



The International
Fragrance Association

Annual report 2023



ifrafragrance.org

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Embracing change: **IFRA's strategic vision and global initiatives for 2024**

2024 marks a pivotal year for IFRA, as the organization is set to navigate significant transitions with a refreshed strategy for 2024-2029, focusing on sustainability, regulation and cooperation.

This year will see enhanced engagement in the Asia Pacific, with key leadership roles being filled to address increasing legislative demands.



In Europe and in Latin America, work will continue to ensure the relevance of the fragrance industry, the IFRA Standards and the contribution of our members to sustainability and the environment.

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*Reflecting on progress
and setting the course
for the future:*
**IFRA's journey and
strategic outlook**

2023 was a landmark year for IFRA, marked by the success of the Global Fragrance Summit and significant engagements with European lawmakers, highlighting the association's pivotal role in shaping future legislation.

Celebrating its 50th Anniversary, IFRA reflected on its evolution into a global organization, now with offices in key regions such as Asia Pacific, India, and Latin America.

Looking ahead, the 2024-2029 strategy cycle aims to integrate member input, foster collaboration with other organizations, engage with global legislators, and ensure IFRA's continued relevance and leadership in the fragrance industry's future.

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Strengthening IFRA's presence in APAC: **A year of developments in safety and sustainability**

Throughout 2023, IFRA intensified its focus on the APAC region, launching several initiatives for fragrance safety and sustainability.

Activities included workshops in Jakarta, MOUs with the Association of the Flavor and Fragrance Industry of Indonesia (AFI) and the Indonesian Essential Oils Council to foster sustainable patchouli cultivation best practices, and a partnership with KCII in Korea to share regulatory insights and promote safe fragrance use.

Engagements in China with CAFFCI highlighted dialogues on IFRA standards, alternative testing methods, and addressing industry priorities, marking a year of significant collaboration and regulatory advocacy in Asia.

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Finding a place for fragrance in the EU's industrial strategy

The European industrial strategy, updated in 2020 due to COVID-19, and which addresses Europe's need for strategic autonomy while factoring in geopolitical shifts, aims to make the industry resource-efficient, modern, and competitive. It supports the European Green Deal's objectives through a dialogue platform, encouraging a green and digital transition.



IFRA has contributed to the chemical industry's Transition Pathway by sharing initiatives on safety and sustainability, including the IFRA Code of Practice and Standards.

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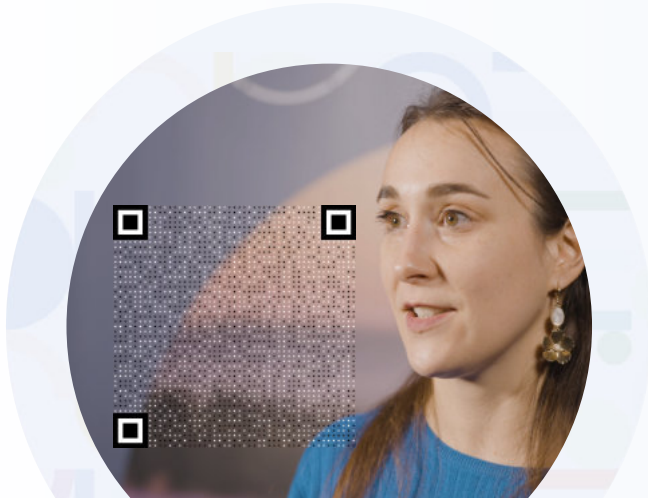
Advocating for a sustainable future:

IFRA's engagement on the EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability

In 2023, IFRA actively engaged in advocating for the fragrance industry under the EU Chemical Strategy for Sustainability (CSS).

This strategy aims for a zero pollution, toxic-free environment, significantly impacting fragrance sector regulations, including the revision of CLP and REACH, which govern chemical substance classification, labeling, and their registration, evaluation, authorization and restriction .

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Engaging with the revision of the CLP Regulation

In 2023, the EU finalized the CLP regulation, with effects on two critical issues for IFRA: the classification of natural ingredients and the grouping of substances.

Avoiding over-regulation of these aspects remains crucial for maintaining the perfumers' palette.

