
Results of the Pre-consultation survey

Phased Implementation of Bonsucro Indicators

For most producers, meeting the requirements of certification means the implementation of considerable change. In most cases, this can only be completed over a period of several years of concerted effort, all of which needs to be focused and carefully directed to specific issues.

Q – Should the Standard Revision Look at breaking down indicators into separate elements to facilitate phased implementation? (Y/N) For example, producers have 2, 3, 5 years to become compliant on certain indicators. Including the most critical.

	Percentage
Yes	62%
No	15%
Maybe	24%

Clear Theme: Critical indicators have to be applied at initial certification (Law and social) . If there is to be phased implementation, it should be clear which indicators an operator is complying with at any given stage (publically). This approach can increase the uptake of certification, however, it can weaken the standard.

Application of critical indicators in the whole supply area of a certificate holder?

The requirements of the Bonsucro Production Standard only applies to the area the certificate holder defines as the unit of certification. Usually, this involves only a part of a producers supply base, for example only its own land or a selected number of external cane providers.

Significant risks can still be present in the whole area of production, which the Standard has no influence over.

Q – Should the Standard Revision look to apply critical indicators in the whole supply area of a certificate holder? (Y/N)

	Percentage
Yes	51%
No	31%
Maybe	18%

Clear Theme: There would be a clear benefit to this, however, will be very difficult to implement, especially with independent farmers that supply to a mill. There are some indicators in which this could work: Law compliance, deforestation, banned agro-chemicals, forced & child labour, etc.

Incorporating improvement as a requirement

Bonsucro currently set minimum criteria to be met. Another option would be, operators commit to measurable improvements and they would be evaluated on these.

For example, I commit to lowering my GHG emissions from the processing of cane by x% a year. (That is what I will have to demonstrate).

Q – Should the Standard Revision look at incorporating improvement as a requirement. (Y/N)

	Percentage
Yes	63%
No	24%
Maybe	13%

Clear Theme: There was some confusion how this indicator would work. In some instances there are limits to how much can be improved, especially in the agriculture side. This could benefit continuous improvement and demonstration of impact, which is the basis of our Theory of Change.

Applying risk-based application of indicators

It is known that different producing regions face different issues and risks. It is also recognised that not all issues can be addressed at the same time and producers might need to prioritise their investment. Finally not all critical and non-critical indicators present in the standard are relevant to all producers worldwide. Risk assessment could help to prioritise the implementation of and compliance with the standard

Q – Should the Standard Revision look to incorporate risk-based application of Standards? (Y/N)

	Percentage
Yes	78%
No	5%
Maybe	16%

Clear Theme: Risk Based application of standards is important, yet national interpretations are preferred. Questions on how the risk analysis will be done, checked and the ability of the operators to do them correctly.

Align Standard with Established Guidelines

Internationally, due diligence assessments are increasingly required by local legislation and by financing institutions. These assessments are framed by a number of international guidelines. As a tool for sustainability improvement and risk mitigation, Bonsucro seeks to increase its alignment with a number of international guidelines.

