



**GLOBAL COFFEE
PLATFORM**

**GCP REGENCOFFEE
PHASE 1: GLOBAL
ALIGNMENT -
CONSULTATION DRAFT**

12th March 2025

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Note for consultation:

- This draft received input from the TC/ATF but the content does not necessarily represent the opinions and/or positions of the members or their organizations.
- **Bold words in red** can be found in the glossary.

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INTRODUCTION

Regenerative goes beyond the concepts of doing no harm, protecting or maintaining specific conditions. Regenerative agriculture (RegenAg) represents an approach to sustainable farming that emphasizes improving natural resources (particularly soil, biodiversity and water) and strengthen the resilience of farming systems contributing to farmer prosperity.

Nature is important for coffee production and coffee is important for nature. As a perennial crop, coffee is dependent on nature for ecosystem services and functions for long term productivity. Coffee growing relies on very specific climate conditions. Numerous studies have highlighted how climate effects of higher temperatures, unpredictable and extreme weather patterns, as well as increased pests and disease are expected to negatively impact the suitable coffee growing land, quality and yields – putting the livelihoods of coffee farmers at risk. There is an urgent need for **climate change adaptation** to increase farmers’ resilience and reduce further pressures on ecosystems. **RegenCoffee** (production and on-farm processing) can make positive contributions to people and the planet though restoring natural ecological services and functions that coffee production depends. Coffee production done with a focus on regenerative outcomes has the potential for positive contributions towards land restoration, biodiversity conservation and reducing GHG emissions through carbon storage, while enhancing the resilience of farmer livelihoods.

RegenCoffee offers significant potential to improve resilience of farming systems and protecting coffee farmers from the impact of climate change through adopting farming practices that use natural resources sustainably, thus permitting them to achieve and maintain high coffee yields, optimize the use of inputs, and improve the ecological and socioeconomic performance of coffee farms.

While implementing some practices may incur significant upfront costs to finance the transition and comes with uncertainty on production levels in the short run, long term sustainability of the ecosystems is essential to safeguard productivity and profitability. It is thus a key priority for coffee producers today to adapt practices that make their production systems more resilient. It is a key priority for governments, business and financial institutions to support the long-term investments in the transition.

Climate adaptation, mitigation and resilience

Adaptation means anticipating the adverse effects of climate change and taking appropriate action to prevent or minimise the damage they can cause or taking

advantage of opportunities that may arise.¹ Regenerative agriculture is a key climate adaptation strategy.

Mitigation means making the impacts of climate change less severe by preventing or reducing the emission of greenhouse gases (GHG) into the atmosphere.

Climate resilience is the ability of farmers, workers and communities and business operations to better withstand changing climatic conditions in both the short term and the long term.

Several GCP Members and partners have been incorporating regenerative agriculture into their work. There is a multitude of definitions, approaches and frameworks within the coffee sector and beyond. However, an important challenge to scaling up these efforts is that there is currently no one common or legal definition of RegenAg or agreement on what it concretely means in the coffee sector.

GCP has been aware of the increasing interest in the coffee sector of RegenAg as a climate adaptation strategy. However, there is also the concern of greenwashing without clear definitions. GCP has played a key role in the past to align the understanding of what constitutes producing coffee “sustainably” based on developing the Coffee Sustainability Reference Code (Coffee SR Code).

GCP therefore seeks to consolidate the principles of regenerative agriculture to develop a clear framework for RegenCoffee to incorporate these practices into coffee farming, creating a resilient supply base with positive outcomes for people and the planet. By leading on creating a common language, the coffee sector can drive towards the same **outcomes**. At the same time, such a sector-wide alignment addresses the identified risks of greenwashing and would proactively position the coffee sector in view of anticipated regulatory developments in this area.

*Sustainably producing coffee is a way to maintain production that uses natural resources responsibly, so they can support both present and future generations, while achieving and maintaining high coffee yields, optimizing the use of inputs, and improving the ecological and socioeconomic performance of coffee farms. Regenerative outcomes are key to that long-term **sustained** productivity for farmer livelihoods.*

A step wise four phased approach will bring all stakeholders along from global alignment on definitions and concepts of RegenCoffee to integration into GCP Collective Action Plans in specific countries and contexts.

¹ European Environment Agency. [What is the difference between adaption and mitigation?](#) (Accessed 20 Feb 2025).

- Phase 1: Aligning the principles and practices of RegenAg in coffee cultivation: RegenCoffee, December 2024 – June 2025. Global level.
- Phase 2: Develop a RegenCoffee complementary module for the Coffee SR Code (while integrating/strengthening relevant principles (and practices) in the upcoming Coffee SR Code revision in 2026 as much as possible). Global level.
- Phase 3: Contextualize implementation plans and metrics for various coffee farm archetypes. National level.
- Phase 4: Field testing, and scaling through selected GCP Collective Action Plans.

This document covers Phase 1 by establishing a common language and understanding for collective action and shared responsibility for all stakeholders. In addition, it creates the foundation for aligned measurement and monitoring towards increased sustainable production and consumption of coffee.

Additional reading on risks and challenges affecting coffee production

[Aligning regenerative agricultural practices with outcomes to deliver for people, nature and climate](#). 2023. Chapter 1. Food and Land Use Coalition. Agriculture generic
[CIAT Regenerative agriculture for low-carbon and resilient coffee farms: A practical guidebook. Version 1.0](#). 2023. Chapter 1
[Ground Zero? Let's Get Real on Regeneration!](#) 2023. Coffee and Cocoa

Scope

The GCP RegenCoffee global framework will serve as a common language and foundational guide for the coffee sector. This document covers GCP RegenCoffee's objectives, definition, principles, **outcomes** with standardized **Key Performance Indicators** and **farmer centric practices** linked to the **regenerative outcomes**. A set of recommended practices are not specified due to the context, different conditions and nature of regenerative agriculture. The vast diversity of farms, farming systems and landscapes necessitates a localized *flexible* and *adaptive* approach to identify and adopt effective and practical farmer centric practices for each production and ecological context.

It builds upon the baseline of [GCP Coffee Sustainability Reference Code](#) (Coffee SR Code) for the foundations of sustainability in the economic, social and environmental dimensions for green coffee production and primary processing worldwide. Innovations and other interventions at farm level, along the supply chain, or regional and landscape approaches will be more easily aligned if there is a common reference framework on which to build.

As with the Coffee SR Code, the **focus is the coffee producer** at the beginning of the supply chain of production and primary processing. It recognizes that that management decisions related to farm practices and transitions are typically taken at the whole farm level, not just coffee. Downstream actors are expected to share the responsibility by supporting and incentivizing the efforts of coffee producers, as well as promoting equitable trading and sourcing practices.

Equally important, but not covered in Phase 1, is the critical role of the enabling environment – the policies, regulations, markets, access to credits and markets, infrastructure and other elements to create the necessary conditions for farmers to transition to more sustainable practices. As identified in the GCP Brazil “7 Elements for implementing Regenerative Coffee Farming”:

“...Technical assistance and rural extension are fundamental for the successful implementation of more sustainable agriculture models, along with access to credit, inputs, equipment and the market, characterizing the ideal facilitating environment. In-depth and continuous studies on income and production costs in different regions and related to different profiles of growers are necessary to plan and implement effective actions in this regard. Promoting a decent standard of living and ensuring living income should be the objective of programs to support producers, whether in the public or private sector. That means meeting standards for housing, food, water, clothing, education, health, leisure, transportation, and other essential needs, including savings for unexpected events....”

The Phase 1 Global Alignment will support country level work and Collective Action Plans (including creating that enabling environment) in later Phases.

Objectives of the RegenCoffee framework include:

- **Farmer centric** – ensure that the farmers’ context, experience, knowledge, realities and priorities are reflected. The value proposition is clear, and farmers express clear benefits from using it.
- **Outcome focused** – does not prescribe specific practices but is focused on achieving holistic regenerative results/outcomes.
- **Align, builds upon and complement existing initiatives** - acknowledge other approaches and innovations such as GCP Brazil, CIAT, SAI Platform and others.
- **Continuous improvement** - recognizing different starting points to drive progress and impact in line with the Coffee SR Code critical requirement continuous improvement

- **Ongoing learning** – building the evidence and experiences base and sharing for collective action
- **Inclusiveness** – provides a flexible roadmap for farmers to identify and achieve their prioritized outcomes, particularly for smallholders. It is designed based on their input and applied with their prior information on challenges and risks and their consent.

The framework highlights the connections to the GCP Coffee SR Code, Coffee Data Standard and GCP Brazil's Regen Coffee Concept as well alignment with other relevant external tools and initiatives. It is intended as a starting point of the priority areas for the coffee sector where there is scientific *evidence* and high *overlap* of existing frameworks.

Application

This document serves as a common language framework to complement existing tools and initiatives, including standards and those outside of the coffee sector. It can serve to unlock one of the key barriers to collective action by creating a common language around goals and outcomes, while mitigating risks of greenwashing and preparing for future regulations.

Many of the current GCP Coffee SR Code practices have well established evidence links contributing to regenerative outcomes. Phase 1 will provide a basis to map Coffee SR Code requirements for further refinement in Phase 2 (2026).

This document neither is intended as a compliance-oriented practice scorecard, nor has the ambition to develop a certification for regenerative agriculture. It is not a standard; rather, it offers a common language and framework of shared outcomes and key performance indicators (KPIs) that can be referenced and used alongside existing credible standards where appropriate.

Methodology

The key considerations in the *design* of the framework include **farmer centric**, globally relevant for the coffee sector, building on the Coffee SR Code and alignment with other regenerative agriculture and reporting frameworks.

This Consultation Draft V0.1 was developed through literature and desk research including a comprehensive scanning (see Annex for Resources used in developing this document) of existing RegenAg frameworks and tools, particularly those relevant for coffee. Several of the RegenAg frameworks had already conducted extensive mapping and analysis of standards, tools and initiatives (100-150+ initiatives). Based on the desk research, a RegenCoffee definition, set of common principles and outcomes are proposed. The starting point is the commonly agreed upon overlap *areas* that are affected. These have different names in different frameworks. They are sometimes referred to as impact areas (e.g. SAI Platform), thematic areas (GCP Brazil), pillars (CIAT) as well as a variety of other names. For simplicity, in this document, these will be referred to as the *core impact areas*.

For each of the core impact areas, a **Principle** was defined that sets the intended goal or ambition. These are the basis for defining a core set of standardized regenerative **Outcomes** and **Key Performance Indicators** with metrics. The desk-based review identified farmer centric sets of **practices** that had established evidence to the regenerative outcomes. These practices provide options, but not restrictions, in the practices to best achieve these outcomes based on the context, knowledge and preference of the farmers in conjunction with technical advice and support. The practices are not intended as a compliance-oriented scorecard.