IFRA successfully collaborated with CEFIC, Cosmetic Europe, and A.I.S.E., aligning messages to safeguard proper rules for ingredient classifications and ensure scientific criteria for substance grouping, contributing to a resilient and competitive fragrance industry.



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Broader regulatory aspects of **chemicals legislation in Europe**

The EU Chemical Strategy for Sustainability (CSS) significantly affects various sectors, including fragrances, with key revisions like the CLP regulation. The strategy's impact extends through 2024 with anticipated updates to major legislations such as REACH, now delayed, and others like the Detergents Regulation and the Cosmetics Regulation.

These adaptations are significant for IFRA, whose role is to ensure sustainable ingredient use and promote balanced, workable EU regulations.



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IFRA's commitment to **Safe and Sustainable Chemical Design**

The EU's Safe and Sustainable by Design (SSbD) concept, part of the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability, is an approach that guides the innovation and market placement of safe and sustainable chemicals.

Introduced in December 2022 and open for a testing phase, the European Commission recommended an SSbD Framework, featuring criteria for designing safer and more sustainable chemicals and a five-step process to evaluate their safety and sustainability.

IFRA is involved in a case study to test the SSbD Framework and integrate the fragrance value chain into this SSbD process, contributing to the development of fragrances that are more sustainable and safer for humans and the environment.

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Empowering India's fragrance future: **IFRA's educational and regulatory milestones**

In 2023, IFRA marked significant progress by initiating the development of a unique perfumery course in India, addressing the growing needs of the fragrance and flavor industry there.

This educational venture, set to begin in 2024, aims to cultivate skilled professionals and establish a trainer resource bank for the sector.

IFRA's efforts extend to integrating green chemistry in India's fragrant ingredient production and advocating for a unified regulatory framework to uphold standards and facilitate industry growth.

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IFRA engagement with **FICCI in India**

In 2023, IFRA, in collaboration with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), and the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, proposed creating a Standards Club to educate on IFRA standards, alongside engaging with Hindu College, University of Delhi.

For 2024, the focus is on standardization and sustainability, transitioning IFRA's role to a facilitator with initiatives like green chemistry compass tools through a partnership with the Green Chemistry Network Centre India.

Plans include awareness sessions, seminars to adopt IFRA standards, and launching an educational course to bolster the sector.



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Strengthening collaboration & advocacy: **IFRA's strategic approach in Latin America**

In 2023, IFRA focused on capacity building in Latin America, adapting to varied regulations impacting the fragrance industry, such as chemical control and sustainability.

Partnerships with national associations and entities like CASIC were pivotal. A specific challenge is the regulation of microplastics affecting fragrance encapsulation.

IFRA engaged over 1,200 individuals through webinars and events, discussing regulations and IFRA's 51st amendment. For 2024, IFRA plans to expand collaborative efforts, mapping countries with developing regulations, aiming for balanced outcomes for the industry, consumers, and the environment.

