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Benefits of being a Siza member

- A South African standard – developed, owned and operated in South Africa – it reflects South African law and is specific to South African agriculture
- A single standard, aligned to Global best practice through GSCP means a converged approach and mutual recognition of audits amongst retailers
- A risk based approach allows producers to influence their audit frequency
- Provides support in preparation for an audit
- Data system analyses self-assessments and audit results and gives a clear picture of a business: areas of risk, what to correct, guidance on corrective actions, references to policies/documents, areas of good practice
- Provision of SIZA Toolkits and training materials
- SIZA as a SA industry initiative, is a barrier to other assurance schemes being imposed on the industry in the future

Membership

SIZA membership numbers are growing and the latest total is 297.

The membership breakdown is as follows:

Producer/Pack-house: 240

Packhouse: 37

Exporters: 13

Importers: 1

Retailers / Industry associations: 6

Tesco Support for Siza

TESCO has registered as a member of SIZA and is very supportive of SIZA as a local initiative developed and owned by the South African industry. SIZA is urging other importers and retailers to also register for SIZA membership.



What is the process for Siza registration?

1. Registration for all members: go to www.fruitsa-ethical.org.za, click on "Registration" and follow instructions.
2. The registration form is submitted on-line to FPEF.
3. Proof of payment is sent to siza@fpf.co.za.
4. The member is added to the SIZA register and allocated a SIZA membership number.
5. The list of new SIZA registrations is sent weekly (on Monday) to SAIGOL which manages the SIZA data platform.
6. SAIGOL activates the service and sends a Welcome Pack to new members:
 - Producers / packhouses (Levels 1 and 2) receive an introductory letter with membership number, and active link to the member's Self Assessment Questionnaire.
 - Exporters, importers, retailers (levels 3, 4, and 5) and associate members receive an introductory letter with membership number, explanation of how they can be linked to suppliers, and other relevant information.
7. The producer / packhouse member has two months to complete the SAQ and submit this back to SAIGOL.
8. The SAQ is reviewed by the platform reviewer and returned if unfinished. This is to assist the producer with preparation for an audit and is not a pass/fail exercise.
9. The SAQ is approved and is sent back to the member with a letter that describes the "Next Steps", including audit requirements and a list of audit bodies.



Siza / Sedex Update

Fruit South Africa has joined SEDEX as an AB member (UK retailers have supported this financially). This means South African suppliers can remain visible to retailers on SEDEX if this is a requirement.

TESCO is supporting the SIZA option for its suppliers, with only its primary sites having to be visible on SEDEX. Primary sites can still sign up to SIZA and move their SEDEX accounts to the FSA AB account. TESCO growers (who are not classified as primary sites) can sign up to SIZA and do not need to be registered on SEDEX as long as this meets other customers' requirements. As a member of SIZA, TESCO will view these sites on SIZA. Contact Tania Moodley at tania.moodley@uk.tesco.com for more information.



SIZA members must check with retailers whether they need to be visible on SEDEX and move to the FSA AB account. To save FSA costs and time, we request that suppliers only ask to be signed onto the FSA AB Account if this is a requirement of a retailer.

If you need to be registered on SEDEX, email or fax SEDEX a **letter of permission** to move your account to the "FSA AB member" account. This must reach SEDEX **before** your SEDEX account expires. Contact Colleen Chennells at chennell@iafrica.com to get a copy of the letter of permission.

Siza Capacity Building Programme

SIZA is developing a training programme to build capacity in the regions to support producers with implementation of the SIZA Standard. Producers or their administrative staff will be given an opportunity to be trained as Ethical Trade Facilitators. The Department of Agriculture, Western Cape, has committed funding to the roll out of the SIZA programme in 2013 / 2014 which includes training on the SIZA Standard, audit process, etc. We are also engaging with national government and international stakeholders for funding to roll the training programme out nationally.

Contact details for further information:

SIZA Registrations:	siza@fpf.co.za
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