The GCP Technical Committee (TC) and RegenCoffee Advisory Task Force (ATF) (see Annex 1 for list of members) provided further inputs and feedback to refine the Draft.

Farmer centric means putting farmer's needs and perspectives as the primary focus to meet their challenges and priorities.

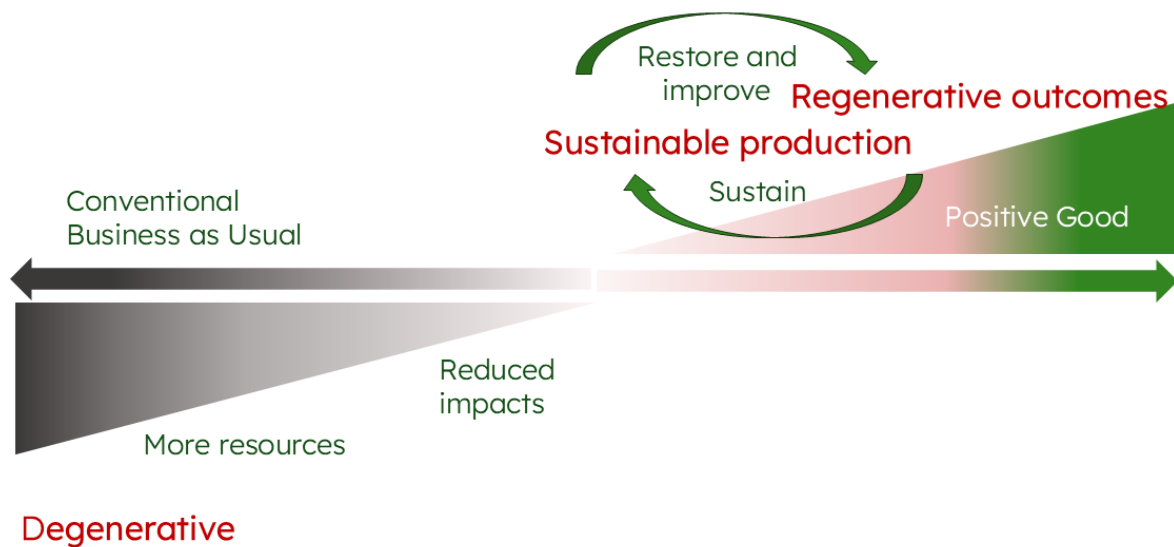
Decisions need to make sense from a farmer perspective but also consider if an investment is required to make a transition.

The information about the transition costs, short- and medium-term challenges and risks has to be clear. There must be an agreement on who is going to pay for it and farmers need to see a clear value in transitioning.

REGENCOFFEE FRAMEWORK

Regenerative is an evolution of the concept and definition of sustainability on a continuum for coffee production and productivity to be *sustained* long term - it requires regeneration of natural resources and ecosystem services. “Regenerative outcomes” are an essential, additive part of our definition of sustainability.

Figure 1. Regenerative Sustainability Continuum



RegenCoffee takes a **specific focus** on the key agricultural resources – soil, water, and biodiversity in order to enhance farmer livelihoods and increase productivity in the long term, while building resilience against climate change risks and nature loss. The RegenCoffee concepts assumes a baseline level of sustainability, with producers operating legally and responsibly for economic prosperity, social wellbeing, upholding of worker rights and environmental stewardship as captured in the GCP Coffee SR Code goals:

Figure 2: GCP Coffee Sustainability Reference Code

Economic prosperity	Social Well Being	Environmental Stewardship
Producers are able to achieve better productivity and quality and improve their income from coffee, contributing to their economic prosperity and sharing the benefits with all involved in coffee production including women and youth,	Producers and workers employed in coffee enjoy their rights and decent working conditions. Families engaged in coffee farming also benefit, as well as their communities.	Producers protect and restore natural resources including biodiversity, soil and water, are better able to adapt to climate change and are remunerated for environmental services provided to society.

The proposed **definition** of RegenCoffee:

*RegenCoffee is a **holistic, outcome focussed** approach to **sustainable** coffee farming that emphasizes improving and restoring resources and services by nature (primarily soil, biodiversity and water) to achieve improved profitability and resilience of farming **systems** with benefits for farmers and ecosystems, thus ensuring long term coffee supply.*

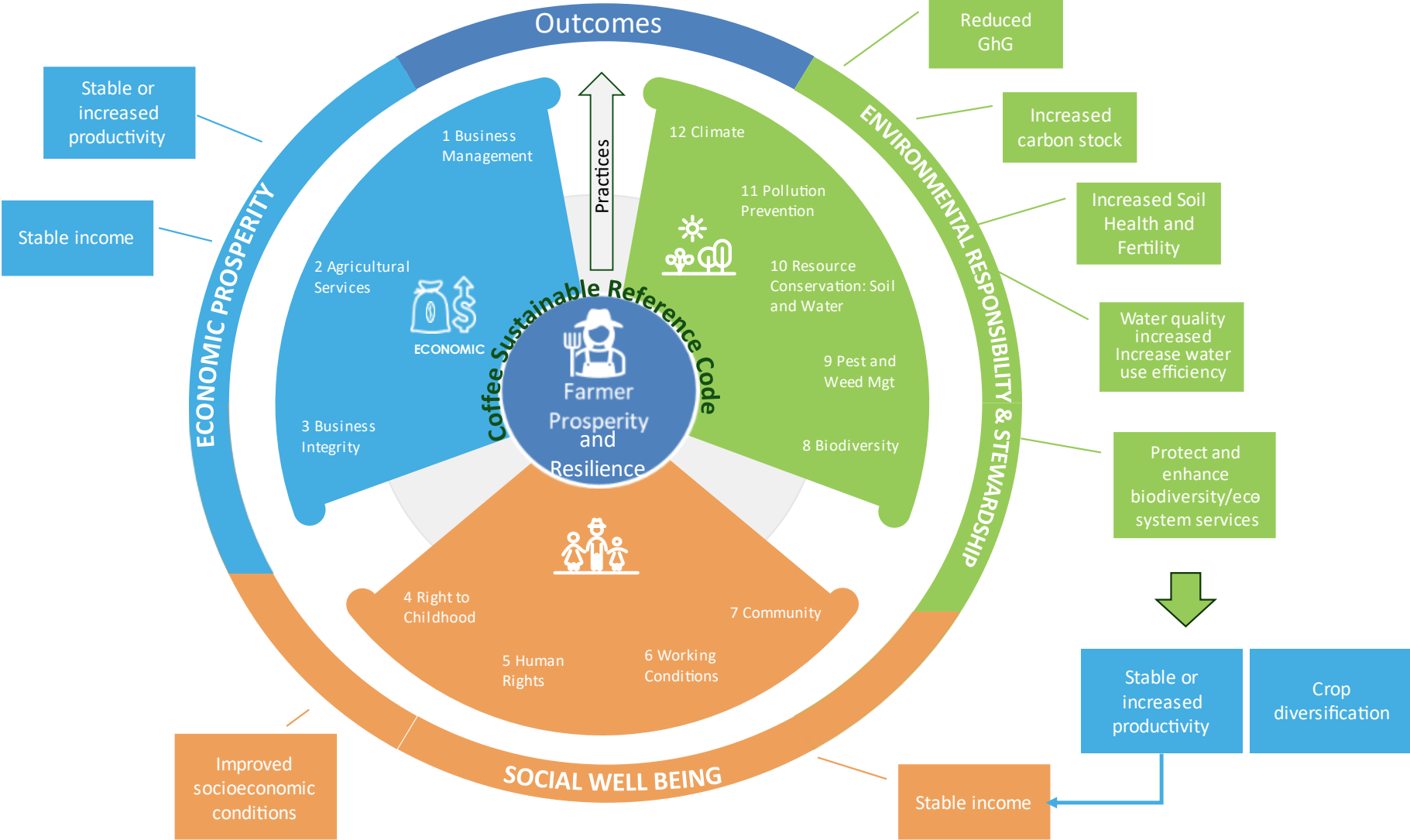
The definition is based on several key concepts including:

- **Holistic** – in terms of the whole farm including production and land management
- **Outcome focused** – long term positive improvements in resources and services provided by nature for sustained productivity and livelihoods
- **Sustainable** – long term social, economic and environmental as the foundation for achieving positive outcomes
- **Systems** – interrelated and interdependent elements that all need to be considered rather than just focusing on specific elements

In addition, RegenCoffee emphasises flexible approaches based on local context and farmer starting points.

This definition of RegenCoffee builds upon the baseline Coffee Sustainability Reference Code, linking practices to RegenCoffee impact areas and outcomes. See following graph.

Figure 3: Linking the Coffee SR Code practices to outcomes



Breaking Down the Core Impact Areas

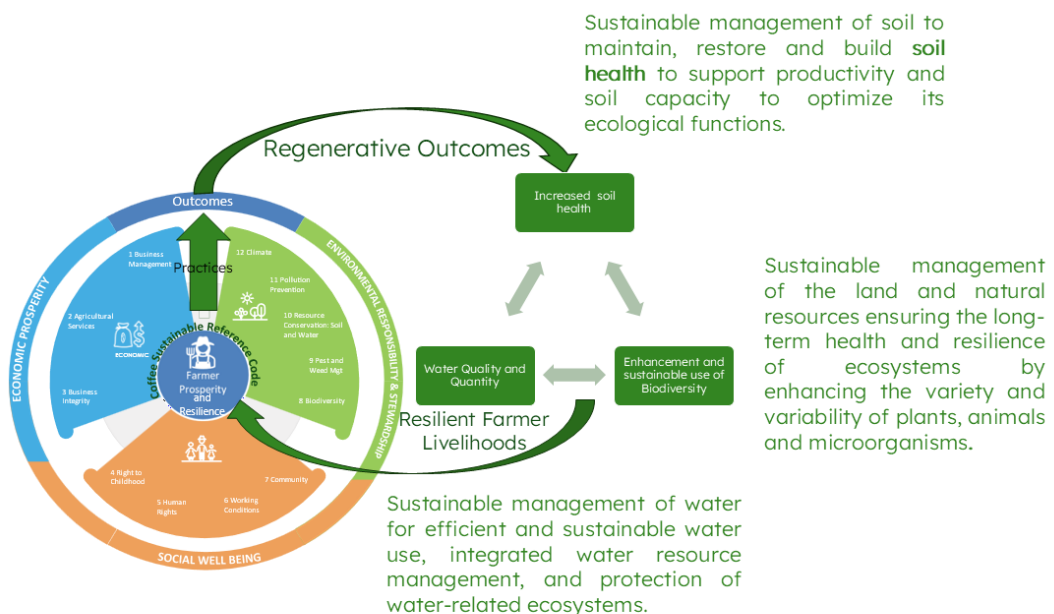
Building from the RegenCoffee definition, two-page overviews of each of the core **impact areas**: Soil, Biodiversity, Water and Resilient Farmer Livelihoods are further described in the next section. These are intended to be overviews only in terms of RegenCoffee concepts for a common language for the coffee sector, rather than prescriptive and comprehensive.