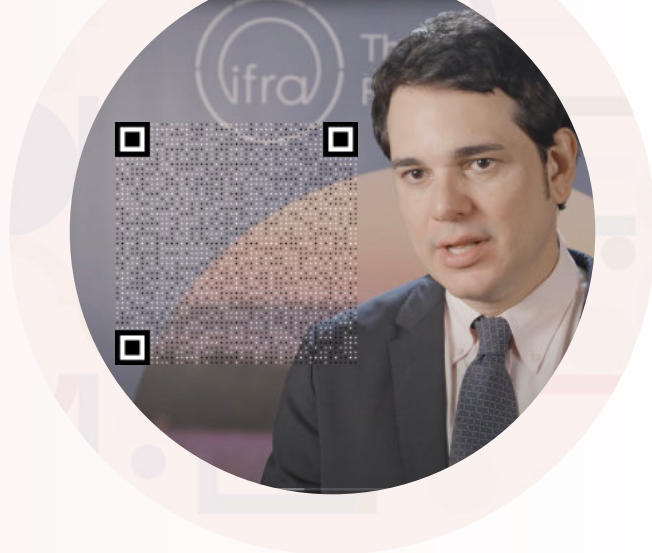
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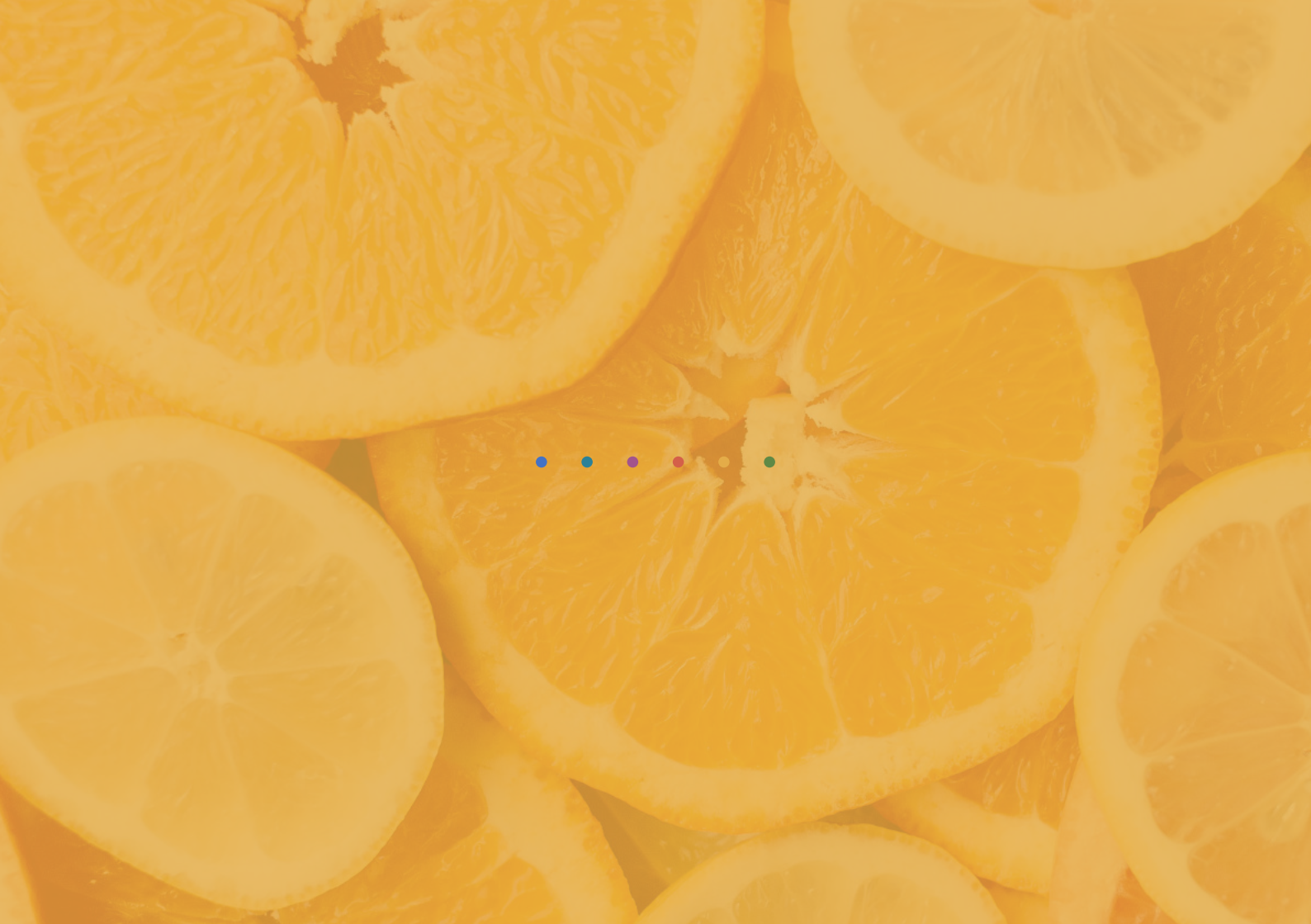
Chemicals *Control Legislation* **in LATAM**

In 2023, IFRA focused on navigating evolving chemical control legislation in Latin America, emphasizing collaboration with national associations and the Latin American Regulatory Cooperation Forum to ensure regulations are practical and innovation-friendly.

Efforts included implementing the Globally Harmonized System in Chile and Colombia and organizing events on regulatory practices. With regulations developing in Brazil and Argentina, IFRA plans to continue its advocacy and capacity-building activities to address country-specific regulatory needs across the region.



