



*Italy's Leading Sustainable Technology Company
Milan, Italy*

Progress Update 2022

LETTER FROM OUR CEO



2020 and 2021 were two challenging years for all of us and our planet.

At SOP we believe that every challenge comes with an opportunity, and we work all together to seize those. We recognize that building a sustainable economy starts inside each own organization, and we renewed our efforts to increase sustainability within our company as well as for our customers.

SOP, in April 2022, was awarded an ESG rating of AAA- with a certified alignment of over 67% on all 17 SDGs, according to the standard "ESG-SDGs Rating: 2021© (Environmental, Social, Governance), as a result of our efforts within our own organization and of the realization of solutions that promote economic, environmental and social sustainability in the Agricultural world.

This is why, in these past challenging years, we chose to put the people at the very heart of our activities, and we are pleased to have found these solutions:

- to preserve each job in our company, by promoting safe working practices and helping our collaborators with children during home-schooling
- to provide ongoing support to our customers, onsite, with our products, and online, via new digital collaboration tools
- to promote the alignment to all 17 SDGs among our customers through a series of webinars and personal meetings.

Our commitment to the United Nations Global Compact and its principles has become even stronger over the past years as we believe that only companies which create sustainability across their entire value chain can truly prosper in the future.

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SOP

The 2050 challenge asks us to feed 9 -10 billion people without compromising the needs of future generations. We believe that the only way to achieve this goal is through Sustainable Intensive Agriculture.

Founded in 2001 by Marco Poggianella and his wife Ilaria Sambo, the Italian company SOP - Save Our Planet places sustainability at the center of its activities.

Thanks to our proprietary technology, for the past 21 years we we have been making products for agriculture and livestock farming that interact with the microbial and biological activity of soil, plants, and animals, triggering a self-promoting virtuous circle and reducing the emissions of gases and other pollutants. SOP solutions include products:

- for **CROPS**, which help the farmers to reduce the use of synthetic fertilizers, thus mitigating the impact of Agriculture, and promoting the adaptation of plants to the changing climate
- for **ANIMALS**, which improve their health and their feed conversion efficiency, thus improving the production of milk, meat, eggs... providing the farmers extra sources of income, while reducing their managing costs
- for **WASTE MANAGEMENT**, which reduce the emissions of odors, ammonia, and GHGs, reducing the impact on the environment and the surrounding communities.

The efficacy of the products has been tested and proven by numerous scientific studies carried out by some of the best universities in Italy and in the world.

The SOP products are currently distributed by key players in the agribusiness sector in North America and Europe, where thousands of farmers are already achieving what SOP considers true sustainability: economic, environmental and social benefits.

FEED CROPS

SOP products improve water and nutrient uptake, allowing farmers to grow forage for their animals with fewer chemical inputs and with higher resilience towards climate related stress.



FOOD CROPS, ORCHARDS AND VEGETABLES

SOP products for viticulture, horticulture and other food crops allow farmers to produce safe and nutritious food with lower chemical inputs and with higher resilience towards climate related stress.



DAIRY AND LIVESTOCK FARMING

SOP products improve the quantity and quality of animal source foods, reducing at the same time the production and release of odors, ammonia and GreenHouse Gases.



WASTE MANAGEMENT

SOP manure additives improve the value of manure as fertilizers, reducing the production and release of odors, ammonia and GreenHouse Gases.



HORSE & PET

SOP created a line of natural products for the well-being of horses and pets.



FOOD WASTE

SOP started a project for the reduction of food waste, with an innovative packaging that contrasts the development of molds on bread.

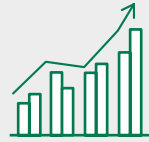


INDUSTRIAL COOPERATIONS

SOP collaborates with several industrial partners in the search of solutions to improve sustainability within their processes.



HIGHLIGHTS 2021



Sales increase.

SOP registered in 2021 an increase of its turnover of 5.5%, thanks to new business opportunities and the consolidation of existing markets.



12 certified customers for Sustainability.