These core impact areas are described individually; however, it is important to keep in mind that these are **interlinked** with each influencing and depending on the others. There may be synergies and trade-offs between goals and impact areas that are not always well understood or evidenced. While presented separately, the impact areas need to be considered holistically within a farming system, rather than just focusing on one area.

The core impact overviews include:

- The high-level objective or goals or **Principles**. These are universal ambitions for RegenCoffee and aligned with the Coffee SR Code and other regenerative agriculture frameworks.
- How existing RegenAg frameworks cover this impact area and the coffee specific risks and challenges that regenerative outcomes aim to address.
- A small set of standardized RegenCoffee outcomes for the impact area. These are the long term (3-5+ years) results needed for sustained resilient coffee production.

Figure 4: Principles and Outcomes



MANAGE WHAT YOU MEASURE

On-going monitoring is an important part of the RegenCoffee framework. Indicators will enable the coffee sector to understand progress towards the outcomes, the direction or speed of change, and/or changes in environmental or socio/economic conditions. Indicators can be used to target interventions, learn, build the evidence base, as well as for reporting and disclosure requirements.

Measuring Outcomes AND Practices

Indicators generally fall into two broad categories: measuring outcomes or practices.

Outcomes are the long term results we want to achieve. In terms of RegenCoffee, they are the improved or enhanced condition of the state or condition of the natural resources needed for sustained coffee production – soil, water and biodiversity.

These cannot be measured directly because they are broad, integrative and context dependent concepts². From the desk research, literally *hundreds* of indicators were identified - for just soil. The concept is complex. Additionally, there are also several methodological challenges. Outcomes occur overall longer time frames and indicators are generally slow to change. They indicate what has happened after the interventions. They are referred to as **lagging indicators**. Additionally, they cannot always be attributable to specific interventions at local level. They often occur at different scales than farm level and/or out of the control of the farmer. Generally, outcome indicators are highly technical, methodologically complex and resource intensive. They are critical for building the evidence base and *demonstrating* impact.

Several initiatives have recently developed outcome-based frameworks for regenerative agriculture, recognizing the gaps and challenges. These cross reference each other such as SAI Platform's Regenerating Together, World Business Council Sustainable Development's series "Business guidance for deeper regeneration" and Regen10 (see Annex 2 Resources). A core premise is that these frameworks do not favour certain practices but create a common set of standardized outcome indicators and metrics. Only the SAI Platform outcome framework lists potential practices.

Practice-based indicators are more common as they are generally straightforward to measure. They are considered **leading** indicators as they measure practices that are expected to lead to positive outcomes. Generally, they are more cost effective and under

² Wageningen. [Ground Zero? Let's Get Real on Regeneration!](#) 2023.

the control of the farmer. Practices can provide insights into progress between changing practices at local levels and outcomes which may be at larger scale.

The challenge is how to balance having robust, science-based indicators that are also easy to use, useful and practical for farmers. How to have indicators that are science based, simple, credible *and* farmer centric?

The RegenCoffee framework is proposing a two-pronged approach³ to monitoring. These are mutually reinforcing and based on the context, goals and purpose of the data. See Table 1. This approach will give farmers tools to manage practices towards outcomes, as well as enable the coffee sector to build the evidence base, learning, and to drive continuous improvement and impact. For each of the outcomes, monitoring can be a combination of:

- **Outcome indicators: common core Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)** and metrics. This is a small set of KPIs for harmonization and alignment when measuring longer term results or outcomes.
- **Sets of potential practices and practice-based indicators** to monitor the **quality** of the **implementation** of practices to understand progress towards the outcomes. These are presented to create a common language. Practices should be selected based on a context analysis and within a comprehensive farm management plan.

³ Two-pronged approach – a strategy that uses two different methods to address a problem or situation simultaneously. It's similar to using two tools to complete a task more effectively.

Table 1: Overview of Outcome and Practice-based Indicators (FAO/UN Pressure-State Response)

Type	Measures	Examples	Pros	Cons	Recommended
KPIs Outcome indicators (FAO/UN/ OECD/ WBCSD State indicators)	Measures the direct state or condition , the quantity and quality of natural resources	Soil Organic Carbon (SOC) or Water flow in surrounding water bodies (m ³ /s)	Direct link to intended outcome High reliability	Physical sampling required. \$\$\$, models limited Difficult to collect or attribute to company/farmer action Slower to change	Research, demo and collective action projects to provide evidence and validate assumptions on the links between practices and the regenerative outcomes
KPIs Outcome Indicators (FAO/UN/ OECD/ WBCSD Pressure indicators)	Measures the human activities that directly or indirectly pressure the quality or quantity of natural resources (state)	Nutrient use efficiency (%) Blue water withdrawal (m ³ /ha)	Considers root causes/ drivers	Can be cost prohibitive or not feasible for farmers to measure	Research, demo and collective action projects with strong evidence base linking pressures to changes
Practice-based indicators (Response)	Measures the actions and practices taken in response to address pressures or to improve the quantity and quality of natural resources on farmed land.	% of farmed land with no tillage % of farmed land with cover crops	“easier” to measure Tailor to farmer priorities	Context specific with external factors Limited attribution and empirical reliability May prioritize short term gains over longer term outcomes	Strong evidence base linking activities/practices to results and intended outcomes Situations where cost and technical capacity are limiting factors

Roles, responsibilities and resources should be defined within a monitoring plan.

Additional reading on indicator types for RegenCoffee:

FAO. [Pressure State Response Framework for land quality indicators](#)

[Ground Zero? Let's Get Real on Regeneration!](#) 2023.

World Business Council for Sustainable Development [Business guidance for deeper regeneration](#). See individual guides, Chapter 2.

Overview Common Core Key Performance Indicators for Outcomes

The KPIs identified are based on existing research and aligned with key sustainability frameworks and UN SDGs. Standardized outcome indicators will facilitate interoperability for sharing and learning. This is a discrete small set of KPIs for harmonization and alignment of monitoring RegenCoffee across the core impact areas. It is important to measure the outcomes using a holistic approach that considers the socio-economic and environmental outcomes to ensure a complete picture of the impacts. These should complement other outcomes and assessment systems.

Outcomes should be selected based on the purpose with a thorough and objective analysis (due diligence). They should be based on a clear causal pathway to monitor progress towards the intended outcomes. The long-term monitoring plan should include roles, responsibilities and resources for data collection.

Table 2: Overview of the proposed common core outcomes and KPIs

Outcomes	Key Performance Indicator
Increased soil health and fertility	
Improved physical health and structure of soil	Optimise infiltration rate
Improved physical health and structure of soil	Optimise available water holding capacity
Improved chemical health of soils	Soil health chemical - Maximise soil organic carbon
Improved chemical health of soils	Soil health chemical - maximise soil organic matter (SOM)
Improved biological health of soils	Soil health biological - Improved biological soil health
Soil erosion	Minimise soil erosion
Enhancement of biodiversity and the sustainable use of biodiversity	
Improved ecological integrity	Natural/restored habitat in agriculture land Enhance on-farm biodiversity

Outcomes	Key Performance Indicator
Increased cultivated biodiversity	Crop diversity
Improved functional biodiversity	Pesticide risk
Water conservation and quality	
Water Conservation	Water Use efficiency is increased/optimize water use
Water quality is increased/minimized water pollution	Nitrogen Use Efficiency total suspended solids of bordering water bodies (only SAI)
Water conservation and quality	
Improved productivity	Yield
Living Income	Gap between income and benchmark
Increased financial benefits	Farmer net income and thereof from coffee
Climate mitigation	
Minimise GhG emissions	GhG Emissions
Maximize carbon sequestration	Soil carbon sequestration

A detailed table with **metrics** and mapping to key sustainability frameworks, can be found in the Annex 3. Mapping of Core Outcomes to Key Frameworks.

Additional reading on outcome indicators/KPIs:

[Ground Zero? Let's Get Real on Regeneration!](#) 2023.

World Business Council for Sustainable Development [Business guidance for deeper regeneration](#). See individual guides, Chapter 2.

See [SAI Platform's](#) Regenerating Together Framework V1.1 October 2024 and Transition Support Guide. January 2025. Version 1.1 for guidance on selecting outcomes.

See Annex 2 **Resources** for other outcome and indicator frameworks and resources.

Overview Practices and Practice-based Indicators

Identifying farmer centric practices linked to the regenerative outcomes

Using existing coffee specific research from CIAT and Wageningen, sets of farmer centric contributing **practices** were identified which have evidence links or clear causal pathways to specific regenerative outcomes. The majority of these practices can be found in the Coffee SR Code and many sustainability standards. These are not intended for prescribing a specific set, nor for scoring of number of practices. Existing assessment frameworks that use questionnaires or lists of practices aggregated into a final score

may want to consider alignment of language. The practices are not exhaustive but based on the research that link these practices to the core impact areas identified.

The sets of practices identified are intended to be of general relevance, they are not globally applicable, and not all practices will apply equally to all situations. Which practices are prioritized should be based on a robust context analysis with technical input and knowledge. They should be in line with the goals of the farmer within an overall farm continuous improvement plan. Success is not measured at the rate or extent of adoption of the specific agricultural practices but the quality of implementation.

The outcome-based frameworks reviewed do not prescribe specific practices but instead a management approach that begins with an assessment to develop a long-term continuous improvement plan that is based on the specific context and starting point of the farmer. This assessment considers criteria such as risk, materiality, cost/benefits and farmers’ goals to guide the identification and implementation of specific practices to address gaps, risks and improve progress towards prioritized outcomes.

Practice-based indicators

Practice-based indicators are “predictors” of future performance (**leading**) so there needs to be strong evidence of linkages between practices and outcomes. Based on the desk review of research specifically covering the evidence base for links between specific practices and regenerative outcomes, the following practice sets are considered most relevant for coffee. These also align with the CIAT Guide. It is important to note that most of these practices are linked to the three regenerative outcome areas, with variations in the evidence link and potential impact.

Table 3: Research links between practices and regenerative outcomes

Practice Area	Increased Soil Health	Water Conservation and Quality	Enhanced Biodiversity
Soil conservation measures: contour planning, barriers, terracing)	+++	+++	++
Soil Cover: mulching, intercropping, cover crops, integrated weed management	+++	+++	++

Practice Area	Increased Soil Health	Water Conservation and Quality	Enhanced Biodiversity
Maintain/increase % natural habitat on farm Agroforestry and shade	+++	+++	+++
Integrated Pest and Disease Management / Limit use of Pesticides	++	++	++
Optimized fertilization (based on 4R principles & soil/leaf testing) OR Integrated Nutrient Management (CIAT)	+++	++	++
Organic Amendments	+++	+	+
Water Conservation Management*	not covered in research*	not covered in research*	not covered in research*
Wastewater management*	not covered in research	not covered in research	not covered in research

**These practice areas are identified as key contributors for regenerative outcomes but were not covered explicitly in the research on links between practices and outcomes used for this review (Wageningen/CIAT and FOLU).*

Details of the mapping for the **practices linked to outcomes** can be found in the Annex 4. A key challenge of the mapping however was that the different research, organizations and initiatives each take slightly different approaches, include different outcome scopes and are grouped differently.

