

What is Happening in the World of GFSI?

Food Safety Summit – May 2023



Overview



- ▶ GFSI Coalition of Action
- ▶ What we are doing
- ▶ Why this work matters and how GFSI fits into the larger global picture

Current GFSI Coalition of Action 45



Our Strategic Objectives

To achieve the GFSI vision of “safe food for people everywhere”, we focus on three strategic objectives:



Benchmarking & Harmonisation



Capability Building



Public-private Collaboration

GFSI Race to the Top



Feature 1

- Auditor Training and Professional Development(ATPD)

Feature 2

- CPOs oversight

Feature 3 & 4

- GFSI Certificate Platform
- GFSI new capability building framework

Benchmarking and Harmonization

Capability Building

Public Private Partnerships

Strategic Objective #1

Benchmarking and Harmonization

Feature 1: Auditor Training and Professional Development (ATDP)

Race to The Top



Feature 1 ATPD

To facilitate entry into the profession of auditing by eliminating redundant verifications, and focusing the qualification of auditors on competence verification

Race to The Top



Feature 1 ATPD- project challenges

- ▶ Co-Chairs of the Working group identified significant issues with the project;
- ▶ No business plan, no comms plan, working group being disrupted by CPO members, disconnect in narrative from GFSI on it being a pilot when BMLs for PRBs looked fixed, not enough industry representation, only 1 potential PRB involved, no CBs engaged and agitating IAF against the model, no auditors engaged
- ▶ In addition, we had left CCAA behind and not engaged with them
- ▶ The professional development framework for auditors developed in Phase 1 of the work had not been presented to the group

Race to The Top



Feature 1 What is a PDF for food safety auditors?

A Professional Development Framework recognises the value of supporting individuals to think about their current knowledge and experience (reflection on experience) in addition to developing their capacity to shape and plan their future learning (reflection to improve action).

Feature 2: CPOs oversight

Feature 2 - update



1. This Feature's aim is to review the GFSI oversight activities of CPOs to give more accountability to CPOs on self reporting and drive continuous improvement.
2.
A complete review of GFSI activities to oversee efficacy and integrity of CPO performance with a view to understanding areas of improvement.
3.
Review to be conducted in Q1 2023, Publication to be released in 2023 at the conference

GFSI has asked PwC / Strategy& to perform an independent review of its ongoing integrity program, and recommend a way forward



Assessment focus

RTTT #2

Delivering a process of on-going assessment and continuous alignment to the GFSI requirements for CPOs



Research Question

What can GFSI do better to improve the quality of CPO oversight linked to audit outcomes?

Strategic Objective #2

Capability Building

Feature 3: New capability building
framework and online certificate platform

GFSI strategic priority on capability building

In 2020, the steering co established a new strategic priority on capability building for GFSI:

Enabling improvements in the FSMS of non GFSI certified FBOs such that they are able to achieve GFSI certification and /or regulatory compliance resulting in safer food for consumers everywhere

