



ALBERTA CROPS SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATION PILOT PROJECT

**AAEA & REESSA JOINT CONFERENCE
ECONOMIC IMPACTS: PERSPECTIVES ON TRENDS IN
AGRICULTURE, THE ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY
MAY 1, 2015 RED DEER, ALBERTA**

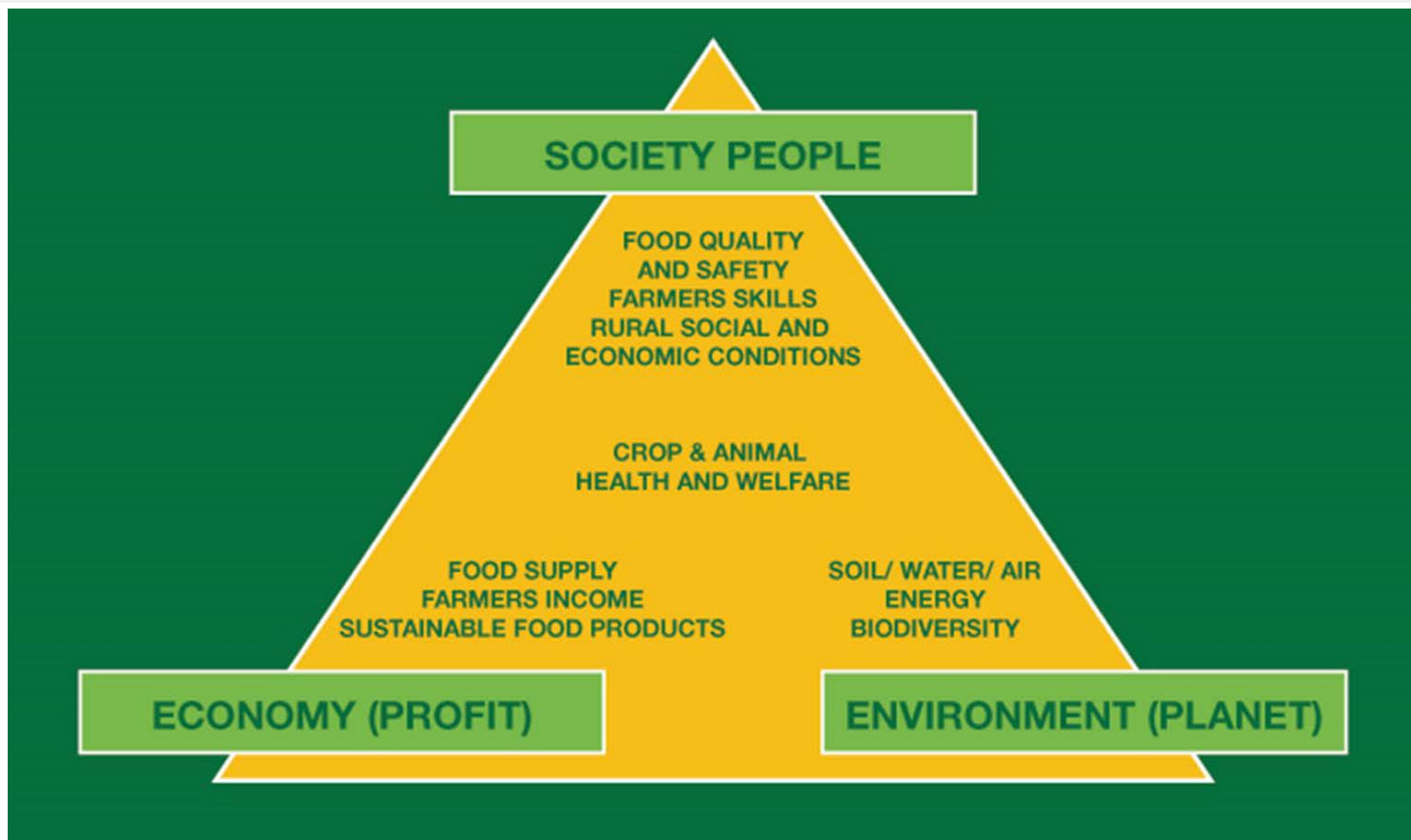
PROJECT PARTNERS



**Alberta
Barley**



WHAT IS SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE?



Source: SAI

WHAT IS SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE?

“Sustainable agriculture means growing food in ways which sustain the soil, minimise water and fertilizer use, protect biodiversity and enhance farmers livelihood.”

Unilever's Sustainable Agriculture Code



WHAT IS SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE?

'Sustainable sourcing results in a value for money solution that will endure over time, which won't negatively impact the environment, society or compromise your ethical stance, that solves the business problem, is fit for purpose, can be scaled up or down, creates levers of control, and can be adapted to new conditions or changed with minimal risk or cost as business demand changes over time.'

