



# **SUSTAINABLE TOBACCO PROGRAMME**



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## SUSTAINABLE TOBACCO PROGRAMME (STP)

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# SUSTAINABLE TOBACCO PROGRAMME (STP)

It was agreed at the Sustainable Tobacco Conference, held in London in October 2014, that some of the main manufacturers in the Industry and a representative group of international suppliers that were involved with the SRTP and GAP programmes would meet over the course of 2015 to create a robust, comprehensive and focused, single sustainability programme for the tobacco industry – the Sustainable Tobacco Programme - STP.

The new Programme was launched in April 2016 with significant changes in the scoring structure and content. STP presents greater granularity in scoring and to provide better opportunities for supplying companies to demonstrate the sustainable practices that they have implemented.

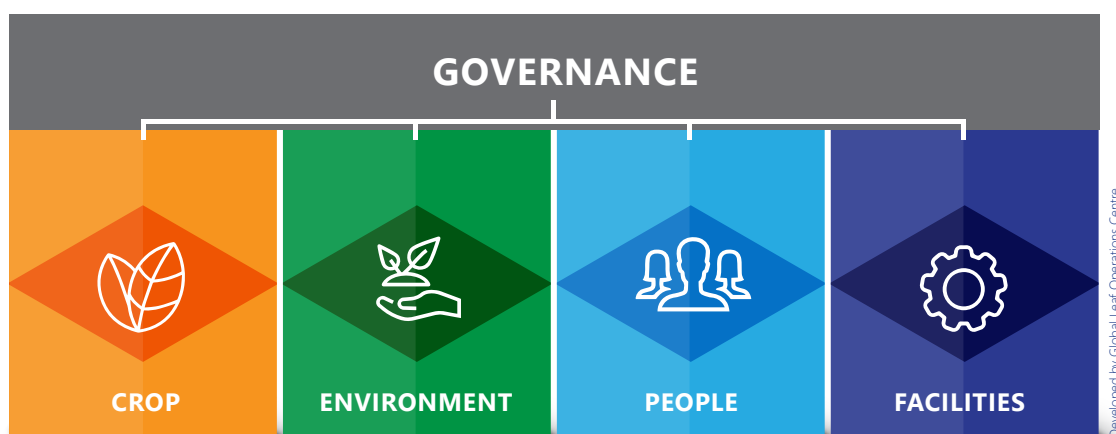
The Sustainable Tobacco Programme (STP) is a new programme with revised scope and objectives, designed to prepare the tobacco industry for future challenges with focus in continuous improvement. STP is managed by AB Sustain.

In recognition of evolving standards and expectations from internal and external stakeholders, the tobacco industry came together in 2015, facilitated by the independent supply chain management company AB Sustain, to unify under a single sustainability programme. This included strengthening methodology, scope, content and measurement, and alignment to international standards, such as those of the ILO and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

As a result, the industry-wide Sustainable Tobacco Programme (STP) was introduced in 2016 and applies to 100% of BAT's tobacco leaf suppliers. The Programme is independently managed by AB Sustain on behalf of the STP Manufacturers. Its key focus is to ensure sustainability standards continuous improvement.

## 3.1 Overview

The programme structure incorporates four pillars (Crop, Environment, People and Facilities) and overarching Governance which incorporates the management processes that must be put in place to successfully implement STP.





## 3.2 Participation in STP

Participation in the STP programme is mandatory for all suppliers of leaf to BAT. Participation should provide suppliers with the ability to make continuous improvements through the implementation of STP Guiding Principles, sustainably dealing with the farmers from whom they purchase tobacco, as well as other relevant stakeholders, such as, but not limited to: employees, governments and communities.

Participation in the STP programme is a prerequisite to supply tobacco for BAT and the following are the requirements of participation in the programme:

An annual on-line self-assessment (the annual return) by the supply organisation of its current capabilities supported by evidence held at the supply organisation need to be submitted in the STP on-line system, every year until the due date of 30<sup>th</sup> of November. [www.thinkglobal.absustain.com/supplier/Login](http://www.thinkglobal.absustain.com/supplier/Login)

WHAT	HOW	WHEN	FREQUENCY	WHERE
Self-Assessment	STP on-line system	By latest November 30 <sup>th</sup>	Annually	AB Sustain system

- Develop and implement action plans and / or share best practices as appropriated which illustrate improvement to a level of international standard within agreed timescales supported by evidence held at the supply organisation.
- Co-operate with and support AB Sustain to complete periodic review visits, in loco in the supply operation, as requested by BAT or minimally every three years as predicted in the Programme. During these local reviews on their operations, suppliers are required to present documentation and evidences that can support the STP Assessment.



