

# Newsletter

Volume 12



A journey of thousand miles begins with a single step

**Lao Tze**

## From the Director

Behind the scenes at trustea, we are always looking at ways to make improvements in the programme in order to deliver strategic solutions to our community of members, enhance the livelihood of the farmers and workers; all the while protecting and enhancing the biodiversity of our environment. It was felt that the time had come to make changes to the code keeping with the emerging challenges in the quest for a sustainable tea supply chain. The goal is to create a program that will equip the entities with practical solutions in their sustainability journey and develop resilience to face the adverse impacts of climate change.

We have now taken the first and important step in this endeavour. After multiple rounds of deliberations and debates, we have put out in the public domain

the draft of the revised trustea code for feedback and suggestions. You can provide your valuable comments by accessing the draft of the code here

**[https://trustea.org/Draft\\_public/codebookdraft.pdf](https://trustea.org/Draft_public/codebookdraft.pdf)**

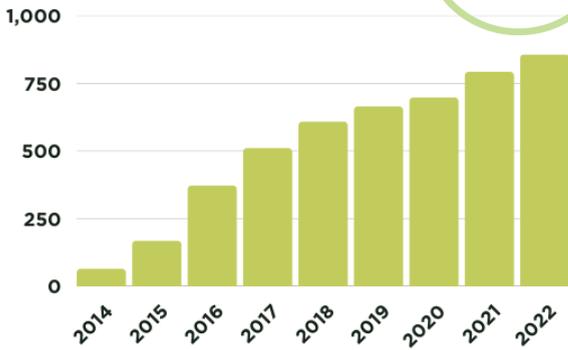
As in the previous years, on the occasion of International Tea Day on 21st of May, we published our Year Book 2022. You can read the same by visiting the link **<https://trustea.org/year-book-2022/>**

In the beginning of May, we had extensive and valuable consultations with our assurance system partners in Kolkata. The initiatives and actions agreed upon during these interactions will go a long way in improving the quality of program implementation and assessments. You can read a report on these events in this Newsletter.

We welcome your feedback, comments on articles as well as write-ups for publication in the Newsletter. Please write in to **[comms@trustea.org](mailto:comms@trustea.org)**.

