



GLOBAL ROUNDTABLE FOR SUSTAINABLE BEEF

National Roundtables Minutes October 4, 2023 – San Diego, CA

GRSB Members Present:

Andrea White (CRSB); Sam Werth, Mike Williams (USRSB); Edward Bolivia, Victor Hugo Magallanes, Lara Marcelo, Felipe Mendieta Kramer (MBCS); Louisa Icke, Sam McIvor, Jason Fronst (NZRSB), Caterine Forero (MRGSM); Hugo Sanchez (MPCS); Leopoldo Estol (MACS); Florence Nherera (SAR RSB); Hillary Fenrich (McDonald's); Andrea; Josh White (NCBA); Aaron Wakeley, Jacqui Huntington (AAcO); Alex Bjork (WWF); Ana Varsi (LSQA); Bob Lowe (Tri-L Ranch); Brenna Grant (Canfax); Chad Ellis (TX Ag Land Trust); Chad Johnson (Datamars); Justin Sherrard, Shane Bownds, Charlotte Talbott (Rabobank); Matthew Cleveland, Ellen Lai (ABS); Ian McConnel, Josh White, Kevin Kester (NCBA); Luiza Bruscato (GTPS); Ryan Beierbach (CCA); Sebastian Olaso Aguirre (Sol Dorado); Shari Westerfield (Zoetis); Daniel Knoop (Solidaridad); Bradd Witt (Univ. Queensland)

GRSB Staff Present: Ruaraidh Petre, Josefina Eisele, Scott Stuart; Katie Ambrose, Julie James, Interpreter

Others Present: Eric Harris, Lora Wright SureHarvest

Welcome and Introductions:

Co-chairs: Samantha Werth, Andrea White

Sam Werth expressed gratitude for everyone's participation noting it was the strongest turnout for any of their roundtable meetings. Request was then made of the roundtables to each share a success and challenge for them in this past year.

(US) Sam Werth – Success: Launch of USRSB goals has resulted in a huge uptick in around US beef sustainability efforts, as well as more interest in collaboration/projects from partners. Challenge: Figuring out how to effectively coordinate all of USRSB working groups and start tracking and measuring progress on our goals.

(Canada) Ryan Beierbach – Success: Completion of its Beef Sustainability Assessment and broadened representation from organizations bringing more expertise. Challenge: Limited data sources available, and need for more partnerships for real progress.

(Argentina) Luiza Bruscato – Success: Having good structure including governance with diverse perspectives, working group collaborations and consultancy such as for traceability. Challenge: not stated.

(Bolivia) Lara Marcelo – Success: Strengthening collaboration – among the Latin American roundtables, and the successful establishment of the roundtable governance. Challenge: The political context behind the development of the Bolivian Roundtable.

(Paraguay) Hugo Sanchez – Success: Having internal and higher external discussions regarding the Global Goals. Challenge: Discussions around the development of the indicators for their main priorities: sustainability, productivity & efficiency.

Uruguay, Ana Varsi – Success: The roundtable was launched on September 11, 2023 with 19 members representing diverse sectors. Challenge: Complete a materiality assessment to help identify priorities in alignment with the global goals, and establish a governance structure, as well as a baseline for reporting.

South Africa, Florence Nherera-Chokuda – Successes: Four countries (South Africa, Malawi, Zimbabwe and Zambia) are actively involved, in partnership with Solidaridad and ILRI and other partners, to empower women and youth in the red meat value chain. The industry, the producers, and public sector have loose partnership hence alignment through livestock masterplans will be key. Research is prioritized for competitive and sustainable growth and value chain development. Challenges: Lack of participation by other regional members. SARRSB held a workshop at the All Africa Conference on Animal Agriculture 2023 to raise awareness, re-engage stakeholders and map pathways for achieving political legitimacy. Best traction will be with the small-scale producers that host and also contribute >50% to annual slaughters, large scale producers are not participating in SARRSB. The major limitation for small-scale is poor access to resources –land, water and cheap finance and poor market access.

Mexico, Luis Garcia – Success: They have been able to help producers adopt best practices for the environment and being part of the NRT has been beneficial in shared learning. Challenges: Being able to reach all of its producers (approximately one million producers with about 35 heads each); they are headed in the right direction but being cautious of their steps. Also, the roundtable is Lacks robust government support.

