INTERNATIONAL FRESH PRODUCE ASSOCIATION℠

Sustainability

# Climate Change Working Group

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FRESH
PRODUCE
ASSOCIATION™
Create a
vibrant future
for all.
We grow prosperity for the world
of fruit, vegetable & floral.
ADVOCATE
Advocacy • Foundation
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Business Networking • Data & Insights
GUIDE
Expertise • Solutions

# IFPA Sustainability Vision

Fresh produce is the original sustainability industry, with the health of the planet and its people at the core of the work. It's never been more crucial to discover social, economic, and environmental opportunities through sustainable actions. IFPA believes all business actions must be taken with an emphasis on sustainability. Therefore, IFPA is members' go-to resource for sustainability solutions, inspiring members to implement them to benefit the planet and the people on it, and to do so profitably. IFPA serves as a source of reliable information on sustainability tools and practices and validates practice adoption as well as providing the forum for member's sustainability journeys.

# Sustainability Council- Mission & Outcome

**MISSION:** the Sustainability Council examines critical issues in the produce and floral sustainability landscape, including climate change, sustainable packaging, food loss/food waste, regenerative agriculture, social responsibility and market responsibility. Its goal is to drive programs and resources to enable members to understand the potential impact of these issues on their organizations and prioritize and plan for these issues in their business planning.

**OUTCOME**: the action taken on sustainability protects and grows value, supporting the prosperity of IFPA members globally.

# Climate Change WG Co-Chairs

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# Climate Change WG Mission Statement

"We facilitate member sharing, learning, and collaborating to support the fresh produce industry in mitigating and adapting to climate change"

# Opportunities & Challenges

- OPPORTUNITIES
  - Working with a standard-setting organization or university on quantifying the climate impact of sustainable practices
  - Highlighting the relative climate-friendly nature of the produce sector
- CHALLENGES
  - Reaching an audiences outside of our climate change working group members
  - Moving beyond education and resources to collective action and industry impact

# Resources

- Webinars on climate change adaptation and mitigation and regulatory updates
- Copefrut sustainability case study
- Development of Emissions Inventory 101 guidance (in progress)

# Common Areas

Regenerative Agriculture: Regenerative Practices can reduce the amount of emissions associated with conventional farming, and improve resiliency to climate change.

Packaging: Directly impacts the product carbon footprint and total organizational footprint. Indirect impacts on the climate through fossil-fuel reliant plastics and deforestation/unsustainable paper production.

Food Loss and Waste: Reducing food waste will have a significant impact on the industry's carbon footprint and better management of food loss will result in reduction of resource wastage.

# Copefrut Sustainability
## *Case Study*

## 1 Goals

Copefrut aims to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change on agricultural development, the environment, and its ecosystems. The Chilean company is committed to sustainability with the goals of extensively reducing its emissions and achieving carbon neutrality.

## 2 Steps Taken

- **Establishment of Energy Management System (EMS)**, a system deisgned to reduce energy consumption per ton of fruits processed
- Creation of **Energy Management Committee** to review monthly energy indicators
- Establishment of partnership with **Enel Gernacion** in a 4-year energy contract to ensure energy supply comes from 100% clean and renewable sources
- Measurement of emissions produced by transport of organic apples to international markets and purchase of carbon credits for emissions offset
- **Carbon Neutral Certification**: completition of *"define, measure, target, reduce, and communicate"* requirements for certification
- Support for growers in transitioning to more **sustainable practices**, including collection of data on consumption and equipment classification to issue recommendations and technical specifications

## 3 Results

Copefrut reduced its total operational energy consumption from 23,081,964 kWh in 2020-2021 to 21,460,574 kWh in 2021-2022, a total of **7.14%.**

**18.58%** ↘
reduction in energy consumption per kilogram of fruit

Carbon in 2022:
Copefrut offset

**987** metric tons of $CO_2$ emissions

## 4 Carbon Footprint

Reducing its carbon footprint was achieved through:

1. **Lowering** energy consumption and emissions
2. **Offsetting** emissions though renewable energy sources and carbon credit
3. **Achieving** carbon neutrality for organic apple transportation and facilities

## 5 Next Steps

- Waste management
- Packaging innovations
  - *Maximizing recyclability*
  - *Alternative packaging materials*
- Extending carbon neutrality processes
- Local community development
  - *Creating jobs*
- Social responsibility
- Increasing renewable energy
- Continued support for sustainable growers

# Next Steps

1. Provide at least one expert presentation per quarter on timely climate topics

2. Organize Climate programming at future IFPA shows