Content

I. CREDIBILITY

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
A - Scheme Management Governance structures and management of the scheme							**19**
Governance							**12**
700110 A.01	Availability of Scheme Structure	Does the scheme owner make its organisational structure publicly available, including composition of governance bodies?	An overview of the different governance bodies that manage and govern the scheme (i.e. board, advisory board, board of trustees, etc.) and participants of each body is publicly accessible.	This can be in the form of an organisational chart or a narrative document that details the governance structure and its composition.	Adapted from ISO 9001:2008	Yes No	1 0
700111 A.02	Scheme Legal Status	Is the scheme owner a legal entity, or an organization that is a partnership of legal entities, or a government or inter-governmental agency?	Information showing the legal status of the organization, often also listed in publicly available commercial registers (commonly also for non-commercial organisations).		ISO/IEC 17067, 6.3.3	Yes No	1 0
700126 A.03	Governance Body Accountability	Is there a mechanism for stakeholders to participate in scheme development and decision-making?	A clear accountability mechanism (e.g. elections with voting members, accountability through deeds of trust, appointment by boards that are in turn elected, stakeholder advisory body).	Stakeholders in this case mean any parties who are directly or indirectly affected by the decisions of the top-decision making body (e.g. producers, consumer organizations, members, etc.).	ISO/IEC 17067, 6.4.5	Yes, publicly Yes, on request No	2 1 0

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700125 A.04	Balanced Decision-Making in Govern-ance	Do the voting procedures of the top decision-making body ensure that there is a balanced representation of stakeholder interests, where no single interest predominates?	Enough information on the voting pro-cedure to be sure that there is a bal-anced representation of stakeholder in-terests. The procedure shall also as-sure that no single interest predomi-nates.			Yes No	1 0
700123 A.05	Sources of Finance	Does the scheme owner make quantitative infor-mation on the income sources or financing struc-ture of the scheme availa-ble?	An overview of quantitative information on the income sources or financing structure of the scheme (e.g. potentially including type of funding (i.e. financial, assets, manpower etc.), name of fun-ders, amount or %-distribution of in-come sources).	This could be provided in the form of an annex to annual reports.	ISO 14024 7.4.3, **2014/24/EU Art. 43 (1)**	Yes, publicly Yes, on request No	2 1 0
700119 A.06	Quality Manage-ment	Does the scheme owner have an internal quality management system avail-able?	An internal management system would generally be considered equivalent to a quality management system.	QMS should cover management of scheme operations including all as-pects for which scheme owner is responsible, e.g. standards devel-opment, assurance oversight, tech-nical support.	Adapted from ISO 9001 ISEAL Assur-ance Code 5.1.1	Yes No	1 0
740208 A.07	Independ-ence of Scheme Owner from Cer-tificate Holder	Is the scheme owner eco-nomically independent from the certificate holder?	- A policy which governs the independ-ence of the scheme owner or proof that the scheme owner is not economically dependent on one single certificate holder. OR - Certification/licenses granted by inde-pendent third-party assurance provid-ers.		ISO 14024 3.7 **2014/24/EU Art. 43 (1),** ISO 14024 5.15	Yes No	1 0
700108 A.08	Sustaina-bility Goals and	Does the scheme owner have sustainability-	The scheme owner explicitly defines its overall goals and objectives, e.g. the mission and vision, either in its statutes		Supported by ISO/IEC 17067, 6.3.4;	Yes No	1 0

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	Objectives of the Scheme	oriented goals and objectives?	or in a separate statement (e.g. a mission statement) The goals and objectives are sustainability-oriented, i.e. oriented towards improving environmental and/or socio-economic impacts.		ISEAL Impacts Code 7.1		
700282 A.09	Strategy to Achieve Scheme Sustainability Goals	Does the scheme owner have a strategy for meeting its sustainability-oriented goals and objectives?	A documented strategy that includes clear goals, actions to achieve the goals, and a description of available/needed resources to execute the actions.	This can be in the form of a documented strategy, theory of change or equivalent.	ISEAL Impacts Code 7.2	Yes, publicly Yes, on request No	2 1 0
	5	**Impact**					**5**
700287 A.11	Impact Measurement	Does the scheme owner have a system in place for measuring its outcomes and progress towards its sustainability goals?	The proven existence of a monitoring and evaluation system, which contains indicators the scheme owner uses to measure its outputs, outcomes and impacts.	For ISO type I labels, the most relevant impact is usually introduced prior to the development of criteria by conducting a life cycle based impact study. The resulting criteria are developed to reduce these impacts. The design of this approach therefore also includes the measurement of impact and is eligible for a 'Yes'. In order to receive a 'Yes', the reasoning behind the conclusions for choosing the actual requirements need to be available publicly or on request.	ISEAL Impacts Code 8.1, 8.2	Yes, publicly Yes, on request No	2 1 0