# Program Update

## YEAR-WISE PROGRESSION OF VOLUME (MN KGS)



**868**  
Mn KGS  
Tea Verified  
on Exit 2022



**MALE**  
**2,88,151**



**FEMALE**  
**3,66,514**

## WORKERS REACHED



**632**

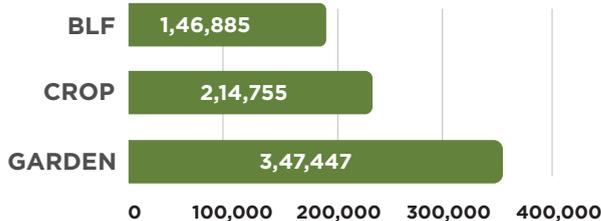
ENTITIES VERIFIED



**1,05,787**

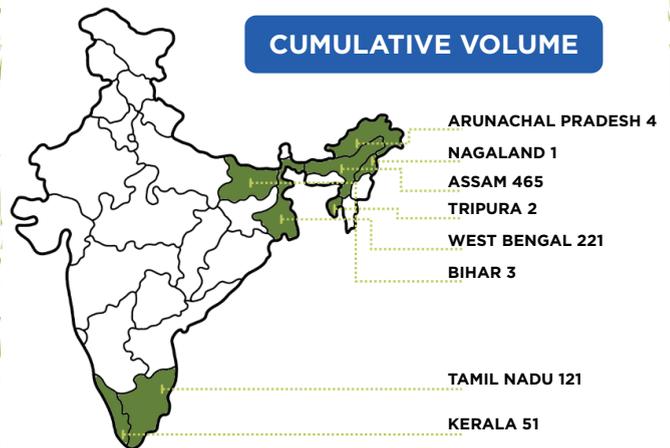
STGs ADDED

## AREA COVERED (IN HECTARES)



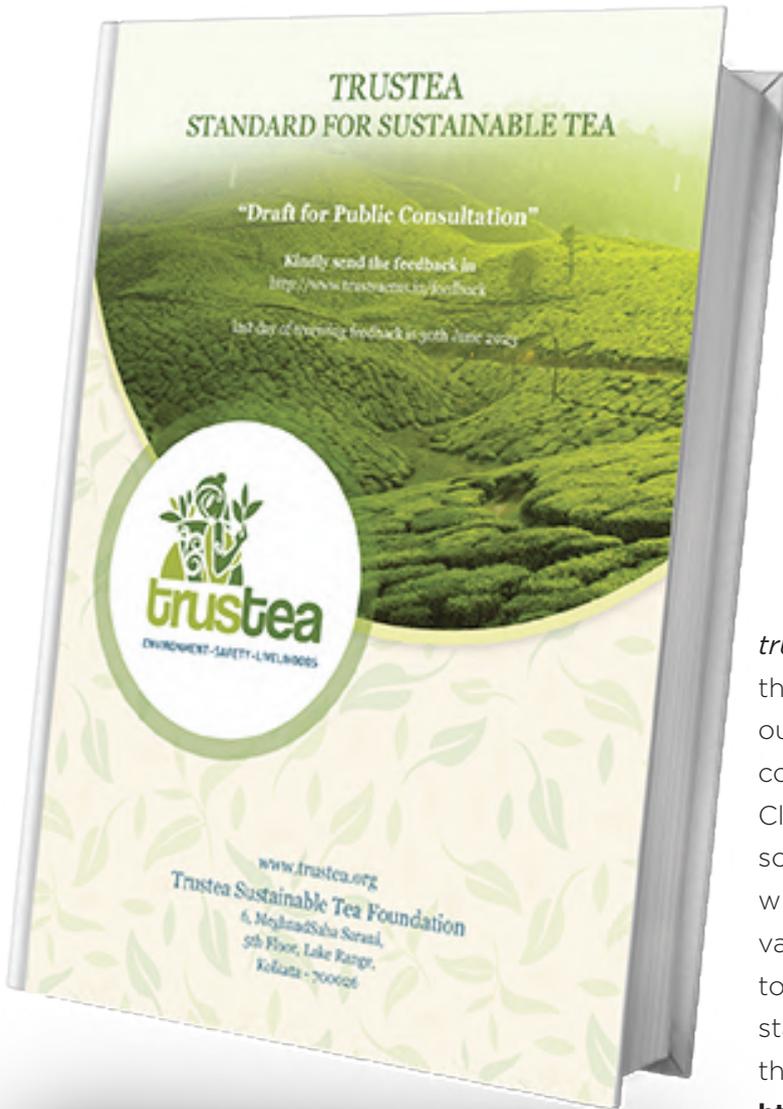
Note: The tea garden area include the crop area of the garden and they are not mutually exclusive

## CUMULATIVE VOLUME



Note: The depiction of the boundaries in the map is for general illustration purpose only

# Code Corner



*trustea* is happy to announce that the draft version of the trustea's new standard (V3) is now available on our website (<https://trustea.org/>) for public consultation. The new draft is more focused on Climate Management & Human Rights along with some important applicable inclusions which in return will help to achieve trustea's mission and add more value to the overall system credibility. We would like to request all our stakeholders to go through the draft standard and kindly feel free to share their valuable thoughts in the feedback section

<https://www.trusteamcs.in/feedback> or drop a mail to [raymukherjee@trustea.org](mailto:raymukherjee@trustea.org) by 30th June 2023

Read more about the draft in detail

[https://trustea.org/Draft\\_public/codebookdraft.pdf](https://trustea.org/Draft_public/codebookdraft.pdf)

# Event Calendar



## trustea System Assurance Review Meet – 8 May 2023 at The Westin

trustea conducted annual system assurance review meet with IP's from AFPRO, TRA, RGR, NSFI, CB's from COTECNA, INDOCERT, DNV, SGS, ONECERT, TUV INDIA, CUC and our commercial partners from HUL, TCP, GTTP on **8 May at The Westin**.

This annual meet brings together all the stakeholders of the assurance system to celebrate the achievements and brainstorm on areas of improvement. Invited guest speakers bring on board valuable insights on curated topics.

It was a hybrid conference with **80 participants**.

TUV India had been awarded for the best CB performance in 2022 and Indocert took the runner up position.



**Daleram Gulia** from **HUL** spoke about Unilever Compass commitments covering Tea NDPE and Human Rights. He highlighted Unilever's vision on sustainable business. Workplace rights and preservation of bio diversity are our focus areas also.



**Manisha Majumdar** from **WSAF** (Women's Safety Accelerator Fund) along with their implementation partner **Bangla Natak**, represented by **Ananya Bhattacharjee** and **Devdan Mookerjee**, took the participants through a very interesting workshop encompassing the entire gamut of women's safety. This is a crucial topic since more than 50% of workers in tea industry are women.



