

Cooperation Agreement

IFS Pathway Project Contribution 2023



IFS Pathway Project Framework Cooperation Agreement

Between

**IFS Management GmbH
Am Weidendamm 1 A
10117 Berlin
GERMANY**

- herein after referred to as “IFS Management” -

And

**BRK YNG Consulting
124 Hudson Way N9 OXG / LONDON**

- herein after referred to as “Invited Companies & Experts (Technical Service Providers and Experts)”

Section 1. Preamble and Preliminary IFS considerations

The propose of IFS Management is, inter alia, to conduct business activities in relation to the IFS (International Featured Standards). One main function of the IFS is to provide standardized assessment procedures or monitoring processes regarding the certification of food/product safety and the quality of producers/service providers.

The IFS Management GmbH is constantly analysing potential target markets to provide better support and suitable solutions to IFS stakeholders and partners on further business developments, taking into consideration regional variables and conditions. Globally, many regions have shown huge activity and potential to develop in terms of their safety and quality strategies. They often consider the IFS Global Markets as a starting point, with potential to move to full certification. At the same time, demands on consulting, training, assessments and potential other services that are fundamental to reach the newly set goals are generated. Therefore, IFS has developed the concept of a supportive platform - the **IFS Pathway to Certification** - to help companies on the journey from IFS Global Markets to full IFS Certification. The tool is a cooperation of IFS and expert partners involved in operational activities.

Cooperation Agreement

IFS Pathway Project Contribution 2023



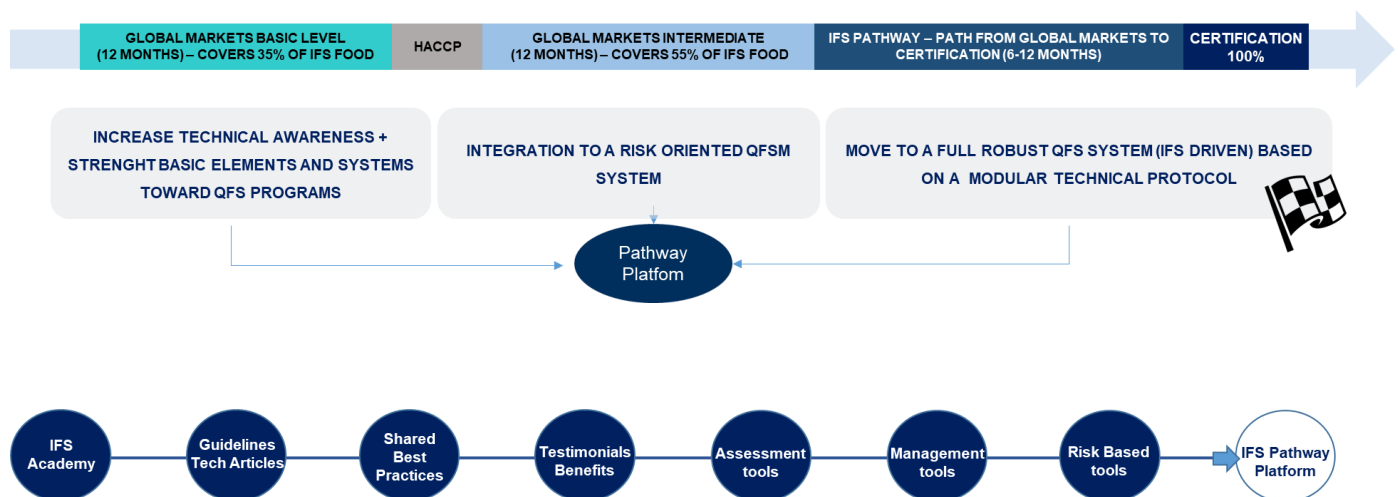
Section 2.

Program foundation

The **IFS Pathway to Certification** is expected to be an interactive platform within the IFS Academy aiming to combine technical, risk based, learned experiences and management contents, as support towards IFS requirements implementation.

The platform shall be useful as a learning experience for Quality and Safety processes development and improvement, which enhances IFS Global Markets levels of conformity towards IFS Standards.

Using a modular approach based on a certification planning strategy, IFS expects to support IFS Pathway users in the development and improvement of their Quality and Safety Management systems and to finally succeed in gaining full product and process IFS certification.



Section 3.

Contribution and General Benefits for Pathway Engaging Partners

The **IFS Pathway to Certification** strategy was set to allow IFS partners to contribute to the project by creating technical content as part of the strategic path towards IFS Standard certification. By supporting IFS and IFS implementing companies with the creation of content for the pathway, IFS partners will have the benefit of increasing their visibility in the relevant market as an expert in the field and professional part of the branch. It will also support the promotion of IFS and pathway partners through a solid communication process which creates mutual brand visibility and trust. Lastly, this cooperation is expected to create demand and commitment to certification under IFS Standards which also generates demand for service providers in the market.

Cooperation Agreement

IFS Pathway Project Contribution 2023



By signing this Cooperation Agreement to contribute with technical content for the IFS Pathway to Certification (and other market access commitments **detailed in each Annex** below), IFS is willing to provide the following marketing and development benefits to our supporters as mutual benefits (annexes at the bottom of this Agreement):

Annex 1: IFS Pathway Benefits for Invited Companies & Experts (Technical Service Providers and Experts)

Section 4.

