

Environmental Classification and Issues:

Classification: This is a category III project according to the IIC's environmental and labor review procedure because it could produce certain effects that may be avoided or mitigated by following generally recognized performance standards, guidelines, or design criteria. The environmental and labor considerations related to the project include: product quality and third-party certification of good agricultural and environmental practices; management and application of agrochemicals; water supply; management of solid, liquid, and hazardous waste; and occupational safety and health practices.

Product Quality and Third-party Certification of Good Agricultural and Environmental Practices

Green Perú has obtained third-party certification for good agricultural (EUREPGAP) and the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) practices. The Euro-Retail Produce Working Group for Good Agricultural Practice (EUREPGAP) was established by a group of leading European retail chains in order to improve the fresh fruit and vegetable production standards by fostering food safety, sustainable use of natural resources, and more environmentally friendly production. HACCP helps identify the key control points by examining a flowchart of the production process. The company uses drip irrigation, which is the most efficient irrigation system in sandy soil where water is scarce, as is the case in this project. Green Perú takes advantage of the drip irrigation system to continuously apply small amounts of fertilizer, which is more efficient than the conventional method of applying fertilizers.

Management and Application of Agrochemicals

All agrochemicals used comply with the updated Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and European Economic Community (EEC) standards, including their restrictions on the use of pesticides globally. Green Perú has an updated list of banned and restricted pesticides. Technical data sheets are available for all chemicals, which are used according to the label recommendations. Integrated pest management is used to minimize or avoid the use of agrochemicals. Chemicals are used rationally and in the smallest possible amount thanks to the integrated pest and disease management system in place. Currently there is minimal impact from insects and disease.

Management of Solid, Liquid, and Hazardous Waste

Solid organic waste from the fields and waste from the processing plant are used as basic feed for dairy livestock. In exchange, Green Perú receives organic matter (livestock manure compost) that is used in the plantations as organic fertilizer. Wastewater produced by cleaning and processing is passed through a sand trap before treatment in an oxidation pond, where organic pollutants are biodegraded by microorganisms. Treated water undergoes quarterly microbiologic and physiochemical analyses and is subsequently used for tree irrigation. As a contribution to the environment and in order to foster flora and fauna diversification, Green Perú has planted one hectare of eucalyptus forest and set up conservation areas for other plant species and 3,500 linear meters of eucalyptus trees.

Water Supply

Water comes from the Chavimochic canal, which passes through a sedimentation pond that traps solid particles before being introduced into the irrigation system. The entire irrigation system is regulated by the National Water Resources Institute, which falls under the Peruvian Ministry of Agriculture.

Occupational Health and Safety Practices

Green Perú personnel regularly attend presentations on various technical, health, safety, and other issues. Employees use work clothes and other protective equipment as necessary. The company obtained HACCP certification because it had implemented occupational safety and health practices. The company adequately implements the Good Manufacturing Practices training program, which includes training courses on occupational health and safety.

Personnel in contact with machinery or chemicals are provided with adequate protective gear for undertaking activities that involve risk, such as: maintenance activities; machinery operation; and handling cleaning products, disinfectants, and pest control products (rodenticides and insecticides). The company has full-time health care professionals to treat occupational diseases and other ailments. Green Perú complies with domestic labor regulations and personnel also receive training in order to prevent occupational diseases.

Monitoring and Annual Reporting

Green Perú already has an environmental management plan. The company will submit a yearly report summarizing the results of monitoring the handling of agrochemicals and waste, occupational health and safety issues at the work site, accident reporting, food quality and safety, and labor issues. EUREPGAP also requires that suppliers carry out annual internal audits, document their outcomes, and take appropriate corrective steps.