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Advancing consumer safety: **IFRA's updated furocoumarins policy**

The policy on furocoumarins is being updated to align with current scientific insights and ensure consumer safety, ahead of the 52nd IFRA Amendment.

This revision involves stakeholder collaboration across the supply chain to maintain the safe use of the natural fragrance ingredients containing furocoumarins.



The revised policy will introduce lower exposure limits, reflecting a commitment to global applicability and regulatory compliance, particularly with European regulations, through a specialized working group's efforts.

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Strengthening allergen evaluation: **The impact of the IDEA project on fragrance safety**

The IDEA project, initiated over a decade ago with support of, and supervision, by the European Commission and its scientific advisors focuses on building a framework to managing fragrance allergens effectively. It aims to arrive at improved tools via a multi-stakeholder dialogue.

A key element is establish reliable clinical data via a network of trusted European clinics for evaluation of the performance of risk assessment tools and derived policy.

In 2022, a pilot project determined adequate test concentrations for five as-yet not routinely patch tested fragrance ingredients and tested the data collection system, expanding in 2023 with the recruitment of new clinics.

By 2024, broader testing is planned to assess IFRA Standards' potential impact on reducing fragrance allergies, aiding in policy refinement. Challenges include securing long-term funding and maintaining trust with clinical partners.

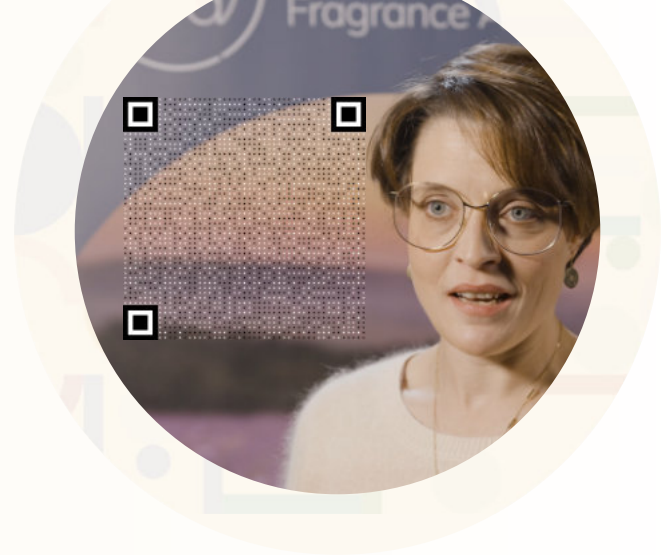
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Enhancing fragrance safety: **Continuing the development of the IFRA Standards**

The IFRA Standards are at the heart of the fragrance industry's product stewardship program promoting fragrance ingredient safety in consumer products.

Obligatory for IFRA members, these Standards, alongside the IFRA Code of Practice, are based on scientific safety assessments prepared by the Research Institute for Fragrance Materials (RIFM) that are validated by an independent expert panel.



The 51st Amendment, introduced in June 2023, added 59 new Standards, bringing the total to 263. It also adjusted implementation timelines, with full implementation expected by October 2025. Preparations for the 52nd Amendment are underway, with its announcement expected in 2026.

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Supporting the shift **away from animal testing**

In 2023, IFRA continued to advocate towards New Approach Methodologies (NAMs) to replace animal testing in fragrance ingredient testing.

Collaborating globally, including with the European Partnership for Alternative Approaches to Animal Testing (EPAA) and the International Collaboration on Cosmetics Safety (ICCS), IFRA promotes NAMs' integration into legislation.

Progress includes shifting regulatory and industry discussions towards facilitating this transition, emphasizing the need for international cooperation.

IFRA's goal is to influence chemical legislation to be contemporary and manageable, ensuring regulations are practical for industry compliance.

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Promoting a risk-based approach in
the assessment of ingredient safety

IFRA promotes the risk-based approach (as opposed to a purely hazard-based approach) when assessing the safety of ingredients.

The risk-based approach, which is an important principle that IFRA adheres to, is valid globally and shared by other industry partners and associations.

IFRA, as a member of the ASEAN Cosmetic Association (ACA), worked with the ASEAN Cosmetic Scientific Body on setting the risk-based criteria for use of CMR substances in cosmetic products.