Tom Lawrence, Chief Performance Officer
Proxima

FARMERS' PERSPECTIVE

Why?

- Our farmer members have expressed a desire to gain social license with consumers
- Consumers, and in-turn retailers are using the word "sustainability" as the indicator by which they will measure the quality or suitability of the ingredients that go into their products



ALBERTA CROPS SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATION PROJECT

Rationale:

- Prepare farmers to contribute to the conversation
- Assess the readiness of Alberta growers
- Identify strengths
- Identify gaps



ON FARM ASSESSMENTS

Auditors:

- **Control Union** is a global company offering commodity inspections, quality control services, logistical support services and sustainability certification
- **Control Union Certifications (CUC)** has expertise in a wide range of certification programs many of which are specific to agricultural production



ALBERTA CROPS SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATION PROJECT

Farmer representatives from all four project partners underwent assessments, similar in nature to those seeking certification in three major international sustainability certification platforms, including:

- Sustainable Agriculture Initiative Farm Self-Assessment 2.0
- International Sustainability Carbon Certification (ISCC Plus)
- Unilever Sustainable Agriculture Code (ULSAC)



SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE INITIATIVE

FARM SELF ASSESSMENT 2.0

- The Sustainable Agriculture Initiative is the main food and beverage industry initiative supporting the development of sustainable agriculture initiatives worldwide
- Relevant members include: Anheuser-Busch, Heineken, Kelloggs, General Mills, and McDonalds—among many others



SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE INITIATIVE

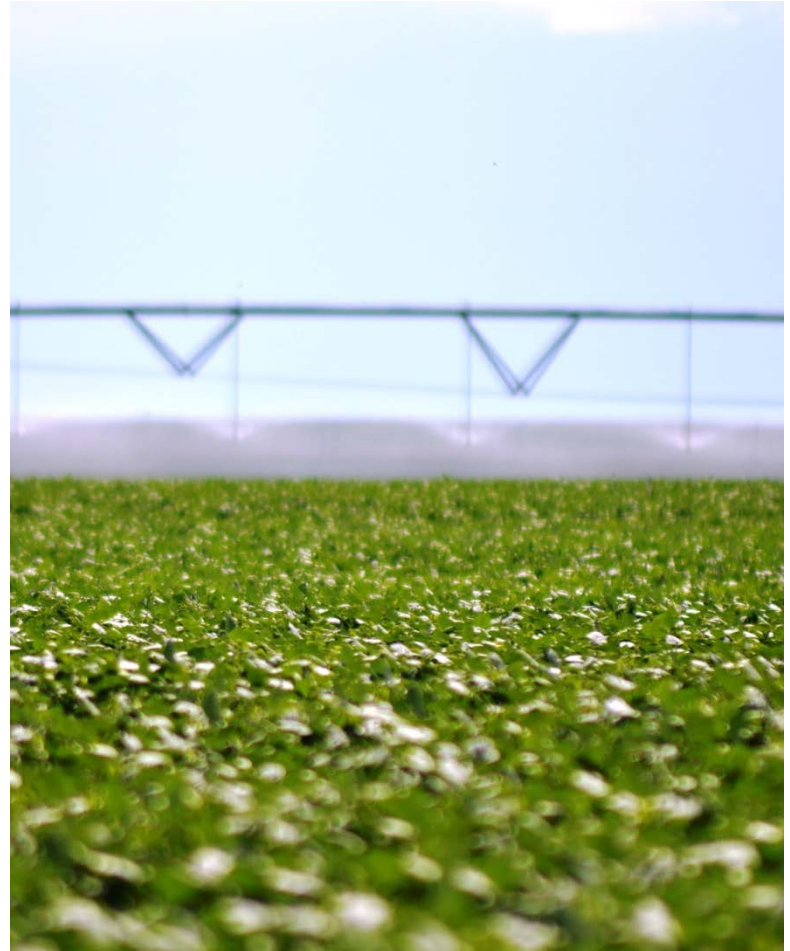
SAI FARM SELF ASSESSMENT 2.0

- Strives to develop sustainable agriculture through a continuous improvement process that allows for an easier and more flexible adoption by farmers, worldwide
- 127 questions included in three chapters: People, Planet and Profit



UNILEVER SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE CODE

- Developed in 2010 as part of Unilever's 'Continuous Improvement' efforts
- Created and tested by a network of practical agronomists, farmers, consultants and sustainability advisors
- Applied to agricultural raw materials sourced by Unilever
- Unilever expects suppliers (farmers) to demonstrate that they agree to minimum standards of performance