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10800 A.12	Adaptive Management	Does the scheme owner use the results of monitoring and evaluation for learning and improvements to its programme?	The scheme regularly feeds in the results of monitoring & evaluation in its internal processes and learnings from these activities are distributed and discussed at least to the organisation's senior management team, e.g. records of inclusion on the agenda of meetings, policy for when results are considered.	Learnings can be applied to a scheme's assurance system, standards and stakeholder engagements'.	ISEAL Impacts Code 9.1	Yes No	1 0
700285 A.13	Reporting Monitoring Results	Does the scheme owner make sustainability results from M&E available?	A report on the results of the monitoring and evaluation which contains indicators the scheme owner uses to measure its outputs, outcomes and impacts.	For ISO type I labels, the life cycle impact study that is conducted prior to the development of criteria would serve as equivalent to the sustainability results from M&E.	ISEAL Impacts Code 10.2	Yes, publicly Yes, on request No	2 1 0
			Complaints Mechanism				1
2234 A.15*	Complaints Mechanism	Does the scheme owner have a publicly available and easily accessible complaints mechanism?	The mechanism shall require the scheme owner to: - Provide easily accessible information on how to submit complaints or appeals. The information shall be available in relevant languages but at least in dominant regional language. -Investigate and take appropriate action regarding relevant complaints and appeals, within defined timescales. -Review and take necessary corrective action; and -Keep a record of complaints and appeals and resulting actions.	A mechanism through which stakeholders are enabled to submit complaints and appeals (e.g. about the standard-setting process). The complaints mechanism should follow the criteria set out by the OECD, e.g. in their Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains in the Garment and Footwear Sector. Complaints mechanisms should be legitimate, accessible, predictable, equitable, transparent, dialogue-based.	ISEAL Standard Code 5.11.1 OECD Guideline for Multinational Enterprises OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains in the Garment & Footwear Sector	Yes No	1 0

The criterion above (A.15) will become a minimum requirement after a transitional period of 1.5 years. The transitional period ends March 2025.

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
			Supporting Strategies				**1**
2145_T96 OR 3838 OR 2146 A.14	Technical Assistance and Access to Finance	Does the scheme implement strategies or activities to support improved performance of participating enterprises, e.g. capacity building, access to finance?	Either of the following: - Technical assistance in the form of e.g. workshops, trainings, provision of equipment, etc. - A finance mechanism for increasing access possibilities for enterprises seeking certification - Technical assistance beyond compliance such as actions like providing resources, coordinating conferences or other peer learning opportunities, etc.	Examples for finance mechanism include advance payments to facilitate the purchase of produce from the farmers, the existence of a support fund, or the payment of verification/ certification fees via purchasing companies.		Yes No	1 0
	B - Standard-Setting Standard development and revision						**13**
700138 B.01	Availability of Standard	Is the standard made publicly available free of charge?	The standard document / performance measures is freely available for download on the scheme owner's website, incl. all criteria and accompanying documents to support consistent interpretation. All corresponding accompanying documents shall also be freely available.	Choose 'No' also if available only for members or for a fee.	ISEAL Standard-Setting Code 5.7.1; ISO 14024 7.4.3; **2014/24/EU Art. 43 (1)**	Yes No	1 0