Animal Health and Welfare

Leopoldo Estol (MACS) – Shared that the concept of pain in much of Latin America, has to do with the barrier of tradition, use and customs passed down the generations. Such barriers are not just found in agricultural and livestock producers, but also veterinary doctors. Analgesia or anesthesia is not available for castration. There is a great path ahead and they want to listen and glean from the various approaches of other countries as to how pain is managed in the daily practice of cattle raising.

Josh White, co-chair of the Animal Health and Welfare Committee, provided insight into how pain management is approached in the U.S. where all analgesia or anesthesia products are under the care of a veterinarian, as producers do not have the authority to self-prescribe pain medication. Also, guidance for castration is to do it at the earliest opportunity, preferably before 90 days of age. Also, there are new technologies being developed, such as an elastic band with Lidocaine embedded and a transdermal application for pain relief. However, while these new technologies offer potential benefits, they are often expensive. Global collaboration was emphasized to navigate different regulations and approval processes for animal health products, encouraging GRSB corporate members to help overcome cost and regulatory challenges. It was also mentioned about the unfortunate cancellation of a global animal wellness program led by the Minderoo Foundation, which had focused on pain management in animals.

Ryan Beierbach (Canada) stated they had updated their Beef Cattle Code of Practice, maybe 2 or 3 years ago, and started adding some different requirements such as dehorning or castration of cattle over a certain age (6-12 months), an anesthetic must be used. Ideally, the recommendation is under 2 months as cattle should be castrated as soon as possible after birth. There has been good uptake at the cow-calf ranch level on voluntarily administering pain reduction.

Sam McIvor (New Zealand) has some secondary legislation that sits under a Government Animal Welfare Act that requires codes of welfare that producers are expected to maintain. NZ is conducting a worldwide scan on pain relief technologies and will be assisting its farmers with the costs and benefits –

what's available to producers, and what difference might it make economically to them, at the same time as managing pain relief. They have completed an international literature review and would be happy to share with the roundtables. It was also mentioned that they focus on using genetics to avoid dehorning which seems to breed less aggressive animals.

Sebastian Olaso Aguirre (Uruguay) added that in the last 25 years, Uruguay has been transition from castrating animals at a later age (+ 6 months) to earlier castration (45 days). This was the result of an investigation of the Research Institute of Uruguay. This change does not include the use of anesthetics.

ACTION: NRT to pool regional resources on animal welfare protocols and training resources and review for similarities or potentially build out an informal protocol recommendation that might be useful to the NRT. This could potentially fall within the Animal Health and Welfare Working Group.

Regenerative Agriculture

Bradd Witt (University of Queensland) shared that a small working group has been working on a document to aid in discussion within GRSB and its membership on how it might engage both internally and externally, with the term, Regenerative Agriculture in the context of sustainability. This purpose is not to provide a definition, but simply awareness of some issues, risks, or things to keep in mind when engaging with various audiences.

The broader discussion included the concept of sustainability and its relative understanding among the public, emphasizing that regenerative agriculture, while older, is still in its early stages due to ongoing debates over its definition. Witt highlighted the physical aspects of regenerative agriculture, such as building resilient soils and pastures, as its primary focus in its early days. There are risks of using the term "regenerative agriculture" in a divisive way and caution should be exercised when engaging with those who advocate for the term. Witt also pointed out the recent surge in academic literature surrounding regenerative agriculture, indicating a potential shift in its understanding and application.

There was also discussion around the overlap between sustainable beef and regenerative agriculture, highlighting that they are similar and compatible, particularly in terms of nature positivity and climate goals; however, some people may misuse the term "regenerative" by not addressing economic resilience, social dimensions, or human rights. There is also risk that regenerative practices could backfire if not measurable and verifiable, potentially damaging public perception and the sustainability movement. Importance was emphasized for considering different perspectives and expressing opinions in a respectful manner. There is the need for specificity in language, particularly when using the term "regenerative," to avoid greenwashing and ensure effective communication.

