

Global Farm Metric 2.0

Full framework

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We would also like to say thank you to all of the team at the Sustainable Food Trust who have worked tirelessly to help deliver this work and the actions needed to achieve our mission.

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GFM 2.0 framework

What is the GFM?

The Global Farm Metric (GFM) is a framework for understanding, measuring and supporting on-farm sustainability.

The framework breaks the key parts of a farming system down into measurable areas to provide a holistic picture across social, economic and environmental dimensions. It starts with high-level **categories** and **outcomes**, then breaks these down into **subcategories** and **properties**. Shared **indicators** are used to measure progress towards the desired outcomes.

The following pages show the full GFM framework, with a description of what is being measured and why it matters.

How can the framework be used?

The GFM can be used directly as a framework for learning, discussion and the evaluation of existing tools, frameworks and approaches. It supports more holistic and outcomes-based thinking by identifying gaps where important parts of the farming system may be overlooked, and by providing a common structure for alignment and improvement.

The GFM can also support the collection and assessment of farm data. Applying the framework in this way requires additional methods, interpretation and assessment tools to translate the framework using context-appropriate metrics, methods and results.

The indicators are measurable signals of progress to help observe complex outcomes. They are not intended to be used as a fixed checklist as this would create a high data burden. To use them in assessments, context-specific metrics, methods and data units are needed.

What's next for the GFM?

The next steps of the GFM are to identify the minimum set of indicators able to monitor the outcomes of the full farming system, as well as those which have the most impact on the wider world.

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Context

Context considers the barriers and enablers that are beyond the control of the farmer and affect the farm’s ability to deliver sustainability outcomes. Context indicators are not specified as they are better developed for each unique use–case of the GFM. The subcategories below highlight key areas to consider in the development of your own contextual indicators.

Subcategory	Description
Geology and topography	The land’s physical characteristics, including soil type, elevation and natural and built features. These characteristics influence aspects like water drainage, erosion and potential uses of the land.
Environment and ecology	The condition of the ecosystems surrounding the farm, including off–farm biodiversity, air pollution and water quality. The health of the environment outside the farm influences on–farm ecosystems and can impact productivity, soil fertility, pest control and water resources.
Climate and weather	The weather patterns, conditions and climate, including temperature, rainfall and wind, as well as the occurrence of irregular and extreme weather events. These aspects affect water availability, crop yields and ecosystem stability and can disrupt and damage farming operations.
Agricultural supplies	Inputs (e.g. fertilisers and seed), materials (e.g. for packaging, construction, protection and maintenance), equipment (e.g. tractors, irrigation, milking machine, plough), infrastructure (e.g. energy, technology and transport networks) and services (e.g. vets, suppliers and advisors). The accessibility, condition and availability of these supplies can impact the adoption of sustainable farming practices, as well as efficiency and productivity.
Society and culture	Local traditions, values, societal structures and the degree of community support that a farm receives. This shapes land use, approaches to sustainability and knowledge and resource sharing.
Regulation, law and policy	Local, national and global legislation, from agricultural subsidy systems to trade laws. These and their underpinning ideology govern land use, environmental protection, labour rights and farming practices.
Economics and finance	Market demand, cost structures and financial allocation. Access to affordable capital and fair pricing can support sustainable production, while market pressures may encourage short–term practices that undermine long–term sustainability.

Governance

Outcome: Farm governance is equitable, inclusive and respects traditional knowledge. Decision–making – whether formal or informal, hierarchical or cooperative – prioritises transparency, fairness and shared responsibility, empowering all stakeholders. Social, economic and environmental risks and conflicts are monitored and resolved meaningfully, with long–term strategic thinking embedded to build resilience for the future of the farm and future generations.

