



Sourcing responsible soy through the Round Table on Responsible Soy Association



The importance of responsible soy

Soy is one of the world's most important agricultural commodities. It is the largest source of global protein, an integral part of our meat, fish and dairy industries and an important component in many other products and fuel.

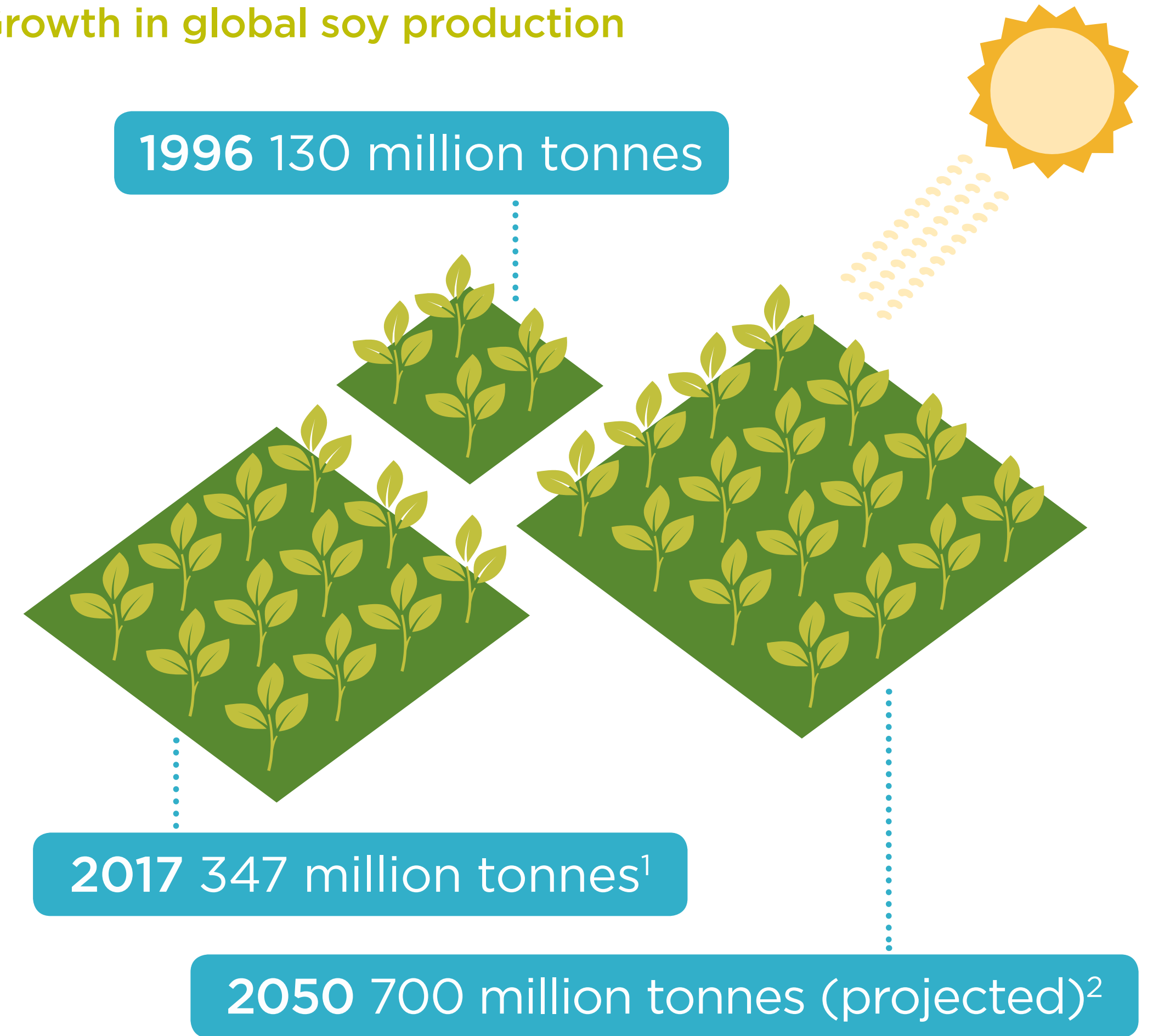


Today, hundreds of millions of people around the world eat meat, eggs and dairy products from animals fed on soy, and traces of soy are found in countless processed foods.

In the last 50 years, the area of land devoted to soy has grown tenfold, to over 1 million square kilometres – equivalent to the total combined area of France, Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands. And this expansion shows no sign of stopping: the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) suggests soy production will almost double by 2050 (Source: WWF, The Growth of Soy Impact and Solutions)

So it is vital that the environmental and social impacts of soy production are minimised, and that everyone working across the soy supply chain joins the journey towards a future where global soy production is sustainable. That means no deforestation caused, no loss of valuable habitats, good standards of working conditions and no negative impacts on local communities.

Growth in global soy production



¹ Source: SOPA

² Source: WWF



Round Table on Responsible Soy – enabling you to transform your supply chain

Established in 2006 in Zurich, Switzerland, the Round Table on Responsible Soy Association is the not for profit internationally recognised association promoting the growth of production, trade, and use of responsible soy. It works through cooperation with those in, and related to the soy value chain, from production to consumption.