In selecting practice-based indicators, it is preferred to consider that the practices are appropriately implemented and well adapted to local conditions, rather than proxies of counting number of practices. For example, area under specific *management systems* is preferable as a proxy, e.g. # hectares under contour planting, intercropping, cover cropping between coffee rows, integrated nutrient management, etc.

A good example is the SDG 2.4.1 indicator for measuring progress towards SDG 2 Zero Hunger.

*By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement **resilient** agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain*

ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality. SDG target 2.4

SDG 2.4.1 indicator measures the agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture under sets of practices linked to the outcomes.

It is important to keep in mind, that these are a small set of common indicators intended to establish some common language. They are intended to complement, *not replace*, existing monitoring systems. Many companies and organisations already have robust farm assessment tools that include many of these practices.

Table 4: Practices and Practice-based indicators

Practice Area	Practices - some examples	CIAT Guide	Potential Indicators
Soil conservation measures: (contour planting, barriers, terracing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical structures (such as live and dead barriers, terraces, living fences, windbreaks) Contour planting Minimizing soil disturbance 	pages 77-86 3.4.4. Soil conservation practices and cover cropping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soils with no sign of erosion and compaction Covered soil between the rows of the coffee for at least 7 months of the year % of farmed land with cover crops
Soil Cover: mulching, intercropping, cover crops, integrated weed management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cover cropping Intercropping Minimizing soil disturbance/tillage Mulching with organic residue - pruning, litter and other organic waste 	pages 69-86 3.4.3. Intercropping 3.4.4. Soil conservation practices and cover cropping	
Maintain/increase % natural habitat on farm Agroforestry and shade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shade management Shade tree species diversity Increase number of border or shade trees Include tree species of different heights Include trees and shrubs of different species incl native species 	pages 56-68 3.4.2. Agroforestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % natural or restored habitat (%/km²) = OUTCOME # tree species on farm

Practice Area	Practices - some examples	CIAT Guide	Potential Indicators
Integrated Pest and Disease Management / Limit use of Pesticides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pest and Disease identification and monitoring • Field hygiene practices (such as removal of diseased parts, sanitation of farm tools, timely harvesting and disposal of fallen cherries) • Biological control (such as biocontrol agents, biopesticides, insects) • Traps • Precision applications of selective pesticides 	<p>pages 94-106 3.4.6.</p> <p>Integrated pest management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of farmed land under Integrated pest and disease management IPDM
Optimized fertilization (based on 4R principles & soil/leaf testing) Integrated Nutrient Management (CIAT)	<p>Soil analysis and field observation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil amendments (e.g., lime) • Composting and vermi-composting • Optimal fertilizer management (4R strategy) 	<p>pages 107-122 3.4.7.</p> <p>Integrated nutrient management</p>	<p>% of farmed land under Integrated management (INM)</p>
Organic Amendments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application of biofertilizers and/or beneficial microorganisms 	<p>pages 115-116 3.4.7.</p> <p>Integrated nutrient management</p>	<p>% of farmers use of organic waste for composting and/or organic fertilization</p>
Water Conservation Management	<p>Rainwater harvesting (such as reservoirs or collection basins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved irrigation management (efficient systems, water quality, maintenance) • Efficient water use in postharvest processing (such as water recycling/recirculation systems, dry fermentation tanks, special milling machines, honeys/naturals) 	<p>pages 123 - 132 3.4.8.</p> <p>Efficient water use</p>	<p># of producers with applied water conservation or water use reduction practices (ISEAL Common Core) OR Irrigation efficiency OR Water Productivity (DELTA Framework) OR Water Footprint</p>
Wastewater management	<p>Buffer zone around water bodies, conservation or regenerating native vegetation along the water bodies</p> <p>Wastewater treatment (such as lime, biodigesters, oxidation tanks, ecomills, vetiver grass)</p>	<p>pages 133 - 140 3.4.9.</p> <p>Wastewater management</p>	<p># farmers with wastewater management plans OR % farms with coffee wastewater treatment</p>

Additional reading on links between outcomes and practices

[Aligning regenerative agricultural practices with outcomes to deliver for people, nature and climate](#). 2023. Chapter 3. Food and Land Use Coalition. Generic agriculture

[Ground Zero? Let's Get Real on Regeneration!](#) 2023. Coffee and Cocoa

[Regenerative agriculture for low-carbon and resilient coffee farms: A practical guidebook. Version 1.0](#). Chapter 3.4. CIAT. 2023. Coffee specific

[SAI Platform's Regenerating Together Framework V1.1](#) October 2024

The following chapter provides an overview of each of the impact areas. Further reading on each of the topics is highlighted. As noted, it is important to keep in mind that these should be considered together as part of a system, even if presented separately. Practices listed are not to be understood as prescriptive or exhaustive but as a common framework and starting point.

CORE IMPACT AREA: SOIL

Improving soil health was the most common goal cited across initiatives. For some initiatives, it is the primary or only focus. Some approaches do not detail what this means or are focused specifically on increasing soil organic matter or soil carbon.

RegenCoffee Soil Principle: Sustainable management of soil to maintain, restore and build **soil health** to support productivity and soil capacity to optimize its ecological functions.

Soil health refers to the capacity of soil to perform its *ecological functions*, i.e. sustaining plant productivity and biodiversity, acting as a habitat for soil biota, regulating water, cycling and provision of nutrients, buffering pollutants, and regulation of pest and disease populations (CIAT).

The challenge: The FAO estimates that human-induced soil degradation affects approximately one-third of all agricultural lands today with implications for food security as 95% of human food is produced on soils. Soil degradation on agricultural land is mainly the result of existing agricultural practices. **Risks** for farmers include soil erosion, decline of fertility and soil organic matter, loss of soil biodiversity, soil salinity, soil compaction, pesticide and nutrient leaching (CIAT/SAI).

Outcomes

The key outcome is increased soil health which depends on physical, chemical and biological soil properties, processes and their interactions.

Links to other outcomes

Healthy soils are more productive, have better water retention, and are more resistant to erosion. The health of waterways directly ties into soil management. Soil conservation practices reduce the runoff of sediment, nutrients, and pollutants into water sources. This results in improved water quality that benefits aquatic life and makes water safer for human consumption. Several of the practices aimed at increasing soil health are also associated with increased levels of soil biodiversity and natural habitats. One of the most significant benefits of regenerative agriculture is its ability to sequester carbon in the soil. Healthy soils have a higher capacity to store carbon, and regenerative agriculture practices that promote soil health, such as cover cropping and composting, can help increase carbon storage.

Outcome Indicators.

The improved capacity of soil to supply multiple soil functions, depends on physical, chemical and biological soil properties and processes and their interactions. A common

set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are proposed to cover each of these aspects. Core outcomes and mapping can be found in the Annex 3. Mapping of Core outcomes to Key Frameworks. Links across the outcome areas can be found Table 3.

Table 5: Soil Outcomes, KPIs and Metrics

Outcomes	Outcome Key Performance Indicator	Metrics (aligned with key frameworks)
Increased soil health and fertility		
Improved physical health and structure of soil	Optimise infiltration rate	infiltration rate mm/hr
Improved physical health and structure of soil	Optimise available water holding capacity	soil water holding capacity m ³ /m ³
Improved chemical health of soils	Soil health chemical - Maximise soil organic carbon	SOC/area; metric tons carbon/ha
Improved chemical health of soils	Soil health chemical - maximise soil organic matter (SOM)	Amount (mg/kg) nutrients in soil sample (N,P, K soil organic matter)
Improved biological health of soils	Soil health biological - Improved biological soil health	Presence of invertebrates
Soil erosion	Minimise soil erosion	metric tons/ha
Climate mitigation		
Minimise GhG emissions	GhG Emissions	total absolute emissions MTCO ₂ e per unit of production
Maximize carbon sequestration	Soil carbon sequestration	total soil sequestration MTCO ₂ e q per unit of production/area

Practices

As the sets of practices identified in the research are linked to multiple outcomes, they are not listed here separately and should be considered together.

The practices identified potentially play a critical role in curbing soil degradation, maintaining and restoring soil health and help farmers better manage climate change. A range of soil conservation techniques can be found detailed in the CIAT Guide pages 69-86 chapters 3.4.3. Intercropping and 3.4.4. Soil conservation practices. These practices aim to enhance soil fertility and improve its structure and water-holding capacity. The result is a more resilient soil that can better support plant growth, leading to increased crop yields and less susceptibility to erosion. Coffee compared to other crops has high potential organic matter/waste that is reusable. For soil practices and

links to outcomes, much depends upon the specific context and starting point. These are all already found to some degree in the Coffee SR Code and sustainability standards.

See mapping in Annex 4 of Outcomes and Practices.

Additional reading on regenerative agriculture and soil:

[Aligning regenerative agricultural practices with outcomes to deliver for people, nature and climate](#). 2023. Chapter 3. Food and Land Use Coalition. Generic agriculture

[CIAT guidebook](#) P.19 - 27

[GCP Brazil 7 Elements](#)

[Ground Zero? Let's Get Real on Regeneration!](#) 2023. Coffee and Cocoa

[SAI Platform Regenerating Together Programme Framework 1.1](#)

[WBCSD/Op2b - Business Guidance for Deeper Regeneration Soil Chapter](#)

CORE IMPACT AREA: BIODIVERSITY

There is a wide variety across regenerative agriculture initiatives and frameworks in terms of indicators, outcomes and practices related to the extent, composition and condition of habitats and species and/or the ecosystem services they support. Many indicators focus on the risks to biodiversity (reduce pressures on or “do no harm”) rather than positive regeneration.

RegenCoffee Biodiversity Principle: Sustainable management of the land and natural resources ensuring the long-term health and resilience of ecosystems by enhancing the variety and variability of plants, animals and microorganisms.

Biodiversity refers to the diversity, or variability, among living organisms. The concept of biodiversity is complex as it includes diversity within species, between species and ecosystems. Functional diversity is the group of species that support ecosystem services (e.g. pollination, nitrogen fixing) (CIAT). As a perennial crop, coffee is dependent on nature for ecosystem services and functions for long term productivity including pollination, water filtration, and soil fertility. If managed sustainably, coffee production can also contribute to the conservation of biodiversity, habitats and ecosystem services provision. Biodiversity not only has intrinsic value, but is also vital to human health, food security, economic prosperity, and mitigation of climate change and adaptation to its impacts.