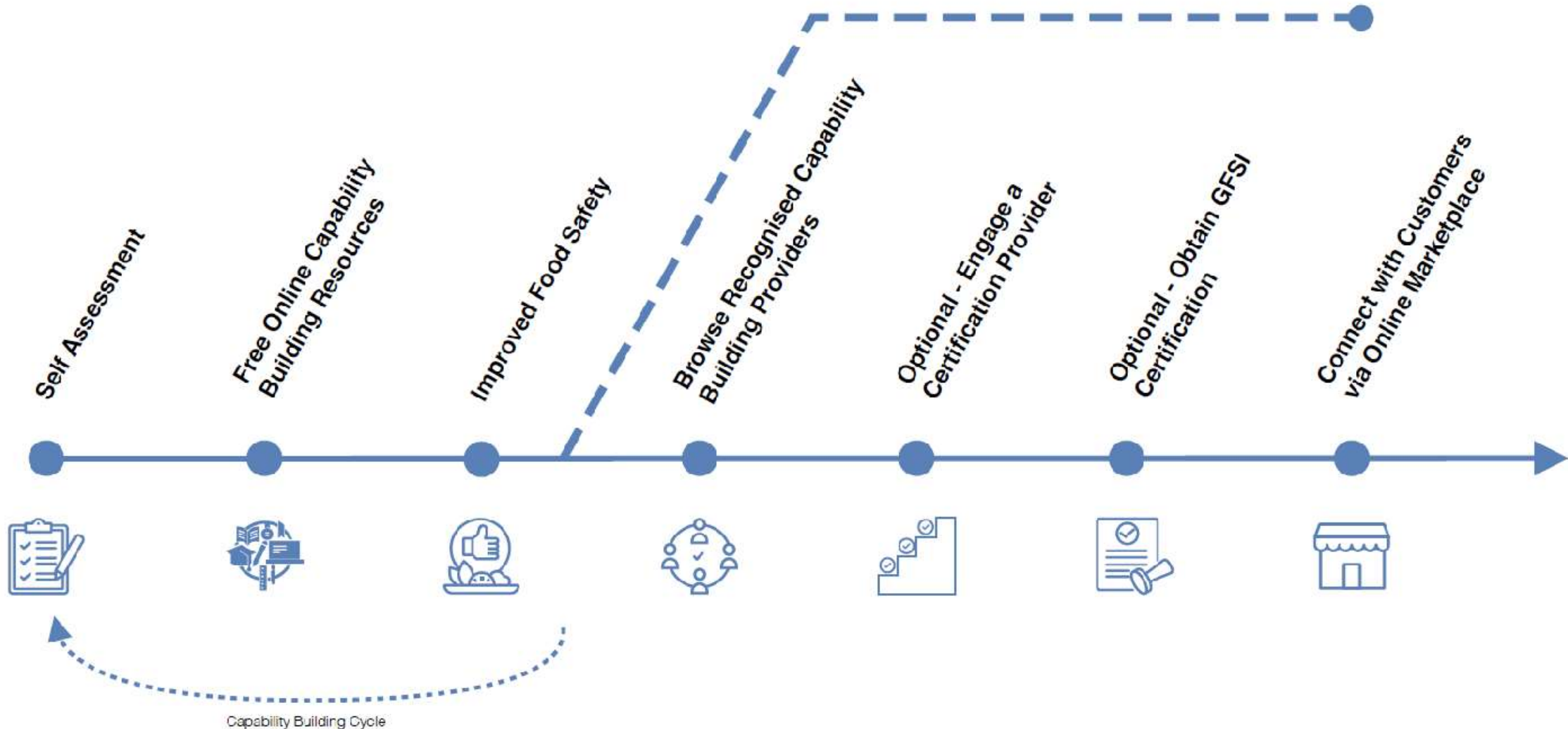
GFSI problem statement on the capability building programme (Global Markets Programme)

- ▶ The content and the use of the current capability building programme is not serving the intended users (FBOs) and is slowing GFSI mission of safe food for people everywhere
- ▶ Our current approach:
 - ▶ Relies on a single tool
 - ▶ Lacks governance & therefore is not under control
 - ▶ Is vulnerable to misuse and exploitation of intended beneficiaries
 - ▶ Puts GFSI and CGF brand, and therefore our mission, at risk
 - ▶ Does not enable us to measure the impact of the programme

New capability building framework system map



New capability building framework journey map



Activator workstreams



SMEs

Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) who must for financial/commercial/compliance reasons fulfill obligations that are linked to strengthening their capabilities and organizations in the space of Food Safety,

Capability-Building Providers

Certification bodies, certification programme owners, aid agencies providing training and capability building programmes, food safety consulting firms, academia, trainers, governmental food safety dedicated agencies, buyers.

Buyers

Procurement organizations like retailers, manufacturers, governmental agencies sourcing products, foundations and IGOs sourcing food, governments sourcing; food business operators producing foods via specific criteria for their capability building programmes or their own jurisdictional needs.

Regulations, Policy and Investments

Governmental aid and FS agencies, private foundations, development banks, IGOs investing in FS capability building programmes

