



Food Sector Audit Maturity

Social performance self- assessment checklist



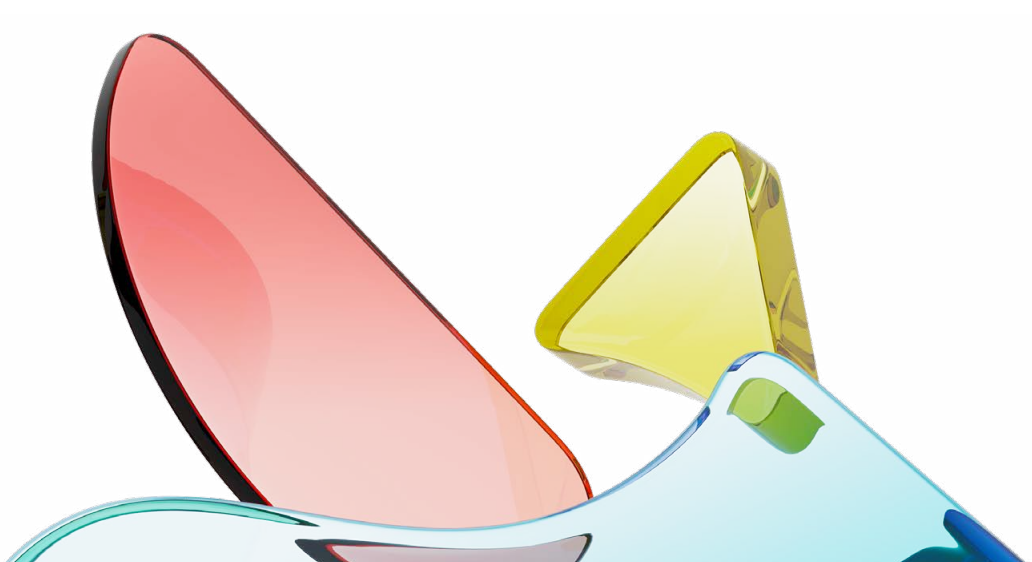
How resilient, responsible, and audit-ready are the social elements of your supply chain?

With increasing consumer expectations and evolving regulatory demands, the ability to demonstrate transparency, fairness, and accountability across your food value chain has never been more critical. Use this short self-assessment to evaluate your current practices across social and supplier governance.

Your Food sector social audit maturity self-assessment checklist

SECTION 1: Governance & Ethical Oversight (10 questions)

		Yes	Partially / In Progress	No / Don't know
1	Do you have a documented ethical sourcing and human rights policy for your organization?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Are human rights, and social responsibility embedded into your corporate risk register?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Do you track performance indicators for social and ethical compliance internally?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Are your internal audit processes aligned to recognized frameworks (e.g., GFSI, SMETA)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Are workers informed about their rights and workplace protections?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Do you have a structured approach to managing underage or forced labour risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



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SECTION 1: Governance & Ethical Oversight (10 questions)