The challenge: Coffee is produced in areas that were previously highly biodiverse tropical forests and depending on how it is cultivated, can affect biodiversity positively or negatively. **Risks:** Land conversion, habitat loss and fragmentation, as well as agrochemical use, soil compaction, crop diversity loss, pesticide and nutrient leaching all pose risks to biodiversity. Pesticides can be toxic to many non-target species, including pollinators.

Outcomes

The key outcome is enhancement of and sustainable use of biodiversity which includes ecological/ecosystem integrity, cultivated biodiversity and improved functional biodiversity. Reducing pesticide risk is another critical outcome to reduce pressures on biodiversity.

Links to other outcomes

Several of the practices aimed at enhancing biodiversity are associated with reduced pressures on soil and water resources leading to improved outcomes. Enhancing

biodiversity in coffee farming supports healthy soils and water by promoting a more balanced ecosystem where diverse plant and animal life contribute to nutrient cycling, pollination, pest control, water infiltration, and erosion prevention, ultimately leading to improved soil structure and cleaner water sources.

Outcome Indicators

Biodiversity serves many functions, and a common set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are proposed to cover key components. Core outcomes and mapping can be found in the Annex 3. Mapping of Core outcomes to Key Frameworks. Links across the outcome areas can be found Table 3.

Table 6: Biodiversity Outcomes, KPIs and Metrics

Outcomes	Outcome Key Performance Indicator	Metrics
Enhancement of biodiversity and the sustainable use of biodiversity		
Improved ecological integrity	Natural/restored habitat in agriculture land	% natural or restored habitat (%/km ²)
	Enhance on-farm biodiversity	Total number of species (tbd)/presence abundance of priority species
Increased cultivated biodiversity	Crop diversity	Crop diversity per km ²
Improved chemical health of soils	Soil health chemical - maximise soil organic matter (SOM)	Amount (mg/kg) nutrients in soil sample (N,P, K soil organic matter)
Improved functional biodiversity	Pesticide risk	Environmental Impact Quotient (EIQ) OR Pesticides used and application rates (kg/ha)
Climate mitigation		
Minimise GhG emissions	GhG Emissions (reduced pesticides) linked to IPM	total absolute emissions MTCO ₂ e per unit of production
Maximize carbon sequestration	Carbon sequestration (linked to agroforestry, species, etc)	total soil sequestration MTCO ₂ e per unit of production/area

Practices

As the sets of practices identified in the research are linked to multiple outcomes, they are not listed here separately and should be considered together.

Practices identified in the desk review vary widely depending on the scale (e.g. landscape) and type of biodiversity covered. The non-exhaustive examples linked to biodiversity enhancement include: conservation zones, preservation and legal reserves, biological corridors and buffer zones, agroforestry/intercropping, production system diversification, cover crops, optimise crop protection/efficient use of agrochemicals for pest and disease control, IPM, responsible sourcing agrochemicals. These are also reflected in the Coffee SR Code 8.2.1, 8.2.2, 8.2.3, 8.2.4, 9.1.1, 9.2.3.

A range of practices with links to biodiversity outcomes can be found in the Wageningen's [Ground Zero](#) Table 4.3.1, FOLU [Aligning regenerative practices](#) Figure 4 and CIAT Guide pages chapters 3.4.6. IPM and 3.4.11. Landscape Actions.

See mapping in Annex 4 Practices linked to Regenerative Outcomes.

Additional reading on regenerative agriculture and biodiversity:

[Aligning regenerative agricultural practices with outcomes to deliver for people, nature and climate.](#)

2023. Chapter 3. Food and Land Use Coalition. Generic agriculture

[CIAT guidebook](#) P.28-30

[GCP Brazil 7 Elements](#)

[Ground Zero? Let's Get Real on Regeneration!](#) 2023. Coffee and Cocoa

[SAI Platform Regenerating Together Programme Framework 1.1](#)

[WBCSD/Op2b - Business Guidance for Deeper Regeneration Biodiversity Chapter](#)

CORE IMPACT AREA: WATER

Different approaches highlighted a wide range of practices, criteria, outcomes and indicators generally looking at the availability, quality and management of water resources.

RegenCoffee Water Principle. Sustainable management of water for efficient and sustainable water use, integrated water resource management, and protection of water-related ecosystems.

The amount of water withdrawn and the quality of its discharges can have impacts on ecosystems and people. Water has critical importance to agricultural productivity and coffee has a significantly large total water footprint compared to other major crops cultivated in coffee-producing countries⁴. It involves the irrigation of coffee plants, processing the coffee cherries (for wet processing), and cleaning equipment.

The challenge and risks: Depleting watersheds from using more water than is being replenished and pollution (run off and waste) from coffee farms can affect the communities and people over a wide watershed. Climate change is also leading to uncertainty in terms of availability and quantity with more extreme droughts and floods. **Risks** to water quality and quantity include soil compaction, groundwater depletion, surface water depletion, pesticide, nutrient and contaminants leaching, climate change, deforestation and land use change, run-off and soil erosion, disposal of wastewater. Coffee processing also generates wastewater, often contaminated with organic matter, which can pose environmental challenges if not properly treated and managed.

Intended Outcomes

The key outcome is improved water quality and quantity.

Links to other outcomes

Regenerative practices targeting water conservation are often closely linked to soil management as improved soil structure can contribute to improved water infiltration and retention, thus limiting runoff. This can help reduce the need for irrigation and make farming more resilient to drought. Also, better soil structure and function result in optimal water distribution uniformity and support improved water use efficiency in irrigation practices. Healthy soils can also help to reduce dependence on agrochemical inputs with

⁴ Fabio Sporchia, Dario Caro, Morena Bruno, Nicoletta Patrizi, Nadia Marchettini, Federico M. Pulselli, Estimating the impact on water scarcity due to coffee production, trade, and consumption worldwide and a focus on EU, *Journal of Environmental Management*, Volume 327, 2023, 116881, ISSN 0301-4797, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvman.2022.116881>.

benefits for water quality. (CIAT). Water-efficient practices can lead to significant cost savings for coffee farmers, who no longer need to rely as heavily on expensive irrigation.

Outcome Indicators: KPIs

A common set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are proposed to cover both water use and water quality. Core outcomes and mapping can be found in the Annex 3. Mapping of Core outcomes to Key Frameworks. Links across the outcome areas can be found Table 3.

Table 7: Water Outcomes, KPIs and Metrics

Outcomes	Outcome Key Performance Indicator	Metrics
Water conservation and quality		
Water Conservation	Water Use efficiency is increased/optimize water use	blue water withdrawal m ³ /ha or per unit of production (SAI) - split by level of water stress risk (WBCSD)
Water quality is increased/	Nitrogen Use Efficiency Total suspended solids of bordering water bodies (only SAI)	Nutrient removal/nutrient input x 100 (%) (both N and P)
Climate mitigation		
Minimise GhG emissions	GhG Emissions (improved wastewater management)	total absolute emissions MTCO ₂ e per unit of production

Practices

As the sets of practices identified in the research are linked to multiple outcomes, they are not listed here separately and should be considered together.

Practices identified in the desk review linked to water quality and quantity include:

Controlling erosion and runoff, while enhancing soil water infiltration and retention: minimize soil disturbance, mulching, diversified crop rotation, riparian buffers, efficient and management water use, wastewater treatment/treating and recycling wastewater from coffee processing, integrated nutrient management, irrigation management, vetiver wetland, improved processing vs. irrigation water use. These are also reflected in the Coffee SR Code 10.3.1, 10.3.2, 10.3.3, 10.3.4, 11.1.1

A range of practices with links to water outcomes CIAT Guide pages chapters 3.4.8. Efficient Water Use and 3.4.9. Wastewater Management.

See mapping in Annex 4 of Outcomes and Practices.

Additional reading on regenerative agriculture and biodiversity:

[Aligning regenerative agricultural practices with outcomes to deliver for people, nature and climate.](#)

2023. Chapter 3. Food and Land Use Coalition. Generic agriculture

[CIAT guidebook](#) P.31-32

[Cool Farm Tool Biodiversity Guidance Note](#) 2023

[GCP Brazil 7 Elements](#)

[Ground Zero? Let's Get Real on Regeneration!](#) 2023. Coffee and Cocoa

[SAI Platform Regenerating Together Programme Framework 1.1](#)

[WBCSD/Op2b - Business Guidance for Deeper Regeneration Water Chapter](#)

CORE IMPACT AREA: RESILIENT FARMER LIVELIHOODS

Livelihoods is not covered explicitly or only mentioned by the initiatives reviewed in high level goal statements. A few of the outcome measurement frameworks include livelihoods, but these are in draft and not tested. The majority of initiatives focus on outcomes that aim to have positive impacts on nature and farming systems. There is the assumption that protecting and restoring natural resources will deliver benefits to farmers (and the communities) including improved farm income.

RegenCoffee Resilient Farmer Livelihood Principle: enhance the resilience of farmers' livelihoods by improving their income and food security, while making farmers less vulnerable to climate change.

Farmer livelihoods are linked intrinsically to the agricultural practices they implement and the health of the ecosystem they depend on. Resilient farmer livelihoods in terms of RegenCoffee refers to focusing on resilience & protecting farmers from the impact of climate change as related specifically to wellbeing in the context of climate adaptation and the regeneration of nature (rather than other important indicators like worker health and safety or child labour, which are key to general prosperity and livelihoods, but not related to regenerative outcomes).

The challenge: Intense market competition, price fluctuations, and climatic instability are just three examples of the challenges facing many coffee producers across the globe. Moreover, roughly 80% of the 12.5 million farms in the global coffee sector are smallholder operations in developing countries where the income generated in the coffee industry can be critical to families, communities, and governments. (IISD) **Risks:** Climate change exacerbates the vulnerabilities of farmers and their communities with increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events such as droughts and floods. Additionally, farmers face long-term changes in temperature and precipitation patterns, which can alter growing seasons, reduce crop yields and increase the prevalence of pests and diseases. These climate pressures lead to significant economic losses and threaten livelihoods of farmers and workers. Their livelihoods must be improved, or they may be forced to abandon their land and/or coffee production. Farmers will need support to make the necessary adaptations. Coffee farmers, especially small holders, need support to adopt step wise approaches to RegenCoffee, which requires new knowledge and investments, while also entailing risks. In the end, it is the farmer at the centre in making management decisions based on their willingness and capacity.

Intended Outcomes: The key outcome is resilient farmer livelihoods, particularly in terms of climate change.

Links to other outcomes: Regenerative practices and outcomes can contribute to farmer resilience and livelihoods. For example, increased soil health can lead to higher and more stable crop yields and reduce the need for expensive chemical inputs, directly enhancing farmers’ net income and economic stability. Regenerative farming gives high priority to diversifying production systems, with the aims of increasing and diversifying income sources as well as food supplies for household consumption. (CIAT p 34). Above- and below-ground carbon sequestration could lead to more diversity in income streams and increased overall net income if farmers receive payments for such ecosystem services.