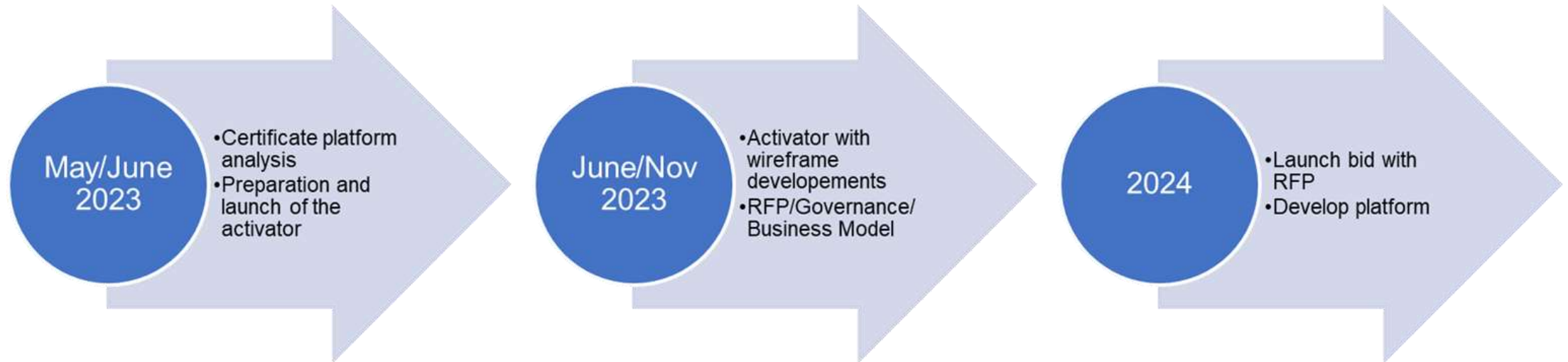
Curated repository of FS resources

A workstream composed of academics, buyers, CBSPs, suppliers to develop guidelines and a structure to curate and organize a global food safety repository of training and educational resources

Online Certificate Registry

A workstream composed of a mix of all stakeholder groups focused on developing an easily searchable, cross-referenced online repository (database) of FS certificates by GFSI Recognized programmes.

Timeline



Race to The Top



GFSI new digital strategy is to develop on online capability building framework with an online certificate repository

To develop a live, online repository of all certificates issued against GFSI-recognised Certification Programmes merged with the capability building framework in one digital stop shop

Strategic Objective #3

Public Private Partnerships



PPPs subco mandate



- ❖ To continuously build and improve the credibility of third-party certification through GFSI's PPP outreach initiative.
- ❖ To provide guidance and facilitate relationships with Intergovernmental Organisations (IGOs), regional governmental organisations and national food safety authorities.
- ❖ To provide guidance for Government-to-Business (G2B) related activities.
- ❖ To support the consensus building and advocacy work of the GFSI Codex Working Group as and when required.
- ❖ To provide expertise and advice on PPP and regulatory affairs related issues.
- ❖ To oversee the activities of the G2B Organising Group and the GFSI Codex Committee Group and their Business Plans in support of the Steering Committee.
- ❖ To monitor the agreed timelines and deliverables of the PPP Sub Committee's work.
- ❖ To update the GFSI Steering Committee at 6-monthly intervals regarding key developments within the PPP Sub Committee.

GFSI Public-private partnership strategic outcome

“Food safety regulators trust that GFSI certification can be used for risk-based resource allocation”

- Building trust with regulators and public stakeholders so that they use GFSI as a good regulatory practice with a progressive approach based on the efficacy of regulatory outcome driven systems with more flexible, market-oriented regulatory mechanisms.
- Engage regulators on a recognition mechanism where if they recognize GFSI in their national food control systems when planning their inspections and establishing the risk profile of the FBOs in their jurisdiction, if a site is GFSI certified, they adapt the burdensome of inspections by reducing the frequency or the severity of the inspection.

WHO endorsement of vTPA as a good regulatory practice - Oct 2022

“Competent authorities should aim at rewarding FBOs that fully comply with regulatory requirement via those CPOs with, for instance, reducing the frequency of inspection for fully compliant food business FBOs which will encourage investment in food safety management systems and reduce the overall cost of compliance”

WHO global strategy for food safety 2022-2030: towards stronger food safety systems and global cooperation, October 2022

GFSI tool box on PPPs

G2B

- The GFSI platform to prioritize topics, exchanges practices and build projects with Reg.
- Main tool to engage regulators on the GFSI agenda

GFSI CODEX Committee

- Bring the industry science based approach on FSMS to CODEX
- Is the main channel to make GFSI a credible, recognized key player for the regulators
- Feed GFSI on how to update the BR and propose new topics to CODEX that arise from GFSI members

Local Groups

- At the forefront of monitoring local challenges and trends
- Interact with regulators to make GFSI know and understood
- Propose public private partnerships to GFSI SC to work with regulators