Sub category	Property	Indicator	Description
Roles and responsibilities	Representation and equity in roles	Distribution of all roles and responsibilities, paid and unpaid, disaggregated by social groups*	How work and responsibilities are shared across people, affecting fairness and recognition of contributions.
	Role clarity and organisational structure	Proportion of farm decision–makers and workers with a shared understanding of roles, responsibilities and organisational structure	Clarity over responsibilities and decision–making, reducing confusion, conflict and duplicated effort.
	Distribution of responsibilities	Distribution of responsibilities across individuals, disaggregated by social groups*	Balance of responsibilities can indicate equity of opportunity and avoid stress and over–reliance on individuals.
Decision making processes	Decision accountability	Proportion of decisions for which decision–makers are clearly identified and accountable	Transparency over who makes decisions and is responsible for their outcomes, supporting trust and learning.
	Participation and inclusion in decision making	Proportion of relevant workers, community members and affected stakeholders involved in decision making , disaggregated by social groups*	Extent to which affected people contribute to decisions, improving fairness, trust and relevance.
	Decision transparency	Proportion of key decisions communicated to all relevant people on farm	How effectively important decisions are shared, supporting coordination, transparency and trust.
	Decision making autonomy	Proportion of organisational decisions where farmer intent is overridden by external influences and constraints	Degree to which outside pressures constrain farmers’ ability to shape the farm’s direction.
	Access to conflict resolution	Proportion of people on farm confident in their ability to raise and access conflict resolution processes, disaggregated by social groups*	Whether people feel able to raise concerns safely and access fair resolution processes.
	Responsiveness to risks and conflicts	Proportion of identified risks, conflicts and grievances (from both internal and external stakeholders) with a successfully implemented response or adaptation within an appropriate timeframe	Ability to address problems promptly, reducing harm and strengthening resilience.
Monitoring and planning	System monitoring coverage	Number of distinct parts of the farming system actively monitored	Breadth of monitoring across social, environmental and economic areas, supporting whole–farm understanding and management.
	Knowledge quality and diversity	Proportion of decisions informed by diverse, evidence–based and context–relevant knowledge sources	Extent to which decisions combine experience, local knowledge, advice and evidence to support informed, balanced decisions.
	Planning horizon and stewardship	Length of time horizon used in farm planning and decision making	Extent to which decisions balance immediate needs with long–term resilience, investment and stewardship.

*Social groups = broken down by relevant social groups, such as age, gender, ethnicity, disability, farming background, role type or employment status, where appropriate and safe to collect. This should recognise intersectionality, as people may experience different outcomes depending on more than one aspect of identity or circumstance.

Air and climate

Outcome: Greenhouse gas emissions are minimal and carbon removal is maximised, contributing towards climate change mitigation efforts. Air is of good quality and free of pollutants, supporting the health of people, livestock and the environment.

Sub category	Property	Indicator	Description
Greenhouse gas emissions	Total greenhouse gas emissions	Total farm greenhouse gas emissions, disaggregated by greenhouse gases*	Tracks whether overall emissions are rising or falling, indicating the farm's contribution to climate change.
	Greenhouse gas emissions intensity per product	Greenhouse gas emissions per unit output, disaggregated by greenhouse gases*	Shows the emissions efficiency of production, enabling fair comparisons across outputs, systems or years.
	Greenhouse gas emission sources	Greenhouse gas emissions by source, disaggregated by greenhouse gases*	Identifies the main causes of emissions and where management changes could have greatest impact.
Carbon stocks	Soil carbon storage	Level of carbon stocks in soil	Supports soil health, water retention and nutrient cycling while contributing to long-term carbon storage.
	Biomass carbon storage	Level of carbon stocks in biomass	Vegetation stores carbon, provides habitat and strengthens ecosystem function and farm resilience.
Pollutants	Particulate emissions	Level of particulate matter recorded on farm	Dust and fine particles affect air quality, health and the wellbeing of nearby communities.
	Reactive gas emissions	Level of reactive gases emitted	The amount released from sources like fertilisers, combustion or chemical use can damage ecosystem health through acidification and nutrient deposition.
	Local disturbance	Number of complaints received regarding farm-generated noise, light and odour	Reflects the local impacts of farm activities on ecosystems, wellbeing and community relationships.

*Greenhouse gases = broken down by greenhouse gas type, including carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O).

Soil

Outcome: Soils have healthy structure, fertility and biological function, supporting water storage, nutrient cycling, resilient plant growth and productive agriculture. They are protected from pollution and erosion, contributing to biodiversity, carbon storage, flood regulation, clean water and the long-term production of food, fuel and fibre.