Outcome Indicators: KPIs

Table 8: Resilient Farmer Livelihoods Outcomes, KPIs and Metrics

Outcomes	Outcome Key Performance Indicator	Metrics (aligned with key frameworks)
Resilient farmer livelihoods		
Improved productivity	Coffee Yields	Total volume/ha
Living Income	Gap between income and benchmark	Living Income Community of Practice (LICOP) (Coffee SR Code / ICO CPPTF)
Stable incomes	Farmer net income	Farmer net income (LCU*/ha/yr) WBCSD Coffee revenue, other revenues on and off farm (COSA)
Economic resilience	Farm economic resilience	Inter-year variability of farm net income (LUC)/ ha (5-year rolling average) (WBCSD)
Diversification	Number of other crops or animal products	Number of other crops (including those intercropped with focus crop) or animal products (meat, dairy, wool, honey, etc.) produced on farm for sale or for consumption (COSA)
Enabling environment	Access to goods and services to support transition (e.g. insurance, biofertilizers, water-efficient equipment, improved seedlings, climate information, technical advisory)	\$\$ goods and services for RegenCoffee transition

Outcomes	Outcome Key Performance Indicator	Metrics (aligned with key frameworks)
Climate mitigation		
Minimise GhG emissions	GhG Emissions	Climate financing received \$\$ received investment/insetting total absolute emissions MTCO ² e per unit of production
Maximize carbon sequestration	Payments for ecosystem services	\$\$ received total soil sequestration MTCO ² e per unit of production/area

*LCU- local currency unit

Practices

Practices identified in the desk review linked to building resilient farmer livelihoods include:

Practices listed under the other impact areas enabling farmers to adopt climate resilient or mitigation strategies. Diversifying production systems to increase and/or diversify income sources as well as food supplies can bring additional income and added food security, improved quality and yields. Practices may lead to improvements in the long-term yield, however in some cases yields could decrease, particularly in the initial years of transition. Training. These are also reflected in the Coffee SR Code 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 2.2.1

See mapping in Annex 4 of Outcomes and Practices.

Additional reading on regenerative agriculture and biodiversity:

[CIAT guidebook P.34](#)

[GCP Brazil 7 Elements](#)

[Ground Zero? Let's Get Real on Regeneration!](#) 2023. Coffee and Cocoa

[WBCSD/Op2b - Business Guidance for Deeper Regeneration Socioeconomic Chapter](#)

WHAT COUNTS

Coffee sector stakeholders, particularly those investing in regenerative agriculture, want to understand “what counts”. With no common or legal definition, greenwashing poses a risk. This can dilute the concept, creating scepticism and act as a disincentive to scaling.

Another key challenge is to credibly demonstrate progress. The localized nature of regenerative agriculture creates a barrier for comparisons and aggregation of data.

The two-pronged approach proposed for RegenCoffee, uses a common framework and language for organisations to establish **baselines on standardized outcomes**, while tailoring practices at the farm level. Monitoring progress towards the outcomes with **standardized farm level indicators** linked to outcomes, will build the evidence base for learning and continuous improvement. The outcomes, KPIs and farm level practices are not prescriptive nor exhaustive but intended to establish a **common language** across the sector. They should be considered within a holistic approach that looks at socio-economic and environmental outcomes and practices.

RegenCoffee is a shared approach and concept for alignment across the coffee sector. It is not intended to be a label for coffee, nor associated with any claims. GCP encourages companies to make *credible* claims to demonstrate leadership and send clear signals to producers.

Companies are encouraged to make **commitment** claims to RegenCoffee as long as they include clear targets with transparent timebound action **plans, resources** and **reporting** on progress towards targets in line with the Accountability Framework, pending EU Green Claims legislation and the EU Empowering Consumers Directive⁵.

Claims of regenerative coffee as a product should be based on scientific evidence, clear, accurate, relevant and based on a transparent and robust system in line with all applicable laws, ISEAL Claims guidance and pending EU Green Claims legislation, which includes third party verification.

Phases 3 and 4 of GCP RegenCoffee work will include local level testing to address questions around monitoring and evaluation, including testing the feasibility and relevance of the indicators in different contexts.

⁵ EU Empowering Consumers Directive notes that credible future performance claims (i.e. commitments) must be supported by clear, objective, verifiable commitments and targets, with a clear implementation plan, financial resources to support it and an independent monitoring system.

ANNEXES

1. TC/ATF members

GCP RegenCoffee Technical Committee and Advisory Task Force Roles and Responsibilities

The GCP **Technical Committee** (TC) is a multi-stakeholder committee of the Board. It has been mandated by the Board to lead the development of a Regen Coffee framework that includes definition, objectives, principles and expected outcomes, which will serve as a foundational guide for the coffee sector. The TC is responsible for submitting the comprehensive guidance document for the Board for approval. The members of the Technical Committee are:

- Jeremy Lefroy, Café Africa (Chair), UK
- Dr. Álvaro Gaitan, Cenicafé, Colombia
- Cesar Candiano, Research, Brazil
- Anneke Fermont, Volcafé, Netherlands
- Karugu Wa Macharia, Kenya
- Kedar Nepal, 4C Services, Germany
- Miguel Gamboa, Rainforest Alliance, Guatemala

The GCP **RegenCoffee Advisory Task Force** has been formed for Phase 1 to provide expert input and advice to the alignment process in support of Technical Committee. The Advisory Task Force brings expert knowledge on Regenerative Agriculture in coffee, from different perspectives including downstream supply chain actors and different geographies. The members of the Advisory Task Force are:

- Mirjam Pulleman/Eric Rahn Alliance Biodiversity – CIAT
- Anne Grigg – Conservation International
- Eduardo Sampaio - GCP Brazil
- Francesca Pellis - illy
- Hugo Stuurman - JDE Peet's
- Allie Stauss - Keurig Dr Pepper (KDP)
- Stefan Canz - Nestlé
- Felix Stiegler - Neumann Kaffee Gruppe NKG
- Piet van Asten - ofi
- Franco Constantini - RegenAgri

2. Resources: Frameworks, Standards and other Resources

Key Frameworks Used in the Initial Zero Draft Scanning

Organisation (alphabetical)	Initiative/Tool	Brief Description/Comments
Cargill	Cargill RegenConnect program of practices with primary focus on soil health Framework NOT public. description here	Cargill RegenConnect is supporting the adoption of regenerative agriculture by connecting farmers to growing opportunities in environmental markets and sustainable supply chains. Through this voluntary, market-based program, Cargill provides financial incentives to farmers for environmental outcomes that help to decarbonize agricultural supply chains. Key practices include conservation tillage, cover crops, agroforestry, rotational grazing.
CIAT Alliance of Biodiversity International Nestle (financial support)	Regenerative agriculture for low-carbon and resilient coffee farms A PRACTICAL GUIDEBOOK. V1 July 2023	Guidebook: Designed for field agronomists and technicians in the global coffee sector, this guidebook aims to help identify the best regenerative practices and adapt them to different origins, farm types and agroecological conditions. Chapters 1 and 2 of this guidebook lay out the concept, principles and benefits of regenerative agriculture. Chapter 3 describes 11 regenerative practices that are relevant to both Robusta and Arabica coffee cultivation in the world's major coffee-producing regions.
GCP	Coffee Sustainability Reference Code 2021	Centered on the three dimensions of economic prosperity, social well-being, and environmental stewardship, the Coffee Sustainability Reference Code outlines 12 principles, broken down into practices and expected results that describe baseline sustainability for coffee production and primary processing.
GCP Brazil	7 Elements for the Implementation of Regenerative Coffee Farming	GCP Brazil publication of the result of a 10 month consultation collective action to map and harmonize concepts practices and elements to regenerative farming in the Brazilian coffee context

Organisation (alphabetical)	Initiative/Tool	Brief Description/Comments
McCains (potatoes)	McCAIN'S Regenerative Agriculture Framework 2024.	McCain defines Regenerative agriculture as an ecosystem-based approach to farming that aims to improve farm resilience, crop yield and quality by improving soil health and water quality, optimizing water use, enhancing biodiversity, and reducing the impact of synthetic inputs. McCain, in partnership with key stakeholders, has developed six key principles of Regenerative agriculture that can be applied to the farming of potatoes.
Nestle	Nestle Regenerative Agriculture Measures and Indicators January 2024 NESTLÉ Guidebook - Regenerative agriculture 2023	Main Pillars Biodiversity, collective & landscape actions Water security and quality; Soil health; Diverse cropping systems & livestock integration; Collective & landscape actions Harmonized approach with SAI Platform. Designed for field agronomists and technicians in the global coffee sector, the guidebook aims to help identify the best regenerative practices and adapt them to different origins, farm types and agroecological conditions
One Planet Business for Biodiversity (OP2B) - WBCSD	Framework for Regenerative Agriculture. Sept 2021	OP2B and partners aligned on the 4 objectives as the most relevant to assess when scaling up Regenerative Agriculture practices across supply chains: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting and enhancing biodiversity at and around farms • Improving or preserving carbon and water retention in the soil. leveraging the power of plants. livestock and agricultural practices • Enhancing the resilience of crops and nature. while decreasing pesticide and fertilizer usage • Supporting the livelihoods of farm communities

Organisation (alphabetical)	Initiative/Tool	Brief Description/Comments
Pepsico	PepsiCo's RegenAg Practice Bank 2022 excel based	<p>PepsiCo's RegenAg Practice Bank compiles 23 regenerative agriculture practices that are likely to generate direct and indirect impacts to our five impact areas - soil health, watershed health, biodiversity, reduce emissions & sequester carbon, and improved livelihoods.</p> <p>This practice bank was created based on a review of leading NGO, peer, customer and multi-stakeholder definitions and frameworks that describe regenerative farming practices. PepsiCo will be adding to this practice bank regularly, to ensure it reflects the breadth and diversity of crops and farming systems linked to our business.</p>
Rainforest Alliance	Regenerative Agriculture Scorecard April 2022	<p>Developed with Nespresso as a voluntary tool to support partners and farmers to assist their regenerative transition by identifying the current performance of farmers, highlighting where targeted support is needed, and tracking improvement towards regenerative goals.</p>
Regen10	Regen10 Outcomes Based Framework (for regenerative agriculture) 2024	<p>Draft framework tested in 2024. no public details/updates. Builds upon Food and Land Use Coalition research (see other resources), aligned with WBCSD, includes IUCN, Meridian and others with IKEA, McKnight and Rockefeller Foundation support. Included priority frameworks analysis. Alignment with SAI Platform</p>
SAI Platform	Regenerating Together Framework v1.1 October 2024	<p>Global Regenerative Agriculture Framework to define and prioritize outcomes from regenerative farming practices. The framework centres on the environmental impact areas of soil health, water, biodiversity, and climate, along with the socio-economic area of farmer livelihoods (in development). Covers all commodities and regions</p> <p>The framework consists of a four-step process, designed to make it both globally applicable and adaptable to local conditions.</p>