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
700131 B.02	Key Issues	Has a set of key sustainability issues in the sector where the scheme operates or product lifecycle been defined in the standard-setting process?	A list or summary of evidence that identifies key sustainability issues within the scope of the standard. The standard document includes requirements addressing the identified issues. In order for this question to be answered with a 'Yes', the provided information shall match the areas that the scheme owner addresses in the standard. There shall be evidence that the information is used for the standard-setting process. This can be for example in the form of a research chapter in one of the standard setting documents.	Evidence can include research studies and reports (e.g. governmental reports, university studies and publications, NGO reports) that legitimize the identified key issues. For ISO Type I ecolabels: Key areas of environmental impacts have been identified through research methods (e.g. LCA studies or equivalent) that are robust and accurate enough to support environmental claims and that lead to exact and reproducible results.	ISEAL Standard-Setting Code 5.1.1; **2014/24/EU Art. 43 (1)**	Yes No	1 0
700133 B.03	Standard-Setting Process	Is the standard-setting procedure or a summary of the process for how stakeholders can engage in standard-setting made publicly available?	Either of the following: standard-setting procedures OR public summary of how stakeholders can engage. In order for this criterion to be answered with a 'Yes', there shall be evidence that the scheme owner publicly announces each consultation period on its website.	Stakeholders are any individuals or organizations that may affect or be affected by a scheme owner's actions and decisions. Relevant stakeholders could be certified companies, local communities, oversight providers, researchers or other scheme owners.	ISO 14024 5.11; ISEAL Standard-Setting Code 5.3; **2014/24/EU Art. 43 (1)**	Yes No	1 0
300809 B.04*	Public Consultation of Standard	Can stakeholders participate in the standard-setting process?	Statement in standard-setting procedure that lists who should be consulted.	All stakeholders: Open to any interested stakeholder.	ISEAL Standard-Setting Code 5.4.2; **2014/24/EU Art. 43 (1)**	All stakeholders Invitation / members only No	2 1 0

For the criterion above (B.04), the response option "All stakeholders" will become the minimum requirement after a transitional period of 1.5 years. The transitional period ends March 2025.

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score **106**
700134 B.05*	Consulta-tion with Directly Af-fected Stakehold-ers	Are stakeholders who are directly affected by the standard provided opportu-nities to participate in standard setting?	-Identification and documentation of which stakeholders are directly af-fected. -Records of activities to proactively reach out to these stakeholders and en-courage their participation in standard setting.	A documented stakeholder map-ping may serve as evidence for how the scheme has identified its stakeholders. Any stakeholder that has the po-tential to be impacted by imple-mentation of the standard should be considered.	ISEAL Stand-ard-Setting Code 5.4.4; For ISO Type I: ISO 14024 5.9. and 6.2.; **2014/24/EU Art. 43 (1)**	Yes No	1 0
The criterion above (B.05) will become a minimum requirement after a transitional period of 1.5 years. The transitional period ends March 2025.							
700132 B.06	Pilot Tes-ting	Are draft standards field tested / piloted for rele-vance and auditability through the development and revision processes?	Documented evidence (i.e. field test re-ports) that this is being done.	Piloting of new requirements can be done before or during the stand-ards revision period. Not applicable for schemes that develop different product standards based on a life-cycle and multi-cri-teria approach (ISO type I labels).	ISEAL Stan-dard-Setting Code 5.5	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -
700135 B.07	Stakehol-der Feed-back	Does the scheme owner provide information on how the input received from consultations has been in-cluded in the final version of the standard?	-Documentation of collected feedback from previous public consultations. -Statement on how the collected feed-back was used for the setting or revi-sion of the standard.		ISEAL Stan-dard-Setting Code 5.4.5; **2014/24/EU Art. 43 (1)**	Yes, publicly Yes, on request No	2 1 0

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score **106**
700137 B.08	Stake-holder Represen-tation in Standards Decisions	Do the voting procedures of the decision-making body responsible for standard setting ensure that there is a balanced representation of stake-holder interests?	Documented information on the voting procedure of the highest decision-making body responsible for the standard setting process specifies that all cate-gories of stakeholders are represented. The procedure shall also ensure that a stakeholder category is not able to dominate decision-making.	The decision on the content of the standard needs to rest with the body (often Standards Committee) that is balanced and that is respon-sible for recommending approval of the standard to the top governing body. In cases where the top governance body (Board) is not balanced but is responsible for signing off on a standard, the top governance body's decision should be based on whether the standard-setting process was followed and the ex-tent to which the standard meets its defined objectives, but not the content of the standard itself.	ISEAL Stan-dard-Setting Code 5.6.3	Yes No	1 0
700142 B.09	Standard Review	Is the standard reviewed and, if necessary, revised at least every 5 years?	A statement that details the frequency of review of the applicable standards, with a frequency of no more than five years.	This information is most likely in-cluded in the standard-setting pro-cedure. This criterion aims at ensuring that there is a process to review the standard. The review establishes whether a subsequent revision of the standard is necessary.	For ISO Type I: ISO 14024 5.8.2; ISO Guide 59, 4.6; ISEAL Stand-ard-Setting Code 5.8.1; **2014/24/EU Art. 43 (1)**	Yes No	1 0