RTRS sets the standard for responsible soy. Its certification scheme ensures that RTRS soy not only meets the highest environmental criteria (including a guarantee of third party-verified zero deforestation) but also a wide-reaching set of social and labour requirements.

As a Roundtable, RTRS brings together over 180 member stakeholders from across the whole of the soy supply chain, including producers, suppliers, manufacturers, retailers, financial institutions, civil society organisations, and Governments. With such a broad constituency, RTRS is a real multi stakeholder environment that facilitates a global dialogue on responsible soy, uniquely positioned to drive continuous improvement through the whole of the supply chain. RTRS promotes the idea that responsible soy is economically viable, socially beneficial, and environmentally appropriate.



RTRS key information

Established in 2006

A multi-stakeholder organisation

We have over 180 members

Representing 3 constituencies with a consensus-based decision making process

Producers

An icon showing a blue hand holding a green soybean pod with two yellow seeds.

Industry Trade & Finance

An icon showing a blue bag with yellow seeds and a green arrow pointing upwards, symbolizing growth and trade.

Civil society

An icon showing three stylized human figures connected by dotted lines, representing a network or community.

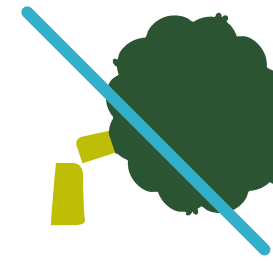
How RTRS offers access to responsible soy

RTRS offers its certified soy in two ways. One is as physical material (adding value to the certification of the soy production where each step of the supply chain, starting at the production level, has been verified and audited by internationally accredited certification bodies). The second is as credits (soy production verified and audited at the farm level).

Through the RTRS online trading platform, those seeking to purchase responsible soy can easily follow either route, and there is support along the way to ensure that the right option is available to meet individual organisations needs.

The five reasons to buy Responsible Soy through RTRS

1



Zero deforestation

There is an absolute assurance that the responsible soy you are purchasing is guaranteed 'zero deforestation' and zero conversion of high conservation value and native vegetation.

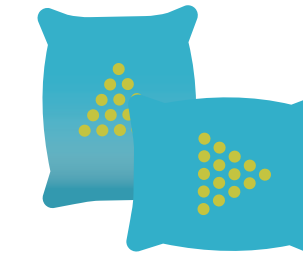
2



Labour conditions and community relations

RTRS accredited soy meets high standards of social and labour welfare conditions.

3



A healthy supply

RTRS supplies are strong, and growing - 4 million tonnes of certified soy made available to be taken up by the market in 2017.

4



Flexible and bespoke

There is a wide range of options available to vary the type of certification, add extra features and reflect individual company's requirements.

5



Decision making power

As a Roundtable, RTRS offers you the chance to not only purchase responsible soy, but to also help shape the future of the whole sector, and ensure that the needs of your organisation, as well as your whole industry are well represented in future developments of the standard. This is done through the active participation in the RTRS Annual Conference, Working Groups, Task Forces, among others.