Sub category	Property	Indicator	Description
Structure	Soil aggregate structure	Level of aggregate stability	Soil aggregates support water infiltration, root growth and biological activity, indicating resilient soil structure.
	Soil packing	Level of soil compaction	Compaction limits root growth and restricts the movement of air and water through soil.
	Air and water movement pathways	Presence of visible macropores and biopores	Large pores enable drainage, aeration and root development, supporting healthy soil life.
	Soil water storage capacity	Water retention capacity of soil	Small pores store plant-available water, improving drought resilience and consistent crop growth.
	Soil surface	Condition of soil surface	Surface condition affects water entry, erosion risk and successful seedling establishment.
Chemistry	Soil acidity vs alkalinity	Soil pH	Soil pH controls nutrient availability and can increase the risk of harmful elements becoming toxic.
	Available nutrients	Level of available nutrients	Readily available nutrients determine whether crops can access nutrients for short-term growth.
	Nutrient retention capacity	Cation exchange capacity	Nutrient retention influences fertiliser efficiency and the risk of nutrients being lost from soil.
	Nutrient reserves	Level of soil organic matter	Organic matter provides long-term nutrient supply while supporting structure, water retention and biological activity.
Pollutants	Nutrient surplus	Level of nutrients exceeding safe thresholds in soil	Excess nutrients increase the risk of losses to water and air, wasting inputs and causing pollution.
	Heavy metal and metalloid contamination	Level of heavy metals in soil	Heavy metals can accumulate in soils and affect crops, livestock, soil organisms and human health.
	Synthetic chemical contamination	Level of synthetic chemical residues in soil	Persistent chemicals can damage soil biology and wider ecosystems and may enter food chains.
	Physical contamination	Level of physical contaminants in soil	Foreign materials degrade soil quality and indicate wider pollution issues.
	Biological contamination	Level of pathogens in soil	Harmful microorganisms can threaten crop safety, livestock health and worker wellbeing.

Water

Outcome: Water is sourced sustainably and used efficiently to support productive, resilient farming while protecting local water resources. Water on and around the farm is abundant and free from harmful pollution, supporting biodiversity, healthy aquatic ecosystems and downstream water quality.

Sub category	Property	Indicator	Description
Usage	Water withdrawal	Total amount of water withdrawn or supplied to the farm, disaggregated by water source*	Water withdrawn from different sources affects resource availability, reliability and environmental pressures.
	Water use efficiency	Amount of water used to produce a unit of product, disaggregated by water source*	Water used per unit of output shows how efficiently water supports production.
	Water losses	Amount of water lost from storage, distribution or application systems before reaching its intended productive use	Losses from storage and distribution reduce efficiency and increase pressure on water resources.
Availability	Water supply reliability	Number of days where farm has consistent water supply in regional drought periods	Reliable supplies during drought support production, livestock welfare and business resilience.
Pollutants	Nutrient pollution	Level of nutrients exceeding safe thresholds in water courses	Excess nutrients in water can trigger algal blooms and damage aquatic ecosystems.
	Heavy metal and metalloid contamination	Level of heavy metals in water courses	Heavy metals in water can accumulate and threaten wildlife, livestock and human health.
	Synthetic chemical contamination	Level of synthetic chemical residue in water courses	Chemical residues can contaminate water and harm aquatic ecosystems and food systems.
	Physical contamination	Level of physical contaminants in water courses	Plastics, debris and sediment degrade water quality and damage freshwater habitats.
	Biological contamination	Level of pathogens in water courses	Pathogens in water can affect food safety and pose significant risks to people, livestock and wildlife.

* Water source = broken down by origin of water, such as mains water, abstracted water, rainwater harvesting, collected water or recycled water.

Biodiversity

Outcome: Biodiversity is rich, healthy and resilient across the farm. A diversity of habitats, species and genetics support ecosystem function, productive agriculture and adaptation to environmental change.

Sub category	Property	Indicator	Description
Species composition	Species richness	Number of different species on farm, disaggregated by farm ecosystem component*	The variety of plants, animals and other organisms supports ecological stability and resilience to change.
	Species rarity	Presence of rare or priority species, disaggregated by farm ecosystem component*	Presence of uncommon, protected or declining species, reflecting the conservation value of the farm and the importance of particular habitats.
	Genetic diversity	Number of crop varieties and livestock breeds	Diversity of crop varieties and livestock breeds, improving resilience to pests, disease and changing conditions.
Distribution and abundance	Species abundance	Abundance of indicator species, disaggregated by farm ecosystem component*	Numbers of key plants and animals, showing whether populations are thriving or declining over time.
	Species spatial distribution	Distribution of species and vegetation cover across land-use areas, disaggregated by farm ecosystem component*	The spread of species and vegetation across the farm supports ecosystem function.
Species condition	Wildlife health	Incidence of disease or stress in selected wildlife indicator species	The health of wildlife populations can signal wider pressures such as pollution, disease or habitat degradation.
Eco-system function	Ecosystem roles	Presence of organisms that fill key ecosystem roles	Presence of pollinators, decomposers and natural pest controllers that keep ecosystems functioning.

