



ANNEX A, Version for Public Consultation

Donau Soja Principles of Soya Bean Cultivation

1 European origin of soya beans and soya bean products

- 1.1 The farmer shall be geographically located within the Donau Soja region.

The countries and regions of origin of Donau Soja soya beans are defined in both political and geographical terms. Enumeration of the countries in which Donau Soja can be produced is based on the list of countries in the Danube river basin¹. The Donau Soja region consists of the following European countries:

Austria (AUT), Bosnia and Herzegovina (BIH), Bulgaria (BGR), Croatia (HRV), Czech Republic (CZE), Germany (DEU, Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg only), Hungary (HUN), Italia (ITA, Trentino Alto Adige, Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto, Emilia-Romagna, Lombardia, Piemont and Vallée d'Aoste only), Moldova (MDA), Poland (POL, Dolnoslaskie, Opolskie, Slaskie, Swietokrzyskie, Podkarpackie and Malopolske only), Romania (ROU), Serbia (SRB), Slovakia (SVK), Slovenia (SVN), Switzerland (CHE), Ukraine (UKR, Uschgorod, Tschernowzy, Winniza, Odessa, Lwow, Ternopol, Chmelniczki and Iwano-Frankovsk only).

2 GM-free status of soya beans and soya bean products

- 2.1 The farmer shall only grow GM-free soya bean varieties either listed in the EU common catalogue of plant varieties or in the respective national catalogue of plant varieties. Only these varieties shall have been used the last three years.
- 2.2 The farmer shall not have grown any other GM crop (e.g. GM maize) for one year.
- 2.3 If the farmer is located in a risk level 3 production area:
The farmer shall use original seeds only and shall document this with invoices covering the purchase of the original seeds.
- 2.4 The farmer shall document all quantities of soya beans, both grown and harvested, by keeping their own records.
- 2.5 The farmer shall not use genetically modified organisms or products produced from or by GMOs. As to agricultural inputs that are marketed as originating either from GMOs or from GM-free production (such as: plant protection products, fertilisers and soil conditioners), only products labelled as GM-free shall be used. This confirmation is waived for products where, according to our current knowledge, no practical methods are known which would suggest that these products are GMOs, contain GMOs or were produced from GMOs or using GMOs. This, for example, currently applies to pure minerals, mineral fertilisers, chemical or synthetic active substances of plant protection products and certain micro-organisms.

¹ International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River: www.icpdr.org/main/danube-basin/countries-danube-river-basin



3 Responsible farm management and community relations

- 3.1 The farmer shall conduct business with integrity, respecting applicable laws and avoiding all forms of bribery, conflicts of business interest and fraudulent practices.
- 3.2 The farmer shall have basic economic documentation appropriate to the farm size, including, but not limited to, records of costs, yields, income and profitability.
- 3.3 The farmer shall be aware of and follow the recommendations contained in the Donau Soja Best Practice Manual.
- 3.4 The farmer shall assess the environmental and social impacts of current or planned activities on their land. The farmer shall also assess the impact of their activities as pertains to the wider community.
- 3.5 *In areas with traditional land users:* Where rights have been relinquished by traditional land users, there must be documented evidence present showing that the affected communities are compensated subject to their free, prior, informed and documented consent (FPIC).
- 3.6 As for communication with local communities, communication channels shall be in place (written sign or website with the following information: email address, mobile phone number, P.O. box address) that adequately enable communication between the farmer and the community. The communication channels must have been made known to the local communities.

4 Use of best practices in soil and nutrient management

- 4.1 The farmer shall ensure that crops are grown on suitable soils.
- 4.2 The farmer shall implement Good Agricultural Practices to minimise diffuse and localised impacts on surface and ground water quality from chemical residues, fertilisers, erosion or other sources.
- 4.3 The farmer shall take adequate measures to protect and improve soils and prevent erosion. This includes but is not limited to a ban on burning stubble, the use of non-tillage techniques where possible, crop rotation and the use of cover crops.
- 4.4 The farmer shall take adequate measures to maintain and control soil quality.
- 4.5 The farmer shall apply nutrients for soil improvement in accordance with best practices. This includes but is not limited to soil assessment and nutrient application in line with the nutrient balance of the soil.
- 4.6 The farmer shall apply organic and mineral fertilisers from trustworthy and legal sources.
- 4.7 The farmer shall keep records of fertiliser application.