GFSI Progression on PPPs



G2B Forum creation and engagement with CODEX

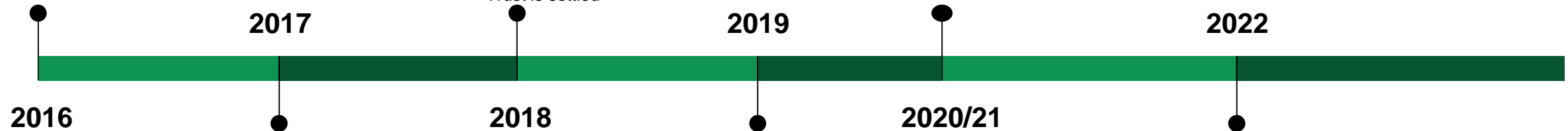
- Creation of the G2B forum (12 gvts)
- Creation of a CODEX Strategy

Engagement with national reg. & world bank (IFC) - breakthrough G2B

- MOU with Argentina
- MOU with World Bank
- Engagement with EU reg
- 32 jurisdictions in the G2B Europe, America, Asia - 120 participants
- FAO, CODEX, WTO, World Bank, African Union Commission, European Commission
- Trust is settled

UN engagement in the G2B and vTPA recognized by CODEX

- Engagement with WFP, WHO, FAO
- G2B: 30 jurisdictions, 120 participants
- A core group of 7 regulators are engaged and familiar with GFSI all over the world
- vTPA are official guidelines approved by CODEX
- 1st virtual G2B: 436 participants and 48 jurisdictions from all continents
- UK FSA and Netherlands use vTPA



G2B is institutionalized & GFSI engagement with CODEX is recognized

- Local groups are engaged on G2B
- Creation of the GFSI CODEX committee
- Creation of a CODEX work on vTPA at CCFICS
- First GFSI presentation to a CODEX Working Group
- MOU with Mexican gvt
- 27 jurisdictions, Europe, America mainly and CODEX with G2B

G2B new format with workshops: from trust to action

- MOU with Chile food safety agency
- G2B divided into working groups
- Data sharing and capability building are the focus
- 29 jurisdictions, 125 participants - 10 countries from Africa - with EU, North Am.

Engaging the public stakeholders on GFSI RTTT

Preparing the online certificate platform project with a working group of regulators and engaging public stakeholders on the capability bundling framework

**Why this
work
matters**

How GFSI Fits into the Larger Global Community

What are the SDGs?



The Sustainable Development Goals are a collection of 17 interlinked global goals designed to be a "blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all".

The SDGs were set up in 2015 by the United Nations General Assembly and are intended to be achieved by the year 2030.