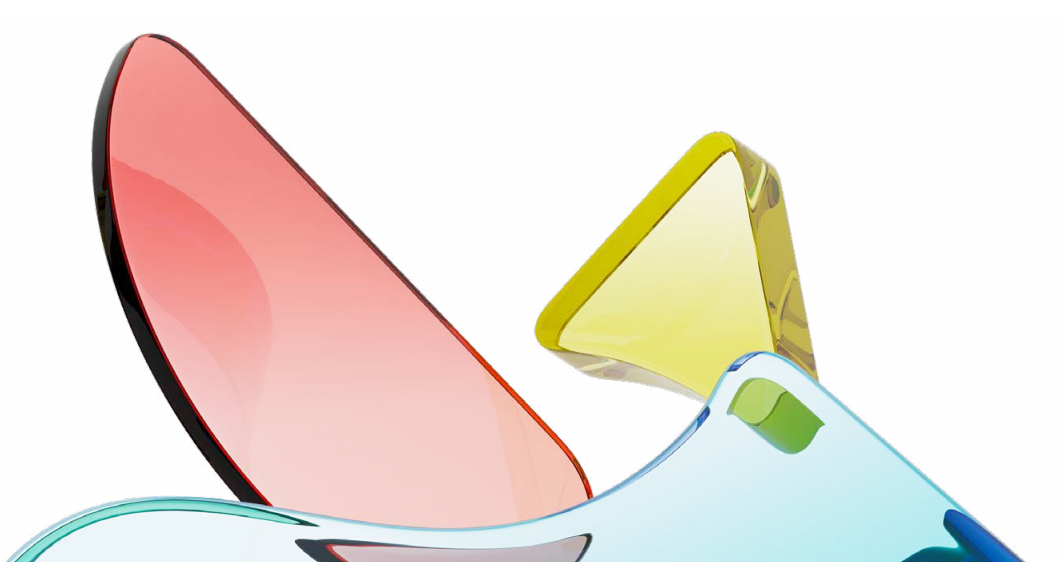
	Yes	Partially / In Progress	No / Don't know
<div>7</div> <div>Do you regularly update your internal policies based on audit results or incident learnings?</div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<div>8</div> <div>Do you have a written policy addressing non-retaliation for whistleblowing or reporting human rights violations?</div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<div>9</div> <div>Are your policies and procedures regularly reviewed and updated to reflect new legal or customer requirements?</div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<div>10</div> <div>Is there a designated individual or team responsible for implementing and monitoring social compliance policies?</div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Your Food sector social audit maturity self-assessment checklist

SECTION 2: Supplier & Production Network Oversight (10 questions)

	Yes	Partially / In Progress	No / Don't know
<div>11</div> <div>Do you maintain a full supplier map across agricultural, processing, and packaging stages?</div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<div>12</div> <div>Are high-risk suppliers routinely audited by internal or third-party teams?</div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<div>13</div> <div>Is there a clear corrective action process for any supplier non-conformities?</div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<div>14</div> <div>Are worker conditions — such as pay, hours, and safety — monitored and documented?</div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<div>15</div> <div>Are incidents of supplier misconduct escalated and resolved through formal protocols?</div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<div>16</div> <div>Do you require suppliers to adhere to a code of conduct that includes any type of social performance?</div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Your Food sector social audit maturity self-assessment checklist

SECTION 2: Supplier & Production Network Oversight (10 questions)

	Yes	Partially / In Progress	No / Don't know
<div>17</div> <div>Are supplier performance trends tracked over time using digital tools or dashboards?</div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<div>18</div> <div>Do supplier contracts clearly define expectations around legal working hours, minimum wage, and safe conditions?</div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<div>19</div> <div>Are audits inclusive of temporary, subcontracted, or migrant workers across the value chain?</div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<div>20</div> <div>Do you verify that suppliers do not withhold personal documents (e.g., passports) or charge recruitment fees?</div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Your Food sector social audit maturity self-assessment checklist

SECTION 3: Culture, Transparency & Continuous Improvement
(10 questions)

		Yes	Partially / In Progress	No / Don't know
21	Are teams trained to identify social, ethical, or labour-related risks in production?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	Do you publicly communicate your human rights and sustainability commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Are social responsibility metrics tied into procurement or supplier onboarding decisions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24	Is performance shared with certification bodies or regulators proactively?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	Do you use real-time data or audit platforms to inform supplier decisions (e.g., BSI Connect)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
26	Have you engaged stakeholders (e.g., NGOs, industry groups) to strengthen audit practices?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Your Food sector social audit maturity self-assessment checklist

SECTION 3: Culture, Transparency & Continuous Improvement
(10 questions)

		Yes	Partially / In Progress	No / Don't know
27	Are grievance mechanisms available to all workers, including subcontractors, in a language they understand?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28	Do workers across all levels, including contracted and subcontracted, know how to raise grievances without fear of retaliation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
29	Do you regularly review the impact of social audit findings on brand reputation and stakeholder trust?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
30	Are there feedback loops in place to capture insights from workers or site staff to improve future audits?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Your score

(Max: 30 points)

What do your scores suggest?

Score Range	Maturity Level	What It Indicates
0-10 points	Emerging	You're building awareness — it's time to establish core audit and sourcing structures.
10-20 points	Developing	Some practices are in place, but there's room to improve traceability and consistency.
20-30 points	Advanced	You're actively managing risks and embedding best practice — focus on continuous improvement.