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
300811 B.10	Consistent Interpretation	Does the scheme ensure that guidance is in place to support consistent interpretation of the standard?	The standard and/or separate guidance documents for interpretation shall include sufficient detail so that individual criteria can be assessed consistently and specify necessary evidence for those criteria.	In order to provide sufficient detail, the standard and/or separate guidance documents for interpretation should be expressed in terms of process, management and performance criteria, and written in a language that is clear, specific, objective, and verifiable. Moreover, it should include a definition of a scope to which the standard applies. The standard and guidance may also be provided with indicative examples showing how the information relating to specific clauses is sufficient to enable consistent interpretation. ISO 14024, clause 6.4 provides rules for developing ISO Type 1 environmental product criteria.	ISEAL Standard-Setting Code 6.3.1, 6.3.2, **2014/24/EU Art. 43 (1),** ISO 14024 6.4	Yes No	1 0
700140 B.11	Interpretation to Regional Context	Are there procedures and guidance for application or interpretation of the standard to regional contexts?	Any one of the following: - Information in the standard or interpretive guidance about the requirements can be interpreted for application at a local level. - Procedure for development of a local adaptation of the standard including stakeholder consultation measures. - The standard organization has country-specific standards.	Not applicable for schemes that develop different product standards based on a life-cycle and multi-criteria approach (ISO type I labels). In case of ISO Type I labels or other process-based standards this is 'not applicable', as its approach does not allow for the recognition of local contexts.	ISEAL Standard-Setting Code 6.4; ISO Guide 59	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
		C - Assurance Mechanisms for assessment of compliance with the standard					**62**
		C.1 - Assurance System					**20**
700162 C.1.01	Assessment methodology	Is there a publicly available documented assessment methodology for assurance providers to assess conformity with the standard?	A documented methodology describing requirements for assurance providers and the assessment procedures (e.g., audit procedures or testing and verification methods) taking into account the complexity and risk of a client, defines an assessment and sampling protocol, and which is commensurate with the claims being made by the scheme and by clients. The assessment methodology shall include procedures for at least the following activities: - Assessment of conformance with the standard; - Review and decision; - Issuance of a certificate, where this is part of the scheme; - Periodic re-assessment. For each type of assessment used, the scheme owner shall specify requirements for conducting the assessment that includes at least the following: - frequency and intensity of	Evidence can be demonstrated through scheme owner or assurance provider documentation. The assessment can include sources of evidence to be assessed and their corresponding admissible timeframes. Admissible timeframes can apply to all evidence, for example evidence within the past 12-months of the assessment will only be considered. Or timeframes can be specified by evidence type.	ISO/IEC 17067; ISEAL Assurance Code 5.1.2	Yes No	1 0

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score **106**
			assessment; sampling protocol for assessment; - knowledge and skills required in an auditor or assessment team (if assessment team is used); - minimum set of issues that need to be checked in every assessment; - a means of calculating the time needed for an assessment; - sources of evidence to be assessed; - minimum content of assessment reports; - and timelines for submission of completed reports, following assessments				
7000168 C.1.02	Scheme Accessibility	Is application (to get certified/verified) open to all potential applicants within the scope of the scheme?	A policy which assures that every potential applicant can get certified/verified/ become a member, as long as it is within the scope of the scheme (i.e. in a country where the scheme operates, a product group which the standard covers, etc.).		ISEAL Assurance Code 5.1.2; **2014/24/EU Art. 43 (1);** ISO 14024 5.13; GENICES Schedule A2, 6	Yes No	1 0
7000165 C.1.03	Assessment fees	Does the scheme owner provide information on assessment fees or require this of assurance providers?	The scheme owner shall provide information and update clients about the fees for application, initial certification and continuing certification free of charge either upon request or publicly available, or require this information to be made available by their assurance providers upon request or publicly available.	The scheme owner defines this requirement in certification requirements/methodologies, or in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the assurance provider, or in a separate accreditation manual.	ISO/IEC 17021-1, 8.5.1 c) ISEAL Assurance Code 6.2.1 GENICES Schedule A2 4.3 (5)	Yes, publicly Yes, on request No	2 1 0