5 Use of best practices in crop protection

- 5.1 The farmer shall comply with all relevant local, national and EU level plant protection legislation.
- 5.2 Negative environmental and health impacts of phytosanitary products shall be reduced by implementing systematic, recognised Integrated Crop Management techniques.
- 5.3 An Integrated Crop Management plan shall be developed and implemented, including adequate and continuous monitoring of crop health, use of non-chemical and chemical control methods and measures to improve crop resilience.
- 5.4 The farmer shall have acquired knowledge on the implementation of Integrated Pest Management systems through training, education or advice and shall implement Integrated Pest Management techniques to avoid harm to human health, wildlife and/or plant biodiversity; as well as to soil, water and air quality.
- 5.5 The farmer shall only apply agrochemicals authorised for use in the EU.
- 5.6 The use of agrochemicals listed in the Stockholm Convention and Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention² shall be prohibited.
- 5.7 The use of agrochemicals the active ingredients of which are categorised as Class 1a or 1b in the WHO Recommended Classification of Pesticides by Hazard³ shall be prohibited.
- 5.8 The use of desiccants prior to harvest (e.g. glyphosate or diquat) shall be prohibited.
- 5.9 There shall be no application of pesticides within 30 meters (or more when as such prescribed in national legislation) of any populated area or water body, and all necessary precautions shall be taken to prevent people from entering recently sprayed areas.
- 5.10 Aerial application of pesticides (aerial spraying) shall be prohibited.
- 5.11 The staff dealing with plant protection products shall be competent and shall envisage the use of non-chemical alternatives to pesticides.
- 5.12 When using a plant protection product, the farmer shall follow:
 - the manufacturer's instruction for use (to avoid under- or overdosing);
 - the label recommendations;
 - the appropriate pre-harvest and re-entry intervals.
- 5.13 The farmer shall meet the maintenance and calibration requirements for crop protection products and fertiliser application equipment.

² Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants: www.pops.int/Portals/0/download.aspx?d=UNEP-POPS-COP-CONVTEXT-2017.English.pdf

Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade: www.pic.int/Portals/5/download.aspx?d=UNEP-FAO-RC-CONVTEXT-2017.English.pdf

³ World Health Organisation (WHO) Classification of Pesticides by Hazard: https://www.who.int/ipcs/publications/pesticides_hazard/en/



- 5.14 The application of agrochemicals shall be duly documented.
- 5.15 The farmer shall manage and dispose of waste, including hazardous materials as well as agrochemicals and their containers, in such a manner as to avoid any risks to humans and the environment.

6 Use of best practices in water management

- 6.1 Existing water rights, both formal and customary, shall be respected, and water use shall be in compliance with applicable regulations and local legislation.
- 6.2 *In case of irrigation:* The farmer shall hold a valid water extraction license and make sure that any use of water, other than rainwater, is approved by the relevant authorities.
- 6.3 The farmer shall make sure that the water used for irrigation is in compliance with applicable regulations, including food safety legislation.
- 6.4 The farmer shall apply Good Agricultural Practices to reduce water use, especially unsustainable water use, and to maintain and improve water quality.
- 6.5 The farmer shall take appropriate measures to avoid pollution from waste water.
- 6.6 The farmer shall employ practices to prevent the runoff of any chemical, mineral or organic substance (including crop protection products, fertilisers and manure).
- 6.7 The farmer shall comply with the following restrictions on the use of sewage sludge:
 - The use of raw sewage sludge is not allowed.
 - Any raw sewage sludge must undergo a treatment before it can be used.
 - When applying treated sewage sludge to soils, the farmer must apply Good Agricultural Practices.
 - Sludge should never be applied directly to the crop after flowering.
 - The discharge of sewage must not contaminate water, soils or crops.
- 6.8 The quality of water bodies on or close to the farm and farm land shall be protected by establishing riparian buffer strips along water courses.

7 Use of best practices in waste management

- 7.1 The farmer shall comply with all relevant legislation for the safe and proper handling, storage, transportation and disposal of waste material, especially hazardous substances.
- 7.2 The farmer shall comply with restrictions on burning waste.
- 7.3 The farmer shall handle biodegradable waste and agricultural by-products appropriately to avoid pollution and prevent pathogenic contamination.
- 7.4 The premises shall have adequate provisions for waste disposal.
- 7.5 Waste materials shall be stored in a proper and legal manner.



- Waste must be stored in a segregated manner (e.g. hazardous from non-hazardous, waste is not stored with non-waste).
 - Waste storage areas must be located an appropriate distance from housing, water channels and conservation areas.
- 7.6 The farmer shall establish procedures and make equipment available to deal with accidents with and spills of crop protection products, fertilisers and fuels.
- 7.7 The farmer shall have knowledge of how to reduce, reuse and recycle waste.