The efficacy of SOP solutions for fields, animals, and waste management helped 12 customer farms (7 more than 2020) to achieve a certified ESG rating above A, according to the "Certification's ESG rating: 2021" scheme, improving their alignment to the Sustainable Development goals.

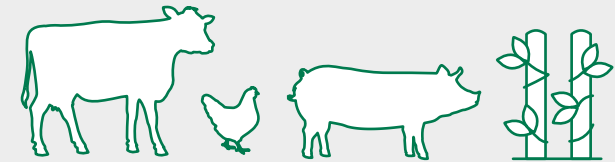


4 Scientific Publications.

the efficacy of SOP solutions in reducing the carbon and environmental footprint of agricultural operations, while improving their economics, has been proven by 4 scientific publications in international journals.

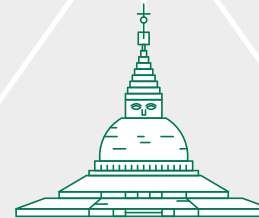
16 new products.

SOP launched 16 new products in 3 different lines, dedicated to vineyards, orchards and vegetables, that help to improve the adaptation to and the mitigation of climate change.



SOP strengthened its partnership with leading Universities.

SOP is sponsoring 3 doctorate projects, to investigate, develop and validate sustainable practices in agriculture. SOP funded 12 research works to investigate the possibility, through its products, to improve the sustainability of intensive agriculture.



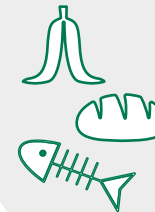
Consolidation of Ag project in Nepal

SOP consolidated the collaboration with the "Care and Kindness" NGO to promote a more modern and sustainable agriculture in a village in Nepal, with the supply of products for crops and training to local technical people.



SOP STAR COW and SOP LAGOON received the "Solar Impulse Efficient Solution" Label.

SOP STAR COW is the second SOP product to be awarded the Solar Impulse Foundation label as one of the first 1,000 efficient and currently available solutions to fight Climate Change.



SOP has started a project that reduces food waste.

SOP has started a project that reduces food waste, and it is linked to the contrast of molds development on bread.

Respecting the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact

= HUMAN RIGHTS

Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights;

Principle 2: make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

Principle 1:

SOP supports and respects human rights within its organization and across its supply chain.

It implements policies to protect its collaborators (such as ISO 45001:2018 certified procedures for safety at work) and to support them with their needs, for example enabling remote working for all office employees.

SOP complies with the national regulations on health insurance and also offers an additional health insurance for its collaborators.

SOP promotes open dialogue between collaborators and management and there has been no complaint about unfair treatment from any of the SOP employees.

Principle 2:

SOP is not complicit in human rights abuses.

SOP has selected its suppliers, favoring companies that provide sustainability reports, and that comply with national and international standards for human rights.

Moreover, SOP consolidated a project in Nepal to increase the competitiveness of the local agricultural economy, with the aim of preventing young people from moving to other countries that do not respect human rights.

Respecting the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact



LABOUR

Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;

Principle 4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;

Principle 5: the effective abolition of child labour;

Principle 6: the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

Principle 3:

SOP fully supports the right of association of its employees and collaborators. Its Code of Ethics includes the right of all people to bring forward their needs. SOP installed a box for anonymous suggestions on any topic, including unfair treatment and labour conditions.

Principle 4:

SOP adheres to the national contracts with respect to working hours and conditions. SOP has policies to organize the efforts of its collaborators to minimize extra work. In special occasions, the extra working hours are compensated with economic benefits or equivalent rest periods.

Principle 5:

SOP sources its raw materials only from EU companies that abide by national regulations regarding child and favoring companies that provide sustainability reports.

Principle 6:

SOP does not discriminate against people according to their gender, nationality or religious beliefs. SOP employs 64% women, from finance, to R&D, to production as well as people of different nationalities, solely based upon their level of competence and values.

Respecting the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact



ENVIROMENT

Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;

Principle 8: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility;

Principle 9: encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

Principle 7:

SOP vision is also SOP's corporate name, which is Save Our Planet. All of its activities are designed to improve the impact of human interactions with the environment.