Conditions to program adherence and benefits

4.1 IFS Pathway project contribution is valid to IFS partners (active within IFS or under signing process of an IFS contract) who signed this agreement, and to invited companies. All content materials and contributions delivered to IFS will be held as granted contribution to IFS Management GmbH and used according to IFS decision on its format considering, but not limited to: guidelines, media content, webinars, trainings, e-learning, quiz, technical letter, etc., which will be available to pathway users on the IFS Academy platform (Moodle). Technical content delivered by the partner shall be approved by both parties. Content updates, if necessary, is in the responsibility of the partner. IFS reserves the right to manage material content from partners according to project needs and expectations.

4.2 All benefits are commitments offered under normal and expected/planned conditions, where both parties shall be integrated and provide constant communication to manage the deployment, roll out and follow up of the engaged benefits.

However, due to market variables related to the expected benefits, written agreements, duly justified, shall be notified in advance by both parties whenever they are not able to be sustained. Benefit extensions or exceptions shall be validated by the IFS team according to each inquiry. Whenever it is apparent that agreement expectations are not compliant, the cooperation agreement shall be terminated by both parties. In case of events that may cause disruptions to existing IFS contracts and image risk for any of the parties, this agreement will also be withdrawn.

4.3 IFS is responsible for the program roll out in accordance to all signed agreements and shall keep an up to date plan for the content upload into the IFS Pathway Platform and for all benefits and related actions in order to provide a proper follow up with all partners.

4.4 IFS expects to have all technical content delivered within three (3) months after signing the agreement, as a target. However, all delivery dates shall be previously agreed and formalized with IFS, based on both parties' capacities and project priorities. Content review will be done by IFS prior to publication.

4.5 IFS services and projects are presented in a transparent manner to all markets and IFS active stakeholders, thus IFS is not allowed to sustain preference or exclusive work cooperation between IFS and interested parties. The IFS pathway project is open to contribution from interested IFS stakeholders which means that more than one company/person is/are allowed to contribute on the same topic (although IFS will make efforts to effectively allocate all interested parties equally).

Cooperation Agreement

IFS Pathway Project Contribution 2023



4.6 Benefits relating to Marketing (logo, promotion and visibility) will have 1-year duration from content contribution release and launch of the IFS Pathway Platform. However, some medium term activities might take longer, where adjusted agreements shall be formalized. All media related to the IFS Pathway strategy (including, but not limited to: communication to IFS Pathway users, content on IFS newsletters, social media posts, etc.) will be part of the previously approved IFS Communication Marketing Plan (including partner-own media contents about IFS Pathway contributions, which have to be communicated to the IFS Pathway project lead).

4.7 Logo use & promotion conditions (IFS Pathway Partner Logo and Company own logo/name):

4.7.1: Whenever the same companies from different regions contribute to the IFS Pathway project, the company logo presented will be the standard company logo. However, a written mention on the content material/media will be added relating to the contributing region.

4.7.2: Logos from contributing partners will remain on uploaded content in the IFS Pathway platform as long as the documents are valid (according to documents review needs) or as long as the partner is actively engaged with the cooperation. Logos, company names and agreed partner packages (including the IFS Pathway partner logo) will no longer be considered when the agreement is terminated because of non-compliance of the cooperation conditions or other reasons; the partner no longer wants to contribute to the content reviews; and when IFS standard and program updates require content withdrawal.

4.7.3 For logo promotion duration related to IFS Communication Marketing plan activities, item 4.6 applies.

4.8 All commitments and remarks stated in this Cooperation Agreement shall be fully complied with by both parties.

Cooperation Agreement

IFS Pathway Project Contribution 2023



Section 5. Cooperation agreement

IFS Management GmbH, hereby states to provide **IFS Pathway project** marketing benefits, support and follow up to the program elements deployment and roll out, in accordance to all premises and conditions as stated in this document.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "1c" followed by a long diagonal stroke.

Berlin, date **21 /** **04 /** **2023** _____
(IFS Management GmbH)

(_____), hereby states to adhere to the **IFS Pathway to Certification project** as contributor and to comply to the proposed agreements, in accordance to all premises and conditions as stated in this document.

_____, **date** **/** **/** **2022** _____
(IFS Pathway Partner)

Cooperation Agreement

IFS Pathway Project Contribution 2023



Annex 1: IFS Pathway Benefits for Invited Companies & Experts (Technical Service Providers and Experts)

IFS provides to IFS Pathway partners	IFS Pathway partners provides to IFS
• IFS Pathway Partner logo to be used on developed content in the IFS Pathway platform (Moodle) and on own marketing/ media/ events (related to IFS pathway contribution or IFS in general); • Visibility and promotion as partner (company own logo/ company name) to IFS Global Markets and Pathway users, inside IFS pathway platform and developed content (along with the partner logo); at IFS Pathway communication general and regional events and to IFS Network via IFS media (According to IFS Communication Mkt Plan: Social Media, Blog, Events, Newsletters, etc);	<u>DELIVERIES:</u> • Technical content contribution to pathway (guidelines, tools, e-learnings, webinars, trainings, best practices chart, etc); • 1 Content for IFS own media (social media, blog, newsletter, etc) as contribution (related to content provided, as support to IFS pathway Marketing); <u>COMMITMENTS:</u> • Repost and comment IFS Pathway Media Communication posts within your network (support to IFS pathway marketing) and set own media content on IFS pathway contribution (using IFS Partner Logo); • To consider IFS as speaker/partner at your events/activities;