

# CODEX PLANETARIUS

## Reducing the Environmental Impact of Food Production

*Codex Planetarius* is a proposed system of **minimum environmental standards** for global food production and trade.

It will inform guidelines for 6-8 key environmental performance standards focused on the least efficient 10-20% of producers that create 60-80% of global impacts. Implementation will be through global trade and will help these producers meet minimum performance standards, with restrictions on exports that fail to do so. This approach is designed to minimize costs and trade disruption, maximize local environmental benefits and ensure food security and sustainable production for future generations.

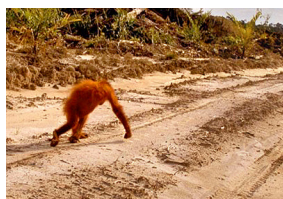
### Why do we need *Codex Planetarius*?

- Food exports have doubled to 30% of total production since 2000. Exports are critical to food security, but environmental impacts are not currently considered in trade.
- Voluntary environmental standards often focus on the practices of better producers rather than the performance of the worst. This makes them difficult to implement at the scale required to reduce a range of key environmental impacts globally.
- The world needs to reduce absolute GHG emissions by 80% and 5 other key food impacts by 50% by 2050. To achieve this, the least efficient producers need to improve.
- Food production has, by far, the largest impact on the planet of any human activity, from habitat loss to water use. This is degrading the natural resource base and threatening food security.

### What are the benefits of *Codex Planetarius*?

- Focuses on using standards to address the most significant environmental impacts of food production while ensuring food security and the global food trade for future generations.
- Addresses the least efficient 10-20% of producers that create 60-80% of impacts. Clear performance standards will minimize trade disruption and costs and maximize resilience, sustainability, and local environmental benefits.
- Develops metrics and standards that help the least efficient producers improve and incentivizes continuous improvement to meet ambitious global climate goals.
- Creates global agreement about the 6-8 key impacts of food production and how to measure each to ensure sustainable, resilient food production for future generations.

### Food production has the biggest impact on the planet of any human activity, including:



**70%** of habitat and biodiversity loss



**70%** of freshwater use



**78%** of water pollution



**50%** of topsoil loss



**35%** of GHG emissions

### *Codex Planetarius* performance standards will address 6-8 impacts, such as:

- Habitat/Biodiversity loss
- Water take
- Water effluents
- Soil health
- GHG emissions

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Learn more about  
*Codex Planetarius*

