Sustainability assessment of operators in the food chain based on the FAO SAFA-Guidelines

SAFA-Guidelines

› SAFA-Guideline Test Version: Published July 2012
› Pilot applications of the SAFA-Guidelines: ongoing

SAFA-Guidelines – Key aspects

› General framework for sustainable food production
› Umbrella approach: Builds on existing systems
› Facilitates transparency
› Assesses performance (not improvements)
› Step towards comparability of sustainability impacts
› Fair treatment of small and medium enterprises
› Credibility because of institutional independence (FAO)
› Induces continuous improvement of the sector

Application of the SAFA-Guidelines

› Internal sustainability management (Benchmarking, risk assessment, monitoring system, consulting)
› Business-to-business communication
› Business-to-consumer communication

![Image](image-url)  
**Figure 1:** Procedure of a SAFA (sustainability assessment of food and agriculture systems)

![Image](image-url)  
**Figure 2:** Definition of an operator’s “sphere of influence”

Expected results from pilot applications

› Conclusions for further developing the SAFA-Guidelines
› Development of a sustainability analysis procedure and tool compliant with the SAFA-Guidelines


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FiBL is grateful to the Gerling Foundation for funding the activities for piloting sustainability assessment procedures based on the SAFA-Guidelines.

![Image](image-url)  
**Figure 3:** Example of results of a sustainability assessment according to the SAFA-Guidelines