Background



Call to action – Everyone has a role to play –



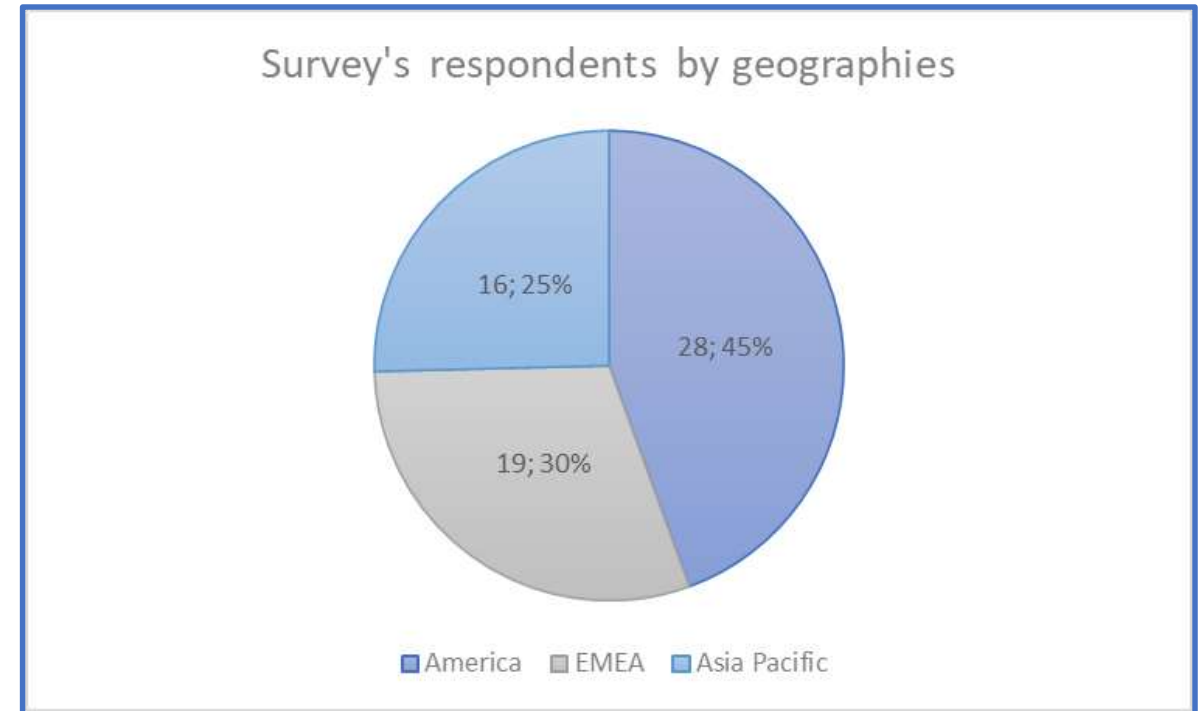
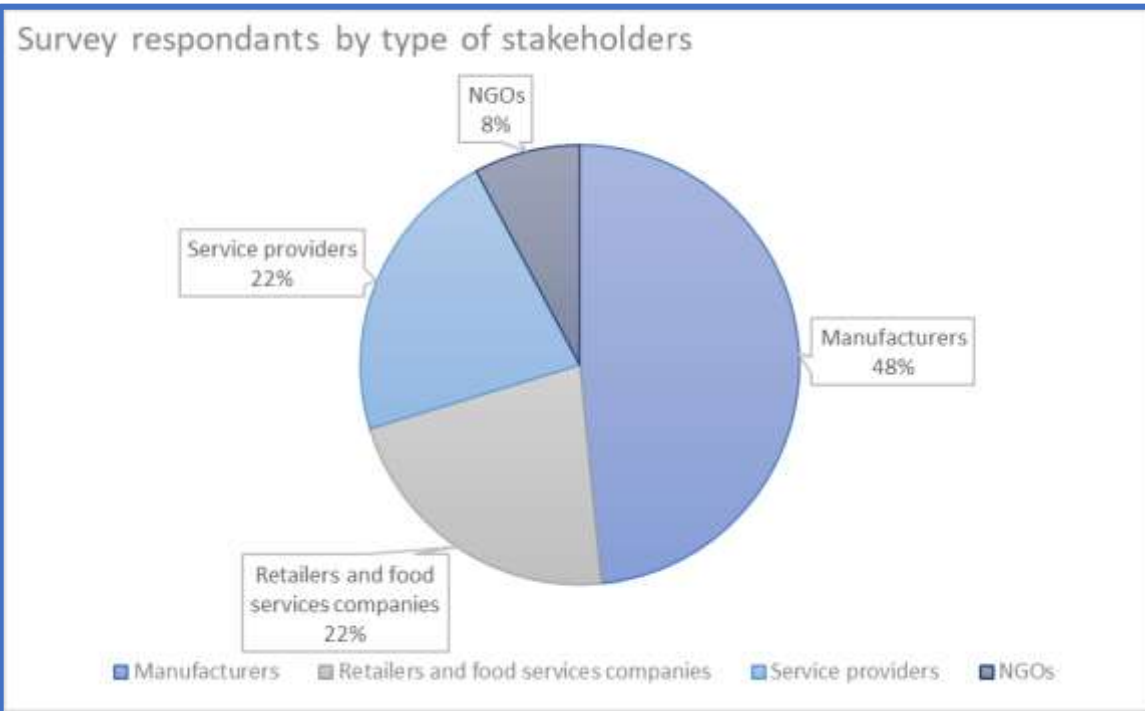
In 2022, for World Food Safety Day, on June 7th, GFSI gave the outcomes of a survey on the link between some SDGs identified by GFSI and how GFSI could move forward this agenda

