

# Union Maraichère de Genève

Disclosure Report Date Submitted: August 11th, 2023

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### **Disclosure Materials**

Certified B Corporations must complete a Disclosure Questionnaire to identify potentially sensitive issues related to the company (e.g. historical fines, sanctions, material litigation, or sensitive industry practices).

This component does not affect the company's score on the B Impact Assessment. If the company answers affirmatively to any items in the Disclosure Questionnaire that B Lab deems relevant for public stakeholders, then, as a condition of their certification, the company must:

- Be transparent about details of the disclosure issues identified on the company's public B Impact Report
- 2) Describe how the company has addressed this issue
- 3) Demonstrate that management practices are in place to avoid similar issues from arising in the future, when necessary.

In all cases, the Standards Advisory council reserves the right to refuse certification if the company is ultimately deemed not to uphold the spirit and integrity of the community.

In addition to the voluntary indication of sensitive issues in the Disclosure Questionnaire, companies pursuing Certification also are subject to a background check by B Lab staff. Background checks include a review of public records, news sources, and search engines for company names, brands, executives/founders, and other relevant topics.

Sensitive issues identified through background checks may or may not be within the scope of questions in the Disclosure Questionnaire, but undergo the same review process and are subject to the same possible review by the Standards Advisory Council, including ineligibility for B Corp Certification, required remediation, or disclosure.

This document contains a copy of the company's completed Disclosure Questionnaire and related disclosure documentation provided by the company



# **Disclosure Questionnaire**

#### **Industries and Products**

#### Yes No Please indicate if the company is involved in production of or trade in any of the following. Select Yes for all options that **Animal Products or Services** $\boxed{}$ **Biodiversity Impacts** Chemicals $\square$ **Disclosure Alcohol** $\square$ **Disclosure Firearms Weapons** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Mining** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Pornography** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Tobacco** $\boxed{}$ **Energy and Emissions Intensive** $\boxed{}$ Industries Fossil fuels $\square$ Gambling **Genetically Modified Organisms** $\boxed{}$ Illegal Products or Subject to $\boxed{}$ **Phase Out** Industries at Risk of Human $\square$ **Rights Violations Monoculture Agriculture** $\square$ **Nuclear Power or Hazardous** $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ **Materials** Payday, Short Term, or High **Interest Lending** Water Intensive Industries $\square$ **Tax Advisory Services**

#### **Outcomes & Penalties**

	Yes	No
Please indicate if the company has had any formal complaint to a regulatory agency or been assessed any fine or sanction in the past five years for any of the following practices or policies. Check all that apply.		
Anti-Competitive Behavior		$\checkmark$
Breaches of Confidential Information		V
Bribery, Fraud, or Corruption		
Company has filed for bankruptcy		V
Consumer Protection		V
Financial Reporting, Taxes, Investments, or Loans		N
Hazardous Discharges Into Air/Land/Water (Past 5 Yrs)		N
Labor Issues		V
Large Scale Land Conversion, Acquisition, or Relocation		K
Litigation or Arbitration		
On-Site Fatality		V
Penalties Assessed For Environmental Issues		V
Political Contributions or International Affairs		K
Recalls		V
Significant Layoffs		V
Violation of Indigenous Peoples Rights		N
Other		$\checkmark$



#### **Practices**

	Yes	No
Please indicate if the following statements are true regarding whether or not the company engages in the following practices. Check all that apply. If the statement is true, select "Yes." If false, select "No."		
Animal Testing		V
Company/Suppliers Employ Under Age 15 (Or Other ILO Minimum Age)		V
Company prohibits freedom of association/collective bargaining		$\checkmark$
Company workers are prisoners		$\searrow$
Conduct Business in Conflict Zones		
Confirmation of Right to Work		V
Does not transparently report corporate financials to government		V
Employs Individuals on Zero-Hour Contracts		<b>₹</b>
Facilities located in sensitive ecosystems		V
ID Cards Withheld or Penalties for Resignation		N.
No formal Registration Under Domestic Regulations		V
No signed employment contracts for all workers		V
Overtime For Hourly Workers Is Compulsory		V
Payslips not provided to show wage calculation and deductions		V