Q - Should the Standard Revision be aligned with established guidelines

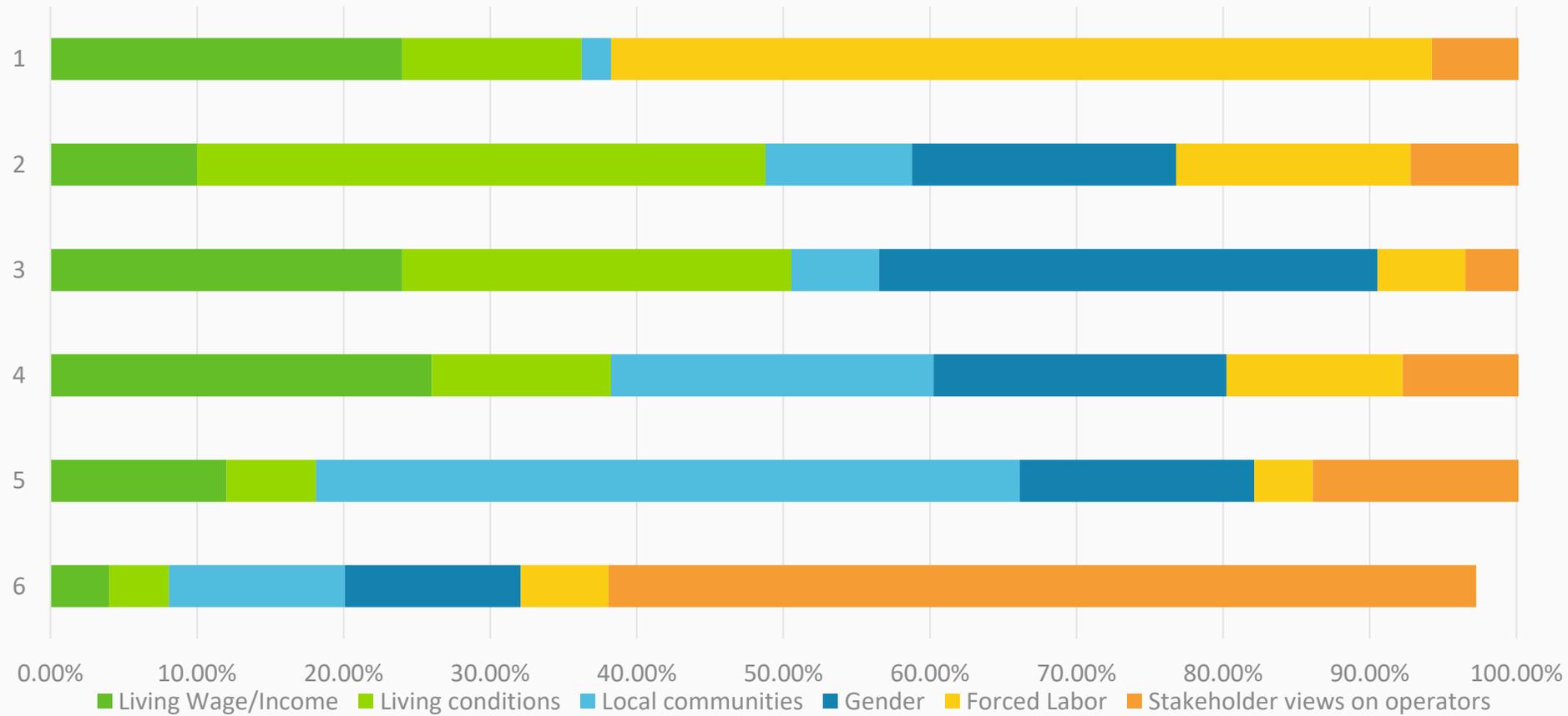
	Percentage
Yes	76%
No	7%
Maybe	16%

Clear Theme: Important to make sure there is alignment between the guidelines, local legislation and the requirements of the main buyers.