Organisation (alphabetical)	Initiative/Tool	Brief Description/Comments
Sustainable Food Trust	Global Farm Metric	The Global Farm Metric offers a holistic framework that provides a common language for farm sustainability, enabling the transition to better food and farming systems. It is designed to be embedded into farm assessments, audits, certification schemes and management tools to ensure the full scope of holistic sustainability is covered. As well as create a common language, alignment of the data collected will reduce duplication and encourage their use by farmers.
Textile Exchange	Textile Exchange's Regenerative Agriculture Outcome Framework	This open-source, fully documented framework draws on rigorous research and synthesis of work from other outcome frameworks, related sector methodologies (such as Science Based Targets for Nature and the GHG Protocol), and scientific literature. The framework is designed to be applicable worldwide in cropping, grazing, and agroforestry systems and to assess outcomes across a range of fibers, farm scales, and geographic contexts. It includes a specific focus on smallholder farmers and resource-limited farming. Based on a detailed analysis of over 100 regen ag initiatives.
World Business Council Sustainable Development	Business guidance for deeper regeneration	Detailed chapters on biodiversity, soil, climate, water, socioeconomic working groups which resulted in detailed analysis and selection of common outcome metrics. Good resource for metrics. Include mapping to relevant tools and frameworks

Regenerative Agriculture Standards (public)

Organisation (alphabetical)	Initiative/Tool	Brief Description/Comments
A Greener World AGW	Certified-Regenerative-by-AGW-Standards.2024-v1.pdf	Holistic certification program. Currently US/Canada, UK and South Africa. not an ISEAL member.
Regenagri owned by Solidaridad	regenagri Standard Criteria 3.3.1 Nov 2024	Holistic regenerative agriculture certification standard applicable across commodities and geographies. It includes coffee specific requirements designed to be in line with the GCP Coffee SR Code as of 2024. Co-developed with Control Union. Not an ISEAL member.

Organisation (alphabetical)	Initiative/Tool	Brief Description/Comments
Rodale	<p>Framework for Regenerative Agriculture Certified</p> <p>ROC QMS STD FR v4.1</p>	<p>Holistic approach with three pillars: Soil Health & Land Management, Animal Welfare, and Farmer & Worker Fairness. Regenerative Organic Certified® has three levels: Bronze, Silver, and Gold. Each requires a different number and scope of regenerative organic practices used.</p>

Other Resources Regenerative Agriculture

Organisation (alphabetical)	Initiative/Tool	Brief Description/Comments
<p>Università del Caffè Brazil (UdC Brazil) funded by the illy foundation</p>	<p>Cadernos da Universidade do Café 2021 Volume 11</p> <p>focused on "Virtuous Agriculture"</p> <p>Illy Sustainability-Report-2022 ENG</p>	<p>interesting coffee specific compilation. The publication is structured in six parts, Introduction. The second chapter provides a great overview from a research perspective of the different systems and types "Agricultural systems in the 20th and 21st centuries" . Chapters 3-5 are focused on carbon and a good resource, but highly technical. The sixth and final chapter contains final considerations. Recommend reading chapters 2 and 6.</p>
CGIAR	<p>Work Package 2: Evidence-based agroecology assessments</p>	<p>Research workstream to develop holistic, localized performance assessment for agroecology transition includes case studies</p>
<p>Africa Regenerative Agriculture Study Group, 2021. funded IUCN</p>	<p>Regenerative Agriculture An opportunity for businesses and society to restore degraded land in Africa</p>	<p>Research report highlighting potential of regen ag for restoring degraded lands in Africa and other benefits. Evidence base of specific practices</p>
<p>International Coffee Organization (ICO)</p>	<p>Coffee Development Report 2022-2023: BEYOND COFFEE: TOWARDS A CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN COFFEE</p>	<p>Flagship ICO report. Regenerative Ag is highlighted as a key approach to transition to a circular economy, one of the ten guiding principles for the global coffee value chain and part of farm level recommendations. Includes case studies linking practices to outcomes OP2B definition is used. Highlights the need for shared responsibility to incentivize farmers to adopt regen practices</p>

Organisation (alphabetical)	Initiative/Tool	Brief Description/Comments
Rainforest Alliance	Raising the Bar— Regenerative Agriculture for More Resilient Agro-Ecosystems The Rainforest Alliance’s Position August 2020	White paper, RA position paper. “regenerative agriculture” comprises a broad set of principles and practices under the umbrella of climate-smart agriculture. Taking an agroecology and integrated system management approach, regenerative agriculture aims to increase biodiversity, enhance ecosystem services, and increase agroecosystem resilience thus leading to resilient livelihoods.
Innovation Forum	Innovation Forum Field by field: scaling regenerative practices beyond pilots to wide adoption (webinar recording) June 2024	“this webinar explored the essential strategies needed to accelerate on-farm transformation and ensure long-term sustainable practice changes at an industry level.” US producers and Walmart. Includes good conversations of derisking transition and making practices pay (not paying for practices).
Regen10	webinar : Understanding the Profit Potential of Regenerative Agriculture: What’s Holding Us Back?	This webinar dives into how investing in regenerative agriculture can generate long-term financial returns while restoring ecosystems and building resilience.
Collaboration of Wageningen University & Research (WUR), Nestlé Research, Olam Food Ingredients (Ofi), OneCGIAR, ETH Zurich and various partners across the tropics	Ground Zero? Let’s Get Real on Regeneration! Report 1: State of the Art and Indicator Selection	This report reviews current knowledge on the links between production practices and soil health in coffee and cocoa, considering priority objectives for soil health enhancement defined by coffee and cocoa experts. We also provide an analysis of existing indicators schemes and important data gaps and methodological challenges. Goals: - Reduce the Carbon Footprint • Enhance Soil Health • Enhance and safeguard Biodiversity
Sustainable Food Lab	Scale Lab 2023: Will regenerative agriculture be the new normal?	“Scale Lab” of food company leaders addressed questions around the most important enabling conditions for the scaling of regenerative agriculture, sharing their own insights and challenges, supplemented by input from people across the field. Results are captured in downloadable slide decks and summarized in three scenario stories of what might happen over the next 5-10 years.

Organisation (alphabetical)	Initiative/Tool	Brief Description/Comments
FAIRR	<u>The Four Labours of Regenerative Agriculture Paving the way towards meaningful commitments.</u> Sept 2023	The objective of FAIRR’s thematic report on regenerative agriculture is to assess the growing number of regenerative agriculture commitments across publicly listed agri-food companies to understand whether these are meaningful enough to deliver climate, nature and social goals. This is a first-of-its-kind analysis of commitments on regenerative agriculture by 79 global food and retail giants, worth over \$3 trillion and representing almost a third of the sector.
OP2B with Boston Consulting Group	<u>Cultivating farmer prosperity: Investing in Regenerative Agriculture</u> May 2023	The environmental benefits of regenerative agriculture are widely touted, but the economics that support the transition and sustained operation of regenerative farming systems still cast doubt. This piece of work brings forward the farmer perspective on transitioning to regenerative agriculture. We explore the economics through the lens of an “average” Kansas wheat farmer but present a methodology that can be translated and applied to other geographies and commodities.
Unilever	<u>The Unilever regenerative agriculture principles with Implementation Guides</u> 2021	Complement to the Unilever the Sustainable Agriculture Code (SAC) for sustainable sourcing, these Regenerative Agriculture Principles are used to set up programmes with selected suppliers for key crops to explore ways for generating more positive impacts on soil health, biodiversity, farm profitability, water quality and climate resilience.
Sustainable Markets Initiative (SMI)	<u>SCALING REGENERATIVE FARMING: LEVERS FOR IMPLEMENTATION</u>	Based on work done in 2022 and 2023 to identify the ‘Big Five’ issues that needed solving to enable regenerative agriculture to become mainstream. This “Levers for Implementation” publication outlines our findings and provides a roadmap for what needs to be done to address the ‘Big Five’ issues and accelerate the transition to regenerative farming.

Organisation (alphabetical)	Initiative/Tool	Brief Description/Comments
Mercy Corps (USAID funded)	Resilience Design Measurement Toolkit Mercy Corps no date	<p>The Resilience Design in Smallholder Farming Systems approach (RD approach) has been developed by Mercy Corps under the TOPS Program funded by USAID.</p> <p>It helps farmers and those who support them develop a deeper understanding of their farming systems within their agroecosystems. The RD approach helps farmers identify influences that affect their farm sites as well as external resources that can benefit the site. Guided by a set of principles, farmers can then adjust their farm design to work with surrounding natural systems ultimately improving soil health and water management. In doing this, farmers can build a more adaptive and productive farming system that can better respond to external changes over time, one that is more resilient to the increasingly frequent and intense environmental and economic shocks and stresses that affect it.</p>
Cool Farm Tool	Biodiversity Guidance Note 2023	<p>The document identifies key components for enhancing biodiversity on farmland, emphasising the importance of diverse landscapes, shelters for species, sufficient food supply, crop diversity, reduced chemical inputs, and habitat connectivity. It also suggests various farming practices to support biodiversity, including adding organic matter to soils, creating flower-rich field margins, reducing pesticide use, and adjusting grazing levels, among others.</p>
WOCAT is the World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies	WOCAT Global SLM Database for Coffee search	<p>Launched in 1992, The World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (WOCAT) is a global Network sharing the same aim to document, share, and apply sustainable land management (SLM) knowledge.</p>
Cotton2040 and GCP	The Delta Framework Core indicators set and guidance documents framework for alignment, sharing and learning	<p>Supported by the ISEAL's Innovation Fund, the Delta Framework was created to agree on a shared language and approach to measuring and communicating agricultural sustainability progress globally, starting with cotton and coffee. By coming together in this way, the Framework's creators seek to advance transparency, build credibility, and benefit multiple stakeholders—from farmers to retailers and brands.</p>