Read more about the online trading platform, and the options available to you

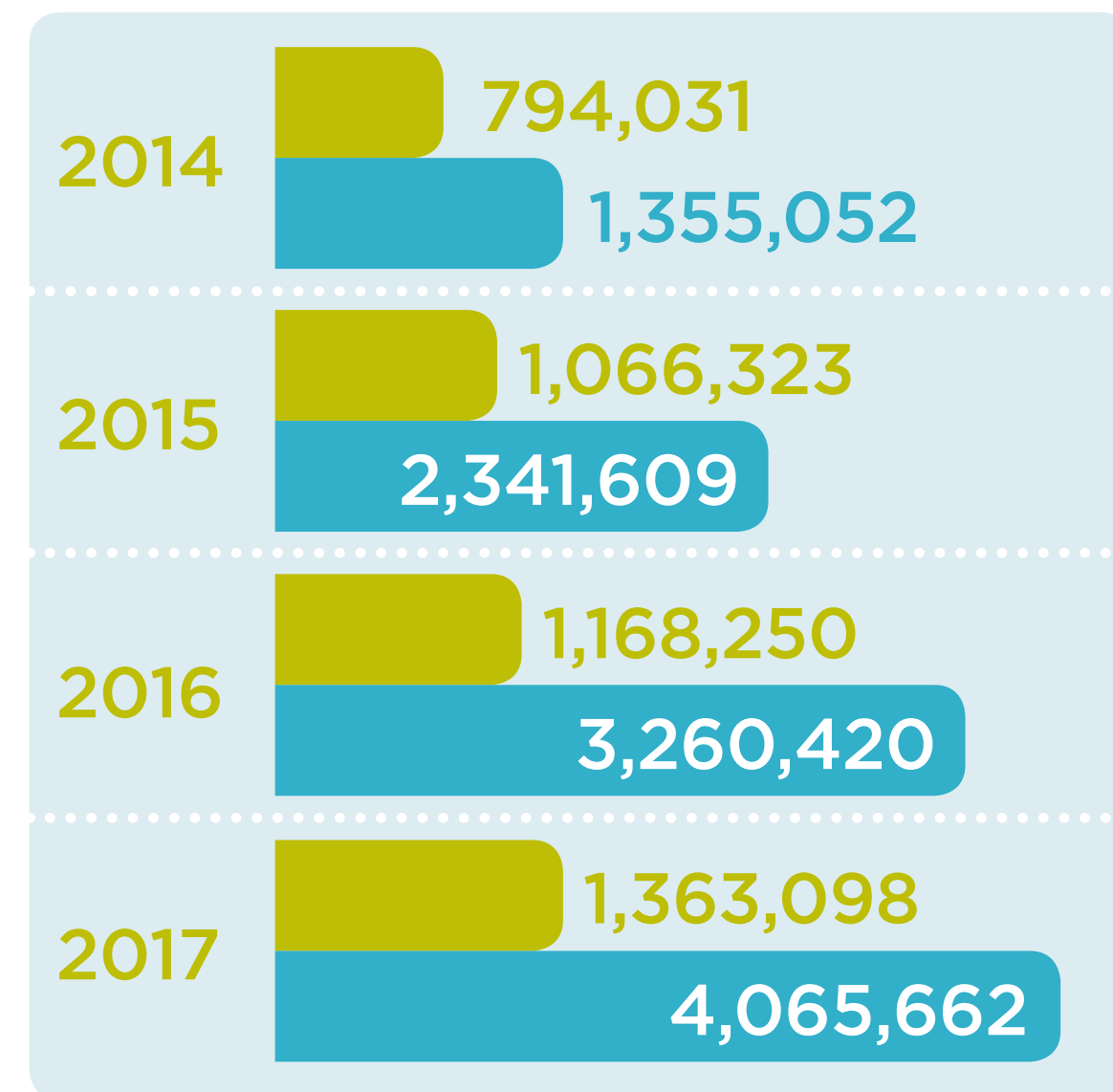


Supply and demand

The availability of responsible soy

The supply of responsible soy has been growing year on year. With strong relationships with producers and programmes that are increasing supply of RTRS certified material, RTRS can meet the needs of the most demanding end users.

RTRS soy — a growing supply



■ Mass balance
■ Credits

In 2018, a series of new production & supply chain models are being introduced to offer more flexibility to those wanting to purchase RTRS certified soy.

This means RTRS is better able to dovetail with individual corporate responsibility commitments and offer a much more bespoke responsible soy product based on individual company's needs.



The five core principles of RTRS certification

- 1** Legal compliance & good business practices
- 2** Responsible labour conditions
- 3** Responsible community relations
- 4** Environmental responsibility
- 5** Good agricultural practices

1

Country Material Balance (CMB)

This model has been created to keep on adding value to the certification of the soy production, facilitating the physical flow of RTRS soy to the market from within a specific country. The aim of this model is to give new conditions for the soy market wishing to move towards RTRS mass balance.

In the CMB model, RTRS-certified operators are allowed to aggregate the mass balance accounting systems of several certified physical sites as one single accounting system at national level.

This CMB module for the Chain of Custody adds to existing modules offered through RTRS certification, including Site Mass Balance and Segregation.

This product has the potential to significantly increase supply from countries - it streamlines the process of mass balance, and means that supply can reach scale.

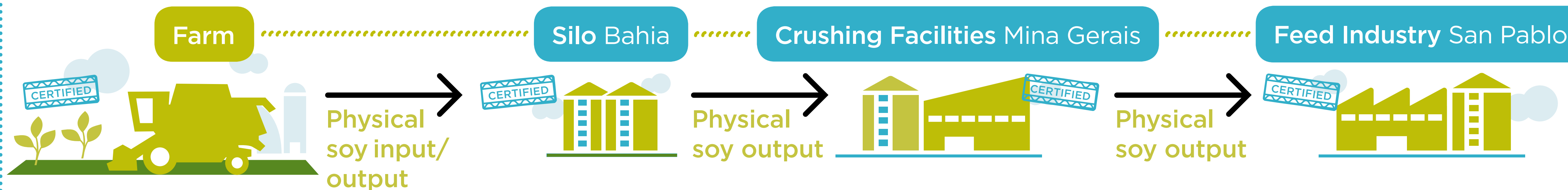
The diagrams overleaf show the differences between RTRS Site Mass certification and the new model Country Material Balance.

“This product streamlines the process of mass balance, and means that supply can reach scale.”