ACTION: GRSB will circulate the draft to the National Roundtables along with the request for feedback to be submitted to julie.james@grsbeef.org by Oct. 31. (see draft Regenerative Ag attachment)

Nature Positive Project

Josefina Eisele reported on the Nature Positive Production Working Group meeting where there was discussion around the Beef Sustainability Roadmap Fund and the need to define what constitutes a project suitable for the fund and the importance of aligning on the definition of 'nature positive' and emphasized the need for collaboration and acceleration of actions towards the GRSB Nature Positive Production Goal.

Hillary Fenrich presented three project ideas that will be adjusted based on feedback received and highlighted the importance of moving these projects forward to the next stage (see draft Nature Positive Production attachment). The first project aims to define a manual for science-based land management practices, supporting local research, and guiding understanding of these practices. The other two project ideas related to improving land management practices and tracking global conversations about biodiversity. The team received feedback emphasizing the importance of focusing on outcomes and principles, rather than specific practices. The second project involves summarizing global discussions

and frameworks about biodiversity to create a comprehensive, easy-to-read document. This idea was proposed by a retailer seeking credibility for their nature-positive commitment. A third project idea of mapping out incentives for producers to transition to nature-positive production should be the first project to be undertaken. Both projects intend to enhance sustainability efforts within the sector. Fenrich highlighted the need for this project to set the groundwork before proceeding with other ideas.

Feedback from the meeting indicated a need to align with other working groups, particularly Climate and Animal Health and Welfare, to support the GRSB network as a whole. GRSB confirmed the need for collaboration and stressed the importance of developing the proposal based on the feedback received. The goal is to present the proposal to the board for approval at the next meeting. The potential integration and incentivization of multiple projects was discussed, with a focus on outcomes and aligning them across different working groups. The possibility was considered for expanding these efforts beyond Nature Positive initiatives to include Animal Health and Welfare and Climate areas. Discussions also touched on the need for a training platform on Animal Health and Welfare that meets the standards of the regional roundtables, and the potential for businesses to pay more for cattle or meat that aligns with these standards. Challenges were acknowledged, particularly in terms of getting premiums for these incentives. The group also discussed the need for a data supply chain model to understand what needs to move from producers to other players along the supply chain, particularly in relation to climate and greenhouse gas data.

Global Goals Reporting

Nathan Smith (SureHarvest) presented to the group. Acknowledgment was made for the significant input from the national roundtables in developing and working on these goals. The reporting timeline was reviewed. Seven out of twelve national roundtables completed the reporting template so far and GRSB expects to receive one or two more completed reports. There is need for in-depth review of the data over the next two to three weeks and encouraged dialogue to address any questions or clarifications needed. After this, SureHarvest will begin working on creating aggregate summaries and mock-ups for the annual report. All roundtables are at different levels for goals and reporting, and reiteration was made on the importance of ensuring that the national roundtables' data is used appropriately, with an emphasis on aggregate progress rather than highlighting individual gaps. The aim is to provide a comprehensive overview at the Global Conference on Sustainable Beef next year in Uruguay.

There was also discussion about the engagement levels and progress towards milestones in different goal areas. There were areas, such as Climate and Animal Health and Welfare, where commitments were not yet established. It was also noted that some information in the summaries might need to be updated following further review of submitted report templates. It was highlighted that there were a significant number of "no" responses in the Nature Positive area, mainly due to the perceived lack of relevance or applicability for certain national roundtables.

Also discussed were the inconsistencies in how the reporting template was structured for national roundtable activities. Despite this, they highlighted the importance of the variety and diversity of activities being developed and implemented to address different goal areas. It was mentioned the need for national roundtables to establish partnerships, develop projects, and address funding and resourcing issues, noting that support was available from GRSB and the working groups. The discussion concluded with the emphasis on the need for feedback on the initial reports to identify useful data strains for setting metrics and targets. It was also mentioned the need to separate beef data from broader industry-wide data sets.

Social Goal Development

Daniel Knoop (Solidaridad) reported that in March, a new thematic working group, along with a drafting group were formed to focus on social impact. The drafting group has revised the principal intent statement and criteria, moving beyond a focus on human rights and legal aspects of social impact to consider a broader range of impacts, including living income and human wellbeing. The working group has proposed a new Principle and Intent Criteria, "GRSB and its members commit to enhancing the lives

of people and communities we impact throughout our value chain.” The new intent statement emphasizes a fair and inclusive industry and the role of farming in creating a sustainable, more equitable world. Key elements include thriving, healthy communities, innovation, collaboration and investment, empowering farming communities, diverse industry leadership, and healthy, affordable, and nutrient-dense food worldwide.