* Farm ecosystem component = broken down by the main living and ecological parts of the farm system, including wildlife flora and fauna, soil, aquatic areas, crops, pasture and livestock

Land use

Outcome: Land is used and connected in ways that support productive agriculture, healthy habitats and resilient ecosystems. Infrastructure is reliable, efficient and designed to meet current and future needs while minimising resource use and waste.

Sub category	Property	Indicator	Description
Composition	Land use and feature diversity	Number of distinct land use types and features	Variety of land uses and features can spread risk, support production and improve ecosystem resilience.
	Land use area distribution	Proportion of total farm area under each land use type	The balance of land allocated to each land-use type influences production, habitats, carbon storage and environmental pressures.
Configuration	Connectivity of natural features	Arrangement of land use areas and habitats and their level of connectivity	Connected habitats and landscape features allow wildlife, water and ecological processes to function and move across the farm and landscapes.
Condition	Infrastructure condition	Amount of labour downtime cause by poor infrastructure condition	Reliability of buildings, tracks and other infrastructure, affecting efficiency, safety and operating costs.
	Sustainability of infrastructure	Proportion of infrastructure designed according to principles of sustainability and circularity	Extent to which infrastructure conserves resources, reduces waste and supports long-term resilience.

Crops and Pasture

Outcome: Crops and pasture are healthy, productive and resilient, producing consistent yields of safe, nutritious and high-quality products with minimal losses and waste.

Sub category	Property	Indicator	Description
Plant health	Plant pests and disease	Proportion and severity of crop or pasture affected by pests and disease	Extent and severity of damage, indicating crop health and resilience to biological pressures.
	Plant growth	Growth rate, disaggregated by crop and pasture type*	Rate of development, reflecting how well growing conditions support productive plants.
	Root function	Root depth, disaggregated by crop and pasture type*	Development of root systems that improve access to water, nutrients and resilience to stress.
Productivity	Crop and pasture output	Total amount of crop and pasture produced, disaggregated by crop and pasture type*, per unit area	Quantity of forage or crops produced relative to land area, reflecting productive performance in a comparable way.
Loss and waste	Pre-harvest losses	Proportion of yield lost pre-harvest, disaggregated by crop and pasture type*	Share of potential production lost before harvest through factors like weather, pests, disease or management for example.
	Post-harvest losses	Proportion of product lost post-harvest, disaggregated by crop and pasture type*	Share of harvested production lost during handling, storage or processing.
Product quality	Food safety	Level of contaminants in products, disaggregated by contaminant type**	Presence of harmful substances that affect food safety and market suitability.
	Nutritional quality	Nutritional density of products, disaggregated by product* and nutrient*** type	Concentration of beneficial nutrients contributing to food quality and public health.
	Physical quality	Proportion of products with visual defects, disaggregated by product type*	Share of production meeting visual standards for sale, influencing marketability, price and the risk of waste.

*Crop and pasture type = broken down by the type of crop, pasture or forage being assessed, where relevant.

**Contaminant type = Product contaminant indicators should be broken down by contaminant type, including biological contaminants, synthetic chemical residues, heavy metals and physical contaminants.

***Nutrient type = relevant macro and micro nutrients within a food or feed product (including fatty acids, proteins, vitamins and minerals), as well as levels of phytochemicals (like carotenoids and polyphenols).

Livestock

Outcome: Farmed and working animals are healthy, resilient, have high welfare and able to express natural behaviours. There is consistent production of safe, nutritious and high-quality products with minimal loss and waste.