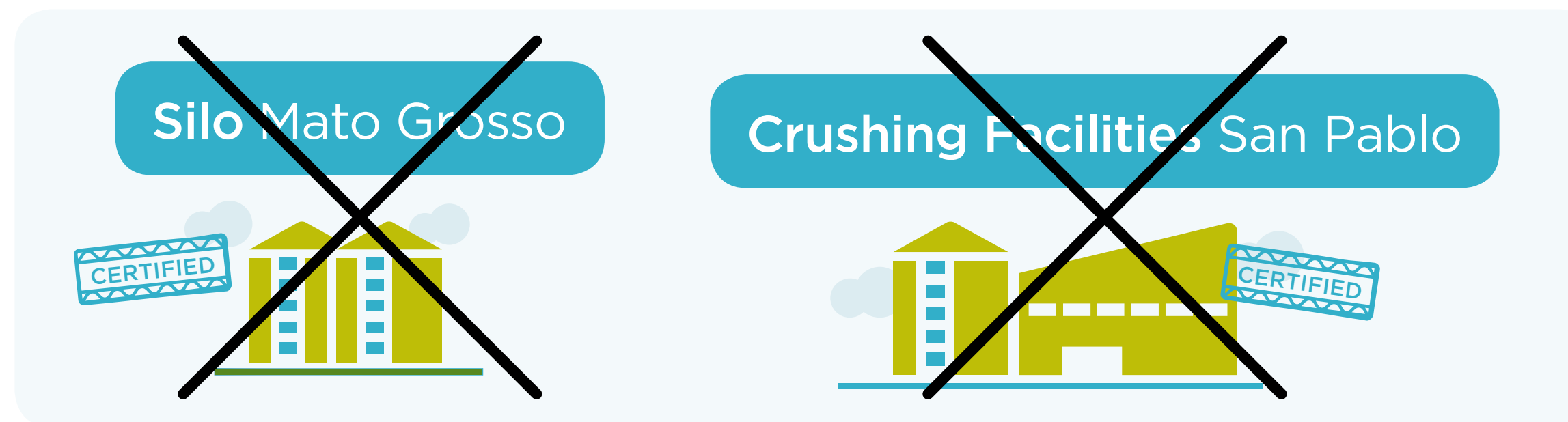


One accounting system per site for RTRS data

Site Mass Balance – Explained



The accounting system is only applicable to a single certified site. The soy that enters a facility (input) must leave that same facility (output) to continue through the supply chain.



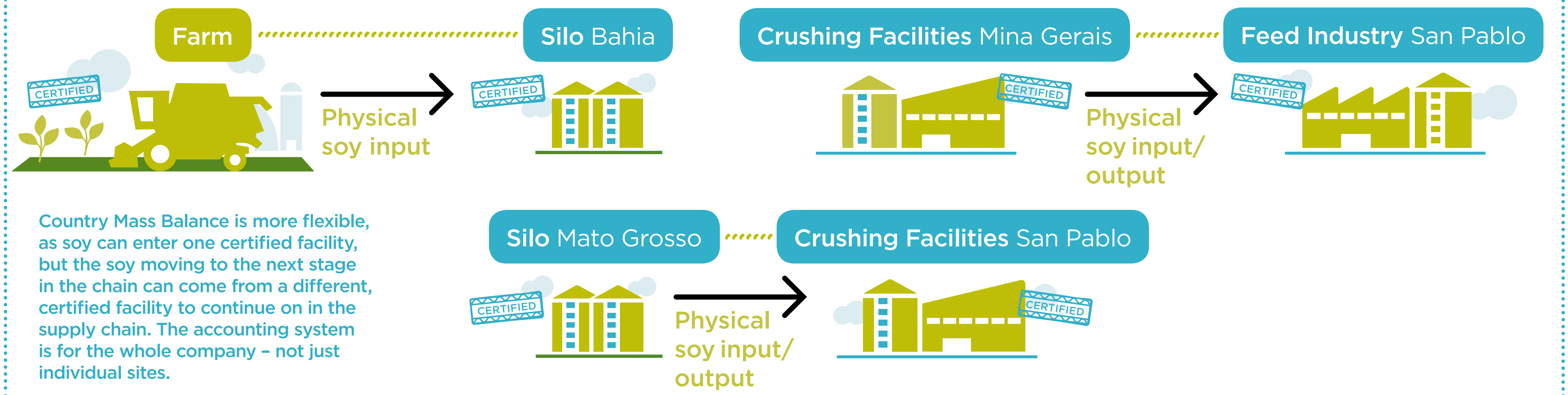
Each of the facilities involved should be certified against RTRS Chain of Custody Standard

Highlight:

- The organisation shall ensure that the output of RTRS mass balance material supplied to customers from the physical site does not exceed the input of RTRS mass balance material received at the physical site, using either a) continuous balancing system or b) a fixed inventory period
- Claiming policy for Site Mass Balance in the RTRS Use of the Logo & Claims Policy

One single accounting system for RTRS data

Country Material Balance - Explained



Country Mass Balance is more flexible, as soy can enter one certified facility, but the soy moving to the next stage in the chain can come from a different, certified facility to continue on in the supply chain. The accounting system is for the whole company - not just individual sites.

Each of the facilities involved should be certify against RTRS Chain of Custody Standard + CMB Module.

