year audit score. The Improvement plan is mandatory for a minimum duration of three years and may be submitted only once per certification cycle. Once submitted, the document will be reviewed, validated, and registered by Regenagri and the certification body. The licensed organisation will then be informed of the outcome of the review.

After the first year, farms are required to submit an Improvement plan based on their initial audit score, with the expected level of improvement directly linked to that score.

It shall be updated within the same cycle under specific circumstances, such as significant changes in conditions (e.g., the addition of new farms to the project scope), shifts in the farming context, or failure to achieve the annual continuous improvement targets.

If the previous year's progress is not maintained or the annual improvement targets are not achieved, the organisation shall submit an updated Improvement plan within three months of receiving notification from the CB. This updated plan shall identify the shortcomings and define strategies to achieve the required targets in the following year. The revised Improvement plan will be reviewed and validated by both Regenagri and the CB, which will communicate the outcome within one month of submission.

Once the Improvement plan is approved, the organisation shall achieve the cycle improvement percentages listed in the table above to maintain certification.

At the start of a new certification cycle, if progress under the Improvement plan halts, one of the following actions shall be taken:

- If the existing Improvement plan covers a period extending into the next cycle (i.e., more than three years), it shall be updated and resubmitted for approval.
- If the plan's timeframe ends with the previous cycle, a new Improvement plan shall be prepared and submitted for approval.

8.2.2.2 Mandatory Improvement plan Details

The Improvement plan shall cover a minimum period of three (3) years, during which the organisation shall evaluate progress and achievements annually. If no improvement is achieved, or if a regression is observed compared to previous performance, the organisation shall update the plan accordingly to ensure that all targets are met.

The Improvement Plan shall include:

1. General Information

- Details of the farm(s), including responsible persons and precise locations.
- The period covered by the plan. For all mandatory improvements listed below, the period shall not exceed three (3) years within the first certification cycle.
- Actions addressing at least 50% of the criteria marked as red or orange in the audit report, as well as all mandatory criteria listed below that are marked red or orange.

2. Risk and impact assessment

- An assessment of risks and potential impacts arising from farm practices, including but not limited to: land degradation, biodiversity loss, soil condition, climate risks, water stress, and pest trends. Actions to reduce remediate the impact shall be planned accordingly.

3. Requirements for farms using GMO (when applicable)

- A reduction plan aimed at decreasing GMO use and progressively replacing it with non-GMO alternatives.
- A phasing-out strategy for GMO crops or inputs (where applicable).

4. Requirements for farms using synthetic inputs

- An Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM) and synthetic input reduction strategy focused on minimising synthetic fertiliser use and promoting substitution with nature-based alternatives.
- A reduction plan for synthetic pesticides, including the phasing out of Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs) and replacement with nature-based pest management solutions.
- Integrate natural pest and crop protection strategies into the production system.
- Ensure the synthetic chemicals are recorded and the inventory system is monitored. All applications follow the recommendations of professionals or agronomists, and are undertaken by well-trained personal.

5. Mandatory actions for all farms (*applicable when full scores have not been achieved in the relevant audit criteria*)

5.1. Climate change adaptation and mitigation

- The organization shall identify and implement measures to adapt to climate change and mitigate its negative impact, including but not limited to Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), shade and tree cover management, agroforestry, irrigation improvements, introduction of climate-resilient crop varieties, and diversification.
- Identify the main sources of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in production and on-farm processing, document them annually, and work towards their reduction. Energy use shall be measured, recorded, and improved in efficiency, with priority given to renewable energy sources.

5.2. Soil Health Management

- Develop a soil health plan aimed at improving soil fertility and Soil Organic Matter (SOM). This shall include the reduction of conventional tillage and implementation of soil conservation practices such as leaf litter application, organic mulching, use of by-products, and composting.
- Efforts shall also focus on enhancing carbon sequestration through agroforestry, reduced conventional tillage, cover cropping, soil cover (residue) and shade management, and intercropping

6. Water Management

- Implement efficient irrigation systems and develop a comprehensive water source mapping and conservation plan, including rainwater harvesting and community-level initiatives for critical or overused sources. The plan shall list all water bodies, indicating limits of use and the mitigation measures applied.
- Mills or washing stations managed by the farm or group shall ensure that water consumption is measured and managed efficiently, and that wastewater treatment complies with legal quality parameters.

7. Crop rotation and diversification

- Introduce and maintain complex crop rotations, including cover crops and a diversity of plant families.

8. Biodiversity Management

- Develop a Biodiversity plan that identifies key species and ecosystems, enhances ecological connectivity, and establishes measures to protect and promote biodiversity.

9. Landscape Management

- Establish and implement landscape management strategies to maintain ecosystem health and resilience.
- Apply techniques that reduce environmental contamination during application (conservation areas, air etc.).

