

# Leverage the Rising Sustainability Wave

**New Research and Best Practices** 

Fair Trade USA October 2016



### Who is Fair Trade USA?

3<sup>rd</sup> Party sustainable and ethical certification





# The Fair Trade Theory Of Change

Includes all actors



### What drives consumers?



- Quality
- Price
- Convenience
- Values and lifestyle







# **Consumers and Sustainability**

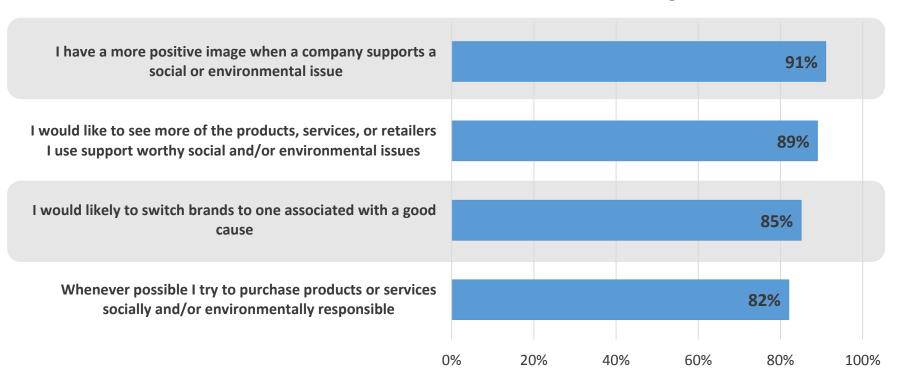


# **Consumers Prioritize Sustainability**



Consumers are demanding sustainably sourced products and are willing to reward companies that make commitments

#### Percent of Consumers who agree with each statement



Cone Communications (2015)

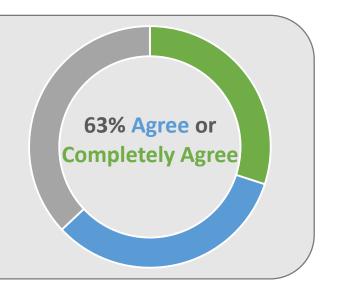
### **Interest Continues to Grow**



Consumers are increasingly engaged with sustainability issues...

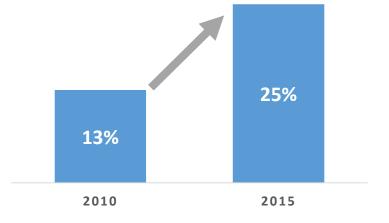
"I am more interested today in how food is grown, raised or produced than I was two years ago..."

The Future of Sourcing in Foodservice | Technomic (2016)



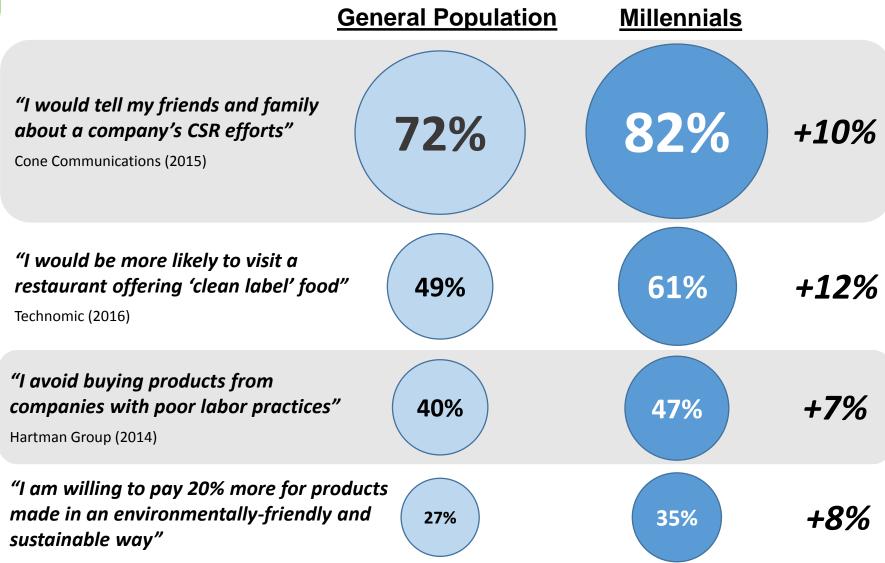
"I research a company's environmental/social responsibility before I buy a product"

Natural Marketing Institute (2015)