Highlight:

- The organization shall ensure that the output of RTRS mass balance material supplied to customers by all production sites participating in the CMB system does not exceed the input of RTRS mass balance material received by all production sites participating in the CMB system, using either a) continuous balancing system or b) a fixed inventory period
- Claiming policy for Country Material Balance in the RTRS Use of the Logo & Claims Policy

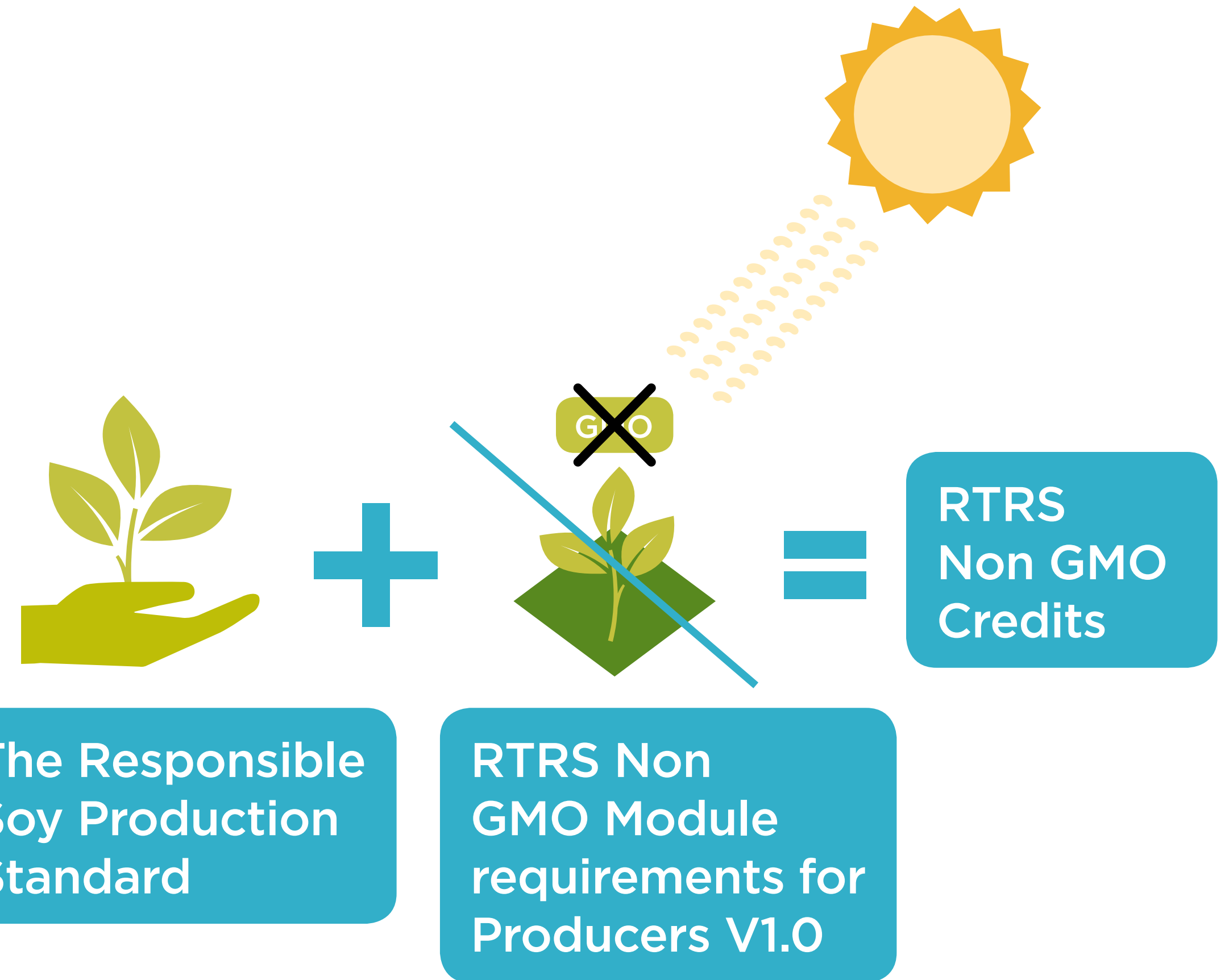


RTRS non-GMO credits

RTRS has offered non-GMO segregated physical supply of soy since 2011. However this is a model that enables the market to support the responsible production of non-GMO soy through the purchase of RTRS non-GMO credits, but not physically obtain the non-GMO soy.

This certification allows producers to commercialize RTRS non-GMO credits (1 ton of non-GMO soy is equivalent to 1 RTRS non-GMO credit). To obtain non-GMO credits the producers must have complied with local current legislation, RTRS Principles and Criteria and all the requirements for non-GMO production on the farm.

In order to guarantee the non-GMO status of product, an independent third party will be involved as part of the verification process and will conduct tests at harvest time in each non-GMO plot of the farms.



“This new model enables the market to support RTRS certified non-GMO soy through the credits system.”