Repeat each points

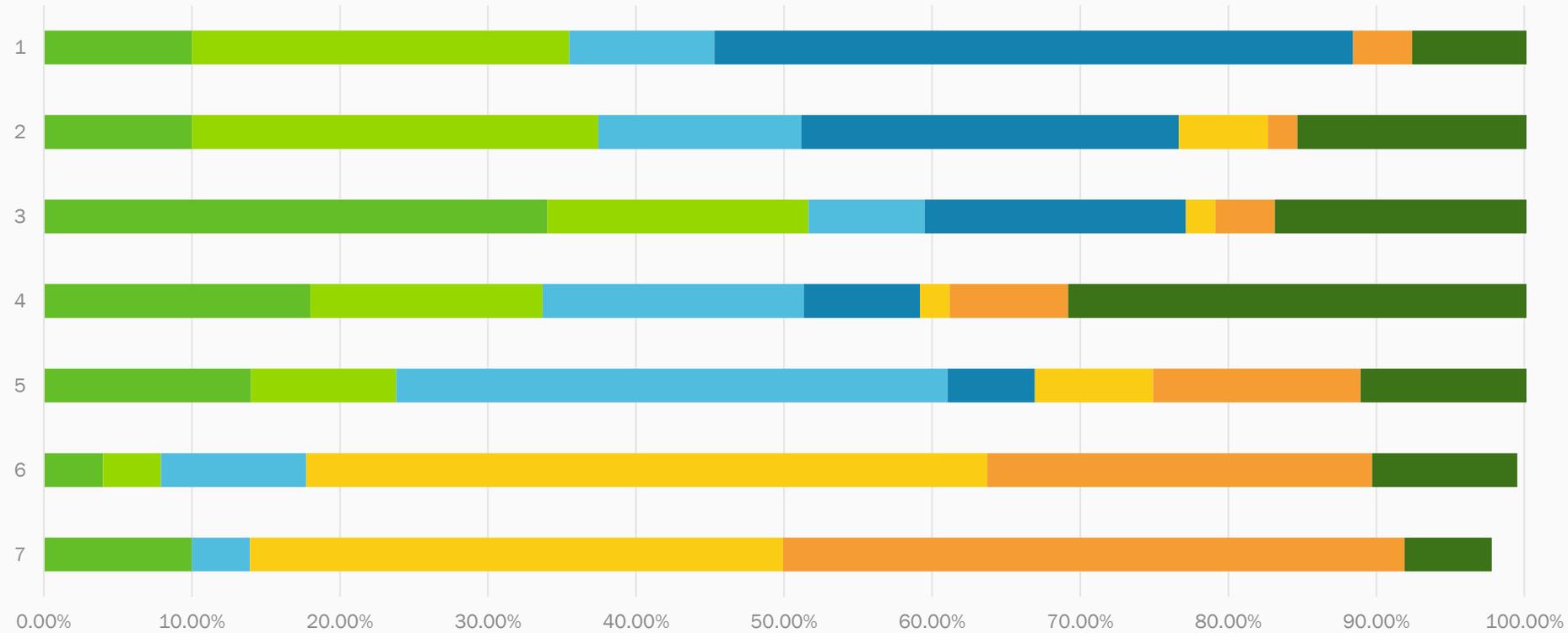
- Phased Implementation of Bonsucro Indicators
- Application of critical indicators in the whole supply area of a certificate holder?
- Incorporating improvement as a requirement
- Applying risk-based application of indicators
- Align Standard with Established Guidelines

Social Priorities



- Highest priorities:
1. Forced Labour
 2. Living Conditions
 3. Living Wage

Environmental Priorities



- Highest priorities:
1. Water
 2. 0 deforestation
 3. Climate resilience



Principle	Indicator	Change in content	Change in metric objective
1 – Obey the Law	National law	X	
2 – Social sustainability	Accident frequency	X	X
	% staff trained in Health and Safety	X	
	Working hours lost	X	
	Maximum hours of work	X	
3 – Efficiency of operations	Yield of production	X	
	Net GHG emissions for cane production		X
4 – environmental sustainability	Environmental Plan	X	X
	Ratio of N and P fertilizer	X	X
	Agrochemical applied by hectare	X	X
5 – Continuous improvement	Vocational training		X
	% ground cover with top and leaves after harvest	X	X
	% area mechanically tilled	X	X
	% field with acceptable pH value	X	X
	Investment in research and extension	X	X
	% project involving stakeholders	X	X

Direction from the TAB

- The TAB instructed the WG to look more specifically at the top 3 choices for social priorities, particularly forced labour and living wage.
- The TAB instructed the WG to look more specifically at the top 3 choices for Environmental, particularly water and climate resilience
- No phased implementation to Core indicators
 - If phased implementation is employed for non-core indicators, it must be time bound and clarity over which indicators are currently being met.
- The TAB instructed the WG to investigate the application of the Bonsucro Standard outside of the unit of certification
- The WG should explore feasible ways to implement a risk-based system into the Standard
- No decision reached on adding improvement to the Standard.