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We Love Fragrances: **IFRA's 50th anniversary book**

In 2023, the 'We Love Fragrance' book, marking IFRA's 50th anniversary, was published to educate a wide audience on fragrance safety and appreciation, featuring testimonials and insights from experts from across the sector.

IFRA plans to expand its global efforts in 2024, addressing challenges in all its regions – and this book is part of that effort.

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Looking back at **the Global Fragrance Summit and IFRA's communications work**

The Global Fragrance Summit 2023, in Geneva, drew 180 attendees to discuss the the big issues facing the sector today.

Celebrating IFRA's 50th anniversary, initiatives in 2023 included the publication of 'We Love Fragrance' to educate on fragrance safety and appreciation. IFRA introduced a new logo and branding, reflecting its global presence and commitment to sustainability.

Future plans include improving the way IFRA communicates to its wider audience, explaining the organization's roll and mission.

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CELEBRATING FRAGRANCE AND IFRA'S EFFORTS

Global Fragrance Summit 2023 **Geneva, 5-6 December**

The International Fragrance Association (IFRA) was delighted to be able to welcome over 180 attendees to Global Fragrance Summit 2023.

IFRA was founded in 1973, and so the 2023 edition celebrates the association's 50 year anniversary.



This year's event took place in Geneva, Switzerland on 5-6 December 2023. Global Fragrance Summit 2023 saw experts and leaders from across the fragrance industry come together to discuss the future of our sector. Conversations occurred through the lens of sustainability, regulatory affairs, customer needs and the need for engagement and collaboration.

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Continuing to build upon **the fragrance industry's sustainability efforts**

In 2023, the International Fragrance Association (IFRA) and the International Organization of the Flavor Industry (IOFI) Sustainability Committee focused on key sustainability initiatives within the fragrance and flavor industries. They continued to guide members on adapting to evolving sustainability legislation and practices, emphasizing carbon footprint reduction, deforestation, and the creation of a sustainability lexicon.

Collaborative efforts with organizations like Together for Sustainability (TfS) and the Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil aim to standardize sustainability metrics across the industry.

The Committee's work in 2023 marked significant progress in addressing emerging sustainability concerns, including water footprint and biodiversity, showcasing a commitment to enhancing industry-wide sustainability practices.

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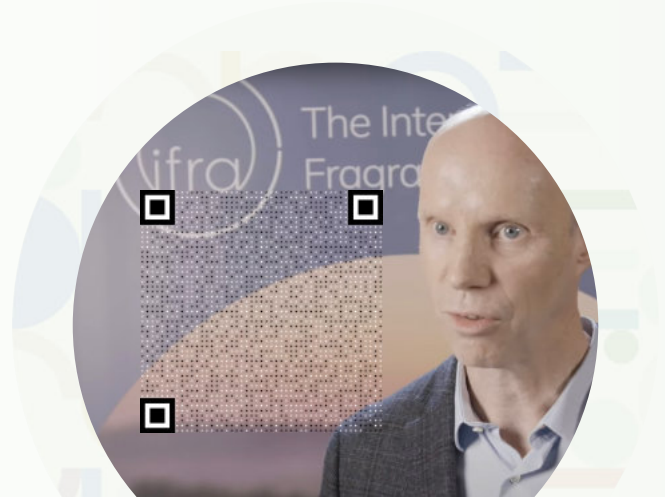
Updating and improving **The IFRA-IOFI Sustainability Charter and Report**

In 2022, the IFRA IOFI Sustainability Charter, emphasizing responsible sourcing among five key pillars, was updated to reflect changes post-COVID and align with the Green Deal.

Officially approved in early 2023, it now includes considerations for both natural and synthetic materials and addresses animal testing and material essentiality.

The 2023 IFRA-IOFI Sustainability Report highlights industry progress in sourcing and environmental impact, with a notable rise in companies monitoring carbon footprints and improving EcoVadis scores, underscoring a commitment to environmental and social responsibility.

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Supporting the wider use of **an important sustainability tool**

The IFRA-IOFI Sustainability Charter outlines five key areas and seventeen commitments for the fragrance and flavor industries' sustainability. One of the Charter points states 'We are inspired by Green Chemistry'.

As such, in 2023, the Green Chemistry Compass was launched for consultation. The Compass was developed with Beyond Benign and with the support of Professor John Warner, the founder of green chemistry.