3. Mapping of Core Outcomes to Key Frameworks

Principle	Impact Area	Outcomes	Outcome Key Performance Indicator	Metric	WBCSD	SAI	Regen 10	TE	SMI	Cool Farm	Key initiatives and reporting frameworks*
Soil - Increased soil health to support productivity and soil capacity to optimize its ecological functions	Increased soil health and fertility	Improved physical health and structure of soil	Optimise infiltration rate	infiltration rate mm/hr							FAO
		Improved physical health and structure of soil	Optimise available water holding capacity (green water)	soil water holding capacity m3/m3							FAO, EU Soil Law
		Improved chemical health of soils	Soil health chemical - Maximise soil organic carbon	SOC/area; metric tons carbon/ha	Core						SBTN, GHG SLR, FAO, EU Soil Law, LUSAS
		Improved chemical health of soils	Soil health chemical - maximise soil organic matter (SOM)	Amount (mg/kg) nutrients in soil sample (N,P, K soil organic matter)							
	Improved biological health of soils	Soil health biological - Improved biological soil health	Presence of invertebrates							FAO	
	Soil Conservation	Soil erosion	Minimise soil erosion	metric tons/ha							SBTi FLAG, SBTN, FAO, EU Soil Law
Sustainable management of the land and natural resources ensuring the long-term health and resilience of ecosystems by enhancing the variety and variability of Enhancement of biodiversity and the sustainable use of biodiversity	Enhancement of biodiversity and the sustainable use of biodiversity	Improved ecological integrity	Natural/restored habitat in agriculture land	% natural or restored habitat (%/km2)	Core						SBTN Land, TNFD, CSRD, GRI
			Enhance on-farm biodiversity	Total number of species (tbd)/presence abundance of priority species							
		Increased cultivated biodiversity	Crop diversity	Crop diversity per km2	Core						
		Improved functional biodiversity	Pesticide risk	Environmental Impact Quotient (EIQ) Pesticides used and application rates (kg/ha)	Core						CRSD
Water conservation and quality	Water conservation and quality	Water Conservation	Water Use efficiency is increased/optimize water use	blue water withdrawal m3/ha or per unit of production (SAI) - split by level of water stress risk (WBCSD)	Core						CDP, CSRD, GRI, SBTN, TNFD
		Water quality is increased/minimized water pollution	Nitrogen Use Efficiency	Nutrient removal/nutrient input x 100 (%) (both N and P)	Core						CDP, CSRD, SBTN, TNFD, FAO
Resilient farmer livelihoods	Livelihoods	Improved productivity	Yield	focus crop volume/ha							
		Living Income	Gap between income and benchmark	LICOP							
		Increased financial benefits	Farmer net income	Farmer net income (LCU/ha/yr)	Core						
Climate mitigation	Climate mitigation	Minimise GhG emissions	GhG Emissions	total absolute emissions MTCO2 eq per unit of production	Core						
Climate mitigation		Maximize carbon sequestration	Soil carbon sequestration	total soil sequestration MTCO2 eq per unit of production/area	Core						

*based on WBCSD mapping

TE = Textile Exchange

SMI – Sustainable Markets Initiative

4. Practices linked to Regenerative Outcomes

Practice Area	Description	Increased Soil Health	Water Conservation and Quality	Increased Biodiversity	Coffee SR Code Link
Soil conservation measures: contour planning, barriers, terracing)	Physical soil conservation activities to reduce water and wind erosion, as well as improve soil health and water retention. They may require an upfront investment in labor and infrastructure. However, they provide enduring benefits by significantly improving soil stability and fertility once established.	Well established evidence ++ Soil erosion, nutrient cycling Evidence incomplete on soil biodiversity (1) Positive (2)	Well established evidence ++ water infiltration and retention (1)	Evidence but incomplete: habitat protection, functional biodiversity, ecological integrity (1)	10.1.1
Soil Cover: mulching, intercropping, cover crops, integrated weed management	Biological soil conservation activities that use living organisms to protect the soil from erosion, weed management, improve its structure, prevent depletion of nutrients enhancing soil fertility and water retention.	Well established evidence ++ Soil erosion, nutrient cycling Evidence incomplete on soil biodiversity (1) Positive (2)	Well established evidence ++ water infiltration and retention (1) Reduced pressure of contamination of water bodies from sedimentation (erosion) and herbicides (3)	Evidence but incomplete: habitat protection, Soil biodiversity, functional biodiversity, ecological integrity (1) Positive. (2)	10.2.1

GCP REGENCOFFEE: CONSULTATION DRAFT

Phase 1: Global Alignment – Public Consultation

Practice Area	Description	Increased Soil Health	Water Conservation and Quality	Increased Biodiversity	Coffee SR Code Link
Maintain/increase % natural habitat on farm Agroforestry and shade	<p>Growing trees, coffee plants, and other crops within the same plot (intercropped and around edges), creating multiple vegetation layers similar to a natural forest (CIAT)</p> <p>System of practices where woody perennial plants are deliberately used on the same land-management area as agricultural crops and/or animals. (PepsiCo)</p>	<p>Well established evidence ++</p> <p>Soil erosion (1)</p> <p>Evidence but incomplete on nutrient cycling, carbon cycling and storage, soil biodiversity (1)</p> <p>Positive (2)</p>	<p>Well established evidence ++</p> <p>Water retention and regulation (1)</p>	<p>Evidence well established: carbon stocks, ecological integrity. Evidence but incomplete: habitat protection (1)</p> <p>Well established/Positive Increased cultivated biodiversity (2)</p>	10.1.1
Integrated Pest and Disease Management / Limit use of Pesticides	<p>Use of biological, cultural, physical and chemical tools to identify, manage and reduce risk from pests and diseases. Under IPM, actions are taken to control pests only when their numbers are likely to exceed acceptable levels. Any action taken is designed to target the troublesome pest and limit the impact on other organisms and the environment.</p> <p>Applying pesticides to crops, animals, buildings or landscapes on a routine basis, regardless of need, is not IPM. Applications of pesticides are always the last resort in an IPM program.</p>	<p>Evidence but incomplete: soil biodiversity (1)</p>	<p>functional biodiversity-reduced pressure of contamination of surface and groundwater (3)</p>	<p>Evidence but incomplete: habitat protection, reduce pressures on biodiversity (1)</p>	9.1.1

GCP REGENCOFFEE: CONSULTATION DRAFT

Phase 1: Global Alignment – Public Consultation

Practice Area	Description	Increased Soil Health	Water Conservation and Quality	Increased Biodiversity	Coffee SR Code Link
Optimized fertilization (based on 4R principles & soil/leaf testing) Integrated Nutrient Management (CIAT)	Managing the application of fertilizers, manure, amendments, and organic by products to agricultural land in accordance with the 4R nutrient management approach: Right rate - matching amount of fertilizer type to crop needs Right source - matching fertilizer type to crop needs. Right place - keeping nutrients where crops can use them. Right time - Making nutrients available when crops need them.	Well established evidence ++ soil acidification, nutrient cycling Evidence but incomplete: soil biodiversity(1) Positive (2)	Evidence but incomplete: water retention (1) Reducing pressure of contamination of water bodies with nutrient runoff (3)	Evidence but incomplete: habitat protection (1)	10.2.1
					10.2.3
Organic Amendments	Any organic material of natural origin that is added to a soil to supply one or more elements essential for the growth of plants	Well established evidence ++ soil acidification Evidence but incomplete: nutrient cycling, carbon cycling and storage, soil biodiversity (1) Positive (2)	Evidence but incomplete: water retention (1)	Evidence but incomplete: habitat protection, Soil biodiversity (1)	10.2.2

GCP REGENCOFFEE: CONSULTATION DRAFT

Phase 1: Global Alignment – Public Consultation

Practice Area	Description	Increased Soil Health	Water Conservation and Quality	Increased Biodiversity	Coffee SR Code Link
Water Conservation Management	Minimizing coffee's production and postharvest water footprint by reducing the use and loss of water, promoting water recycling, and avoiding contamination of water sources	Potential benefit: measures that enhance water-use efficiency by improving soil water retention, drainage and water quality also tend to favor soil biodiversity and overall soil health (3)	Potential benefit: prevent aquifer depletion and secure water availability in watersheds (3)	Potential benefit: Conserving water resources to protect and restore wild biodiversity (3)	10.3.1 10.3.2 10.3.3
Wastewater management	<p>Actions to limit or eliminate the negative effects of residual water from postharvest processing on natural resources and human health, and reduce the carbon footprint of coffee production (3)</p> <p>Coffee SR Code: practices to minimize water pollution from chemical residues, fertilizers and erosion or other sources as per applicable national GAP programs/standards (for example maintaining a buffer zone around water bodies, conservation or regenerating native vegetation along the water bodies)</p>	Potential benefit: Reuse of byproducts from coffee processing as compost and its application to coffee production system helps improve soil health	Potential benefit: reducing pressure of contamination of waterways with untreated wastewater (3)	Potential benefit: practices helps conserve aquatic life (3)	11.1.1

1 Wageningen Ground Zero

2 Food and Land Use Coalition FOLU

3 CIAT Guide

5. Mapping of key terms RegenCoffee framework

Different frameworks and initiatives use some of the same terms, but not always in the same way. This table includes some of the key terms and usages across initiatives to highlight the variety and challenge.

Term	Main source	Definition	Similar terms
Principles	Coffee Sustainable Reference Code	Describes an objective or ambition Fundamental statements about a desired outcome Sets the overall direction	Goals, objectives
Criteria	Nestle, SAI Platform, Wageningen	the conditions that need to be met in order to comply with a Principle	
Indicators	Coffee SR Code, SAI Platform	Measurable variables used to assess compliance with criteria and/or monitor, track and understand changes and performance	KPIs, metrics
Practices	Coffee SR Code, GCP Brazil 7 Elements, various	The concrete actions taken to fulfill the criteria and achieve the desired principles. These practices can be defined as the inclusion of an activity, such as cover crops or crop rotation, or by the exclusion of an activity, soil tillage or use of synthetic inputs	
Outcomes	Various	Measurable longer term improvements that result from the implementation of regenerative agricultural practices	Expected Results (GCP Brazil 7 Elements)
Elements	GCP Brazil 7 Elements	Essential building blocks or components of regenerative agriculture for producers to incorporate	
Impact areas	SAI Platform and other aligned frameworks	Main areas that are affected, generally very high level categories	Pillars, Priority Areas, Thematic areas

6. Glossary of terms

This table includes some of the key terms used in the Consultation Draft. For detailed technical terms, the CIAT Guide 2023 Glossary pages 175-181 is recommended. Additional terms can be found in the Rainforest Alliance’s Regenerative Coffee Definitions April 2022.

Term	Definition	Source
climate change adaptation	anticipating the adverse effects of climate change and taking appropriate action to prevent or minimise the damage they can cause or taking advantage of opportunities that may arise.	European Environment Agency
Farmer centric	putting farmer’s needs and perspectives as the primary focus to meet their challenges and priorities. see document for more details	Adopted various
Key Performance indicators	subset of indicators that are critical for monitoring performance and measuring progress and achievement of key strategic outcomes or areas of focus	Adopted OECD
Metrics	A quantifiable measure that is used to track and assess the status of a specific process, outcome, or impact	ISEAL
Outcomes	Medium term results	OECD
Outputs	The products, capital goods, and services that result directly from the activities of a sustainability system.	ISEAL
Practices	actions and activities undertaken at farm level	
Principles	high-level objective or goals	GCP
Resilient	capacity to withstand/deal with adverse events or conditions, ability to successfully adapt to stressors	Adopted