Sub category	Property	Indicator	Description
Health	Livestock disease	Rate and severity of livestock disease, disaggregated by livestock type*	Extent and seriousness of disease affecting different livestock groups affects welfare, productivity and resilience.
	Livestock injury	Rate and severity of livestock injury, disaggregated by livestock type*	Frequency and severity of injuries across different livestock groups can reveal problems with housing, handling or management.
	Physiological condition	Body condition, disaggregated by livestock type*	Overall physical condition according to amount of fat and muscle. Indicates nutrition, health and productive performance.
Mortality	Livestock mortality	Unplanned mortality rate, disaggregated by livestock type*	Proportion of animals dying unexpectedly before their planned productive lifespan.
Wellbeing	Behavioural expression	Proportion of time showing natural behaviours, disaggregated by livestock type*	Extent to which animals can express species-specific behaviours in their environment.
	Stress levels	Proportion of time showing stress behaviours, disaggregated by livestock type*	Frequency of behaviours associated with fear, discomfort or poor welfare.
	Resting behaviour	Proportion of time spent resting, disaggregated by livestock type*	Time available for rest and recovery to support health and normal behaviour.
Productivity	Livestock output	Total amount of livestock product produced, disaggregated by livestock product type*, per unit area	Quantity of livestock products produced relative to the land used. Provides food and helps interpret resource use and efficiency.
Loss and waste	Livestock on-farm product loss	Proportion of livestock product lost before sale or use, disaggregated by livestock product type**	Share of animal products lost before they can be sold or used. Avoidable losses reduce profitability and indicate inefficiencies after production.
Product quality	Food safety	Level of contaminants in livestock products, disaggregated by contaminant type***	Presence of harmful substances affecting product safety and market suitability.
	Nutritional quality	Nutritional density of livestock products, disaggregated by livestock product** and nutrient**** type	Concentration of beneficial nutrients contributing to food quality and human health.
	Physical quality	Proportion of livestock products with visual defects, disaggregated by livestock product type**	Share of products meeting physical quality standards for sale and use.

* Livestock type = broken down by the type of crop, pasture or forage being assessed, where relevant.
 **Livestock product type = broken down by type of livestock product produced, such as honey, milk, eggs, leather
 ***Contaminant type = Product contaminant indicators should be broken down by contaminant type, including biological contaminants, synthetic chemical residues, heavy metals and physical contaminants.
 ****Nutrient type = relevant macro and micro nutrients within a food or feed product (including fatty acids, proteins, vitamins and minerals), as well as levels of phytochemicals (like carotenoids and phenolic compounds).

Farmers and workers

Outcome: Farmers and workers are healthy, safe and treated fairly, with good wellbeing, rewarding work and opportunities to learn, contribute and develop. They are valued, fairly rewarded and supported to thrive as part of a resilient farm system.

Sub category	Property	Indicator	Description
Health	Worker safety	Rate and severity of farm work-related injuries, disaggregated by social groups*	Frequency and seriousness of work-related injuries, affecting safety and productivity.
	Worker physical illness	Rate and severity of work-related physical illness, disaggregated by social groups*	Frequency and seriousness of work-related illness, affecting health and quality of life.
Wellbeing	Mental wellbeing	Rate and severity of farm-related negative mental wellbeing, disaggregated by social groups*	Extent of poor mental wellbeing, influencing resilience, relationships and decision making.
	Social support	Proportion of people on the farm experiencing supportive working relationships, disaggregated by social groups*	Amount of people experiencing supportive working relationships strengthen wellbeing and teamwork.
Working conditions	Recognition and voice	Proportion of people on the farm who feel valued, heard and recognised within the organisation, disaggregated by social groups*	Extent to which people feel respected, listened to and able to contribute.
	Work role satisfaction	Level of satisfaction with farm role, disaggregated by social groups*	Satisfaction with day-to-day work, influences motivation and long-term commitment.
	Worker enablement	Proportion of people on the farm with the capacity, resources, training and support needed to perform effectively, disaggregated by social groups*	Access to the tools, knowledge and support needed to work effectively.
	Worker capability development	Proportion of workers acquiring new knowledge and skills over a defined period, disaggregated by social groups*	Development of new skills and knowledge, supporting confidence and adaptability
	Application of knowledge	Proportion of farmers and workers applying or sharing knowledge and skills in practice	Use and sharing of learning to improve farming practices and performance.
	Purpose alignment	Proportion of people on the farm with high level of alignment with organisational purpose and values	Shared understanding of the farm's purpose and values, encouraging motivation and belonging.
	Remuneration	Level of remuneration relative to a living wage, including monetary and non-monetary benefits, disaggregated by social groups*	Fair financial and non-financial rewards that support wellbeing and retention.
	Employment stability	Rate of worker retention on the farm, adjusted for seasonality, disaggregated by social groups*	Continuity of employment, helping retain skills, experience and trust.
	Autonomy and belonging	Proportion of people on farm experiencing a sense of belonging, disaggregated by social groups*	Feeling included, respected and able to contribute with confidence.