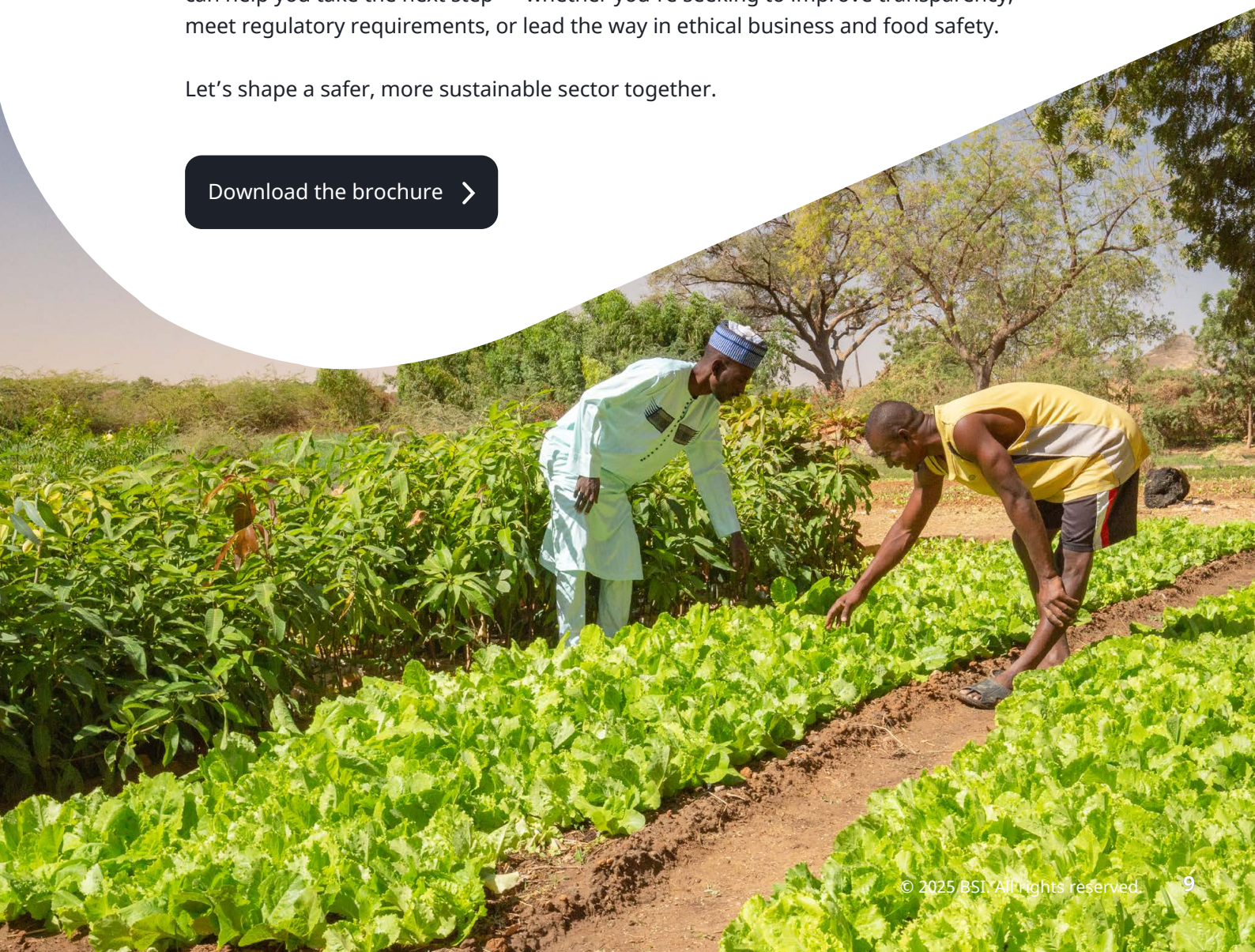
What's Next?