8 Responsible land use and biodiversity protection

- 8.1 Deforestation and conversion of natural ecosystems including, but not limited to, wetlands, peatlands and grasslands for the cultivation of Donau Soja soya beans shall be prohibited.
- The farmer shall only use cropland that was dedicated to agricultural use no later than 1 January 2008, hence excluding any further agricultural expansion for the cultivation of Donau Soja soya beans.
- 8.2 The farmer shall take appropriate measures to protect carbon-rich ecosystems such as wetlands and peatlands; this includes but is not limited to a ban on drainage and a ban on the burning of peatland.
- 8.3 The farmer shall not cultivate Donau Soja soya beans in the following protected areas unless the use of such areas for agricultural purposes is explicitly allowed in the respective management plan respecting the nature protection aims of the protected area:
- areas designated by law or by the relevant authority for nature protection purposes;
 - areas for the protection of rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems or species (recognised by international agreements or the European Commission or included in lists drawn up by intergovernmental organisations or the International Union for Conservation of Nature [IUCN]);
- 8.4 The farmer shall identify natural and semi-natural habitats, production areas and watercourses on their farm and shall take appropriate measures to avoid damage or deterioration of habitats.
- 8.5 The farmer shall maintain or, if necessary, establish land devoted to non-productive features or areas, including, but not limited to set-aside land, buffer zones or special landscape features.
- 8.6 The farmer shall take appropriate measures to minimise land fragmentation and shall maintain existing ecological corridors.
- 8.7 The farmer shall retain landscape features, including, but not limited to, hedgerows, ditches or woods. The farmer shall not cut hedges and trees during the bird breeding and nesting season.



- 8.8 The farmer shall maintain natural vegetation around springs and around natural watercourses.
- 8.9 The application of plant protection products or fertilisers in riparian buffer zones or in natural and semi-natural habitats shall be prohibited.
- 8.10 The farmer shall take appropriate measures to prevent the spreading of invasive alien species by preventing their introduction, by removing them as quickly as possible once detected and by notifying local authorities when their spreading cannot be stopped locally.
- 8.11 The farmer shall protect threatened or endangered species on the farm including, but not limited to, a ban on gathering or hunting threatened or endangered species and illegal hunting or fishing.

9 Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions

- 9.1 The farmer shall have knowledge of how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase the sequestration of greenhouse gases on the farm.
- 9.2 The farmer shall monitor greenhouse gas emissions and shall keep records of relevant inputs (yields, seed inputs, fertiliser application, pesticide application and fuel use).
- 9.3 The farmer shall develop a plan to minimise greenhouse gas emissions.

10 Compliance with human and labour rights and safe working conditions

- 10.1 The farmer shall comply with fundamental conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO Conventions), particularly the following ones:
 - All workers have the right to form or join organisations that defend their interests.
 - All workers have the right to form or join organisations that, for their part, have the right to negotiate for fair wages and working conditions.
 - It is forbidden to make use of forced labour of any kind.
 - Child labour is forbidden.
 - Equal work must be equally paid.
 - There may be no discrimination.
- 10.2 All workers shall be provided with fair legal contracts.
- 10.3 The employment conditions of individual workers shall comply with legal regulations and/or collective bargaining agreements.
- 10.4 There shall be open communication between the management and the workers.
- 10.5 A complaint form and/or procedure allowing workers and affected communities to file a complaint shall be in place on the farm.



- 10.6 All workers shall receive at least the minimum wages and benefits specified in national laws or specific sector agreements.
- 10.7 Overtime shall always be voluntary and should be paid in accordance to local and national laws or sector agreements.
- 10.8 Deductions from wages for disciplinary purposes shall not be made unless legally permitted.
- 10.9 Records including, but not limited to, pay records, shall be available to all workers.
- 10.10 A written health, safety and hygiene policy shall be in place on the farm.
- 10.11 Health and safety risks on the farm shall be identified and workers shall receive adequate health and safety training.
- 10.12 Procedures and measures shall be in place to prevent and handle dangerous situations and accidents. This includes but is not limited to:
 - the availability of equipment to prevent and handle accidents (e.g. protective clothing, first aid kits, safety procedures, etc.);
 - the availability of qualified personnel with first aid skills.
- 10.13 All accidents shall be recorded and reported.
- 10.14 Dangerous or complex work shall be carried out by qualified workers. Restrictions related to hazardous activities shall be in place on the farm.
- 10.15 All workers shall have access to clean and safe drinking water as well as to adequate sanitary facilities.
- 10.16 Workers living on the farm shall have access to adequate, safe and clean facilities.
- 10.17 All children living on the farm shall have access to quality primary school education.