Up to this moment, SOP has been compensating all the emissions from its premises with certified reforestation of over 35 hectares of forests in countries like Costa Rica and Madagascar since 2004.

This allowed the compensation of 78.884 kg of CO₂ this year.

SOP chooses entirely and easily recyclable or recycled packaging materials, papers from FSC certified sources and designs products that are used at low dosages, to reduce the end-of-life wastes. SOP is ISO 14001:2018 certified for Environmental Management.

Principle 8:

SOP designs, promotes and distributes solutions that allow its customers to improve the environmental impact of their activities.

SOP products for crops allow farmers to reduce by at least 30% the need of synthetic fertilizers, to improve water efficiency and to improve the quality of their soil.

SOP products for animals allow livestock operations to reduce ammonia and GHG emissions from barns from 20 to over 90%.

SOP products for waste management allow farmers to reduce ammonia, GHG emissions and energy linked to manure storage, handling and distribution in the field.

Moreover, the quality of SOP treated liquid manure improves, with a better LCA than that of untreated manure in several impact categories (Borgonovo et al., Sustainability 2019).

Principle 9:

SOP continuously collaborates with several research partners to study and assess the efficacy of its solutions for the environment.

SOP actively promotes and distributes its solutions in 15 countries worldwide.

SOP promotes environmental awareness via its social media channels, with an ongoing column on Sustainability in the online magazine "Ruminantia" and with a proprietary publication regarding both environmental and sustainability topics.

SOP is sponsoring 3 doctorate projects, to investigate, develop and validate sustainable practices in agriculture.

Respecting the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact

ANTI-CORRUPTION

Principle 10: Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

Principle 10:

SOP is committed to respecting all national and international regulations on corruption, bribery and extortion.

SOP abides Italian legislative decree 231/01 on business continuity and responsibility, implementing it in all its activities and promoting the anti-corruption practices within and outside the organization.

SOP CERTIFICATIONS

A sustainable Company with an “AAA-” ESG rating

SOP has obtained an “AAA-” ESG rating from the new certification scheme “ESG-SDGs RATING: 2021© (Environmental, Social, Governance)”, which integrates ESG principles with the 17 sustainable development goals of the United Nations (UN SDGs) and evaluates the alignment of the company with the principles of the ISO standards.

SOP has a certified alignment with a score higher than 67% on all 17 SDGs as a result of its efforts within its organization and along its value chain.



SUSTAINABLE COMPANY
ESG RATING: AAA-

N.0061/2020
SOP S.R.L.

SOP went through a very long and thorough Sustainability Certification process, according to the “ESG-SDGs RATING: 2021© (Environmental, Social, Governance)” standard (based on the worldwide recognized ISO schemes), with the goal of obtaining an objective evaluation of its own impact on economy, society and environment. SOP was certified as a Sustainable Company with an ESG rating “AAA-”, with certified alignment with a score higher than 67% on all 17 SDGs.. This is an official and globally recognized certification. Our approach is sustainable, our products are sustainable and the customers that use them are sustainable, improving their activities, their products and their role within the global value chain.

Marco Poggianella

UNI EN ISO 9001:2015 QUALITY MANAGEMENT

SOP is ISO 9001 certified since the beginning of its activities in 2001. All activities in SOP, from R&D to production, are managed according to SOP's quality management: all processes are planned, monitored and corrected when needed aiming at a constant improvement of its operations.



UNI EN ISO 9001:2015



UNI EN ISO 14001:2015 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

SOP is ISO 14001 certified for the environmental management of its operations. All processes are carefully monitored and managed in order to reduce waste and contaminants to air, soil and water.



UNI EN ISO 14001:2015



UNI EN ISO 45001:2018 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

SOP is ISO 45001 certified for the health and safety of its collaborators. SOP has always adopted procedures to prevent accidents at work, from the provision of customized DPI for the workers to manufacturing lightweight products for ease of handling.



UNI ISO 45001:2018



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