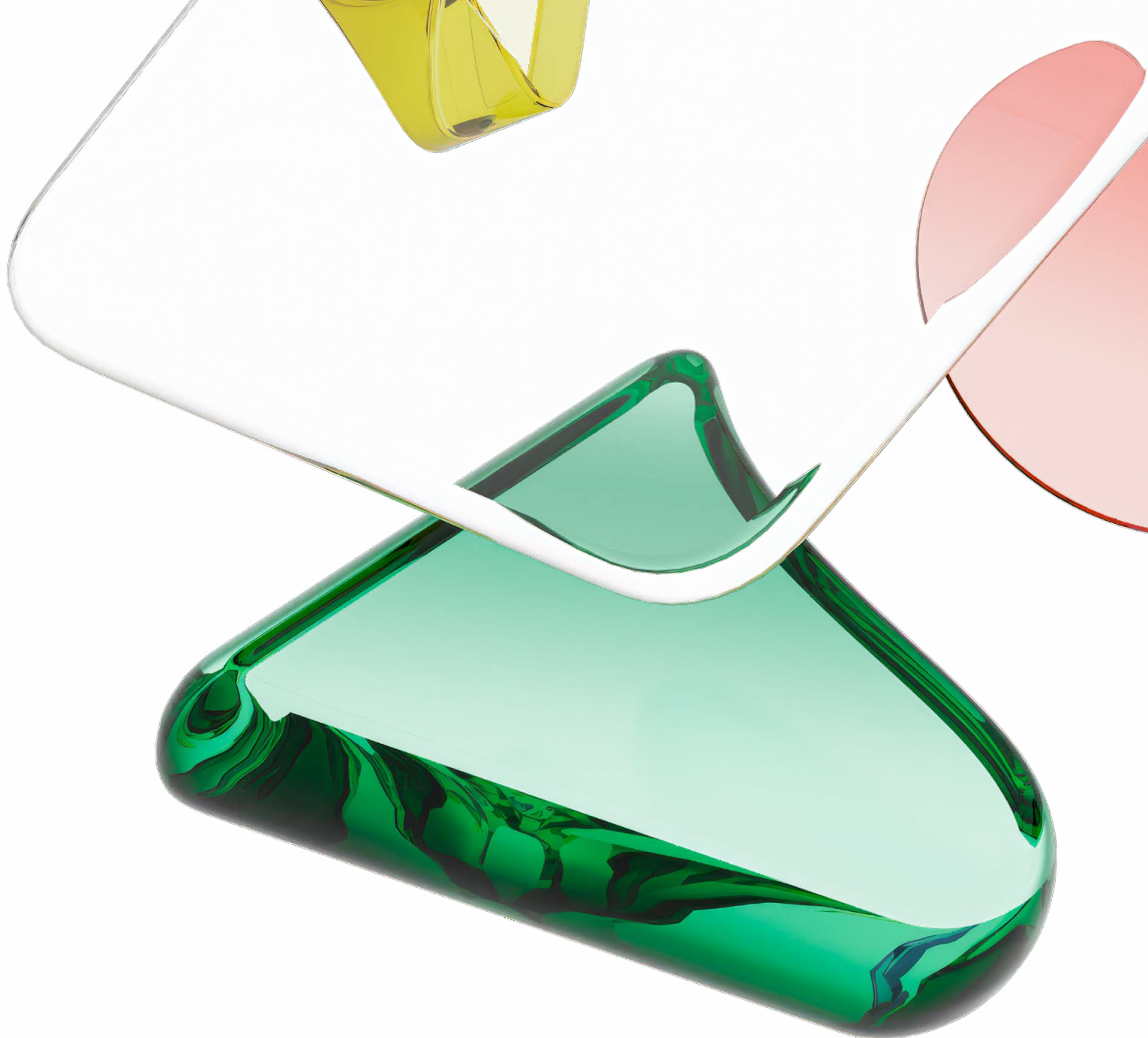
Wherever you land on the maturity spectrum, there's opportunity to improve, align with global standards, and build trust with your stakeholders.

Download our brochure to explore how BSI's internal and supplier audit programmes can help you take the next step — whether you're seeking to improve transparency, meet regulatory requirements, or lead the way in ethical business and food safety.

Let's shape a safer, more sustainable sector together.

Download the brochure >





Your partner
in progress