## Millennials Drive Demand for Sustainability



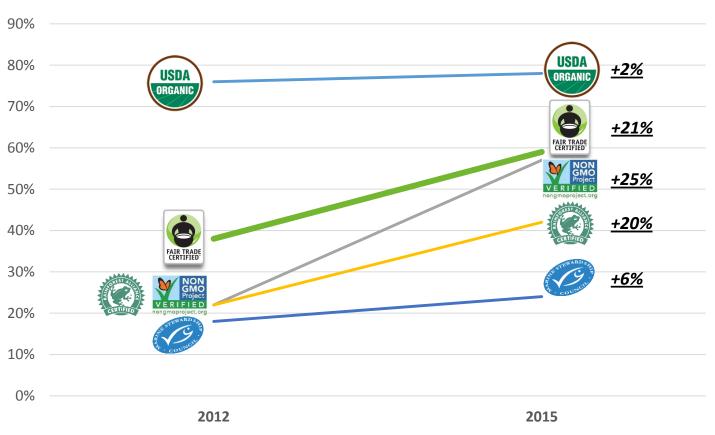


Natural Marketing Institute (2015)





#### Percent of US Consumers who recognize major sustainability labels



Natural Marketing Institute (2015)



**Focus: Food Service** 



## Technomic – The Future of Sourcing (2016)



Objective | Explore the sourcing of local, clean-label and origin-specific products in foodservice

- Highlight opportunities
- Analyze sourcing **trends**

**Methodology**: Technomic conducted quantitative, qualitative and secondary research

- **Consumer insights:** quantitative online survey of 2,000 consumers
- **Operator insights**: qualitative online survey with 356 operators

### **Definition: Clean Label**



"Clean Label conveys notions of quality, trust and transparency"



# Food Service | Patrons Care



Three-quarters of consumers say it is important for <u>all</u> foodservice locations to offer "clean label" food

Whether or not offering a "clean label" food is important for all restaurant types



"I think that it is equally important for all types of foodservice locations"

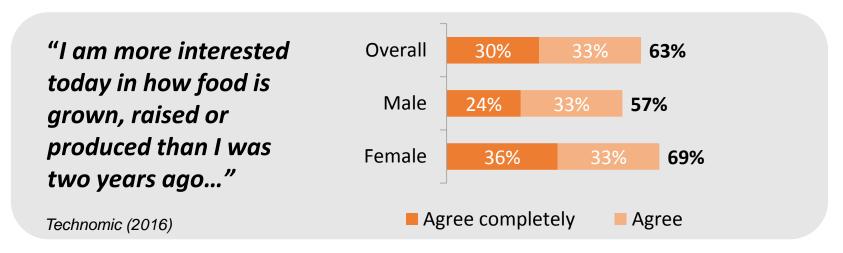
The Future of Sourcing in Foodservice | Technomic (2016)

# Food Service | Interest is Growing

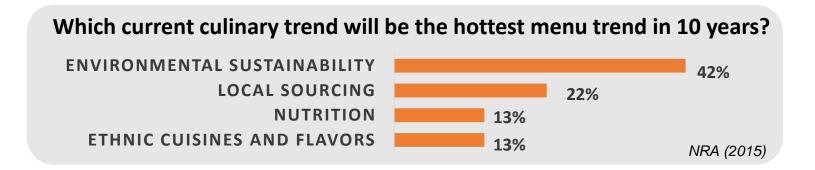


Consumers and the industry are increasingly interested in sourcing and sustainability.

#### **Consumers**



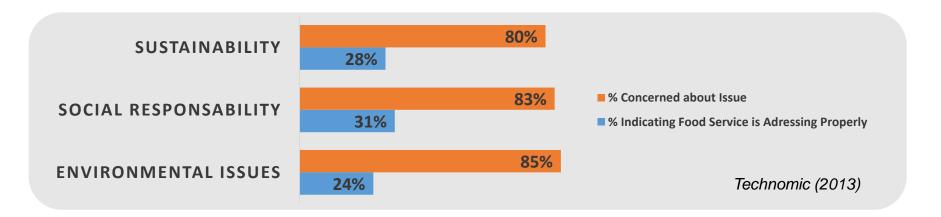
#### **Industry**



# Food Service | Expectations

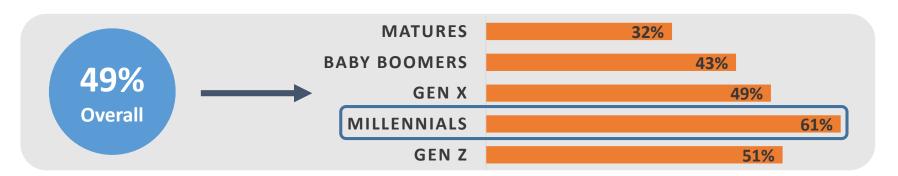


Is the industry meeting consumer expectations?