GFSI SDGs identified



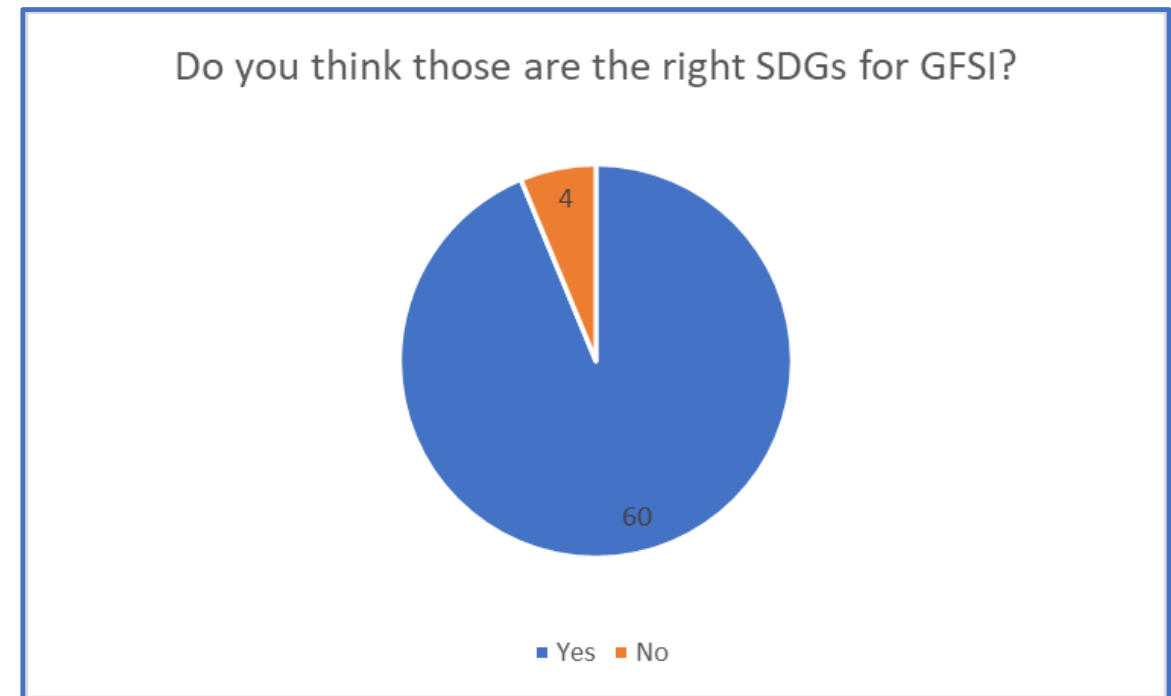
United Nations Sustainable Development Goals	Area covered	Impact on Food Safety
Goal 1 No poverty Goal 2 Zero hunger	Food security and end of poverty	Food security and end of poverty can not be achieved without safer food which will be achieved by strenghtening capacities through FSMS of FBOs everywhere, providing safer food, market access.
Goal 6: Good water and sanitation	Water safety	Maintaining water safety while increasing water re-use
Goal 12: Food waste and management of chemicals	Plastic recycling Food Waste	Maintain food safety while keeping control of the contaminants that come from plastic recycling (closed loop, non-food grade, labels, inks etc.) Maintain food safety while reducing food waste

Survey outcomes June 2022– respondents profile



Survey outcomes – June 2022

- ✓ The SDG's and related FS topics identified by GFSI were resoundingly accepted by responders with just 15 alternative examples of SDGs suggested.
- ✓ In the open ended responses, there was some negativity around GFSI extending its remit.
- ✓ There were concerns that GFSI's should focus on food safety and any straying into sustainability would be an unwelcome distraction