ANNEX B, Version for Public Consultation

Glossary

Buffer Zones¹	Small areas or strips of land in permanent vegetation, designed to intercept pollutants and manage other environmental concerns. Buffers include: riparian buffers, filter strips, grassed waterways, shelterbelts, windbreaks, living snow fences, contour grass strips, cross-wind trap strips, shallow water areas for wildlife, field borders, alley cropping, herbaceous wind barriers, and vegetative barriers.
Conversion²	Change of a natural ecosystem to another land use or profound change in a natural ecosystem's species composition, structure, or function. Deforestation is one form of conversion (conversion of natural forests). Conversion includes severe degradation or the introduction of management practices that result in substantial and sustained change in the ecosystem's former species composition, structure, or function. Change to natural ecosystems that meets this definition is considered to be conversion regardless of whether or not it is legal
Cropland³	<p>Arable and tillable land and agroforestry systems where the vegetation structure falls below the thresholds used for the Forest Land category, and is not expected to exceed those thresholds at a later time. Cropland includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • annual crops, including cereals, oils seeds, vegetables, root crops and forages • perennial crops, including trees and shrubs, in combination with herbaceous crops (e.g., agroforestry), or as orchards, vineyards and plantations; short rotation coppice; except where these lands meet the criteria for categorisation as forest • as well as temporary fallow land (i.e., land set at rest for one or several years before being cultivated again). <p>Arable land which is normally used for cultivation of annual crops but which is temporarily (max 5 years) used for forage crops or grazing as part of an annual crop-pasture rotation (mixed system) is included under cropland.</p>
Donau Soja cultivation areas	The countries and regions of origin for Donau Soja are defined in both political and geographical terms. Enumeration of the countries in which Donau Soja can be produced is based on the list of countries in the Danube river basin as delineated by the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River. ⁴
Deforestation⁵	Loss of natural forest as a result of: i) conversion to agriculture or other non-forest land use; ii) conversion to a tree plantation; or iii) severe and sustained degradation.

¹ United States Department of Agriculture (USDA):

https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/home/?cid=nrcs143_023568

² Accountability Framework Initiative (AFI), Terms and Definitions): <https://accountability-framework.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Definitions-Mar2020.pdf>

³ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories: https://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/pdf/4_Volume4/V4_05_Ch5_Cropland.pdf

⁴ International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) www.icpdr.org/main/danube-basin/countries-danube-river-basin

⁵ Accountability Framework Initiative (AFI), Terms and Definitions): <https://accountability-framework.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Definitions-Mar2020.pdf>



Drainage⁶	Drainage means a drawdown of the mean annual level due to an increased water loss or a reduced water supply resulting from human activities or constructions within or outside of the area.
Riparian buffer⁷	A linear band of permanent vegetation adjacent to an aquatic ecosystem intended to maintain or improve water quality by trapping and removing various nonpoint source pollutants from both overland and shallow subsurface flow.
Riparian Corridor⁸	Riparian corridor means a strip of vegetation that connects two or more larger patches of vegetation.
Forest⁹	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares with trees higher than 5 meters and a canopy cover of more than 10 percent, or trees able to reach these thresholds in situ. It does not include land that is predominantly under agricultural or other land use. Forest includes <i>natural forests</i> (see definition) and <i>tree plantations</i> (see definition). For the purpose of implementing no-deforestation supply chain commitments, the focus is on preventing the conversion of natural forests.

Natural forest¹⁰

A forest that is a natural ecosystem.

Natural forests possess many or most of the characteristics of a forest native to the given site, including species composition, structure, and ecological function. Natural forests include:

- Primary forests that have not been subject to major human impacts in recent history
- Regenerated (second-growth) forests that were subject to major impacts in the past (for instance by agriculture, livestock raising, tree plantations, or intensive logging) but where the main causes of impact have ceased or greatly diminished and the ecosystem has attained much of the species composition, structure, and ecological function of prior or other contemporary natural ecosystems.
- Managed natural forests where much of the ecosystem's composition, structure, and ecological function exist in the presence of activities such as:
 - Harvesting of timber or other forest products, including management to promote high-value species
 - Low intensity, small-scale cultivation within the forest, such as less-intensive forms of swidden agriculture in a forest mosaic
 - Forests that have been partially degraded by anthropogenic or natural causes (e.g., harvesting, fire, climate change, invasive species, or others) but where the land has not been converted to another use and where degradation does not result in the sustained reduction of tree cover below the thresholds that

⁶ Communication from the Commission on the practical implementation of the EU biofuels and bioliquids sustainability scheme and on counting rules for biofuels: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2010:160:0008:0016:EN:PDF>

⁷ Sustainable Agricultural Initiative (SAI): <https://saipatform.org/uploads/Library/Technical%20Brief%2011.%20Use%20of%20conservation%20riparian%20%20buffer%20to%20preserve%20water%20quality.pdf>

⁸ Sustainable Agricultural Initiative (SAI): <https://saipatform.org/uploads/Library/Technical%20Brief%2011.%20Use%20of%20conservation%20riparian%20%20buffer%20to%20preserve%20water%20quality.pdf>

⁹ Accountability Framework Initiative (AFI), Terms and Definitions): <https://accountability-framework.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Definitions-Mar2020.pdf>