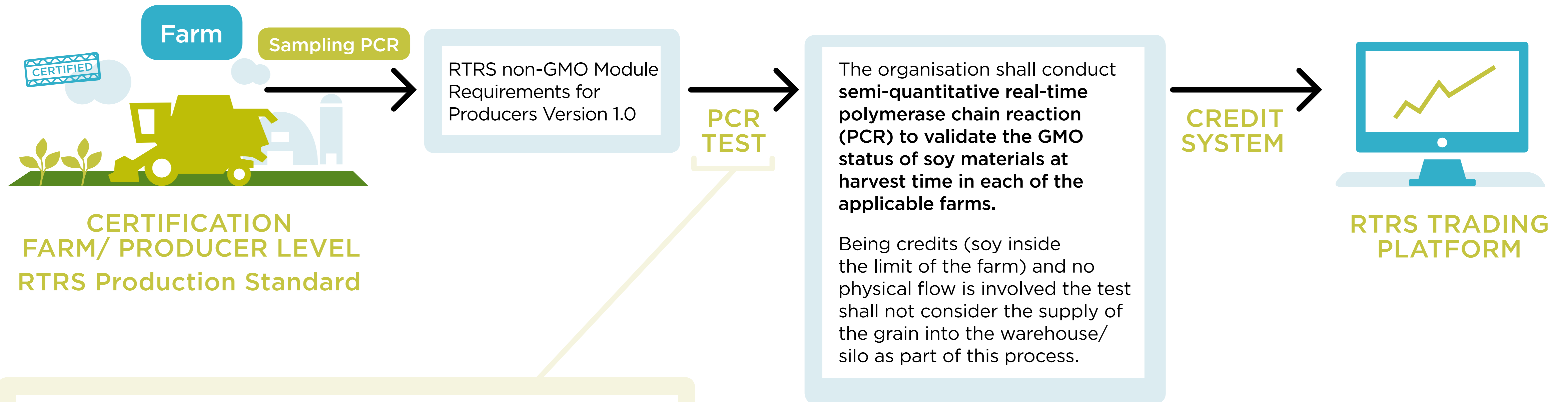
The new models, in detail 2.1

RTRS non-GMO Credits enables the market to support the responsible production of non-GMO soy through the purchase of RTRS non-GMO credits, but not physically obtain the non-GMO soy.

RTRS NON-GMO Credits

- ✗ NO segregation
- ✗ NO chain of custody

- The certification applies only to producers and the **unit of certification is the farm limits.**
- Once the soy leaves the farm there is **no traceability, no Chain of Custody involved.**



CERTIFICATION FARM/ PRODUCER LEVEL
RTRS Production Standard

Relating to the PCR test:
In order to guarantee the sampling and non-GMO status:

- **A third party shall be involved in this process.**
- Any laboratory conducting semi-quantitative tests for the presence of GMO DNA on their behalf must be competent to do so.
- Laboratories undertaking PCR tests must be accredited for PCR testing by a recognized Accreditation Body.

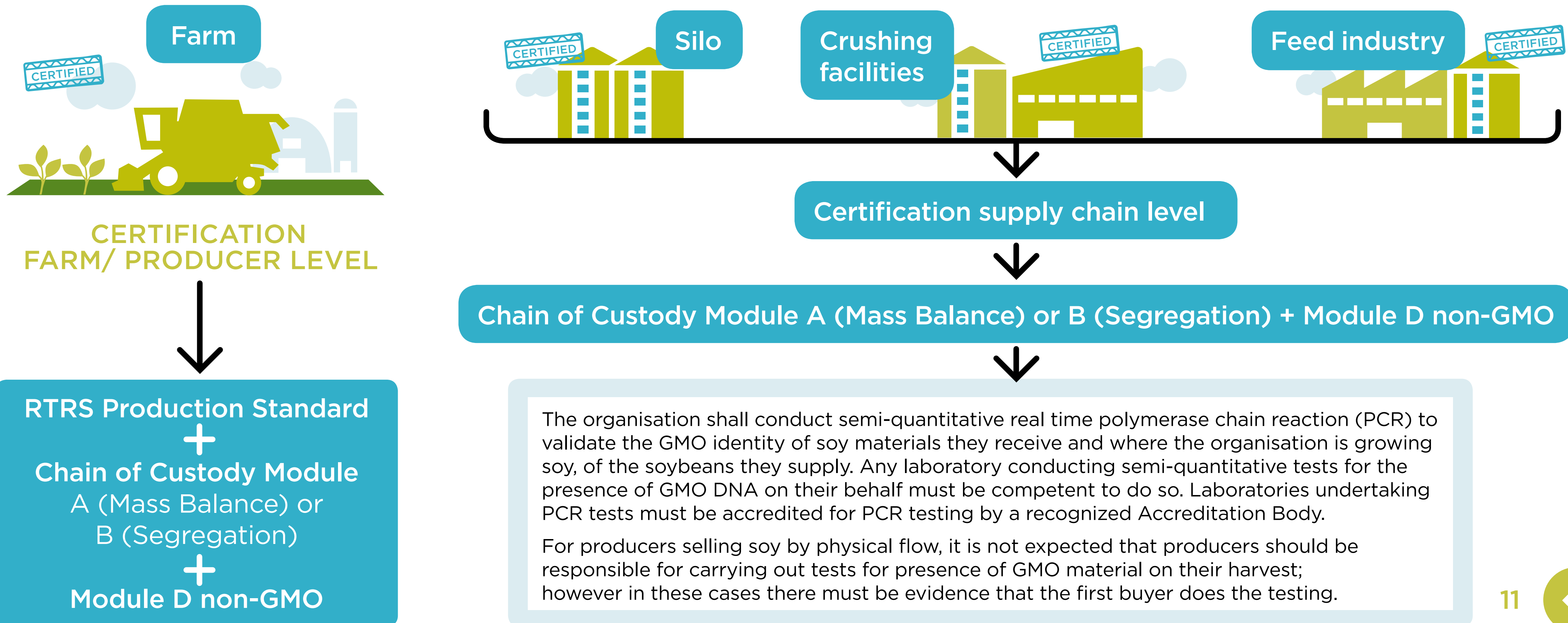
The new models, in detail 2.2

RTRS has offered non-GMO segregated physical supply of soy since 2011.