There is great need for global participation in this initiative, highlighting the importance of inclusivity across different regions, particularly, from Africa and Latin America. GRSB urged these regions to contribute and share their perspectives to ensure the agenda reflects their priorities. GRSB also discussed the difference between the internal guidance principle and the external ambition goal, and stated they are working on the goal statement. A call for feedback on principle, intent, and criteria was made, and a need for guidelines or guidance to aid members in implementing the Social Goal was recognized. The discussion concluded with the recognition that significant effort would be needed to write a guidance document as the current drafting group is lacking the industry experts.

ACTION: GRSB requested review and feedback of the draft documents discussed to be sent to julie.james@grsbeef.org (see Social Goal attached).

Communications

Andrea White (CRSB) expressed gratitude for the productive discussion and emphasized the need for clear, concise messaging in the complex topic of sustainable beef. It was stressed that all stakeholders have a role to play, with GRSB potentially creating a repository or central place for contributing information. There was also a focus on international collaboration, with plans to coordinate GRSB attendees from different organizations at international events.

The Communications Council will have workshop notes transcribed and disseminate the meeting feedback and work on next steps. There was an open invitation for feedback on supporting communications activities and discussions on the role GRSB could play in this. It was also stated that effective communication involves ongoing engagement with stakeholders, supply chains, and regulators, and improving internal communication would facilitate more effective external communication, particularly involving the roundtables.

Closing / Action Items

The floor was opened for any recommendations for future meeting topics.

1. The NRTs indicated desire to be involved/have input such as ideas, speakers for the GCSB (global conference), and to ensure more regional diversity rather than only centered around the hosting region.
2. How to communicate externally on the topic of synthetic meat
 - a. “Cultivated Conversations” webinar recording is linked [here](#) (password: *grsbeef2023*)
3. Keep the global goals on the agenda for future learnings through NRT discussion
4. The planned discussion around funding opportunities for the National Roundtables was tabled for the November meeting agenda due to time constraints.
5. **ACTION:** In preparation, members were asked to submit their thoughts and ideas on funding opportunities via email julie.james@grsbeef.org beforehand.
6. **ACTION:** Gather information and resources on animal welfare protocols and training programs that are available from the various regions. (Need deadline and where and what to share and with whom).
7. Regenerative Ag – Daniel Knoop will provide a sharable version of Solidaridad’s internal document.
8. **ACTION:** Regenerative Ag Draft – Please review and submit feedback to julie.james@grsbeef.org
9. **ACTION:** Social Impact Draft – Please review and submit feedback to julie.james@grsbeef.org

Next National Roundtable Meeting – January 18, 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. (US Central / Canada Time)

Attachments:

Regenerative Draft (p)
NPP Project Ideas (pp)
Social Draft (pp)

Global Roundtable for Sustainable Beef (GRSB) working document on *Regenerative Agriculture*

Note: This is a **draft** working document prepared for discussion by the working party to facilitate how the GRSB uses, and engages with, the term *regenerative agriculture*.

Prepared by: Bradd Witt (UQ), Jessica Loughland (Greenham), Dan Selwood (Paradigm Foods) Ben Brophy (Cargill), Chris Kerston & Wyatt Ball (Savory Inst.), Rob Manes (TNC). Monica Hadarits (CRSB), Hillary Fenrich (GRSB).

Brief background and context – Why the need for a clarifying document on regenerative agriculture for the GRSB?

'*Sustainable agriculture*' and '*regenerative agriculture*' are not new terms.

Sustainable development (or sustainability and sustainable agriculture), as it is widely understood (considering environmental, social and economic dimensions to improve well-being now and into the future), dates to the 1980s. Similarly, the emergence of *regenerative agriculture* (in response to growing concerns about the environmental impacts of agriculture) can be traced back to the 1970s.

While there is broad agreement on definitions and use of the term *sustainable agriculture* - *regenerative agriculture*, by contrast, is still being debated.

Although *regenerative agriculture* was mentioned in a range of agricultural policy documents and began being associated with aspects of organic agriculture in the 1970s, it was not picked up by mainstream media, consumers, retailers, or researchers until quite recently (Fig 1).



