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# **Effects of Voluntary Sustainability Standards on smallholder yields, price, costs and income:**

## **A systematic review refresh of the academic literature (2019-2024)**

September, 2025

This report presents a refreshed systematic review of academic literature (2019–2024) on the effects of Voluntary Sustainability Standards (VSS) on smallholder farmers' yields, prices, input costs, crop income, and household income. Commissioned by Evidensia and ISEAL, and led by Zoological Society of London, the review builds on the [2019 Evidensia systematic review](#) to provide updated insights into how VSS participation influences smallholder livelihoods in low- and middle-income countries.