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## SIZA ENVIRONMENTAL MODEL

Markets are setting new requirements for Environmental compliance with the aim to have environmental practices verified on ground level by 2020. Recognising these increasing market requirements, as well as current and future environmental pressures facing South African producers, SIZA formed a Technical Workgroup to advise the SIZA Board on a verification programme for Environmental compliance. The proposal from the Technical workgroup will be presented for Board approval at their next meeting on 26 July.

To date 268 SIZA members have completed their online Environmental Self-Assessment Questionnaires (SAQ's). The majority of these questionnaires were transferred to Sedex on request of the producers in order to provide visibility to the UK supply base.

With the recent addition of the Environmental module, a number of training workshops were held throughout South Africa to assist producers with a better understanding of the Environmental Standard, to explain the process and to provide guidance on how to complete the Self-Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ).

As from 2019, once the verification process for the module has been finalised, the following additional technical capacity building training workshops will be held:

- Training for those who will implement the SIZA Environmental Standard (consultants, extension officers, technical advisors and potential verification partners);
- Training for producers who will be using the results to better manage their environmental risk and reports to markets;
- Upliftment training on base-level environmental practices to train employees on environmental stewardship and the importance thereof in a farming environment.

SIZA has printed posters which list the 8 Environmental Principles, based on the SIZA Environmental Standard. These posters are currently being handed out to producers free of charge. The SIZA website was also updated to accommodate Environmental aspects and information. The development of templates to support the Environmental Self-Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ) is in process and will be uploaded to the Library section of the website as guidance documents.

## REGISTRATION ON THE SIZA PLATFORM



### PUC / PHC Codes

**IMPORTANT**

During the SIZA registration process, it is important that producers provide SIZA with all their Production Unit Codes (PUCs) and/or Pack House Codes (PHCs).

These codes are used for information/data exchange between producers and their overseas markets. When markets require visibility, they use these codes as search criteria on the platforms.

If producers do not list all their codes on the SIZA membership application, markets will not be able to find those units to establish visibility. Furthermore, if all codes are not listed on the profile, it will not be included and assured during an audit. It will be excluded on the producer's audit report and also from the audit confirmation letter.

### Multi-site vs Single Site Registration

A multi-site is applicable where a head office of a company manages a number of production sites through a central management system, taking responsibility for company policies and procedures.

It is important that producers ensure that farms are registered under the correct membership level on the SIZA Platform, since it will have an effect on the audit.

Auditors find it difficult to plan audits in advance due to the following reasons and it is therefore important that the correct information is available:

- Incorrect SAQ information during registration
- Not all sites are declared on the application (PUC codes)
- Distance between sites
- Sites having separate payroll- or management systems
- Incorrect number of farm workers indicated on the SAQ

Please note:

- Auditors are required to audit the head office, but also to undertake inspection visits at all the production sites forming part of the scope of the audit.
- Audits must take place during peak season activities, since it is a requirement that a certain sample of the total number of full seasonal workers is interviewed.

The number of workers that should be present at interviews is calculated as follows:

Contract Type	No. of workers	Interview sample size
Permanent	2225	48
Temporary	115	11
Agency	160	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>2500</b>	<b>72</b>

## SIZA / SEDEX VISIBILITY

Markets in the United Kingdom require that SIZA information (SAQ/Audits) be shared through the Sedex platform.

SIZA manages members' profiles on Sedex through the SIZA AB-account; therefore members do not need to register a separate profile and pay for membership with Sedex.

For SIZA to provide visibility via the Sedex Platform, producers must fully complete their correct information on the SIZA platform in order for us to transfer the information to Sedex. If any question remains unanswered on Sedex, we cannot get a grower's profile to the required 100%.



A section of the Sedex Social SAQ requires environmental information. If you supply to the UK market, you will have to complete both the SIZA Environmental SAQ and the Social SAQ on the SIZA platform. We need the environmental information to complete your Social profile on Sedex.

If you have any queries regarding market requirements for environmental compliance or the environmental questions contained in the Sedex Social SAQ, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Tel: 021 852 8184 or send an email to Lynn Taute - [lynn@siza.co.za](mailto:lynn@siza.co.za) or Henko Vlok - [henko@siza.co.za](mailto:henko@siza.co.za).



## COMPETENCY GUIDELINES FOR TRAINING COMPANIES SEEKING SIZA RECOGNITION

SIZA is committed to establishing processes to ensure that monitoring and measurement of the SIZA Code is carried out in accordance with the SIZA Standard.

Trainers and consultants must be competent, have the necessary agricultural knowledge and display the required interpersonal and vocational training skills.

If you would like to be recognised by SIZA as a trainer/training company or consultant/consulting company that offers consultancy services to producers/farms, you have to comply with the SIZA specified criteria.

To view the criteria, please click on the following link: [https://siza.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/SIZA-Independent-Training-and-Consultancy-Guidelines-Oct-2017\\_ed-1.pdf](https://siza.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/SIZA-Independent-Training-and-Consultancy-Guidelines-Oct-2017_ed-1.pdf)

SIZA will make a list of recognised service providers who comply with the suggested guidelines available on the website and the platform.

If you choose to contract someone who is not recognised by SIZA, please use the SIZA Competency Guidelines for reference to measure competency.



## REMEDY PROGRAMMES / BEYOND AUDIT APPROACH FOR SUSTAINABILITY



SIZA is in the process of implementing a Remedy and Beyond Audit programme. This essentially means that for all the Various Code Principles, best practice programmes will be identified and made available online to producers on the SIZA platform.

For areas where non-conformances have been identified, producers will have access to a list of programmes / service providers that can assist with best practice guidance on corrective action measures, remedial actions, etc. Wellness programmes to compliment and support these online developments will be implemented on ground level to ensure sustainable practices and a beyond audit approach.

## FORCED AND BONDED LABOUR PROGRAMME

Over 110 producers have already attended a Stronger Together South Africa workshop on tackling irregular sourcing practices.

SIZA has partnered with WIETA and Stronger Together on this initiative to give fruit and wine producers a better understanding of forced and bonded labour and how to minimize risks to their businesses.

These workshops are presented free of charge. Click here to find a suitable date and to book online: <https://www.stronger2gether.org/workshop/tackling-modern-slavery-in-the-fruit-and-wine-industries-south-africa/> or contact the project manager, Caroline Poole, at [infoza@stronger2gether.org](mailto:infoza@stronger2gether.org), Tel: 021 8800580.



## ENGAGEMENT WITH MARKETS

Effective communication and meaningful stakeholder engagement are critical components to promoting ethical trade and environmental assurance to improve working conditions in the supply chain. SIZA recognises that continuous, consistent and effective engagements on different levels, with local and international role players, are essential.

It is therefore a privilege for us to announce that Tom McLaughlin has been appointed as the SIZA liaison on the UK market. As SIZA's new brand ambassador, Tom is looking forward to interacting with UK fruit buying organizations in order to help build more socially and environmentally sustainable business models.



Tom is an experienced sustainability professional with a passion for social and environmental justice. He has 40 years' experience in retail, mostly with Woolworths Pty Ltd (South Africa's premier retailer of food, clothing and homeware). Tom has served on the SIZA Board as well as ethical and environmental steering committees for a number of years. He resides on the Isle of Wight where he enjoys walking with his dog and learning to sail.

SIZA welcomes Tom as part of the team and we believe that he will contribute to the success of the SIZA initiative going forward.

At the end of June, Retha Louw and Tom McLaughlin will visit the UK retailers/importers to gain information and to share a status update on SIZA activities.

To contact Tom, please send your email to: [tom@siza.co.za](mailto:tom@siza.co.za)

