Sustainability in Action 2024





Sustainability in Action



Sunrise Foods International and its subsidiaries are dedicated to sourcing, manufacturing and delivering organic food and feed ingredients in an environmentally and socially responsible manner.

As a champion of organic agriculture practices at home and abroad, sustainability is at the foundation of our business. Our sustainability efforts are guided by the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and are rooted in organic agriculture.

We are aligning our efforts to support seven key SDG-targeted initiatives through to 2025.







































Goal in Action: Feeding the World

Sustainable agriculture

Organic farming is a form of sustainable agriculture. Sunrise Foods is furthering the goal of food security by supplying high-quality grain and feed ingredients from certified organic growers with proven and rigorously-tested organic farming systems.

As growers transition to organic farming practices, we enhance their sustainability efforts by providing agribusiness support to keep them productive and profitable through the transitional years and beyond.

Improved access to global markets

We invest in logistics and supply chain expertise to improve organic growers' access to worldwide markets and transport products in the most efficient manner possible.



By the Numbers

We support small-scale farms. Our strong grower relationships allow us to source over 75% of all our organic whole grain commodities procured in North America directly from the farm.

Last year, we worked with over 576 North American farms to supply the organic market with 32 different whole grain organic crops.



Goal in Action: Environmental Stewardship

Feeding a growing world population is taking a measurable toll on the planet and has contributed to some of the largest environmental challenges we face today. For example, the doubling of agricultural food production between 1961 and 1996 was associated with a 6.87-fold increase in nitrogen fertilization, a 3.48-fold increase in phosphorus fertilization, a 1.68-fold increase in the amount of irrigated cropland, and a 1.1-fold increase in land under cultivation.

By supporting sustainable agriculture, Sunrise Foods helps to advance food security while reducing the environmental footprint associated with food production.

Organic farming can contribute to climate change mitigation through environmentally sound practices that help to improve soil health and water quality, promote biodiversity, minimize greenhouse-gas emissions, and eliminate pollution from agri-chemical input.



Water Quality and Security

Increased organic matter in the soil associated with organic farming practices helps with water absorption, mitigating the impact of floods and drought. Many organic farms are dryland farms, which conserve moisture by growing crops without the use of irrigation.

With over 70% of the world's freshwater withdrawals used for agriculture and 78% of global ocean and freshwater pollution derived from agriculture, organic farming offers a more sustainable option that better serves the environment.



Climate Change and Pollution

Organic farming systems use 45% less energy and release 40% fewer carbon emissions than conventional farms. Overall, increased carbon sequestration in the soil and climate-friendly organic farming practices can also reduce the release of greenhouse gases. The use of synthetic pesticides or fertilizers is prohibited in organic farming. This also helps to reduce pollution and contamination in waterways.



Soil Health and Biodiversity

Soil health and biodiversity are improved through common organic farming practices such as crop rotation, cover crops and the use of organic fertilizers. Scientific studies have shown that organic farming increases species biodiversity by as much as 30%.

In collaboration with organic growers, Sunrise Foods is developing programs that promote soil health by following standards and certification protocols for Regenerative Agriculture. For example, our organic sunflowers are grown without the use of irrigation on dryland farms. Over the past year, we have also:

- Supported over 98,000 acres of organic agriculture farmland through our North American farm-direct procurement efforts
- Supplied over 1.5 billion pounds of certified organic food and feed ingredients.
- Made efforts to digitize paper-based processes allowing us to reduce paper use by 98%.
- Shipped over 96% of our ocean transport tonnage destined for North America via bulk vessel, a ship class with one of the lowest CO₂ emissions rates.



Goal in Action: Energy and Resource Efficiency, Innovative Infrastructure

Sunrise Foods recognizes the importance of establishing business practices that support a sustainable and environmentally conscious economy, drive innovations in efficient resource usage, and operate with cleaner and environmentally sound technologies.

Sustainable industry

We are improving industrial sustainability across our wholly-owned manufacturing and processing facilities. By utilizing dedicated internal resources and engaging external partners, we successfully implemented an energy management system in 2022 centered on resource efficiency and cleaner production processes that meet ISO 50001 standards.

Solar project

In March 2024, we completed phase two of the solar energy power plant installation at our oilseed processing facility in Çorum, Türkiye. Phase one, the first set of panels, was completed in 2022 and has been operational since then. We expect the additional panels will reduce carbon emissions by 1996 tons of CO2-Eq per year and decrease the facility's total energy consumption by 44%.

Phase one (2022): installation of first set of solar panels producing 4,320 MWh/year of energy.

Phase two (2024): installation of second set of solar panels producing 3,295 MWh/year of energy.







Goal in Action: Health and Well-being

Food security is not only a question of sufficient food production – it must also include access to nutritious, safe and affordable food. Due to the growing number of consumers choosing organic options, demand for organic food and feed products is outpacing domestic supply.

Accessibility of organic food

Sunrise Foods is closing the domestic supply gap by increasing the availability of certified organic grains and ingredients in the North American food value chain. By promoting supply chain efficiency and working directly with food manufacturers, we create a positive feedback loop that includes organic products becoming more economical for consumers and increased demand leading to more land under organic cultivation. Providing a consistent and reliable supply of certified organic food and feed grain ingredients is helping counter food-price volatility and improving consumer access to healthier food choices.



Fact

We currently supply 63 different organic food and feed ingredients. Our product mix includes nutritionally dense whole grains, protein-rich beans and legumes, and heart-healthy stable vegetable oils.



Key Initiatives and Targets

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN warns that the world will not meet most of the food and agriculture related SDG targets by 2030. To do our part, Sunrise Foods launched five key initiatives to further support our sustainability efforts on a local and global scale:

2023 Progress Snapshot

Initiative	SDG Alignment	Status
Achieve ISO 50001 Energy Management Certification	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	
Reduce carbon footprint by investing in clean and renewable energy sources	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 13 ACTION 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	-
Strengthen mental health support for farmers	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	-
Increase purchases of local organic grains	2 ZERO HUNGER STATE ON LAND ON LAND	-
Provide ongoing support to organizations fully aligned with our sustainability efforts	2 ZERO HUNGER 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	-

As we grow, we recognize our important role in supporting direct sustainability efforts in action, and we look forward to continuing our efforts.

For more information about sustainability at Sunrise Foods, please contact:

Tobi Strohan, Vice President Compliance (306) 986-1473 tstrohan@sunrisefoods.com www.sunrisefoods.com

References

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). (2020). Organic Agriculture (Section FAQ 5). https://www.fao.org/organicag/oa-faq/oa-faq7/en/
PNAS. (May 25, 1999). Global environmental impacts for agriculture expansion: The need for sustainable and efficient practices. (Vol 96 (11) pp. 5995-6000). https://www.pnas.org/content/pnas/96/11/5995.full.pdf

RODALE INSTITUTE. (2018). Farming Systems Trial. https://mk0rodaleinstitydwux.kinstacdn.com/wp-content/uploads/RI-FST-Brochure-2018.pdf
Ritchie, H. (2020). Environmental impacts of food production. Our World in Data. https://ourworldindata.org/environmental-impacts-of-food#
ICCT. (2017.10.17). Greenhouse gas emissions from global shipping, 2013–2015. https://theicct.org/publications/GHG-emissions-global-shipping-2013-2015