The purpose is to guide companies in applying green chemistry principles, aligning with Sustainable Development Goals. This tool will soon be published, demonstrating IFRA's dedication to environmental and social sustainability.

To access the Green Chemistry Compass, please visit: ifrafragrance.org/priorities/ifra-green-chemistry-compass

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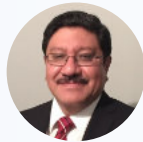
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The International
Fragrance Association

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Celebrating 50 years of the
International
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Association



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Executive Assistant
to the President



Matthias Vey
Vice-President,
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Cristina Arregui
Global Regulatory
Affairs Director



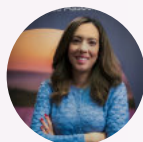
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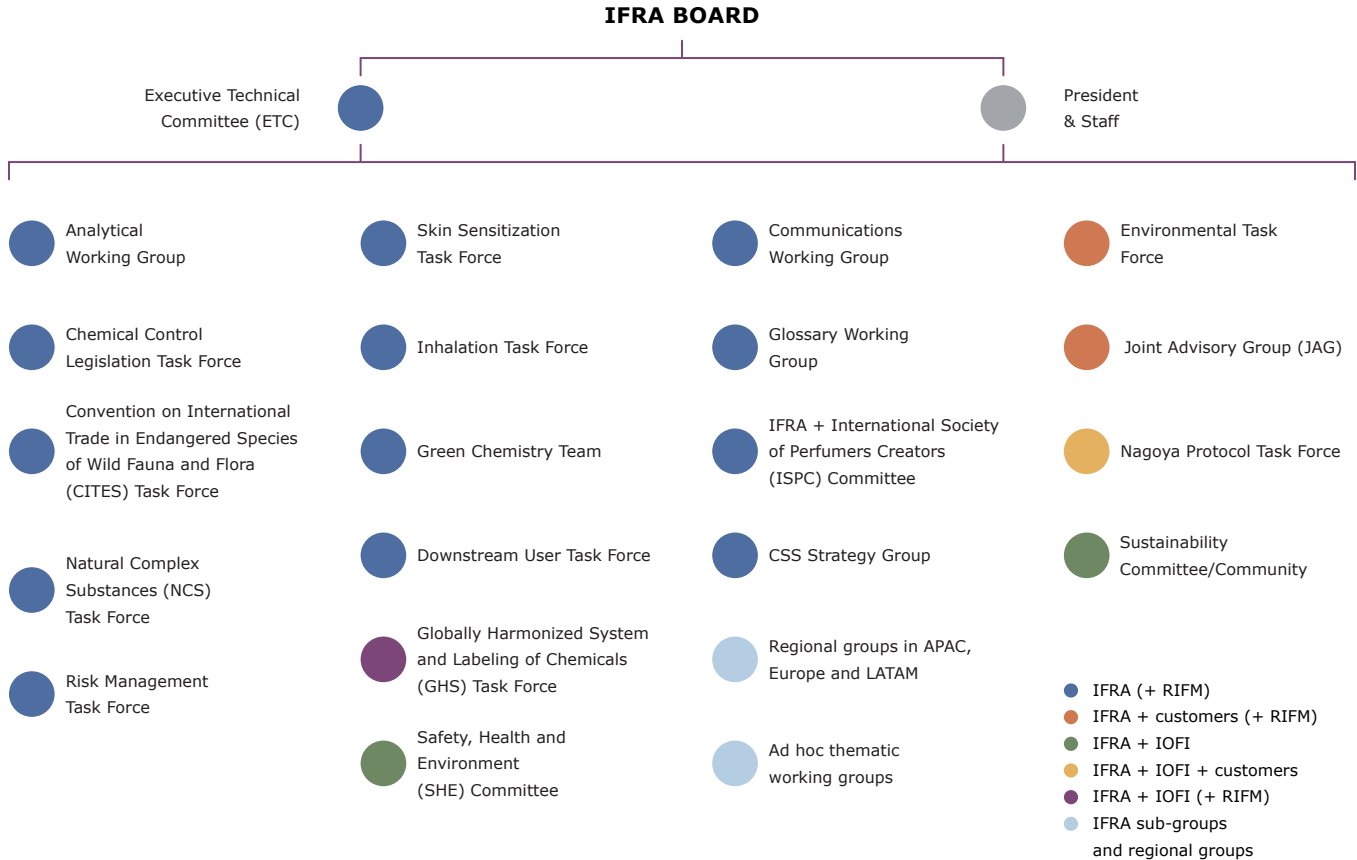
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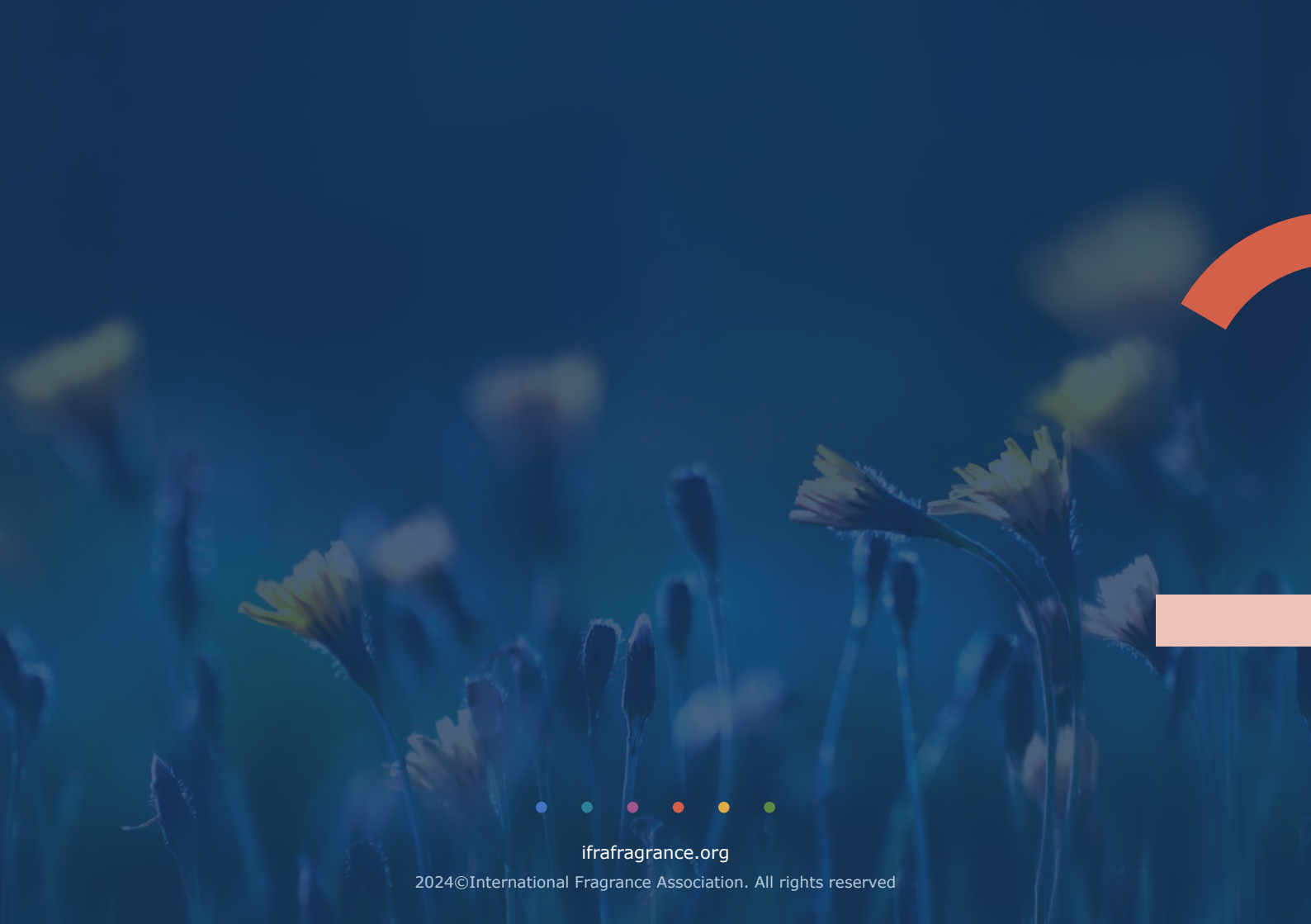


Marta Varela
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IFRA COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES





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