Unlike *sustainable agriculture*, which has been discussed, debated and researched for well over three decades, *regenerative agriculture* is only just undergoing such scrutiny.

What is clear is that the early discussions of *regenerative agriculture* were primarily focused on improving and restoring soil health to ensure that agricultural practices did not deplete the natural capacity of soils as the key basis of food production. It is in this area that we see the key link and overlap between *sustainable-* and *regenerative-* *agriculture* in the context of sustainable beef.

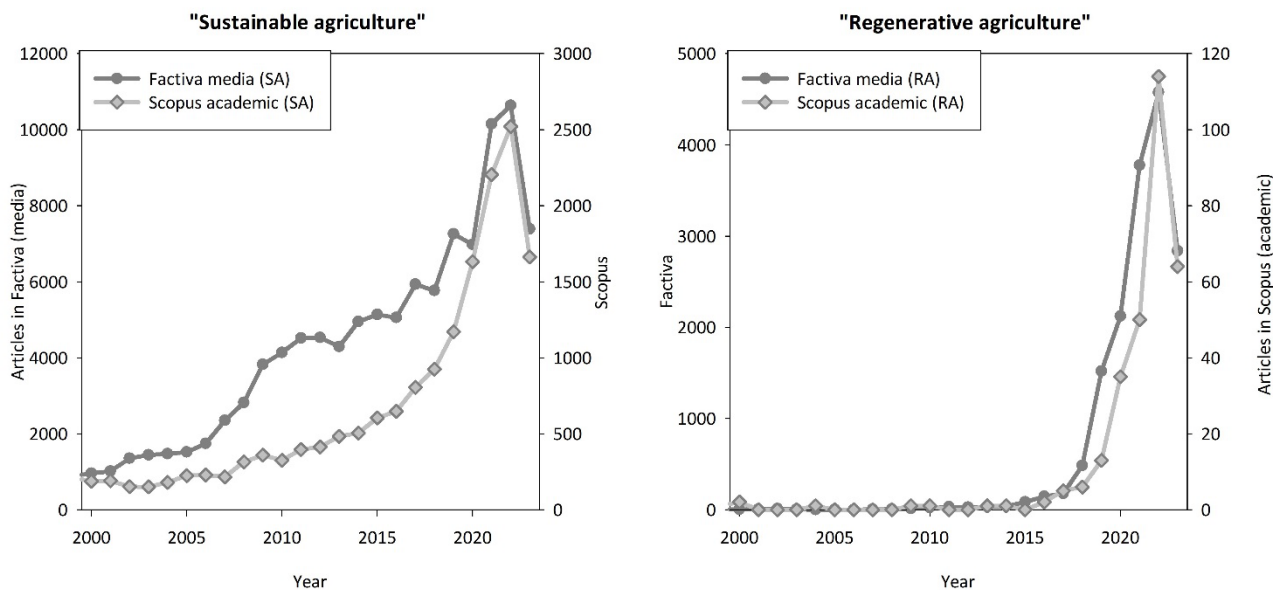


Figure 1: Trends in global media (dark grey) and academic literature (light grey) using the terms “*sustainable agriculture*” (left graph) and “*regenerative agriculture*” (right graph) from 2000 to July 2023 (Note: the left axis in each graph is for media and right axis is for academic articles).

The Global Roundtable for Sustainable Beef supports a ‘triple bottom line’ (environment, society and economy), approach to sustainable agriculture. Therefore there is clearly an overlap between *regenerative agriculture* and the mission of the GRSB. The area of overlap sits primarily within the nature positive goals of the GRSB which is to: *Ensure the beef value chain is a net positive contributor to nature*¹.

Different schools of thought in regenerative agriculture.

It needs to be acknowledged that there is some current debate around the scope of *regenerative agriculture*. Some recent publications argue that *regenerative agriculture* should go beyond the physical environment and that has implications for the social, political, and economic dimensions of agriculture.

In some cases, advocates for a particular view of *regenerative agriculture* will claim that it is ‘better’ than sustainability because they view sustainability as the preservation or maintenance of the *status quo*. It is important to note that this is not the case for organisations such as the GRSB and other roundtables. These organisations strive to set clear goals and targets that can demonstrate ongoing improvements (where required), or when sustainable outcomes are being achieved, they can be maintained and demonstrated.