* Social groups = broken down by relevant social groups, such as age, gender, ethnicity, disability, farming background, role type or employment status, where appropriate and safe to collect. This should recognise intersectionality, as people may experience different outcomes depending on more than one aspect of identity or circumstance.

Community

Outcome: Farms build strong, mutually beneficial relationships for resilient, thriving communities. Fair employment, knowledge exchange, cultural stewardship, resource sharing and production supports local needs and economies.

Sub category	Property	Indicator	Description
Employment	Employment opportunities	Number of full time equivalent workers per unit area, both paid and unpaid, disaggregated by social groups*	Employment created by the farm, supporting local livelihoods and rural economies.
	Equality of opportunities	Diversity of the farm workforce relative to the local population, disaggregated by social groups*	Representation of different groups within the workforce, promoting fair access to opportunities.
Knowledge and skills exchange	Farm knowledge sharing to community	Number of knowledge-sharing activities delivered by the farm, disaggregated by activity type**	Knowledge and skills shared with others, supporting learning and collaboration.
	Community participation in knowledge sharing	Number of people from the community participating in knowledge sharing activities, disaggregated by social groups*	Community engagement in learning opportunities, reflecting accessibility and relevance.
	Knowledge gained by the community	Proportion of community members reporting increased knowledge or skills, disaggregated by social groups*	Learning and skills gained through participation, strengthening community capacity.
	Farm participation in community knowledge sharing	Number of external knowledge-sharing activities participated in by the farm, disaggregated by activity type**	Engagement with external learning networks, encouraging innovation and adaptation.
Cultural assets and activities	Preservation of cultural assets and activities	Proportion of cultural assets and activities preserved by the farm (if present)	Protection of local traditions, heritage and culturally important features.
	Engagement with cultural assets and activities	Number of people engaging with cultural assets and activities, disaggregated by social groups*	Community participation in cultural activities that strengthen identity and connection.
Resource sharing	Farm resources shared with the community	Proportion of available farm resources shared with the community, disaggregated by resource type***	Farm facilities, equipment or services made available for wider community benefit.
	Equity of access to shared resources	Perceived fairness of access to shared resources	Fairness of access to shared resources, supporting trust and inclusion.
	Community resources used by the farm	Proportion of available community resources used by farm, disaggregated by resource type***	Use of local facilities, services or assets that encourage cooperation and efficiency.
	Farm benefit from resource sharing	Farmer-reported benefits from sharing resources	Value gained by the farm through collaborative use of resources.
Place-based farming production	Community benefit from resource sharing	Perceived benefits to others from access to farm resources	Value created for the wider community through shared resources and collaboration.
	Contribution to local markets	Proportion of output supplied to local markets	Share of production sold locally, supporting local food systems and economies.
	Use of locally adapted breeds and varieties	Proportion of production made up of local or heritage breeds and varieties	Use of locally adapted genetics that support resilience, biodiversity and cultural heritage.
	Alignment with local demand	Extent to which farm production reflects local market demand and needs	Match between farm production and local food needs, strengthening community resilience.
	Alignment with local demand	Local value addition and processing	Share of production processed locally, retaining value, jobs and infrastructure within the region.

*Social groups = broken down by relevant social groups, such as age, gender, ethnicity, disability, farming background, role type or employment status, where appropriate and safe to collect. This should recognise intersectionality, as people may experience different outcomes depending on more than one aspect of identity or circumstance.

** Activity type = Community knowledge exchange indicators should be broken down by type of activity, such as farm walks, workshops, training sessions, school visits, demonstrations, peer learning or public events.

*** Resource type = Community resource sharing indicators should be broken down by the type of resource shared, such as land, buildings, machinery, equipment, labour, storage space, processing facilities or services.

Agricultural supplies

Outcome: Agricultural supplies, including agricultural inputs, materials and equipment, are sustainably sourced and used efficiently. Inputs pose no risk and cause no harm to environmental, animal or human health. Equipment is well maintained for long-term use, with waste repurposed within a circular system.