UNILEVER SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE CODE

The code outlines guidelines for the following areas:

- Agrochemicals and fuels
- Water
- Soil
- Biodiversity
- Energy
- Waste
- Social and human capital
- Animal welfare
- Value chain and local economy



INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CARBON CERTIFICATION (ISCC PLUS)

- ISCC is one of the leading certification systems for sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions
- ISCC Plus was developed for food, feed, technical/chemical and other bioenergy applications
- Recognized by the global market and utilized by farm groups across North America
- The European Commission recognizes ISCC as one of the first certification schemes to demonstrate compliance with the EU Renewable Energy Directive's (RED) requirements



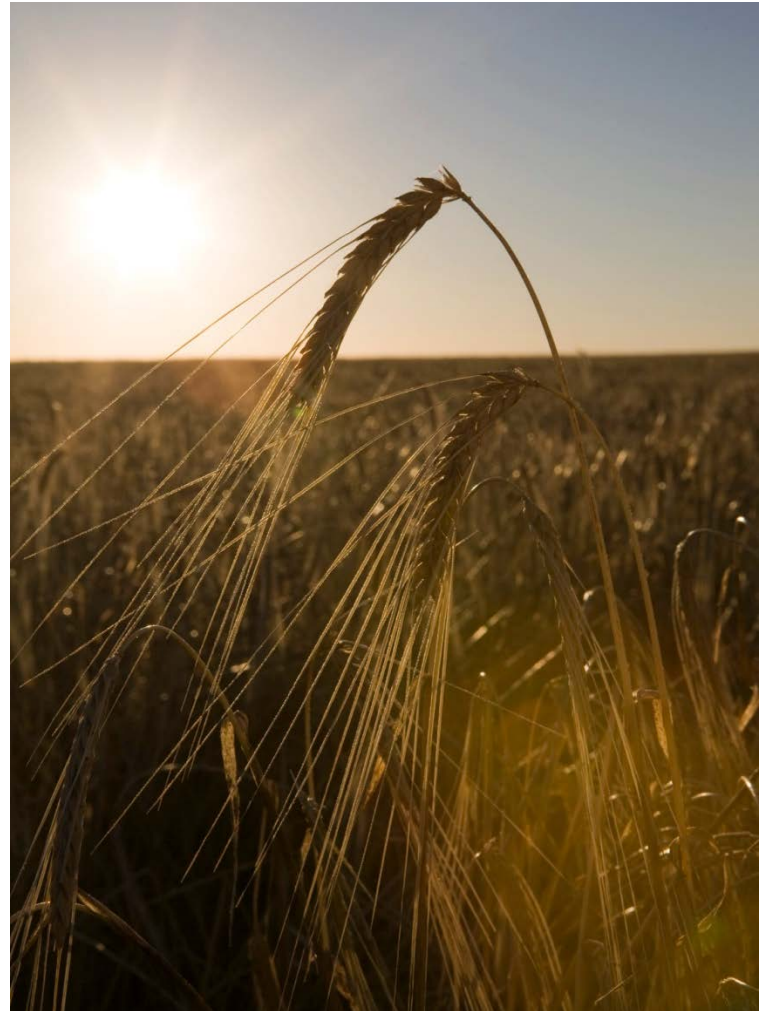
INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CARBON CERTIFICATION (ISCC PLUS)

- 112 questions for farmers covered under six principles plus greenhouse gas emissions
- To achieve compliance farmers must meet 100% of all “Major Must Requirements” and 60% of all “Minor Must Requirements”



RESULTS

- Participants will receive confidential, individualized reports
- Commissions will receive aggregated results from all on-farm assessments outlining highlights and gaps
- Results are expected in June 2015



PHASE TWO: BENCHMARKING ALBERTA'S EFP

- Phase 1 farmer feedback included a desire to explore established platforms for a "one-stop," made-in-Canada solution.
- The Agricultural Research and Extension Council of Alberta (ARECA) is poised to undertake an exercise to ensure that Alberta's Environmental Farm Plan is responsive to both farmers and industry
- Benchmarking Project will see the EFP assessed in relation to the requirements outlined in ISCC Plus, the SAI Platform 2.0 and Unilever's Sustainability Agriculture Code.

The background of the slide is a photograph of a vast, flat green field, likely a crop field, stretching to a distant horizon under a clear, light blue sky. The field is filled with dense green vegetation, and the horizon line is low, emphasizing the expanse of the landscape.

THANK YOU

Erin K. Gowriluk

Manager, Government Relations & Policy

Alberta Barley & Alberta Wheat Commission

E: egowriluk@albertawheatbarley.com

P: 403.219.7901