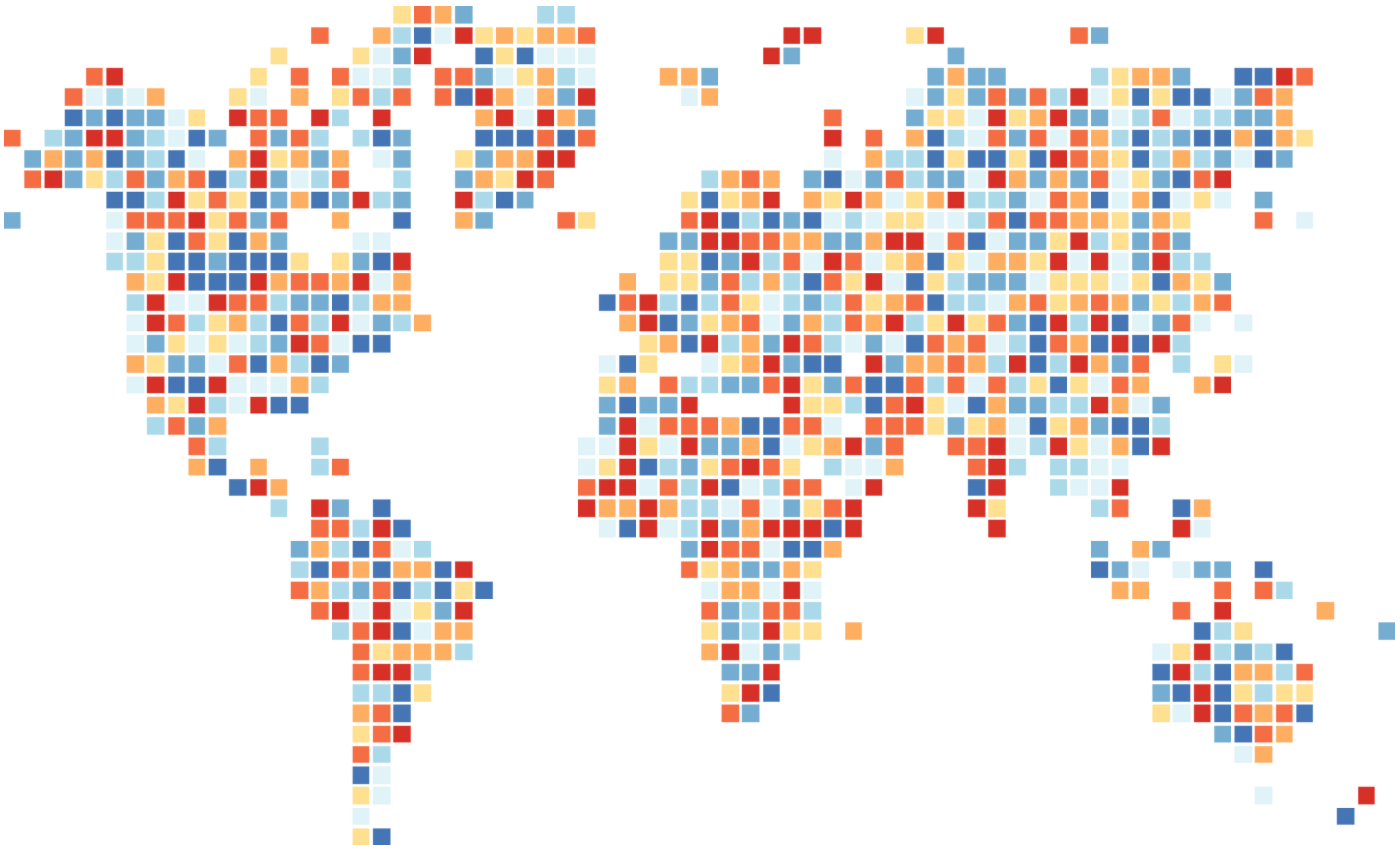
2022/2023

RGI Wine Index©

#VerifiedImpact that creates a shared purpose for building a legacy of environmental responsibility and social well-being for all.



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RESPONSIBILTY COMMITMENT

Sustainable viticulture produces goods and services that satisfy the socioeconomic and cultural needs of the population, allowing the correct development of the natural systems that support it.