Nearly <u>half</u> of consumers say they would be more likely to visit foodservice establishments if they offered "clean-label" food

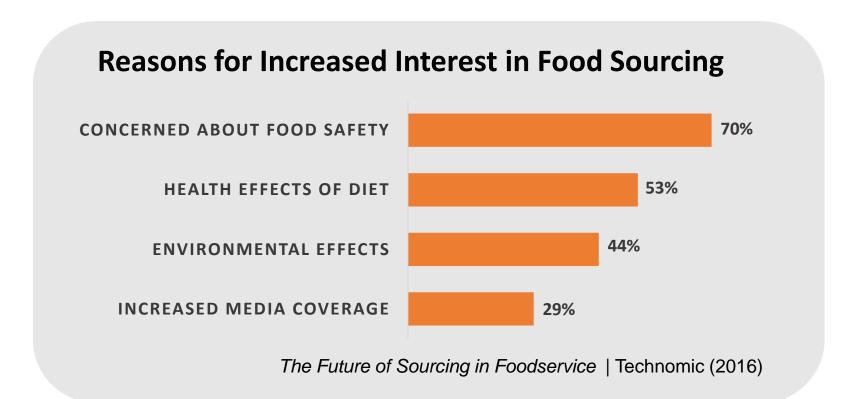
Millennials have the highest preference for food service establishments offering 'Clean-Label' food.



# Food Service | What's Driving Interest



Consumers and the industry are increasingly interested in sourcing and sustainability.



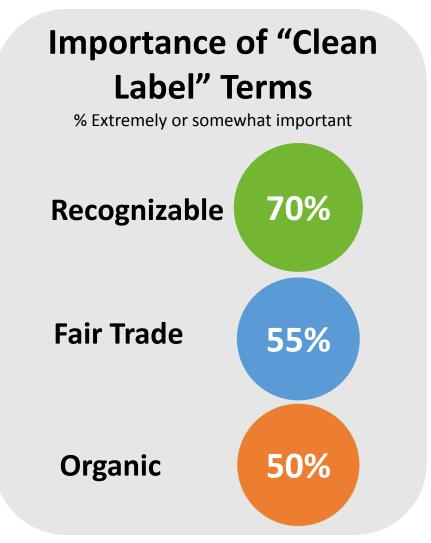
# **Critical sustainability factors**



A majority of consumers believe food prepared at restaurants and other food service outlets should be Fair Trade and/or Organic







# Food Service | Pricing Sustainability



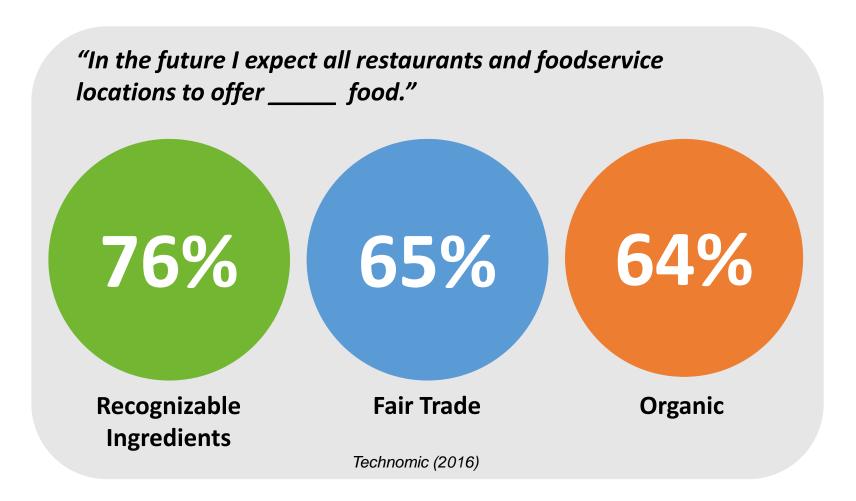
A significant proportion of consumers are willing to pay more for sustainability oriented descriptions



# Food Service | Expectations



Expectations indicate that demand will only grow



Adoption is lagging behind expectations...

