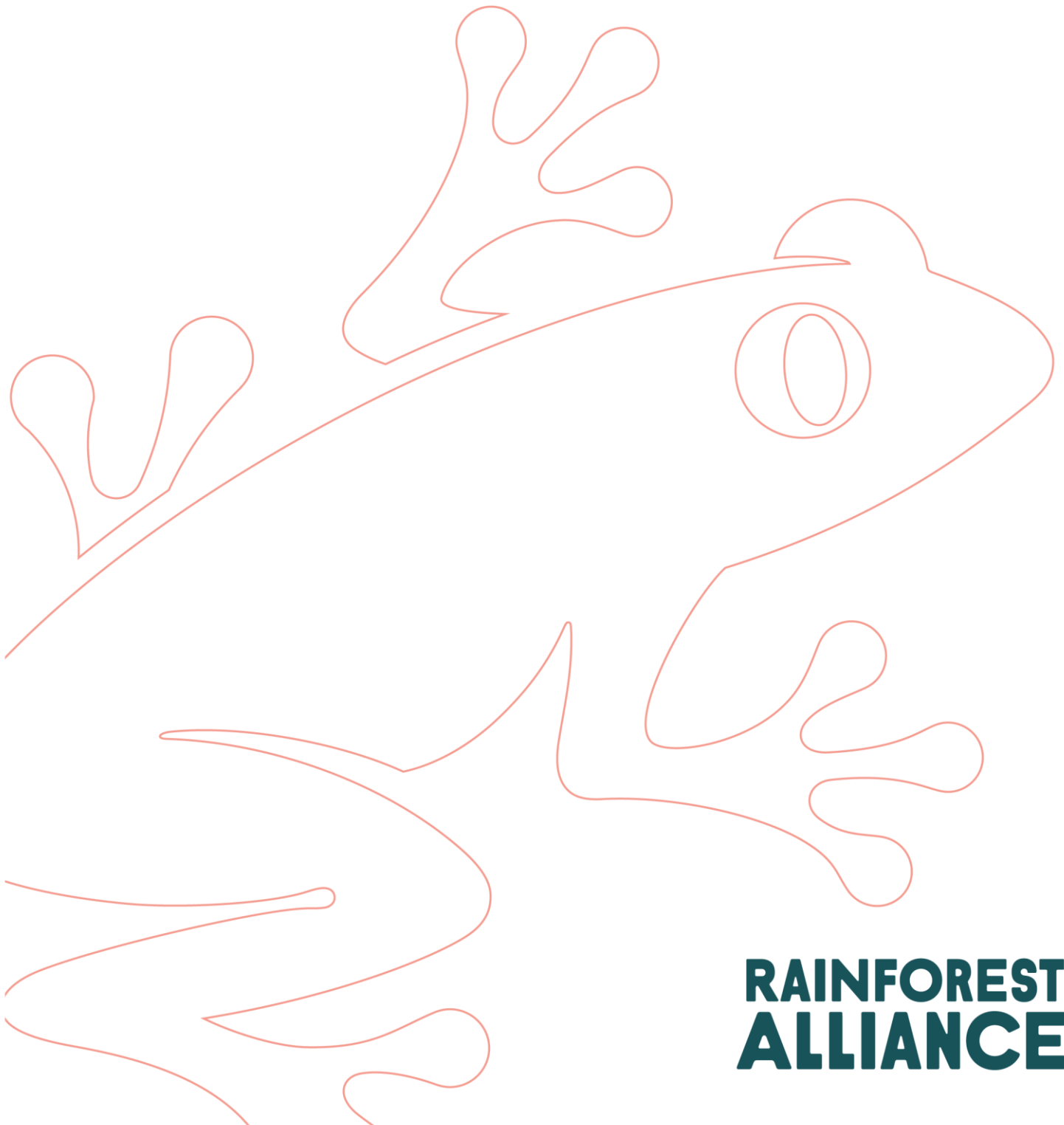


# ANNEX 12

## Additional Details On Requirements For No-conversion

*Version 1*

*Date: June 2020*



**RAINFOREST  
ALLIANCE**



### Translation Disclaimer

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### More information?

For more information about the Rainforest Alliance, visit [www.rainforest-alliance.org](http://www.rainforest-alliance.org) or contact [info@ra.org](mailto:info@ra.org)

Issue Date:	Binding date:	Expiration date:
June 30, 2020	July 1, 2020	Until further notice
Developed by:		Approved by:
Rainforest Alliance Department Standards & Assurance		Chief Supply Chain Officer
Linked to (code and name of documents, if applicable):		
SA-S-SD-1-V1 Rainforest Alliance 2020 Sustainable Agriculture Standard, Farm requirements		
Replaces:		
SAN 2017: Section 11 and 12.1		
Clause or requirements number and text (if applicable):		
6.1.1		
Applicable to:		
Farm certificate holders		
Country/Regions:		
All		
Crops:	Type of organizations:	
Tree crops (such as coffee, cocoa), tea, fruits (such as bananas, coconuts and pineapples), nuts (such as hazelnuts) and cut flowers. Vegetables and palm: subject to confirmation	Small and large farms	



## CORE CRITERION 6.1.1:

*"From January 1, 2014 onward, natural forests and other natural ecosystems have not been converted to agricultural production or other land uses."*

### EXPLANATION OF THE CRITERIA

The cut-off date (January 1, 2014) is fixed with no broad exceptions or leeway. After this date, any deforestation or conversion generally renders a given area or production unit as non-compliant with the Rainforest Alliance standard and will generally be cause for decertification. To uphold the standard's strict requirements on no-deforestation and no-conversion, while also supporting the goal of enabling producers to adapt to changing conditions (including climate change), a minor exception may be permitted for management of infrastructure, as detailed below.

Any other cases of deforestation or conversion are treated in accordance with the Rainforest Alliance Certification/Auditing Rules, which further describe grounds for immediate decertification as well as requirements for corrective measures in cases where farms or groups may be eligible to remain certified by applying such measures. Certificate holders and Certification Bodies have to take into account the results of the Rainforest Alliance risk maps in the certification and auditing process. They indicate evidence of recent conversion, therefore areas and producers that are at particular risk of non-compliance, that must be assessed and managed with particular focus, as further detailed in the Certification and Auditing Rules.

### Minor exception for infrastructure management

Conversion of natural ecosystems up to 1% of the total certified land area to maintain or expand infrastructure essential for farm or processing operations may be permitted if it is planned in advance by a certified farm manager or group administrator, and if the responsible CB is informed of these plans and authorizes the minor destruction before it occurs or, if not possible, before the audit. This minor exception is subject to the following conditions and limitations:

- i. Conversion may take place only for the reason of installing new farm infrastructure or repairing or modernizing previously existing farm infrastructure (e.g., roads or irrigation infrastructure, including pumping facilities, channels, ponds, reservoirs, dams, and impoundments), permanently installed machinery, or facilities for washing, processing, or packing. The certificate holder must inform the CB of the areas of natural ecosystem that are proposed to be converted ideally before the conversion happens, but in any case, before the audit. The CH must also demonstrate by furnishing polygons of the overall certified land as well as the converted area to prove it is below the size threshold. Furthermore, the maps shall show that the proposed infrastructure installation or repair is not feasible to carry out without converting such areas.
- ii. The 1% threshold is the cumulative total allowable area from the first date of application for certification.
- iii. The conversion must fully comply with Criterion 6.1.2 and with applicable law.
- iv. The conversion must be consistent with any designations or recommendations regarding High Conservation Values contained in any HCV assessment(s) of the site or area.