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
700173 C.1.05*	Assurance Provider Complaints and Appeals Mechanism	Does the scheme owner require assurance providers to have an easily accessible complaints and appeals mechanism?	The mechanism shall require the assurance provider to: - Investigate and take appropriate action regarding relevant complaints and appeals, within defined timescales. - Review and take necessary corrective action; and - Keep a record of complaints and appeals and resulting actions. - Provide information on how to submit complaints or appeals shall be easily to find and should be available in relevant languages but at least in English.	Appeals are about "conformity decisions" (certificate holder appealing the assurance provider), complaints are broader and can include complaints about a certificate holder by external parties, or also complaints about an assurance provider. Complaints should be directed in the first instance to the closest party on the chain to the incident, e.g., first to assurance provider. If not resolved there, to oversight provider, and only then to scheme owner if not resolved elsewhere The complaints mechanism should follow the criteria set out by the OECD, e.g. in their Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains in the Garment and Footwear Sector. Complaint's mechanisms should be legitimate, accessible, predictable, equitable, transparent, dialogue based.	ISO 14024 5.13. ISO/IEC 17021-1 9.8 ISO/IEC 17065 7.13 ISO 10001 ISEAL Assurance Code 5.1.12; GENICES Schedule A2, 4.3 (4); OECD Guideline for Multinational Enterprises; OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains in the Garment & Footwear Sector	Yes, publicly Yes, on request No	2 1 0
For the criterion above (C.1.05), the response option "Yes, publicly" will become the minimum requirement after a transitional period of 1.5 years. The transitional period ends March 2025.							
700172 C.1.06	Assessment Reports Availability	Does the scheme owner make, or require assurance providers to make a summary of certification/verification reports (with personal and commercially sensitive	The scheme owner defines this requirement in certification requirements/methodologies, or in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the assurance provider, or in a separate accreditation manual. The report should	Note: For ISO Type I labelling programmes, the equivalent requirement is transparency on (nonconfidential) "evidence on which the awarding of the label is based" (see ISO 14024 clause 5.11).	ISEAL Assurance Code 6.3.1; **2014/24/EU Art. 43 (1)**	Yes, publicly available or on request Confidential No reports	2 1 0

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score **106**
		information removed) available?	be made available in a UN and local language.	For schemes where assessment reports are not publicly available online, request a summary report from assurance provider or scheme owners to verify availability." If assessment reports cannot be shared by the scheme or by assurance providers due to confidentiality, choose "confidential"			
700174 C.1.07	Scope and Duration of Certificate / License	Does the certificate or license define the scope of assurance and duration for which it is valid?	The scheme owner ensures that the following information about enterprises certified to its assurance system is current and available: - Name and address of the enterprise and the assurance provider; - Date the certification is granted; - Scope of assurance (to include the identification of the standard, product, process or service for which the certification is granted); - Expiry date of certificate (where used). The scheme owner defines guidance specifying that scope and duration of validity be included on certificates or licenses.	For membership-based initiatives without certification schemes, membership duration counts as equivalent, as long as the contract implies that standard rules shall apply at all times. The list of enterprises and accompanying information can be made available at the assurance provider or scheme level.	ISO/IEC 17021-1 8.2.2 ISO/IEC 17065 7.7.1 ISEAL Assurance Code 6.3.1	Yes No	1 0

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700176 C.1.09*	Certified or Verified Enterprise / Labelled Product List	Does the scheme owner maintain or require assurance providers to maintain a publicly accessible list of certified or verified enterprises, or a list of verified products/product groups, or a list of members (in case of membership-based initiatives)?	A publicly available list is made available (for example in a database or by uploaded lists), which contains at least the following: - Name of enterprise or product/s - The standard to which it has been certified/verified. - Certification status and expiry date (where used).	Information can be publicly available or made available on request. In case of published lists, information shall be updated without undue delay when changes occur. When possible, the list should also state the scope to which it has been certified.	SO/IEC 17021-1 8.2.2 ISO/IEC 17065 7.7.1	Yes, incl. scope Yes No	2 1 0
For the criterion above (C.1.09), the response option "Yes, including scope" will become the minimum requirement after a transitional period of 1.5 years. The transitional period ends March 2025.							
740209 C.1.10	Accredited/ Approved Assurance Providers	Does the scheme owner maintain a current and publicly available list of all accredited/approved/suspended assurance providers?	A system to list all assurance providers accepted by the scheme or accredited by respective oversight providers is available, up-to-date and complete.	This list could also be available on accepted oversight providers' websites.	ISEAL Assurance Code 6.3.1, ISO 17065 7.8, ISO 17021 8.1.2	Yes No	1 0