¹⁰ Accountability Framework Initiative (AFI), Terms and Definitions): <https://accountability-framework.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Definitions-Mar2020.pdf>



	define a forest or sustained loss of other main elements of ecosystem composition, structure, and ecological function.
	<p>Tree plantation¹¹</p> <p>A forest predominantly composed of trees established through planting and/or deliberate seeding that lacks key elements of a natural forest native to the area, such as species composition and structural diversity.</p>
GM-free	<p>The GM-free status shall be based on the minimum requirements set out by the following European “GM-free” certification schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • German EG-Gentechnik-Durchführungsgesetz (EGGenTDurchfG), with audits performed as stipulated by the German Verband Lebensmittel ohne Gentechnik (VLOG); • Austrian Food Codex (Codex Alimentarius Austriacus) and the corresponding Leitfaden zur risikobasierten Kontrolle auf Gentechnikfreiheit (Guideline on the Risk-Based Monitoring of GMO-Free Production); • Non-GM Danube Region Production and Labelling Standard & Non-GM Danube Region Inspection Standard.
Grassland¹²	<p>Grassland means terrestrial ecosystems dominated by herbaceous or shrub vegetation for at least five years continuously. It includes permanent meadows or pasture that is cropped for hay but excludes land cultivated for other crop production and cropland lying temporarily fallow.</p>
Integrated Crop Management	<p>A system of crop production which conserves and enhances natural resources while producing a crop on an economically viable and sustainable foundation. A whole-farm, long-term strategy incorporating both new technologies and traditional knowledge and practices.</p>
Integrated Pest Management¹³	<p>Integrated Pest Management means careful consideration of all available plant protection methods and subsequent integration of appropriate measures that discourage the development of populations of harmful organisms and keep the use of plant protection products and other forms of intervention to levels that are economically and ecologically justified and reduce or minimize risks to human health and the environment. Integrated Pest Management emphasizes the growth of a healthy crop with the least possible disruption to agro-ecosystems and encourages natural pest control mechanisms.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The prevention and/or suppression of harmful organisms should be achieved or supported among other options especially by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ crop rotation, ○ use of adequate cultivation techniques (e.g. stale seedbed technique, sowing dates and densities, under-sowing, conservation tillage, pruning and direct sowing), ○ use, where appropriate, of resistant/tolerant cultivars and standard/certified seed and planting material, ○ use of balanced fertilisation, liming and irrigation/drainage practices,

¹¹ Accountability Framework Initiative (AFI), Terms and Definitions): <https://accountability-framework.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Definitions-Mar2020.pdf>

¹² Commission Regulation (EU) No 1307/2014: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32014R1307&from=EN>

¹³ Directive 2009/128/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32009L0128&from=DE>



- preventing the spreading of harmful organisms by hygiene measures (e.g. by regular cleansing of machinery and equipment),
 - protection and enhancement of important beneficial organisms, e.g. by adequate plant protection measures or the utilisation of ecological infrastructures inside and outside production sites.
2. Harmful organisms must be monitored by adequate methods and tools, where available. Such adequate tools should include observations in the field as well as scientifically sound warning, forecasting and early diagnosis systems, where feasible, as well as the use of advice from professionally qualified advisors.
 3. Based on the results of the monitoring the professional user has to decide whether and when to apply plant protection measures. Robust and scientifically sound threshold values are essential components for decision making. For harmful organisms threshold levels defined for the region, specific areas, crops and particular climatic conditions must be taken into account before treatments, where feasible.
 4. Sustainable biological, physical and other non-chemical methods must be preferred to chemical methods if they provide satisfactory pest control.
 5. The pesticides applied shall be as specific as possible for the target and shall have the least side effects on human health, non-target organisms and the environment.
 6. The professional user should keep the use of pesticides and other forms of intervention to levels that are necessary, e.g. by reduced doses, reduced application frequency or partial applications, considering that the level of risk in vegetation is acceptable and they do not increase the risk for development of resistance in populations of harmful organisms.
 7. Where the risk of resistance against a plant protection measure is known and where the level of harmful organisms requires repeated application of pesticides to the crops, available anti-resistance strategies should be applied to maintain the effectiveness of the products. This may include the use of multiple pesticides with different modes of action.
 8. Based on the records on the use of pesticides and on the monitoring of harmful organisms the professional user should check the success of the applied plant protection measures.

Land-use change¹⁴

Changes in terms of land cover between land categories (forest, grassland, cropland, wetlands). This means, for example, that a change from grassland to cropland is a land-use change, while a change from one crop (such as maize) to another (such as soya) is not. Cropland includes fallow land (i.e. land set at rest for one or several years before being cultivated again). A change of management activities, tillage practice or manure input practice is not considered land-use change.

Landscape feature¹⁵

Features adjacent to parcels, including hedges, ponds, ditches, trees in line, in group or isolated, field margins and terraces.

