

A. About Rainforest Alliance Standard

1. What is Rainforest Alliance

- The Rainforest Alliance is an international non-governmental organization, based in America with staff in more than 20 countries and operations in more than 70 countries. It was founded in 1987
- Its mission is “to create a more sustainable world by using social and market forces to protect nature and improve the lives of farmers and forest communities.” Its work includes the provision of an environmental certification for sustainability in agriculture.
- The Rainforest Alliance is a product-oriented multi stake holder governance group combining the interests of companies, farmers, foresters, communities, and consumers to produce sustainable and harmonious goods.
- The Rainforest Alliance's sustainable agriculture program includes training programs for farmers and the certification of small, medium and large farms that produce more than 100 different crops, including coffee, tea, cocoa, and bananas
- To achieve its mission, it partners with diverse allies around the world to drive positive change across global supply chains and in many of our most critically important natural landscapes.

Rainforest Alliance focus is on four closely connected issues that are vital to global sustainability:

- Forests and biodiversity
- Climate
- Rural livelihoods
- Human rights

2. What Benefits will the standard bring to business.

- Farms and companies that meet its certification requirements can use the Rainforest Alliance Certified seal. Over 30,000 food, beverage, and forestry products already proudly display the Rainforest Alliance Certified “green frog” seal.
- Research shows that using sustainability standards benefits businesses in a range of areas. Certified companies report improved reputations, improved profitability, reduced costs, and increased production.

- Contribute to the United Nation's sustainable development goals

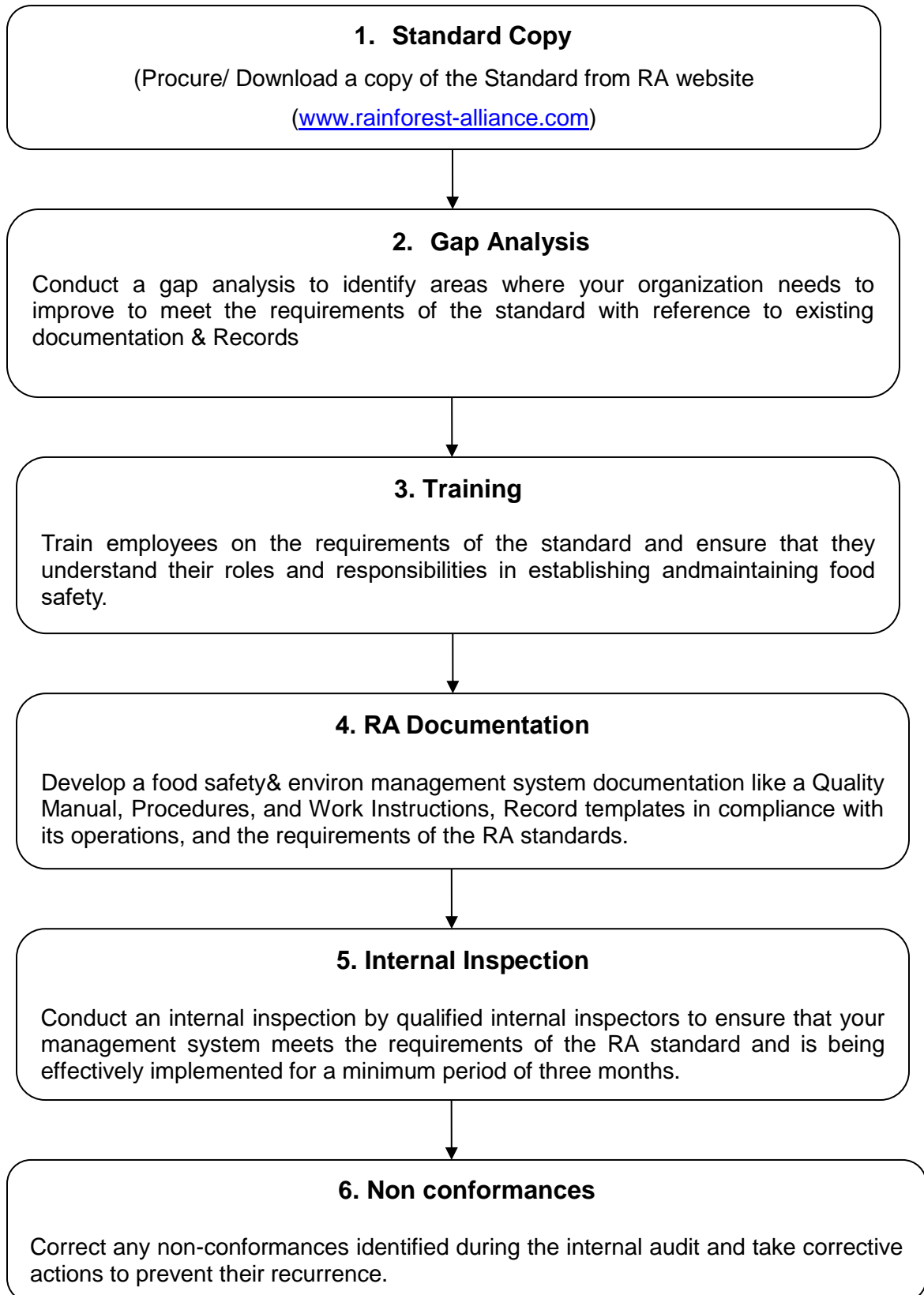
3. Standard Applicable to

- This Standard is applicable to certification of small, medium and large farms that produce more than 100 different crops.

4. Where can I get more information and down load the standard copy

- You can down load the scheme documents from www.rainforest-alliance.org

B .Steps involved in obtaining Rainforest Alliance Certification:



7. Select a Certification body

Submit the application form to a certification body that is accredited to issue RA certification after all non-conformances are closed.



8. Certification body

The certification body will conduct external audit audits to assess your organization's compliance with RA. No of man-days for the audit and fees for certification depends on the number of employees, its processes, unit locations, etc



9. Certificate

On the closure of all non-conformances, if any are raised during the audit, a certificate will be issued which will be valid for specified period



10. Maintain certification

To maintain your RA certification, you will need to undergo periodic renewal audits to ensure you continue to meet the requirements of the standard.

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