There is a view that *regenerative agriculture* definitions should avoid prescribing practices because of the great diversity of climate, soils, production, food and fibre types and scale of farming across the globe.

¹ <https://grsbeef.org/sustainability-goals/nature-positive/>

While some argue that *regenerative agriculture* should be seen as a world view or mindset, these are outside the scope of the GRSB and those seeking to provide verifiable and measurable outcomes that can be tracked to demonstrate improvements across all dimensions of sustainability.

Despite the apparently academic debate over what constitutes *regenerative agriculture* this level of debate and scrutiny is healthy and to be expected. Sustainability and *sustainable development* underwent the same level of debate in the 1980s and early 1990s, and such debate was necessary for it to mature and emerge as a fundamentally new approach to development.

Apart from academic interest, there is strong retail and consumer curiosity and interest in the attributes they perceive *regenerative agriculture* may bring to evolving food systems, especially for environmental outcomes. Many companies, supply chains and producers are responding to the signal from consumers who wish to know that their food choices are not harming planetary systems.

Key principles of regenerative beef production

Regenerative agriculture generally falls within the aims of *sustainable agriculture*, but it tends to focus primarily on the biological and physical nature of soils, pasture and other ecological processes. Sustainability must encompass much more than this including the social economic and environmental dimensions of agriculture.

Thus, provided that those who claim, or practice *regenerative agriculture* are contributing towards improvements on stated environmental goals, then there is no contradiction with sustainable beef production. However, it is important to note that many beef producers and supply chains may strive for and have aims towards sustainable systems that may not describe themselves as “regenerative”.



The key point for GRSB and other organisations who are dedicated to sustainability is that:

the overlap between *regenerative agriculture* and *sustainable beef* is where outcomes are matched to stated aims that are both quantifiable and verifiable, so that progress toward those goals can be demonstrated in a transparent fashion.

Key points for GRSB stakeholders

- *Regenerative agriculture* is just one of several approaches applied by those seeking to achieve sustainable beef production.
- Not all claims of *regenerative agriculture* will necessarily demonstrate or achieve the broader dimensions of *sustainable agriculture*, as claims of regenerative agricultural practises may have limited links to the social and economic dimensions of sustainability.
- Sustainable beef production and supply chains may or may not use the term, or lay claims to being “regenerative”. From the GRSB perspective what is most important is that those claiming sustainable beef production can demonstrate progress on their stated goals.



Nature Positive: Project 1: SBLMP Practices

- 1. Evaluation of science-based land management practices (SBLMP) in cattle (or Nature based solutions)**
 - I. Set criteria for guiding the selection of the practices that contribute to nature
 - II. Set methodology for compiling SBLMP according to outcomes
 - III. Classification of Practices
 - IV. Identification of Outcomes
- 2. Development of a Document** that support nature positive outcomes based on local or regional research across the 25 countries who make up part of the GRSB network
- 3. Create opportunities for promoting SBLMP in cattle at all levels (Global agreements, National strategies, others)**

Funding requested: X

Timeline: X



Nature Positive: Project 2: NPPP Verification Guidance

(1) Develop a nature-positive production "verification guidance" based on measurable outcomes to support GRSB members to verify their nature-positive commitments in a robust and legitimate way and be able to make public claims.

Without a clear industry-wide understanding of what makes a claim legitimate on nature positive, we are comparing apples to oranges and could be contributing to green-washing of the term and the beef industry.



Nature Positive: Project 2: NPPP Verification Guidance

- 1. Map GRSB Members (and other key non-members stakeholders) nature positive definition, commitments and identify:**
 - Timeline
 - Indicators
 - Outcomes
 - Practices
 - Means of verification

- 2. Develop a “verification guidance” to support verification on claims identified in stage 1 (i.e. if a retailer is using the word “regenerative beef,” what is the common definition of this?)**
 - Deforestation and conversion-free
 - Regenerative
 - Landscape
 - Set measurable outcomes for verification.
 - Based on Project 1, Identify SBLMP that contribute to the Nature Positive goal and are verifiable.

Funding requested: X

Timeline: X



Nature Positive: Project 3: Mapping incentives that reach producers for nature positive outcomes

Map incentives (financial and otherwise) that reach producers to support nature positive outcomes, on an evergreen platform.