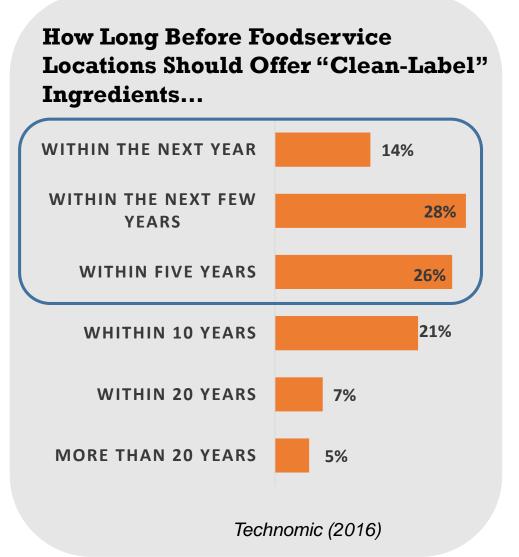
# Food Service | Prepping for Change



The runaway is short

Two-thirds of consumers expect restaurants and other foodservice locations to offer "clean-label" ingredients within five years

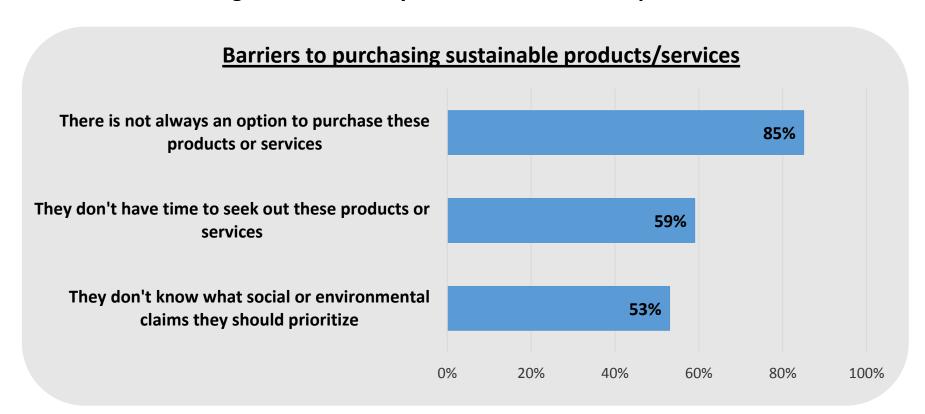
56% of Millennials say that foodservice locations should offer "clean-label" ingredients within the next few years.



# **Despite Strong Consumer Sentiment Barriers Still Exist**



Consumers are looking for conveniently accessible sustainable products and services



Cone Communications (2015)

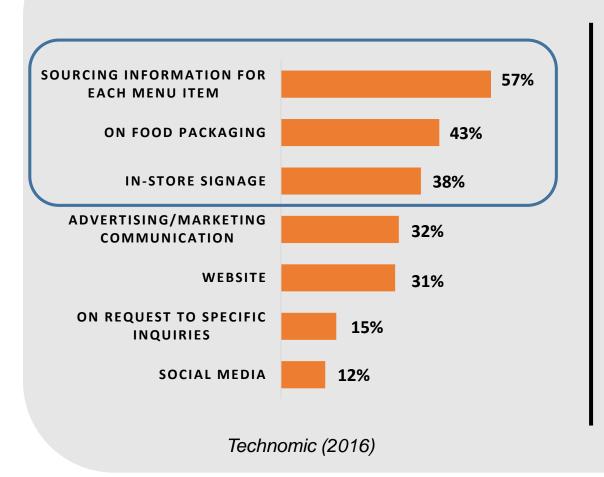
**Conclusion:** There exists a need for more communication

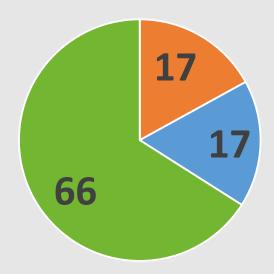
## Food Service | Communicating Sustainability



Where are consumers looking for information?

# Consumers prefer to learn about ingredients through direct information on the menu





66% of consumers prefer to learn BOTH through stories of impact and numbers/data when hearing of a company's social or environmental commitments or results.