¹⁴ Communication from the Commission on the practical implementation of the EU biofuels and bioliquids sustainability scheme and on counting rules for biofuels: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2010:160:0008:0016:EN:PDF>

¹⁵ Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32013R1306&from=de>



Natural habitat¹⁶	Terrestrial or aquatic areas distinguished by geographic, abiotic and biotic features, whether entirely natural or semi-natural
Outcome¹⁷	The likely or achieved short-term and medium-term results from the implementation of a standards system's strategies.
Protected area¹⁸	A geographically defined area which is designated or regulated and managed to achieve specific conservation objectives.
Protection goals¹⁹	Contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild flora and fauna
Riparian buffer strip²⁰	Riparian Buffer Strips are linear bands of permanent vegetation adjacent to an aquatic ecosystem intended to maintain or improve water quality by trapping and removing various nonpoint source pollutants from both overland and shallow subsurface flow.
Semi- natural habitat²¹	An ecosystem with most of its processes and biodiversity intact, though altered by human activity in strength or abundance relative to the natural state.
Standard²²	Document that provides, for common and repeated use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for products or related processes and production methods, with which compliance is not mandatory.
Wetlands²³	Areas of marsh, fen, peatland or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six metres.

Hence, wetlands include a wide variety of inland habitats such as marshes, peatlands, floodplains, rivers and lakes, and coastal areas such as saltmarshes, mangroves, intertidal mudflats and seagrass beds, and also coral reefs and other marine areas no deeper than six metres at low tide, as well as human-made wetlands such as dams, reservoirs, rice paddies and wastewater treatment ponds and lagoons.

Natural Wetlands

Marine and Coastal Wetlands

A -- Permanent shallow marine waters in most cases less than six meters deep at low tide; includes sea bays and straits.

B -- Marine subtidal aquatic beds; includes kelp beds, sea-grass beds, tropical marine meadows.

C -- Coral reefs.

D -- Rocky marine shores; includes rocky offshore islands, sea cliffs.

E -- Sand, shingle or pebble shores; includes sand bars, spits and sandy islets; includes dune systems and humid dune slacks.

F -- Estuarine waters; permanent water of estuaries and estuarine systems of deltas.

¹⁶ Council Directive 92/43/EEC: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:31992L0043&from=DE>

¹⁷ International Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labelling (ISEAL) Alliance: https://www.isealalliance.org/sites/default/files/resource/2017-11/ISEAL_Standard_Setting_Code_v6_Dec_2014.pdf

¹⁸ Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): <https://www.cbd.int/doc/legal/cbd-en.pdf>

¹⁹ Council Directive 92/43/EEC: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:31992L0043&from=DE>

²⁰ European Climate Adaptation Platform, Climate-ADAPT: <https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/metadata/adaptation-options/establishment-and-restoration-of-riparian-buffer-s>

²¹ Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES): <https://ipbes.net/glossary/semi-natural-habitats>

²² International Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labelling (ISEAL) Alliance: https://www.isealalliance.org/sites/default/files/resource/2017-11/ISEAL_Standard_Setting_Code_v6_Dec_2014.pdf

²³ An Introduction to the Convention on Wetlands (previously The Ramsar Convention Manual). Ramsar Convention Secretariat, Gland, Switzerland: https://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/handbook1_5ed_introductiontoconvention_e.pdf



G -- Intertidal mud, sand or salt flats.
H -- Intertidal marshes; includes salt marshes, salt meadows, saltings, raised salt marshes; includes tidal brackish and freshwater marshes.
I -- Intertidal forested wetlands; includes mangrove swamps, nipah swamps and tidal freshwater swamp forests.
J -- Coastal brackish/saline lagoons; brackish to saline lagoons with at least one relatively narrow connection to the sea.
K -- Coastal freshwater lagoons; includes freshwater delta lagoons.
Zk(a) -- Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, marine/coastal
Inland Wetlands

Inland Wetlands

L -- Permanent inland deltas.
M -- Permanent rivers/streams/creeks; includes waterfalls.
N -- Seasonal/intermittent/irregular rivers/streams/creeks.
O -- Permanent freshwater lakes (over 8 ha); includes large oxbow lakes.
P -- Seasonal/intermittent freshwater lakes (over 8 ha); includes floodplain lakes.
Q -- Permanent saline/brackish/alkaline lakes.
R -- Seasonal/intermittent saline/brackish/alkaline lakes and flats.
Sp -- Permanent saline/brackish/alkaline marshes/pools.
Ss -- Seasonal/intermittent saline/brackish/alkaline marshes/pools.
Tp -- Permanent freshwater marshes/pools; ponds (below 8 ha), marshes and swamps on inorganic soils; with emergent vegetation water-logged for at least most of the growing season.
Ts -- Seasonal/intermittent freshwater marshes/pools on inorganic soils; includes sloughs, potholes, seasonally flooded meadows, sedge marshes.
U -- Non-forested peatlands; includes shrub or open bogs, swamps, fens.
Va -- Alpine wetlands; includes alpine meadows, temporary waters from snowmelt.
Vt -- Tundra wetlands; includes tundra pools, temporary waters from snowmelt.
W -- Shrub-dominated wetlands; shrub swamps, shrub-dominated freshwater marshes, shrub carr, alder thicket on inorganic soils.
Xf -- Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands; includes freshwater swamp forests, seasonally flooded forests, wooded swamps on inorganic soils.
Xp -- Forested peatlands; peat swamp forests.
Y -- Freshwater springs; oases.
Zg -- Geothermal wetlands
Zk(b) -- Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, inland
Note: "floodplain" is a broad term used to refer to one or more wetland types, which may include examples from the R, Ss, Ts, W, Xf, Xp, or other wetland types. Some examples of floodplain wetlands are seasonally inundated grassland (including natural wet meadows), shrublands, woodlands and forests. Floodplain wetlands are not listed as a specific wetland type herein.