	Yes	No
Sale of Data		V
Tax Reduction Through Corporate Shells		V
Workers cannot leave site during non-working hours		V
Workers not Provided Clean Drinking Water or Toilets		$\searrow$
Workers paid below minimum wage		N
Workers Under Bond		✓
Other		$\checkmark$

### Supply Chain Disclosures

	Yes	No
Please indicate if any of the following statements are true regarding your company's significant suppliers.		
Business in Conflict Zones		$\checkmark$
Child or Forced Labor		$\vee$
Negative Environmental Impact		
Negative Social Impact		$\vee$
Other		$\checkmark$



# **Disclosure Questionnaire Statement**

## **Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Environmentally Intensive Industries**

Topic	Biodiversity Impact/Monoculture Impact
Summary of Issue	As an agricultural company, Union Maraichère de Genève (UMG) operates in an industry in which biodiversity impact is a material environmental issue. UMG sells vegetables purchased from producer cooperatives through its cooperative members, using a mix of traditional farming techniques, greenhouses techniques, and organic techniques. The company does not manage its own land. All cooperative members are certified Swiss Gap, GRTA, Demain la Terre and have to follow the PER requirements.
Size/Scope of Issue (e.g. \$ financial implication, # of individuals affected)	Approximately 91.46% of Union Maraichère de Genève's supplier expenses come directly from farmer suppliers (cooperative members)
Impact on Stakeholders	Agriculture poses a risk to local ecosystems of flora and fauna as well as the potential degradation of cultivated land.
Implemented Management Practices	<ul> <li>It is mandatory for Cooperative members to be SwissGap and Demain La Terre certified, and therefore, the Cooperative follows the PER program (required ecological services) imposed by SwissGap and Demain La Tere, including - crop rotation and the use of greenhouses.</li> <li>Demain la Terre certification, with independent audit every year, producers have to show a constant improvement target.</li> <li>Crop rotation is an obligation under the SwissGap certificate for all the surfaces except for greenhouses. Greenhouses do not use crop rotation as they do not directly touch the soil, and as such, do not cause any soil degradation.</li> <li>UMG has several management policies within the cooperative to minimize the use of pesticides and to favor Bio certified products. Cooperative uses pesticide/chemical fertilizer, but there are practices to limit the use of pesticides in place such as Prophylaxis (biological control for traditional farming), physical control (mulching, mechanical/thermal weeding, and</li> </ul>



	<ul> <li>physical barrier), and precision treatment equipment (localized treatment).</li> <li>UMG has launched a label certifying zero use of pesticide during the entire life of the plant (link below). This process is audited by the company's quality team and undergoes an independent audit / certification Procert.</li> </ul>
Reports	Per Romandie 2020 GRTA SwissGap Demain La Terre Procert UMG Zero pesticide label



# **Disclosure Questionnaire Statement**

### **Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Environmentally Intensive Industries**

Topic	Water Intensive Industries
Summary of Issue	As an agricultural company, Union Maraichère de Genève operates in an industry that is water intensive. Cooperative members obtain rainwater and utilize municipal water sources for irrigation.
Size/Scope of Issue (e.g. \$ financial implication, # of individuals affected)	Approximately 91.46% of Union Maraichère de Genève's supplier expenses come directly from farmer suppliers.
Impact on Stakeholders	As a water intensive industry, agriculture poses risks such as water stress or depletion of local water sources if water use is not appropriately managed. Union Maraichère de Genève uses rainwater and municipal water as sources, municipal water being the main water source. The company's operations are in Geneve; not currently considered a water scarce region.
Implemented Management Practices	All suppliers from cooperatives are required to have the Demain la Terre and Swiss Gap certificate, which sets water usage obligations such as to protect all water resources, optimize crop irrigation, fight against water pollution, and overall drop in water consumption. However UMG has implemented and shares techniques to cooperative members through workshops to reduce water consumption such as drip watering, hydroponics, aeroponics and rainwater recovery in greenhouses. Workshops are attended by all cooperative members and participation documents are signed.  The company does not currently measure its water intensity nor has specific targets in place for water reduction.