The agricultural practice extracts matter from the environment in which it develops, such as nutrients from the soil and its fruits, as well as different forms of energy. At the same time, it adds matter in the form of waste and effluents. It is then imperative, the need to seek a balance, which allows the use of resources while protecting the natural environment and the communities that inhabit it.

The RGI Wine Index© system weighs all the practices implemented that guarantee a sustainable product, with an eye to the future and constant commitment generating a positive impact on the environment and communities. In this way, consumption is part of a chain in which all its members are actively deciding to be a force for change.

This Responsible Commitment lays the foundations for the process of active and voluntary contribution by the wineries and vineyards that participate in the RGI project for social, economic and environmental improvement in their radius of influence: it is about contributing to society and protecting the environment through active leadership that aims to build more socially and environmentally sustainable societies. In turn, it frames the ideals of the RGI Wine Index©, to which all producers commit to respect when working together.

Both RGI and the participating wineries and vineyards understand sustainability as a guide that involves the entire business model, and not as an isolated project. The leadership commitment is not only towards the interior of the organization, but it radiates towards the whole society, in innovative forms of relationship, production and development.

Objectives

- Implement new actionable strategies based on index objectives, throughout the business relationship.
- Lead society towards more sustainable, respectful and egalitarian models.
- Create shared value.
- Minimize the negative impact and maximize the positive ones.
- Anticipate the challenges of the future.
- Promote innovation and innovative solutions in environmental matters.

RGI makes available to those wineries and vineyards the technical knowledge and support to promote and direct these actions in a framework of horizontal collaboration throughout the industry. Joint work is embodied in the SOCIETĀS label and honors its etymological root: union for a common good.

Operation Premises

The joint work of RGI with its production partners (wineries and vineyards) has basic premises that both parties share. The ecological challenges lead to the need for new productive proposals.

In a market driven by conscious consumption, advocating for these new forms of production improves the economic conditions of small and medium-sized producers who acquire a competitive advantage for their grapes and leads to the creation of shared value.

The commitments proposed in this document are aimed at their translation into action and global impact. RGI advocates that all initiatives, both those directly involved in the business and those that have a philanthropic purpose, share the same professionalism and measurability, and that all recommendations are directed towards responsible and respectful solutions. It is a matter of reputation and legitimacy, not image.

Specific Areas of Commitment

The structure of the RGI Wine Index© involves two dimensions that together make up sustainability: environmental leadership and social leadership.

Environmental Leadership

It is the general commitment towards the agroecological transition: consideration of property conversion, substituting polluting technologies and highly dependent on capital and degrading management techniques of the physical environment by others that are less demanding and more locally accessible. This dimension encompasses the following specific commitments:

- Commitment to the conservation and responsible use of natural resources.
- Commitment to caring for the agroecosystem.
- Commitment to the implementation of energy efficiency programs and use of clean energy.
- Commitment towards the protection of the soil and the habitat of wildlife.
- Commitment to the reduction of synthetic elements and elimination of polluting elements.
- Commitment to caring for water throughout its cycle.
- Commitment to the sustainable management of effluents and their reuse.
- Commitment to the use of products with environmental considerations in all stages of the production process.
- Commitment to a circular economy model.
- Commitment towards the implementation of an environmental audit.
- Commitment to the conservation and responsible use of natural resources.

Social Leadership

It is the commitment towards a positive impact on the whole of society, which will translate into the following specific commitments:

- Commitment to meet the expectations of stakeholders.
- Commitment to inclusive development.
- Commitment to well-being within the organization: well-being of personnel, technical and professional growth, and protection of the family.
- Commitment to the external well-being of the organization: donation and investment in beneficial causes for society without a direct relationship with the business.
- Commitment to the private promotion of culture, through patronage programs.

Conclusion

The outlined bases of responsible commitment will translate into the achievement of tangible objectives closely linked to the global strategy of the vineyard and winery. RGI promotes among its members active leadership that aims to build more socially and environmentally sustainable societies.

Index Data Collection, Analysis & Reporting

The RGI research team is tasked with structuring, collecting, and analyzing the primary and secondary data that informs our social & environmental impact assessment model. This is an ongoing effort conducted under the guidelines outlined below.

1 Introduction

The RGI Wine Index© is intended to be a quantitative resource for consumer and trade buyers to evaluate and verify the social & environmental impact of wine producers.