- a. Producers will need support on the nature positive transition but currently, there is no one-stop-shop to easily find incentives that are applicable to ranches in certain geographies and working under specific conditions.



Nature Positive: Project 3: NPPP Verification Guidance

Stage 1: Mapping Nature Positive outcomes

- **Consultant review** of “nature positive” outcomes, as aligned with the GRSB goal
- **Collaborative (NPPWG) work** on naming types of incentives such as: technical assistance, capacity-building, legal assistance, technology support, economic security (such as long term contracts), direct financial benefits (transition economic support, loan rates, and direct payment)
- **Community (NPPWG) identification** of such incentives that exist internationally or domestically that are known – and currently working (i.e. producers receive certain benefits for nature positive work)

Stage 2:

- **External consultant review** of additional incentives not already listed to verify their legitimacy

Stage 3:

- **Collaborative (NPPWG) review** of incentives found
- **External comms development:** design and build platform to highlight incentives (trilingual)
 - Enable producers to give reviews (stars) as a form of verification of support (i.e. I was part of this incentive scheme, utilizing the tool on 100 hectares of land)
 - Establish mechanism to include additional incentives as they appear
 - Align with other initiatives – such as the CGF FPC
 - Assign responsibility for upkeep to someone

GRSB TWG Social Impact (TWGSI)

Proposal for revision of GRSB Principle 2

Elaborated by a TWGSI-appointed drafting group composed of:

- Grace Vehige (USRSB)
- Elizabeth Armstrong (Ithaca)
- Nick Jolly (Beef+Lamb NZ)
- Ian McConnel (Tyson)
- Luiza Bruscato, (Mesa Brasileira da Pecuária Sustentável), Carlos Barbieri
- Florence Nherera (NERPO)
- Roz Davis (SAI Platform)
- Bradd Witt (University of Queensland)
- Daniel Knoop (Solidaridad, chair)

Documents

[ToR for the TWG Social Impact](#)
[GRSB Principles](#)

Purpose

Purpose of this document is to present the proposals for revision of Principle 2, intent statement and corresponding criteria, as prepared by the TWGSI drafting group. It is a first step towards defining a social impact Goal, as explained below.

What is the role of the Principle, Criteria and Goal?

The principle and criteria are meant to inform the policies and actions of GRSB members; they can be thought of as technical reference documents for people looking to understand the detail behind the work of the GRSB. In these documents, getting the technical language is prioritised.

The Goal is intended to be a statement of ambition, an aspirational end point that is easily understood by broad audiences and summarises the outcome to be achieved by delivering on the principle and criteria. In the goal, having the intent understood and attractive to external audiences is the priority. The criteria serve as guidance for members working towards the goal.

Principle 2: People and the community

The revised principle statement proposed by the drafting group is:

GRSB and its members commit to enhancing the lives of the people and communities we impact throughout our value chain.

Intent

GRSB members ensure a fair and inclusive industry and thriving, healthy communities. We recognise the central role that farming and ranching must play in creating a sustainable, more equitable world. Through innovation, collaboration and investment across our value chains, we will empower farming communities to adapt and thrive in the face of change, accelerate diverse industry leadership, raise living standards, and provide healthy, affordable and nutrient-dense foods to communities worldwide.

Criteria

GRSB members commit to creating a fair and inclusive industry and contribute to building thriving, equitable, peaceful communities through their daily choices and actions by:

1. respecting and advancing human rights in accordance with the UNGPBHR¹;
2. recognizing and respecting the rights and cultures of indigenous peoples;
3. improving living standards and providing a living income, supporting career progression and youth opportunities;
4. conducting business with integrity and safeguarding against corruption and exploitation;
5. providing safe and healthy work to ensure the physical and mental health of all;
6. accelerating an industry that builds attractive and accessible workplaces and careers for a broad cross section of society
7. accelerating gender equity and equality at all levels in the industry;
8. recognizing the cultural heritage, land and property rights, and way of life of all stakeholders;
9. seeking out opportunities to contribute to relevant community needs and challenges beyond the farm gate.
10. being transparent about and accountable for the social impact of our operations.

¹ https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/GuidingPrinciplesBusinessHR_EN.pdf