Cone Communications (2015)

### Food Service | Sustainability is a Leading Culinary Trend



#### Sample Menu

#### Cocida

#### **Appetizers**

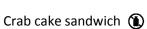
Salad with walnuts (F)

Burrata with tomatoes (F)

Prosciutto, watermelon and parmesan

#### **House specialties**

Original tofu burger (V)



Homemade fish and chips ①

#### **Beverages and Desserts**

Coffee 🍥



Lemon Pie Sodas

Blackberry cheesecake Juices

Ice cream 🤵 Glass of wine

Beer

#### In store signage

Equator Coffee places cobranded signs in cafes and retail locations



#### **Packaging and POS**

Sustainability branded cup sleeves and other point-ofsale marketing materials



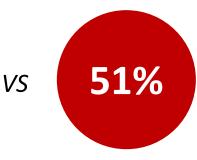
# **Transparency is Highly Valued**



### 1) Consumers are skeptical...

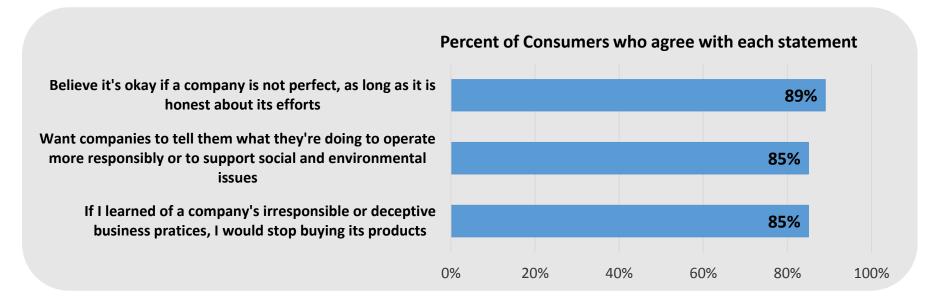
Assume companies are striving to be as responsible as possible





<u>Don't</u> believe companies are striving to be as responsible as possible

### 2) But are also willing to reward honest companies.



### **Questions for Reflection and Discussion**

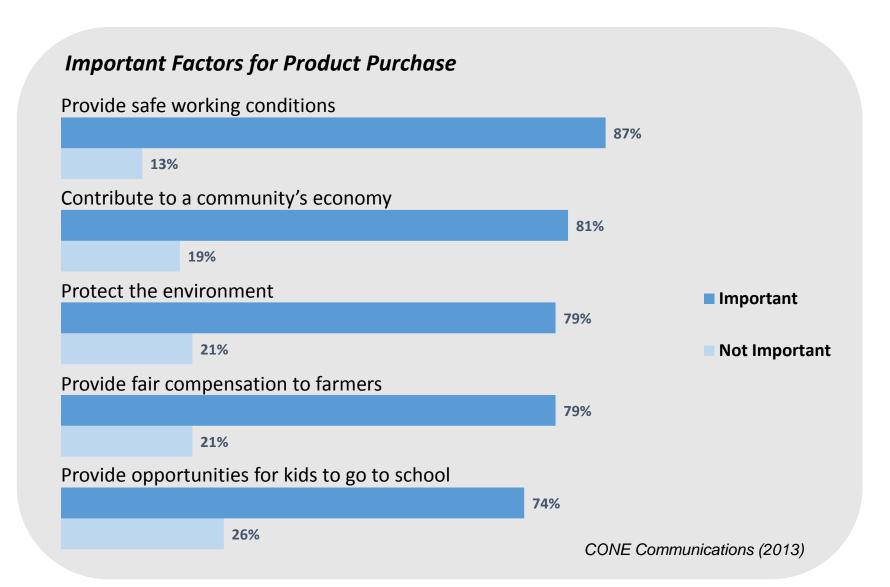


- 1. Where and how is your organization focusing on sustainability?
- 2. Who is your audience and what aspects of sustainability resonate with them?
- 3. How are you communicating your current commitments?

# **Sustainability and Fair Trade**



Fair Trade values resonate with consumers



# Consumers associate Sustainability with the Fair Trade Certified™ Label



Those who recognize the label associate the following statements with the Fair Trade Certified™ Label

"Farmers and workers are justly compensated"

#Helping farmers in developing countries build sustainable business that positively influences their communities"

48%

65%

Natural Marketing Institute (2013)

### **Works Cited**



#### **CONE Communications**

- 2015 Cone Communications Millennial CSR Study
- 2013 Fair Trade USA Fairness Factors Survey

#### **Hartman Group**

- Outlook on the Millennial Consumer 2014
- Understanding the Sustainable Consumer Lessons Learned and Upcoming Research, 2013

#### **Natural Marketing Institute**

- 2016 State of Sustainability in American 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Report
- 2013 NMI Coffee Consumer Sustainability Insights/Mother Parker Tea & Coffee Inc.

#### **Technomic**

The Future of Sourcing in Food Service, 2016