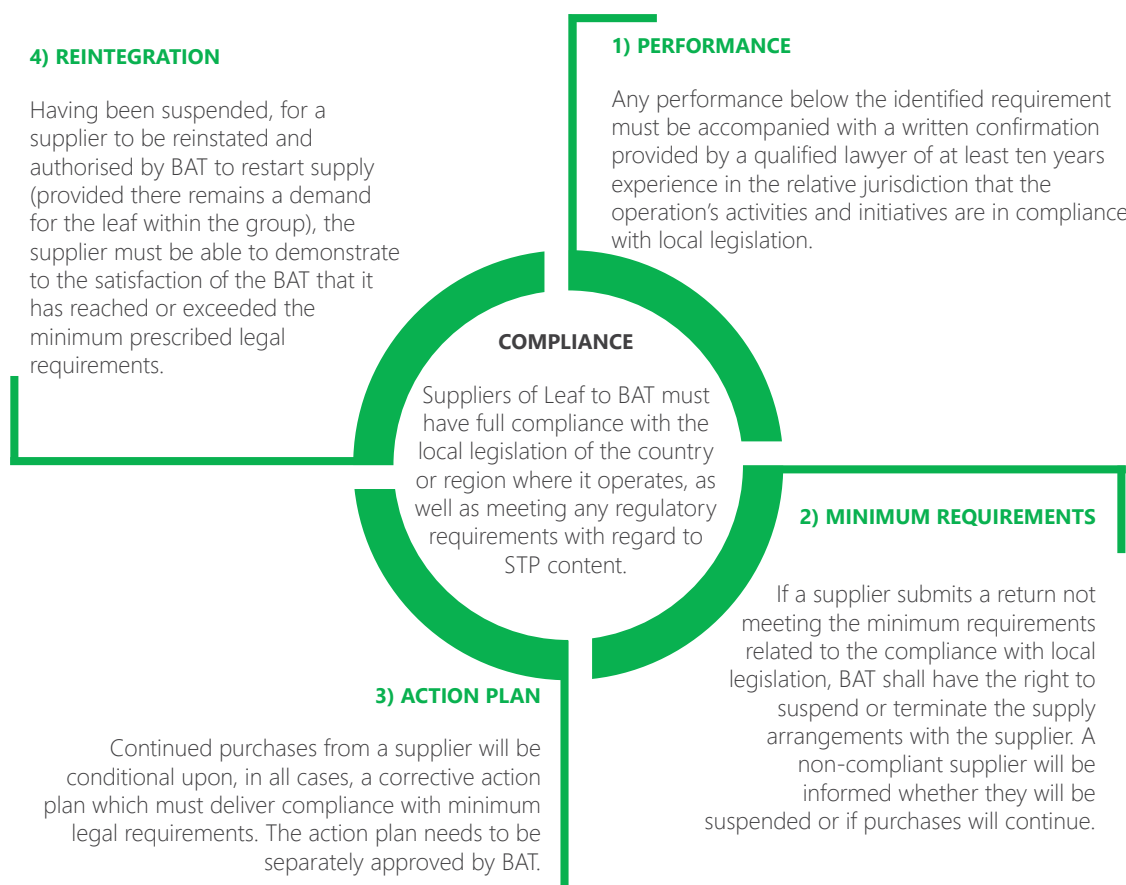
### 3.3 Reviews & Assessments

Different tobacco types will be assessed independently and this will depend on the information supplied by BAT to AB Sustain. For each crop type, AB Sustain will create a separate questionnaire within the on-line system for the supplier to complete.

AB Sustain does an annual planning of the review schedule with the manufacturers. Once this has been agreed, AB Sustain will start to contact those suppliers that are due for a local review.

### 3.4 Compliance with Local Legislation

It is requested that all BAT Leaf Suppliers have full compliance with the local legislation of the country or region where it operates, as well as meeting any regulatory requirements with regard to STP content.





### 3.5 BAT Minimum Requirement

Looking to establish a clear communication of its expectations regarding the compliance of the suppliers with the STP Requirements and to drive continuous improvement on key sustainability indicators, BAT expect that its suppliers minimally achieve some basic requirements on some of the STP Criteria.

BAT consider these requirements as crucial to reach minimum standards of sustainability. They are set because they are the foundation for solid action plans towards continuous improvement and not because the respective scores for each STP Criteria. The Scores are a consequence of solid action plans set for the priorities defined.

Despite some suppliers may require some time to achieve 100% compliance with the Minimum Requirements, it does not mean that priorities targets to achieve that level are set just in the future. It's expected by BAT that some Requirements have formal targets established immediately, if not yet achieved the Minimum Requirement. For those targets who do not achieve the Minimum Requirements immediately, BAT requires to have agreed action plans to achieve them.

Criteria	Target
G11. Traceability	100% of the crop volume can be traceable until a certain group of farmers
C1.3/E1.3/P1.3 Farm Monitoring	100% of farmers must be formally and systematically monitored
C3.1 Yield Targets	Company developed evidence-based optimum yield targets appropriate for the local conditions and communicate to 100% of the farmers regarding the key agronomic Practices to follow to optimize yield
C4.8 Approved CPAs & Toxicity	100% of the Indicators are achieved
C4.10 Manufacturer Maximum CPA Residue Limits	100% of the Indicators are achieved
E2.2 Water Extraction	100% of farmers hold any necessary licenses for water abstraction, where required by law
E4.1 Water Protection Plan	Company has developed a documented Water Protection Plan and communicate to 100% of the applicable farmers the relevant elements of the Plan
E4.3 Soil Protection Plan	Company has developed a documented Soil Protection Plan and communicate to 100% of the applicable farmers the relevant elements of the Plan
E5.5 Recycling or Disposal of Empty CPA Containers	100% of farmers implementing best practices and effectively participate in a collection program
E8.1 Sustainability of Wood Used as a Fuel for Curing	Company has developed a plan to ensure that only sustainable wood is used in tobacco curing and 100% of farmers are using only sustainable wood as fuel for tobacco curing

Criteria	Target
P2 Child Labour on Farms	100% of farmers compliant with ILO Standards, STP Requirements and Local Laws and 100% of the farmers systematically monitored and trained on CL prevention.
P3 Forced Labour	100% of farmers compliant with ILO Standards, STP Requirements and Local Laws
P4.2 Green Tobacco Sickness	100% of farmers trained, communicated on the best practices and supplied with proper PPEs for all workers involved in tobacco harvest
P4.4 Handling and Use of CPAs	100% of farmers trained, communicated on the best practices and supplied with proper PPEs for all workers involved in agrochemical handling and application

### 3.6 Support

For STP on-line system queries:

AB Sustain: [Think.Global@absustain.com](mailto:Think.Global@absustain.com)

If you have any queries relating to STP please contact:

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