RTRS NON-GMO PHYSICAL SOY (Segregation)

- ✓ Segregation
- ✓ Chain of custody

– The certification applies to producers and all the **supply chain**.
 – A **segregated chain of custody system** can be in place once the soy leaves the farm.





RTRS Regional credits

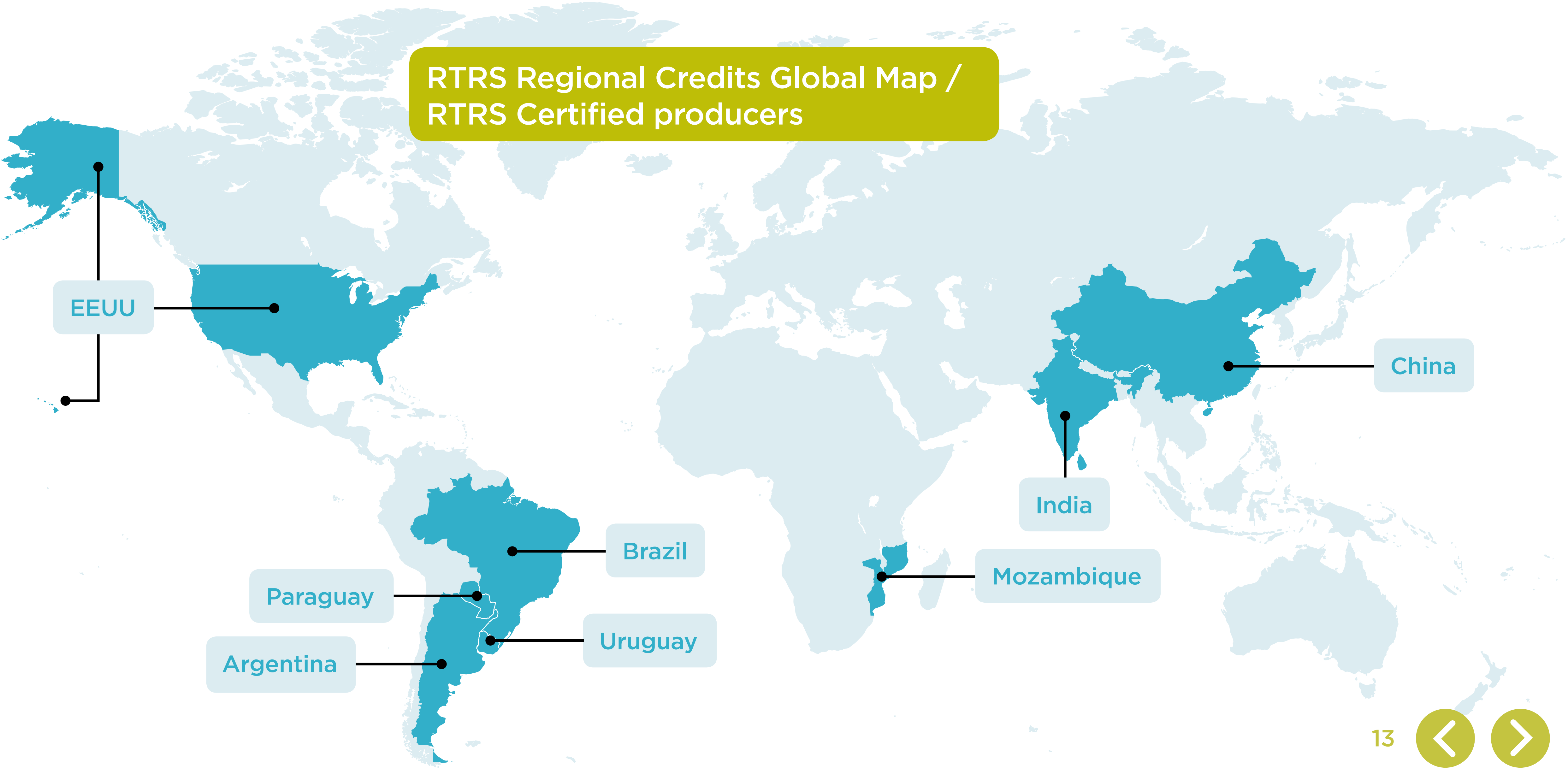
RTRS is now offering a new Regional credits option. This is a tool that will make it easier for the soy market to know which country they are buying RTRS credits from, and it will allow greater transparency along the soy chain.

RTRS credit buyers will be able to invest by region or country, and in doing so will be supporting local RTRS certified farmers. This tool makes it easier for the soy market to know from where they are buying RTRS credits allowing greater transparency along the soy chain, and brings the buyers of responsible soy much closer to the producers of that soy.

