BE AN RTRS MEMBER
What does it mean to be an RTRS member?

RTRS Community

Membership & Governance Structure

Submission
Founded in 2006 in Zürich, Switzerland, the Round Table on Responsible Soy Association (RTRS) is a global multi-stakeholder non-profit organization promoting the growth of production, trade, and use of responsible soy through cooperation with those in, and related to, the soy value chain, from production to consumption, in an open multi-stakeholder dialogue including producers, suppliers, manufacturers, retailers, financial institutions, civil society organizations and other relevant actors.
As a global platform on soy, RTRS facilitates an inclusive and multi-stakeholder dialogue on responsible soy by means of different meetings and events:

- RTRS Annual Conference – RTs
- Task Forces (at national or regional level)
- Field Trips
- Webinars
- Public consultations
- Technical Working Groups

These meetings and events are opportunities to liaise with different organizations in the soy value chain and engage in conversations to shape the global soy agenda towards the common goal of transforming the soy supply chain.

RTRS Members are expected to actively participate in RTRS and respect - and contribute to - its principles and goals, as well as support its objectives.
RTRS also sets the standards for responsible soy and chain of custody that are the result of a multi-stakeholder development process and included several public consultation periods.

The RTRS Standard for Responsible Soy Production scheme ensures that RTRS soy not only meets the highest environmental criteria (including a guarantee of third party-verified zero deforestation and zero conversion) but also a wide-reaching set of social and labor requirements.

It is composed of the following five criteria:

- **Principle 1**
  Legal Compliance and Good Business Practices

- **Principle 2**
  Responsible Labor Conditions

- **Principle 3**
  Responsible Community Relations

- **Principle 4**
  Environmental Responsibility

- **Principle 5**
  Good Agricultural Practices

On the other hand, the RTRS Chain of Custody Standard describes the requirements related to the monitoring of RTRS-certified soy and soy by-products throughout the overall supply chain, under the following systems: Site Mass Balance; Country Material Balance and Segregation.
What does it mean to be an RTRS member?

It means being the protagonist of a shift towards environmentally correct, socially fair and economically feasible soy production.

• Be an active participant in the largest global multisectoral platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue and commit to a responsible and transparent soy supply chain.

• Connect directly with producers, civil society organizations, industry peers and experts.

• Be part of a network of global players in the soy supply chain that creates the conditions to coordinate and work in synergy.

• Make and participate in major joint decisions to create better conditions for the responsible production of soy worldwide.

• Bear and maintain a holistic and robust certification scheme, supported by a transparent and reliable verification system.
RTRS Community

Members from more than 27 countries together in promoting the growth of production, trade, and use of responsible soy.
Membership & Governance Structure

RTRS is a transparent and open organization, bringing together stakeholders of the soy value chain. There are two types of members: Participating Members and Observing Members.

**Participating Members**
They are divided into three constituencies, equally represented in RTRS’ governance structure: Producers; Industry, Trade and Finance and Civil Society.

Each of them is entitled to a vote at the General Assembly.

**Observing Members**
Other organizations and individuals that do not fit into any one of the three constituencies but who agree with the objectives of RTRS, such as regulatory agencies, government agencies, academia and major donors.

They are not entitled to vote at the General Assembly, but allows for the possibility of making proposals and taking part in discussions.
Rights

• Members have the right to participate in all RTRS-organized activities and events and shall have access to all tools and services provided by RTRS.

• Participating Members have voting rights at General Assembly Meetings and may submit motions to be voted upon in the General Assembly Meeting.

• Participating Members have the right to elect representatives from their constituencies to the Executive Board and are eligible for representation in the Executive Board in their respective constituencies.

Obligations

• Members are expected to actively participate in RTRS and respect - and contribute to - its principles and goals, as well as support its objectives.

• Participating Members shall, by way of a written annual progress report, inform their activities with a view to establishing consistent and credible communications.

• Members shall pay an annual membership fee.

RTRS members are entitled to use the RTRS trademarks (institutional logo) and claim the organization’s membership to, or relationship with, RTRS in their advertising, marketing and/or promotional material.

View the RTRS Statutes at www.responsiblesoy.org
Through a "roundtable" philosophy, enabling dialogue between different stakeholders and a consensus-based decision making processes, there is a convergence of interests around a single, common goal.

Members

General Assembly
The General Assembly is RTRS' highest decision-making level. It includes all Participating and Observing Members, although only Participating Members enjoy voting rights. In the interest of flexibility, the RTRS General Assembly delegates its operational activities and most of the decisions to the Executive Board.

Executive Board
The Executive Board is the resolution-making body of RTRS, with powers as delegated by the General Assembly Meeting or the RTRS Statutes.

RTRS Secretariat
The Secretariat is responsible for executing the decisions made by Executive Board.
Submission

Any organization may become a member via a form that can be downloaded from the RTRS website and filled out.

The organization will be requested to provide certain data about the business and a brief description, including its mission, objectives and relationship with the soy and corn value chains, as well as the reasons for applying for RTRS membership.

The RTRS Secretariat submits the request for admission to the Executive Board for a decision.

Contact the RTRS Secretariat to request information and/or assistance in the application process. Applicants may contact via email to: info@responsiblesoy.org

Members may decline their membership on a voluntary basis, at any time, through written notice to the RTRS Secretariat.

Membership fees

There are different types of fees, depending on the type and structure of the organization and membership category - whether the organization is a participating member or an observer.

This is an annual fee and must be paid by April 1 of each year.