



Sustainable Rice Platform

Be verified and support farmers in adopting more sustainable farming practices

Growing rice consumptions

Rice is a staple for over 3.5 billion people worldwide. The International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) estimates that rice production must increase by at least 25% within the next 25 years to meet global demand.

Studies have shown that rice cultivation occurs on 160 million hectares of land, uses about 40% of the world's irrigated water, and account for 10% of global methane emissions. In Asia, millions of smallholder rice farmers rely on rice production for food and household income, and a majority of Asian rice is traded and consumed there.

However, rice farmers are highly vulnerable to the effect of climate change, such as flooding, drought, sea-level rise and increased temperatures.

Improving rice production

To keep up with the global demand, increasing the total rice production is a must to ensure food security. Rice producers must adapt to the impacts of climate change, particularly greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and mitigate the negative effects of rice growth on the climate and our environment. It is also crucial to manage resources more effectively, given competing urban and industrial uses of these resources.

Rice production will have to be profitable enough to improve the incomes of the 400 million poor people involved in rice farming while keeping rice affordable for the millions of rural and urban consumers.

Benefits of SRP adoption

- ✓ Saves cost as fewer fertilisers needed and encourages efficient water drainage
- ✓ Increased global awareness of the need to mitigate GHG emissions from rice cultivation

What is SRP?

The Sustainable Rice Platform e.V. (SRP) is a global multi-stakeholder alliance established in 2011. Originally co-convened by the IRRI, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ), SRP is now an independent membership association. The alliance aims to transform the global rice sector by:



- Improving smallholders' livelihoods
- Reducing the social, environmental and climate footprint of rice production
- Offering the global rice market an assured supply of sustainably produced rice to meet the growing global demand for rice

According to SRP, on average, farmers who adopt the SRP Standard earn **10%** higher net income, reduce water use by **20%**, and cut GHG emissions by **50%**.



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SRP's Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation is the world's first voluntary sustainability standard for rice production. The Standard applies to rice production, including post-harvest processes that remain under the control of individual farmers, smallholder groups and large farms. A chain of custody verification is needed to support traceability of commercial rice trade back to the source of production.

Climate-smart agricultural production

SRP offers the global rice supply chain a set of instruments to support wide-spread adoption of best practices in climate-smart rice cultivation. SRP's guidelines for sustainable rice cultivation provide a framework for best practices incorporating more than 160 recommended practices developed and approved through an intensive consultative process with SRP members.

SRP's Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation is complemented by SRP's Performance Indicators, a set of 12 quantitative performance indicators used to monitor impacts of adoption of climate-smart best practices and other field interventions.

Provide credibility via the SRP label

As responsibly produced food is becoming an increasing demand among consumers, the SRP-Verified Label provides credibility on sustainable best practices claims. This UN-backed ecolabel symbolises a seal of approval, illustrated through the graphic stylisation of a rice plant as a check mark.

The Label can be used for on-pack communications, such as on retail rice packs and bulk rice sacks or boxes, supported by a specific claim.

Through this, consumers can confidently choose sustainable rice while farmers benefit from reduced input costs, more secure market access and, ultimately, improved livelihoods. Learn more [here](#).

Get verified by Preferred by Nature

We are the first verification body to receive a license under the new verification scheme, the Sustainable Rice Platform, to verify farms across the world and supply chain actors.

By starting your verification with us, we will assign a Preferred by Nature contact person to your company, who will support you in understanding the requirements. Our specialists are always at hand to answer your queries on the system rules and requirements.

Bringing change to the global rice sector

In line with one of our strategic goals for 2020-2025 – **'Reach and Impact – Promote sustainable practices in landscapes and supply chain'** – Preferred by Nature focuses on supporting the increased adoption of sustainable practices in these areas where the greatest potential for positive change lies.

Some of our efforts include raising awareness and educating the public on sustainable rice cultivation while empowering smallholder farmers and engaging them in a sustainable supply chain.

Service with experience

Preferred by Nature is an international non-profit organisation working to support better land management and business practices that benefit people, nature and the climate in 100+ countries. We do this by supporting other organisations and businesses to take responsible approaches.

We constantly seek to improve the systems that we work with. With over 25 years of experience, we have certified and verified various organisations and businesses against international sustainability standards. To date, our agriculture programme has certified over 800,000 farmers around the world.

Contact

If you would like to learn more about SRP verification or are interested in collaborating with us, please get in touch with us at rice@preferredbynature.org or:



Aadarsh Mohandas
SRP Programme Manager
amohandas@preferredbynature.org