GFSI action plan based on this survey

SDGs 1 – No poverty

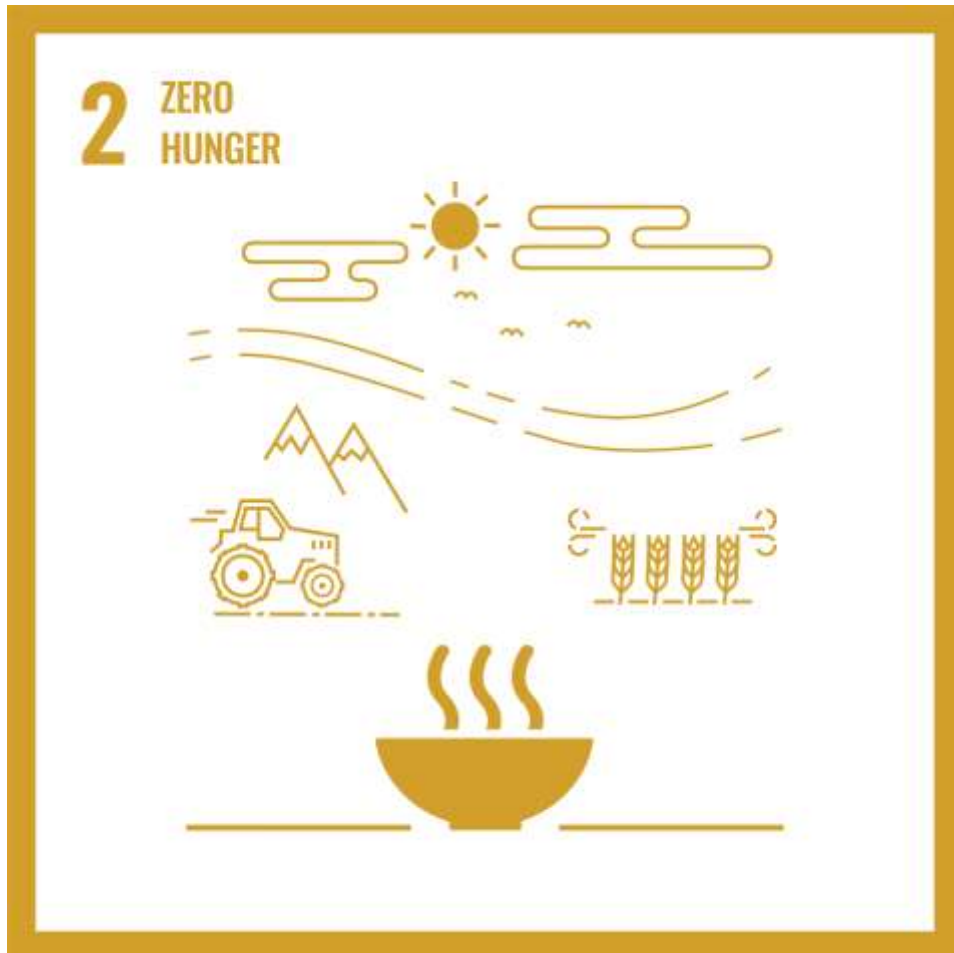
GFSI is asked to embed no poverty goal in its future capability

building framework by:

- ▶ **mobilising experts** to develop and share best practices on capability building
- ▶ **Enhancing work with governments** and IGOs in the future capability building framework
- ▶ **Giving more support to MSMEs**, and promote local qualified food suppliers for retailers to source from them, provide free education & training
- ▶ **reducing access costs to food safety tools** in emerging markets
- ▶ **Empower communities to grow sustainable food**, improve soil health and autonomous food systems



SDG 2: Zero hunger



GFSI is asked to play a rôle in zero hunger, as food safety and food security go hand in hand

- ▶ Working in collaboration with the World Food Programme to ensure the future capability building framework will serve beneficiaries from humanitarian agencies with safe food by building capacities and enhancing access to those capacities among less sophisticated food business operators in LMICs, in informal and traditional markets, among humanitarian buyers

SDGs 6: Clean water and sanitation



GFSI is asked to embed further good practices on water in its tools:

1- PPPs:

- ▶ Develop **food safety knowledge and practices on the reuse of water** → joint work with CODEX on HACCP guidelines

2- Capability building:

- ▶ Develop education and training guidelines on **good sanitation practices** for all in the future capability building framework

3- Harmonization:

- ▶ Technical working group outputs to be integrated into the benchmarking requirements
- ▶ Once CODEX new HACCP guidelines on the reuse of water will be issued, GFSI will include them in the BR in 2024

SDGs 12:



GFSI is asked to play a rôle in food waste and management of materials in contact with food:

- ▶ **Maintain food safety while keeping control of the contaminants that come from plastic recycling** (closed loop, non-food grade, labels, inks etc.)
- ▶ Avoid food waste in supply chains through food safety **capability building of small producers by improving FSMS in producing countries**
- ▶ Maintaining food safety while **reducing food waste**
 - ▶ Rigorous consideration of shelf-life extension and durability labelling

What next?



- ▶ GFSI just announced a new capability building and a MOU with USAID to ensure the future capability building framework reaches food business operators in emerging markets and contribute to more sustainable food systems by enhancing the SDGs linked to food safety.
- ▶ GFSI will launch an activator after a call for participation, in June 2023, to draft the principles of the new framework for building food safety capacities for food business operators all over the world