ANNEX C, Version for Public Consultation

Applicable Legislation and International Conventions

The purpose of this annex is to clarify and specify the obligation for legal compliance and compliance with international conventions. It gives a further insight into relevant conventions, European Union legislation and the relevant provisions of the EU Common Agricultural Policy.

International Conventions

Conventions and Recommendations of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) No. 87 Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 No. 98 Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 No. 29 Forced Labour Convention, 1930 No. 105 Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 No. 138 Minimum Age Convention, 1973 No. 182 Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 No. 100 Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 No. 111 Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 No. 129 Labour Inspection (Agriculture) Convention, 1969 No. 169 Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 No. 184 Safety and Health in Agriculture Convention, 2001 (No. 184) No. 155 Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 Code of practice on safety and health in agriculture
United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Art. 28
Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat
Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, Annex III
Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

EU Legislation

The following list is not a complete list of all European legislation, but gives an overview of the most relevant directives and regulations to be complied with.

Social and Labour Regulations

Treaty on the Functioning of the EU
2000/C 364/01 Charter of fundamental rights of the EU, Art. 14,
European Convention on Human Rights
Directive 89/391/EEC, on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health of workers.
Directive 89/654/EEC, concerning the minimum safety and health requirements for the workplace
Directive 89/655/EEC and Directive 89/656/EEC on Personal Protective Equipment for workers.
Directive 2001/45/EC, concerning the minimum safety and health requirements for the use of work equipment by workers at work
Directive 92/58/EEC, on the minimum requirements for the provision of safety and / or health signs at work
Directive 2003/88/EC (Working Time Directive)
Directive 94/33/EC, on the Protection of Young People at Work



Council Directive 2000/78/EC, on establishing a general framework for equal treatment in employment and occupation
Directive 2006/54/EC, on the implementation of the principle of equal opportunities and equal treatment of men and women in matters of employment and occupation
Directive 2011/36/EU, on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims.
Directive 91/533/EEC, on an employer's obligation to inform employees of the conditions applicable to the contract or employment relationship.

Food Safety

Regulation (EC) No 178/2002, on the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety
Regulation (EC) No 852/2004, on the Hygiene of Food-stuffs
Regulation (EC) 2009/41 (GMO Contained Use in Experiments)
Regulation (EC) 2001/18 (Introduction of GMOs)
Regulation (EC) 1829/2003 (Food and Feed)
Regulation (EC) 1830/2003 (Traceability and Labeling)

Environment

Directive 92/43/EC (Habitat Directive).
Directive 2009/147/EC (Wild Birds)
Decision 1386/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the council, on a General Union Environment Action Programme to 2020 'Living well, within the limits of our planet
Regulation (EU) 1143/2014 (Prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species)
Council Directive 2000/29/EC (Protection against the introduction and spread of organisms harmful to plants or plant products)
Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment.
Directive 2008/98/EC (Waste Framework Directive)
Directive 2000/60/EC (Water Framework Directive)
Council Directive 80/68/EEC (Protection of Groundwater against pollution with Dangerous Substances)
Directive 2006/118/EC (Groundwater Directive)
Council Directive 91/676/EEC (Nitrate Directive)
Regulation (EG) Nr. 2003/2003 (Approved Fertilizers)
Council Directive 86/278/EEC (Sewage Sludge Directive)
Directive 2009/128/EC, on sustainable Use of Pesticides
Regulation (EC) 1107/2009, on Placing Plant Protection Products on the Market
Directive 2009/127/EC, on Pesticide Application Machinery

Cross Compliance

The rules for cross compliance, listed in Annex II to Council Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013, relate to the following areas: environment, climate change and good agricultural condition of land; public, animal and plant health; animal welfare. Donau Soja farmers located in the European Union are subject to cross compliance. Areas not relevant for soya are left out (e.g. animal welfare, identification of animals).