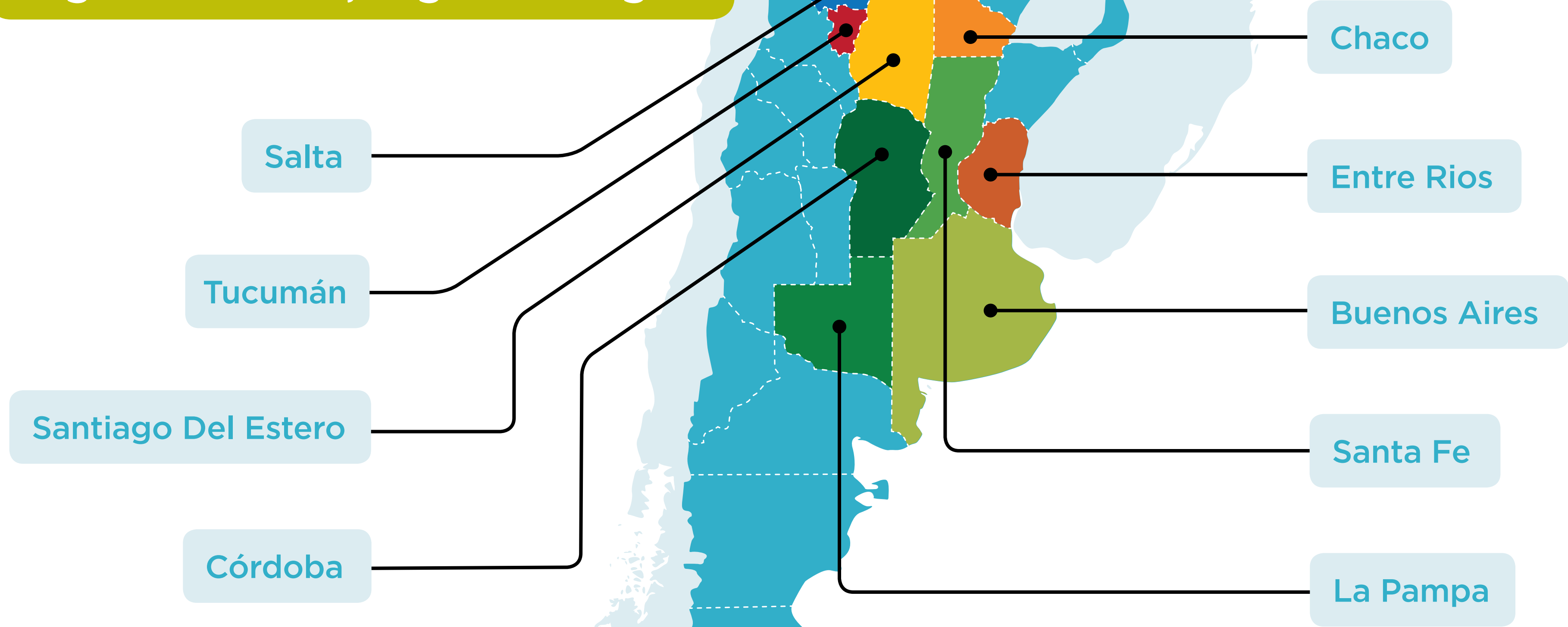
The maps overleaf will be available via the RTRS Trading Platform - allowing users to choose a point of origin for their soy, by clicking on a map, which will then present them with an overview of all others matching the selected region.



RTRS Regional Credits Global Map /
RTRS Certified producers



Regional Credits, Argentina region



Regional Credits, Brazil region

MA / RO / PA
Mato Grosso /
Rondonia / Para

MA / TO / PI / BA (Matopiba)
Maranhao / Tocantins /
Piaui / Bahia

MA / GO
Mato Grosso Do Sul /
Goias

MG / SP
Minad Gerais / Sao Paulo

PR / SC / RS (South Brasil)
Parana / Santa Catarina /
Rio Grande Do Sul

4

RTRS non-Paraquat credits

RTRS offers the market the opportunity to purchase non-Paraquat credits during the RTRS phase-out period ending on 1st January 2021. In countries where Paraquat is currently allowed by country legislation in agricultural production all producers are required to implement a program of progressive reduction over time until the phase-out deadline is reached.



In summary...



Country Material Balance

Streamlining the process of mass balance from multiple operators in a single country.

Offering one single accounting system for multiple certified facilities.



RTRS non-GMO credits

Offering guaranteed non-GMO credits to the market.

Enabling the market to support the responsible production of non-GMO soy through the purchase of RTRS non-GMO credits.



RTRS Regional credits

Allowing RTRS credit buyers to specify region or country.

Enabling RTRS credit buyers to support local farmers.

Focus market benefits to foster and scale up certification in certain areas.



RTRS non-Paraquat credits

Offering guaranteed non-Paraquat credit to the market.

A 'bridge' to the total phase out of Paraquat by RTRS producers in 2021.



To speak to a member of the RTRS team about sourcing RTRS certified soy, or to find out more about any of the new models, please contact info@responsiblesoy.org