2 Initial Screener

Wine producers voluntarily opt into the Index, and upon doing so are presented with an initial questionnaire.

3 Full Assessment & Scoring

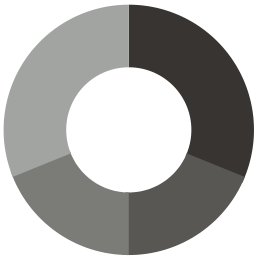
Prior to receiving a verified RGI Wine Index© rating (100-point scale), producers complete a full assessment.

4 Results & Considerations

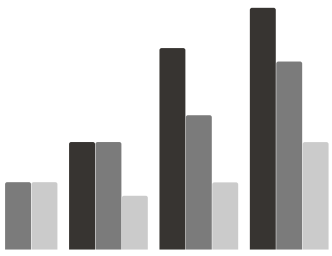
Ratings are based on weighted factors such as current and planned business practices, investments, and certain special considerations. Such special considerations may include the extent to which weighted factors should be reasonably evaluated through market specific micro-economic, socio-economic realities and trends.

5 Analysis

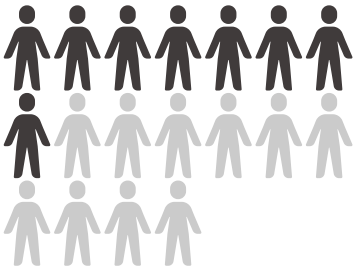
In an industry largely driven by qualitative ratings, the stated goal of the Index is to leverage descriptive and inferential statistics that bring transparency & replicability to the analysis of the underlying collected data.



The Index uses weighted data to ensure equitable consideration for factor weights.



The Index uses benchmarking data to compare producer practices at local and global levels.



The Index uses relational data to further refine factor weights and test correlative hypothesis.

6 Reporting

RGI publishes Index data, analysis & results in the form of producer specific reports, quarterly market level reports, and on an annual global report basis. Custom reporting and strategic consulting services are also available.

INITIAL SCREENER

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

- Do you present initiatives related to community education?
- Do you present initiatives related to the arts?
- Do you present initiatives related to donations for community activities?
- Do you present hiring policies based on the welfare of staff?
- Do you present planning for instruction and technical/professional growth of staff?
- Do you present family/community protection policies for staff?

ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP

- Do you have your own primary production?
- Do you analyze and control the state of the soil?
- Do you present an efficient water management plan?
- Do you have an irrigation system designed according to the minimum possible use of water?
- Do you have a wastewater management system?
- Do you present a responsible energy use plan?
- Do you use photovoltaic solar energy, and/or solar thermal energy, or another type of clean energy?
- Do you present an integrated pest management plan?
- Do you minimize the use/do you not use phytosanitary products to control pests, diseases and weeds?
- Do you use soil protection strategies?
- Do you present strategies for the protection of wildlife habitat?
- Do you use/promote the use of recyclable materials?
- Do you recycle materials during the production process?
- Do you control the supply chain with a focus on social and environmental policies?
- Do you have a product traceability system?
- Do you integrate sustainability into the production and business plan?

FUTURE SOCIO-ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS

- Do you present plans for additional future sustainable measures to implement in the next 24 months?
- Are you interested in receiving a technical evaluation of existing practices with suggestions for improvement?
- Do you present continuous improvement policies in any/all production areas?

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

HUMAN RESOURCES

- **Continuing education, training and staff development**
- **Promoting sustainability in the workplace**
- Selection strategy, training and recognition of personnel
- Annual Safety and Hygiene Training Schedule
- Appropriate protection elements available for personnel

NEIGHBORS & COMMUNITY

- **Art and culture patronage (non-profit organizations, concerts, galleries or art exhibitions, tastings, other cultural events)**
- **Active collaboration with the community (police departments, fire departments, schools, hospitals, community organizations)**
- **Collaboration with the environment in the form of habitat restoration, environmental protection organizations or others**
- **Research or promotion of scientific development of the wine industry**

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR)

- **Professional training in practices and policies of sustainability and conservation of natural resources**
- **Work on community problems (visual, sound and atmospheric pollution, effluent discharge and solid waste)**
- **Work together with wineries/companies in the area on common problems in education, health and social assistance**
- **Policies in favor of families / nurseries / training for the economic well-being of families**
- Selection of the best form of recruitment available
- Creation of new jobs and employment of professionals
- Cooperation with school education for children and completion of basic studies for employees
- Opening of the winery and farm for educational purposes (staff families, primary and secondary schools)

ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP

VITICULTURE

- Vineyard design with adequate exposure of foliage and bunches to solar radiation
- Removal of disused plastic material preventing it from dispersing

ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT

- **Resource management oriented to the different environments present within the ecosystem (study of each soil)**
- **Increase in diversity with the implantation of other crops within the farm**
- Recycling of nutrients through compost, greens, green manures
- Water management preserving the main basin and sub-basins of the area: irrigation water analysis
- Survey and monitoring of native and cultivated biodiversity of the farm
- Preservation of mountains, forests, forest curtains, live fences, biological corridors
- Use of cover crops between rows of vines

ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING

- **Selection of suppliers with environmental considerations**
- Use of carbon footprint certified inputs
- Selection of products with recycled materials and/or less amount of packaging

PEST MANAGEMENT

- **Reduction in the use of herbicides potentially dangerous to health and the environment**
- **Use of products: specific and low toxicity pesticides, rootstocks, biological control, physical methods, ethological control**
- Integrated pest management with sampling, identification, and monitoring
- Selection and dosage of phytosanitary products supervised by an agronomist
- Analysis of phytosanitary residues in crops and/or in products by production cycle
- Application: avoid application when winds exceed 12 km/hour or when they are less than 3 km/hour, use of applicators with vapor and particle control

WATER MANAGEMENT

- **Irrigation strategy designed according to soil study, crop water requirement and meteorological variables**
- **Water control and saving mechanisms: flow reducers, jet economizers, vacuum pumps with a water recovery system, pressure washers, cooling equipment with closed circuits, use of pressurized water**
- Permit for the exploitation of surface and/or underground water resources
- Pressurized irrigation system with periodic maintenance or superficial system
- Soil water status measurement
- Use of water of specific quality according to the activity for which it is used
- Staff training for proper use of water
- Recovery and reuse of water from clean procedures for primary washings (solids removal)
- Gardens with low water consumption
- Flowmeter at the entrance of the plant or by specific sectors in order to measure consumption and propose reduction goals
- Dry cleaning of equipment that allows it (brushing of tanks)

WASTE & EFFLUENTS MANAGEMENT

- Monitoring of wine effluent parameters (pH, EC, settleable soils, dissolved solids, BOD, COD, ammoniacal nitrogen)
- Management of empty phytosanitary and agrochemical containers, return to suppliers
- Use of organic matter: exhausted pomace and lees, incorporation of pruning remains to the ridge
- Sustainable handling of tires, hoses and harvest containers
- Management of batteries with special programs
- Cleaning program with biodegradable products or low environmental impact cleaning supplies
- Recycling and depletion of cleaning solutions

MATERIAL HANDLING

- **Progressive reduction of hazardous materials used on the farm and winery (phytosanitary products, fuels, fertilizers, cleaning products, toxic baits for pest control, gases, paints, and solvents).**
- Contingency plan for a spill of hazardous substances
- Adequate handling of materials: phytosanitary tank with a fire-resistant roof, impermeable floor, anti-spill containment, restricted access
- Fuel tanks not buried and with control of non-contamination to water or soil
- Registration of hazardous materials, safety sheet, protection elements and contingency plan
- Refrigerant gases with low environmental impact and load without leaks, in compact equipment

ENERGY CONSUMPTION

- **Use of hydroelectric, photovoltaic, wind energy, equipment adapted to the use of biomass**
- Refrigeration systems: insulation of pipes, high efficiency pumps, use of rotary compressors
- Prioritization of purchase of efficient motors and pumps
- Use of economizing devices
- Lighting with illuminance level according to the use in the place, prioritization of natural light and LED technology
- Automated on and off - passive lighting strategies
- Use of fuels with less environmental impact (biodiesel, CNG, hybrids)

SOIL MANAGEMENT

- **Good agricultural practices that increase the carbon pool of the soil (avoid excessive plowing, plant green covers)**
- Periodic testing of test pits and physical, chemical and biological soil analysis
- Performance of infiltration tests and/or water capacity curve
- Study and evaluation of soil compaction
- Priority use of organic fertilizers