Sub category	Property	Indicator	Description
Sourcing and characteristics	Reliance on external services	Proportion of activities supported by external services, disaggregated by service type*	Extent to which specialist services support farm activities, influencing expertise, costs and dependency.
	Total input use	Total quantity of inputs used, disaggregated by input type**	Quantity of purchased resources used to support production, influencing costs and environmental impacts
	Upstream impact of inputs	Proportion of current inputs from renewable, sustainable or lower-impact sources, disaggregated by input type**	Sustainability of purchased inputs, influencing upstream environmental and social impacts.
	Input hazard profile	Proportion of inputs classified as hazardous, disaggregated by input type**	Hazardous inputs pose risks to people, ecosystems and animal health.
	Local sourcing of inputs	Average distance travelled by inputs, disaggregated by input type**	Distance inputs travel to the farm, influencing transport impacts and supply chain resilience
Usage and dependency	Input use efficiency	Total inputs per unit output, disaggregated by input type**	Quantity of inputs needed to produce output, influencing efficiency, costs and waste.
	Input use intensity	Total inputs used per unit land area, disaggregated by input type**	Quantity of inputs applied across the farm, influencing pressure on land and ecosystems.
Lifespan and maintenance	Lifespan of equipment and materials	Average lifespan, disaggregated by equipment and material type***	Length of time equipment and materials remain in productive use before replacement.
Waste and circularity	Waste generation	Total waste exported off the farm, disaggregated by material type*** and destination	Materials leaving the farm system, influencing resource efficiency, costs and environmental impacts.
	Material circularity	Proportion of materials and outputs reused or recycled	Extent to which resources remain in productive use through reuse and recycling.

* Service type = External service indicators should be broken down by service type, such as veterinary services, agronomy advice, contracting, transport, accounting, certification, consultancy, maintenance or technical support.

** Input type = Input indicators should be broken down by input type, such as fertiliser, feed, seed, bedding, medicines, pesticides, fuel, energy, packaging, water or other.

*** Equipment and material type = Lifespan, waste and circularity indicators can be broken down by material or equipment type, such as machinery, tools, irrigation equipment, fencing, plastic, packaging, building materials, tyres, pipes or protective equipment.

Economics

Outcome: Farms are economically viable, generating sufficient returns to support productive, resilient businesses. They are financially secure, able to withstand change, invest in continual improvement and build strong market relationships that create long-term value.

Sub category	Property	Indicator	Description
Financial performance	Financial profitability	Net profit	Financial return after costs, supporting long-term business viability.
	Sales and exports	Proportion of output produced that is sold or leaves the farm	Share of production generating value through markets, supply chains or other uses.
	Cost efficiency	Cost of production per unit output	Cost of producing each unit of output, influencing profitability and competitiveness.
	Value realisation	Perceived fairness of price received for product	Extent to which prices received reflect the value of farm products.
Financial resilience	Income stability	Level of variability in farm income (revenue) across and within years	Consistency of earnings over time, supporting resilience and business planning.
	Financial buffer capacity	Months of current operating costs covered by financial reserves	Financial reserves available to manage disruption and unexpected costs.
	Short-term solvency	Ability to cover short-term liabilities	Capacity to meet short-term financial obligations and maintain operations.
	Market channel diversity	Number of market channels	Diversity of sales routes, reducing dependence on individual buyers or markets.
	Income security	Proportion of output pre-agreed under contract	Proportion of future sales secured through contracts or agreements.
	Income diversification	Proportion of income from each enterprise	Distribution of income across different enterprises, reducing financial risk.
Financial independence	Financial autonomy	Proportion of costs covered independently, without subsidy or external support	Extent to which farm income covers costs without reliance on external support.
Investment and adaptive capacity	Reinvestment capacity	Proportion of income reinvested, disaggregated by investment type*	Income reinvested into maintenance, improvement, adaptation and future growth.
	Access to capital	Ability to access capital when needed	Availability of finance for investment, innovation and responding to opportunities.
	Return on investment	Proportion of major investments that achieve their intended outcomes (financial or non-financial)	Success of investments in delivering expected financial or wider benefits.

* Investment type = Key areas where resources can be re-invested can be broken down into categories like maintenance, growth, sustainability, skills or infrastructure.

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