# Event Calendar



## IP Review Meet – 9 May 2023 at Fairfield

The agenda of the training was strengthening the on ground hand-holding & aligning understanding of the requirement between certification body & implementation partners. The meet witnessed an active participation of **25 members in person from IP's like AFPRO, TRA, RGR & NSFI.**



## Auditor's refresher training – 10 May 2023 at *trustea* office

Periodic refresher training was conducted for **20 auditors in person from COTECNA, INDOCERT, DNV, SGS, ONECERT, TUV INDIA & CUC.**



## Spill the Tea webinar – “How sustainable are the practices in our Tea Industry?” – 22 May 2023

*trustea* Director, **Rajesh Bhuyan** and Sr. Manager Assurance, **Anandita Ray Mukherjee** were invited as panelists at the webinar “Spill the Tea: How sustainable are the practices in our Tea Industry?”

**Organised by Academy of Sciences, Malaysia on 22 May, 2023.**

They joined panelists, **Ashok Chatterjee**, Technical Advisor (BOH Tea Plantations), **Dr Rufis Fregue Tagne Tiegam**, Researcher (University of Yaounde) and **Prof Dr Ahmad Bin Ismail** FASc, ASM Council Member.





# *trustea* Year Book 2022

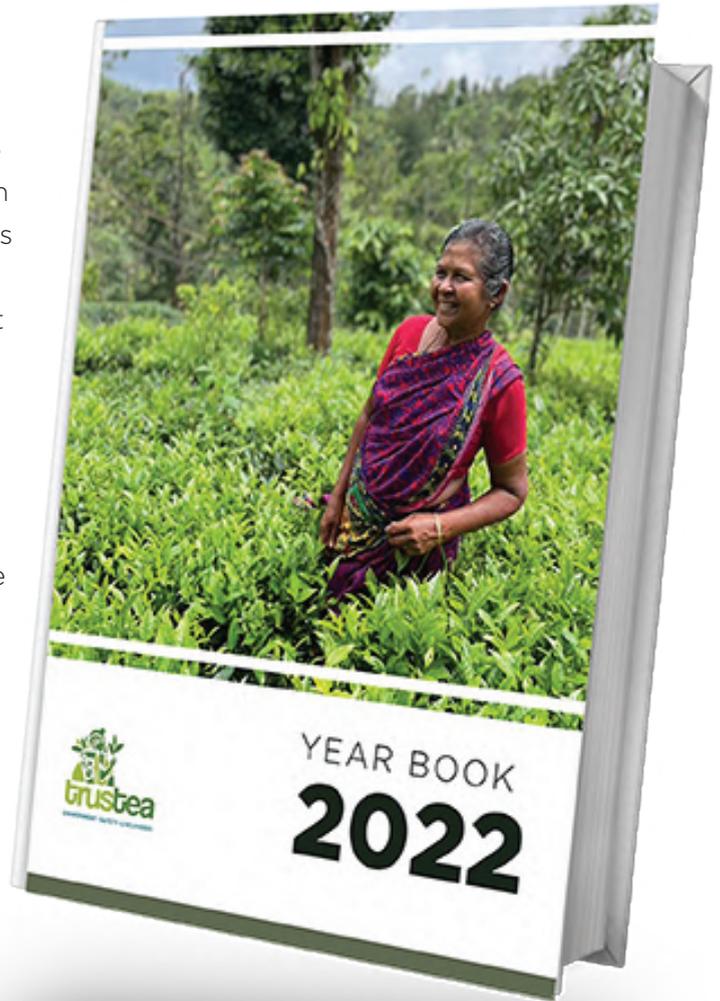
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The year 2022 was quite an eventful one for the trustea program. Our sustainability footprint expanded to include 100 new entities encompassing a volume of 117 million kgs of tea. The trustea program currently covers around 65% of the tea produced in India. This monumental achievement would not have been possible without the perseverance & dedication of the personnel on the ground. The key stakeholders and partners have always been instrumental in providing invaluable inputs towards the achievement of the program goals.

*trustea* Year Book 2022 was released on the occasion of International Tea Day. The Year Book celebrates the spirit of the program and acknowledges behind the scene efforts towards sustainability in the Indian Tea Industry.

You can read the same by visiting the link <https://trustea.org/year-book-2022/>  
For more details on the Program, contact: [support@trustea.org](mailto:support@trustea.org)



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