Topic	Requirements and Standards
Water (SMR 1)	Council Directive 91/676/EEC of 12 December 1991 concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources (OJ L 375, 31.12.1991, p. 1)
Biodiversity (SMR 2)	Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds (OJ L 20, 26.1.2010, p. 7)
Biodiversity (SMR 3)	Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild flora and fauna (OJ L 206, 22.7.1992, p. 7)
Food safety (SMR 4)	Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety (OJ L 31, 1.2.2002, p. 1)
Food safety (SMR 5)	Council Directive 96/22/EC of 29 April 1996 concerning the prohibition on the use in stockfarming of certain substances having a hormonal or thyrostatic action and beta-agonists, and repealing Directives 81/602/EEC, 88/146/EEC and 88/299/EEC (OJ L 125, 23.5.1996, p. 3)
Plant protection products (SMR 10)	Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market and repealing Council Directives 79/117/EEC and 91/414/EEC (OJ L 309, 24.11.2009, p. 1)
Water (GAEC 1)	Establishment of buffer strips along water courses. The GAEC buffer strips must respect, both within and outside vulnerable zones designated pursuant to Article 3(2) of Directive 91/676/EEC, at least the requirements relating to the conditions for land application of fertiliser near water courses, referred to in point A.4 of Annex II to Directive 91/676/EEC to be applied in accordance with the action programmes of Member States established under Article 5(4) of Directive 91/676/EEC
Water (GAEC 2)	Where use of water for irrigation is subject to authorisation, compliance with authorisation procedures
Water (GAEC 3)	Protection of ground water against pollution: prohibition of direct discharge into groundwater and measures to prevent indirect pollution of groundwater through discharge on the ground and percolation through the soil of dangerous substances, as listed in the Annex to Directive 80/68/EEC in its version in force on the last day of its



	validity, as far as it relates to agricultural activity
Soil and carbon stock (GAEC 4)	Minimum soil cover
Soil and carbon stock (GAEC 5)	Minimum land management reflecting site specific conditions to limit erosion
Soil and carbon stock (GAEC 6)	Maintenance of soil organic matter level through appropriate practices including ban on burning arable stubble, except for plant health reasons. The requirement can be limited to a general ban on burning arable stubble, but a Member State may decide to prescribe further requirements
Landscape, minimum level of maintenance (GAEC 7)	Retention of landscape features, including where appropriate, hedges, ponds, ditches, trees in line, in group or isolated, field margins and terraces, and including a ban on cutting hedges and trees during the bird breeding and rearing season and, as an option, measures for avoiding invasive plant species

Note:

The Common Agricultural Policy is currently being revised. Donau Soja follows the European Union legislation for agriculture and hence the Donau Soja and Europe Soya Standards will be updated to stay in line with European Union legislation.



ANNEX D, Version for Public Consultation

Risk Categories for Integrity Audits

Starting 2021, the following six risk categories shall be applied to determine the audit frequency and the number of soya bean farmers subject to Donau Soja / Europe Soya integrity audits:

- (a) Different origin of the produce:** Refers to the risk that the produce does not originate, or does not originate 100%, from the Donau Soja / Europe Soya region. This risk is based on the geographical origin of the Donau Soja / Europe Soya beans. Countries represented with regions (only one or more parts of a country are located within the Donau Soja / Europe Soya region) carry a higher risk.
- (b) Contamination with GM crops:** Refers to the risk that Donau Soja / Europe Soya beans are contaminated with GM crops. This risk is based on the GMO situation in the respective soya bean producing country.
- (c) Use of non-approved plant protection products:** Refers to the risk that non-approved plant protection products have been used in the production of produce. This risk is based on a deviation between EU legislation (as the basis on which to produce Donau Soja / Europe Soya beans) and national sectoral legislation in non-EU countries.
- (d) Application of desiccants:** Refers to the risk that desiccants are applied to soya bean plants prior to harvest. This risk is based on the situation regarding crop desiccation in the respective soya bean producing country (e.g. national registration of appropriate substances, desiccation as a widespread practice in soya bean cultivation).
- (e) Legal non-compliance:** Refers to the risk that farmers do not comply with applicable legislation. This risk is based on 1) the Country Legal Compliance Assessment¹ published by the SAI Platform and 2) the experience gained in this respect by the Donau Soja Organisation.
- (f) Land conversion and soya bean cultivation in protected areas:** Refers to the risk that non-agricultural land was converted to cropland after 1 January 2008 and that soya beans are grown illegally in protected areas. This risk is based on 1) the situation regarding land conversion and illegal soya bean cultivation in the soya bean-producing country and 2) the experience gained in this respect by the Donau Soja Organisation.

After evaluating the practicability of the new risk categories of **(c)–(f)** in the context of integrity audits, these risk categories shall be implemented for soya bean farmers in the Donau Soja / Europe Soya inspection system to complement the existing risk categories of **(a)** a different origin of the produce and **(b)** contamination with GM crops.

¹ Country Legal Compliance Assessment, SAI Platform, available online: https://saiplatform.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/pr_country_legal_compliance_assessment_03.11.2019.pdf