10. Waste management

- Develop and apply a waste reduction and management plan aimed at building farm resilience. All waste types, including hazardous waste, shall be identified, separated, and disposed of safely.
- The plan shall include wastewater treatment and proper handling of hazardous waste.

11. Labor, Health, Safety, and Community Criteria

- The plan shall also address labor conditions, worker health and safety, and community engagement, ensuring continuous improvement in these areas.

12. Mandatory for livestock presence

- Rotational grazing management plan.
- Multi-species livestock integration.
- Grassland botanical diversity.
- Animal health improvement plan (considering animal type, age etc.)
- Animal feed composition improvement (considering animal type, age etc.)

All other items are crucial for improving the score but can be chosen from based on the specific farm's needs.

8.2.2.3 Certification Continuation and Revocation

Failure to meet the required improvement targets for two consecutive years within a three-year cycle shall result in the revocation of the Regenagri Scope Certificate. In such cases, the organisation must observe a one-year waiting period before reapplying and must demonstrate fulfilment of the previous cycle's improvement requirements to regain certification.

If the improvement targets from the previous year are not met during the last audit of the cycle, the farm shall, in the first year of the following cycle, demonstrate sufficient progress to compensate for the unachieved improvements to maintain certification.

9. Change of scope

1. Scope change

Changes in scope refer to any modifications that require an update to the Regenagri Scope Certificate. These include:

- Updates to the licensed organisation's details.
- Increases or decreases in farm surface area (as specified in this document, including Section 4.2).
- Addition, replacement or removal of farms within certified farm groups.
- Inclusion of new crops in production.
- Inclusion of livestock.

Certified organisations shall request any changes in scope through the approved certification body (CB). When changes in land area are involved, the CB shall process the request and inform Regenagri of the revised scope details within two weeks of issuing the updated Regenagri Scope Certificate.

2. Scope Change Requirements

The approved CB shall perform additional audits and update the certification scope in line with the following guidelines:

2.1. Individual Farms

For individual farm certifications, if the total land area increases by more than 20%, an additional audit may be required to update the scope certificate. The CB shall evaluate the situation and determine the appropriate action.

2.2. Groups of Farms

2.2.1. Medium- and Large-Size Farms

A representative sample from the total number of farms shall be selected for the audit to cover the entire group.

- When farms are added to a certified group divided into clusters, the CB shall determine under which cluster the new farms are to be assessed.
- If the group size increases or existing farms are replaced, the newly added farms shall be audited either during the next annual surveillance audit or, if the organisation requests an earlier scope change, through an interim initial audit of all new farms. The interim audit may be conducted remotely, provided the CB confirms this approach based on a risk assessment and evaluation. The certification scope may only be updated once all newly added farms have undergone a complete audit and been approved by the certification body.

- Scope reduction is only permitted when farms are removed from certification due to failure to meet continuous improvement targets (as outlined in Section 8).
- Each certified organisation shall maintain its commitment to continuous improvement throughout the full three-year certification cycle.

3.2.2. Smallholders

A representative sample from the total number of farms shall be selected for the audit to cover the entire group.

- When farms are added to a certified group divided into clusters, the CB shall determine under which cluster the new farms are to be assessed.
- If the scope change results in an increase or replacement of farms, the Internal Control System (ICS) shall ensure structural and procedural consistency and continued compliance with continuous improvement requirements across the three-year certification cycle, while ensuring the sampling requirements are met as outlined in Section 4.1.
- If 40% of the farms sampled in the previous year cannot be included in the next surveillance audit, the following actions shall apply and be verified by the CB:
 - Audit as many of the previously sampled farms as possible, along with 60% of farms not yet audited and the necessary number of new farms to satisfy the 40% sampling requirement.
 - If this requirement still cannot be met, the organisation shall either establish a separate new project for the newly added farms or restart the cycle from Year 1 (this option is permitted only once per certification cycle).
- Each certified organisation shall maintain its commitment to continuous improvement throughout the full three-year certification cycle.

10. Data Integrity and Issue Management requirements

1. Commitment to Data Integrity

The Regenagri certification system is founded on the principle of data integrity. Certified organisations, certification bodies (CBs), and Regenagri shall ensure that all reported data are accurate, verifiable, and traceable.

2. Reporting of concerns related to Data

When a concern arises regarding the accuracy or interpretation of data, the following requirements apply:

- 2.1. The party raising the concern shall provide detailed information specifying which data are believed to be inaccurate, misinterpreted, or incorrectly reported. This shall be submitted to the CB through their formal channels for Complaint and Appeal handling.
- 2.2. The CB shall initiate investigation and shall review the concern and determine whether additional verifications, audits, or corrective and preventive actions (CAPA) are required.
- 2.3. Where appropriate, the matter shall be escalated to Regenagri for further evaluation and oversight.

Where an investigation is in progress, the Scope Certificate related to the assessment report concerned may remain suspended until the matter is satisfactorily resolved.

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