SDG for Rice Farmers
Bluenumber® SDG Scorecard™

ESG reporting is a key component of a company’s annual compliance disclosures. The United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are used to categorize areas of business focus, activity and impact. Together, ESG and SDGs reporting can inform stakeholders how companies incorporate sustainability in growing their business\(^1\).

Bluenumber introduced the idea of a beneficiary-centric, or worker-reported, SDG ‘scorecard’ at the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights in 2016 in Geneva.

The Bluenumber SDG Scorecard is an impact and risk analysis report built on bottom-up data from workers to support what a company claims about their SDG performance. This objective evidence directly from workers benchmarks a company to the SDGs and can set KPIs for business targets as well as measures if sustainability, labour and human rights policies are effective.

Toyo Rice announced their plans to use the Bluenumber SDG Scorecard at the UN Business and Human Rights Forum in 2019. Toyo Rice was the first company among developed countries to adopt a sustainable method to produce rice and the first in Japan to contribute to SDGs\(^2\). Toyo Rice’s Brand-Grind (BG) rice initiative meets 14 of the 17 SDGs.

Toyo Rice asked eleven (11) agricultural cooperatives and 205 producers of rice and other products, to answer 50 questions to create data for the Bluenumber SDG Scorecard.

The company asked their rice farmers to evidence claims that they engage farmers in the supply chain and about their sustainable approach to producing rice.

Rice farmers from farmers associations across Tohoku, Chubu, Kyushu & Okinawa, Chugoku and Kanto regions of Japan created a Bluenumber self sovereign identity (SSI) and completed a mobile-app survey on 17 SDGs relative to national targets and international benchmarks.

All responses were aggregated to generate individual farmer Scorecards, which were then used to generate corporate Scorecards for the associations and Toyo Rice.

The B# SDG Scorecard enabled Toyo Rice to evidence their sustainable approach to rice production.

10,300 data points on identity, livelihood, welfare and farming practices were gathered to visualize and evidence Toyo Rice’ claims of sustainability.
10,300 data points on identity, livelihood, welfare and farming practices were gathered to generate the Bluenumber SDG Scorecard for Toyo Rice.

---

1 CRMS, 2023, SDGs and ESG - Overcoming sustainability risks, Available at https://crmsindonesia.org/publications/sdgs-and-esg-overcoming-the-sustainability-risks/