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
700163 C.1.11	Frequency of Assurance System Review	Does the scheme owner review the effectiveness of their assurance system on a periodic basis?	Scheme owner has internal management system procedures that include periodic review of how well the assurance system is being implemented. This includes defining what data the scheme owner collects to inform that review. Evidence can also include reports from assurance system reviews.	To assess performance of its assurance system, update classification of risks, and inform improvements, the scheme owner could, for instance, use following resources to inform its assessment and risk classification: information of internal and external audits undertaken; risk assessments and mitigation measures taken; recommendations from assurance providers; complaints analysis; stakeholder input; M&E data; market analysis and scientific trends. The scheme owner can outsource this responsibility to oversight providers that operate its conformity assessment.	ISO 17067 6.6 ISEAL Assurance Code 4.1.1, 4.2.1, 4.4.2, 4.5.2 and 5.4.1	Yes No	1 0
7000164 C.1.12*	Notification of Assurance System Changes	Does the scheme owner require that clients and other affected stakeholders are notified of changes to the assurance requirements?	There shall be evidence of a protocol that ensures affected stakeholders are notified of changes to the scheme's assurance system in a timely manner, including timelines for when the changes come into effect for example by checking notifications after previous assurance system change.		ISO 17067 6.6.2 ISEAL Assurance Code 6.3.3	Yes No	1 0

The criterion above (C.1.12) will become a minimum requirement after a transitional period of 1.5 years. The transitional period ends March 2025.

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
700277 C.1.13	Continuous Improvement Requirements	Does the scheme require performance improvements over time to maintain certification?	The scheme owner defines this requirement in certification requirements/methodologies, or in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and assurance provider, or in a separate manual.	Some schemes may offer "partial certification", some may use the more traditional approach of raising non-conformities that have to be closed within a specified timeframe, others may define different performance levels, etc. his criterion aims to address strategies for incentivising improvement beyond correcting non-compliances	ISO/IEC 17021-1 9.8	Yes No	1 0
700006 C.1.14	Chain of Custody: CoC Assessment Methodology	Does the scheme owner have a documented assessment methodology for assurance providers that are assessing chain of custody?	A documented methodology describing requirements for assurance providers and the assessment procedures of enterprises that handle or trade product along the supply chain (e.g., Chain of custody certification requirements/methodologies).	Only applicable if claims are made regarding the origin of certain ingredients or products (CoC is required)		Yes, publicly Yes, on request No Not applicable	2 1 0 -
900093 C.1.16	Report on Complaints	Does the scheme owner require assurance providers to report to them on complaints received and, on the actions, taken to resolve the issue?	A requirement for assurance providers to provide reports is specified in the agreement between assurance providers and scheme owners or in the assurance/certification requirements manual.		ISEAL Assurance Code 5.1.12	Yes No	1 0
1000059 C.1.17	Data Management for Scheme Owners	Does the scheme owner maintain an information management system?		The information management system can be used to inform risk management, assurance system learning, and monitoring and evaluation.	ISEAL Assurance Code 4.4.2	Yes No	1 0

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1000060 C.1.18	Equivalence Requirements and Recognition	Has the scheme specified equivalence requirements for any other scheme assurance results it recognises?	Requirements and/or the process of recognition or partial recognition is specified in a standard operating procedure, assessment methodology or certification requirements.	ISO/IEC Guide 68:2002 provides an introduction to the development, issuance and operation of arrangements for the recognition and acceptance of results produced by bodies undertaking similar conformity assessment and related activities. The activities to which this guidance is intended to apply are those related to the conduct of unregulated marketplace transactions extending across borders from one country to another. Information should be evident in the scheme's certification and accreditation requirements.	ISEAL Assurance Code 5.3.1	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -

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	**C.2 - Conformity Assessment**	22
	**Conformity Assessment Process**	4
700236 OR 700013 (CoC) C.2.02*	Indepen-dent Con-formity As-sessment	Does the scheme require a second or third-party con-formity assessment of all clients for compliance with its standard?	The scheme owner requires in its certi-fication requirements/methodologies that: - Second or third parties shall conduct conformity assessments and decision-making. -Third party assurance providers shall be approved by the scheme owner or accredited by an independent oversight provider. The scheme owner defines this require-ment in certification requirements/meth-odologies, or in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the oversight provider, or in a separate ac-creditation manual.	1st party is a self-assessment; 2nd party is by an interested stake-holder, e.g., an industry associa-tion; 3rd party is independent from the client. Some schemes may provide for different levels of con-formity assessments (e.g., a self-assessment followed by a third-party audit), therefore the most in-dependent level is the determining factor, regardless of when the audit takes place. Also, applicable if claims are made regarding the origin of or certain in-gredients or products (CoC is re-quired).	ISO/IEC 17065, ISO/IEC 17021-1	3rd party 2nd party None/ 1st party	2 1 0

For the criterion above (C.2.02), the response option "3rd party" will become the minimum requirement after a transitional period of 1.5 years. The transitional period ends March 2025.

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700247 C.2.04	Consistent Decision-Making on Conformity	Does the scheme owner define requirements for decision-making to ensure that assurance providers use consistent procedures for determining the conformity of clients or laboratory testing results with the standard?	Assurance providers shall be required to have documented procedures for determining conformity of clients with the standard. Assurance providers shall record each certification decision. Assurance providers shall have a document process to conduct an effective review prior to taking conformity decisions. The assurance providers shall take account of at least the following information in taking conformity decisions: the audit report / document review where relevant, details on non-conformities and, where applicable, the corrections and corrective actions taken by the client a recommendation whether or not conformity is achieved, together with any conditions or observations.	The scheme owner defines this requirement in certification requirements/methodologies, or in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the oversight, or in a separate accreditation manual.	ISEAL Assurance Code 5.1.8; ISO 17065 7.6 and ISO 17021 9.5	Yes No	1 0

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
700175 C.2.05	Procedure on Non-Conformities	Does the scheme owner require assurance providers to have a procedure in place for how clients are required to address non-conformities, including when a certificate or license is suspended or revoked?	The scheme owner defines this requirement in certification requirements/methodologies, or in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the oversight provider. The procedure specifies how different degrees of non-conformity (if applicable) are to be addressed and remediated, and the applicable timeframes in order to support consistency between assurance providers. The procedure also specifies the conditions under which certification / the license may be suspended or withdrawn, partially or in total, for all or part of the scope of certification / the license and the applicable timeframes. The scheme owner has a guidance specifying different gradations of non-conformities (if applicable) and how to determine them, verifying corrective actions arising from non-conformities and allowing for appeals of non-conformities, in order to support consistency between assurance providers.	The scheme owner stipulates the requirements that assurance providers shall follow. However, procedures developed by assurance providers are also acceptable.	ISEAL Assurance Code 5.1.10 ISO/IEC 17065 7.11 ISO/IEC 17021-1 9.6, 9.5.2 GENICES Schedule A2, 4.3 (2) & (3)	Yes No	1 0

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score **106**
Sustainability Audits							**9**
3986 OR 700007 OR 700216 C.2.01	ISO Compliance for Certification/Verification	Does the scheme owner have a documented oversight approach that requires assurance providers to be accredited or compliant with ISO/IEC 17065, ISO/IEC 17021, ISO/IEC 17020, ISO/IEC 17025 (for laboratories) requirements, or alternatively to be compliant with the relevant ISEAL Assurance Code requirements?	Accreditation: Where the scheme incorporates accreditation as an oversight mechanism, the scheme owner shall ensure that ABs comply with ISO/IEC 17011 and they are a member of the IAF or ILAC (for laboratories).

For ISEAL compliance: CABs shall be required to either be a Code-compliant member of ISEAL or to be otherwise in a position to provide evidence of full Code-compliance.

Proxy accreditation: Where the scheme owner accepts ISO accreditation of CABs, they shall require that the CABs conduct internal audits against the scheme-specific scope and share the results and any remediation with the scheme owner.

Requirement: The scheme owner defines this requirement in a documented assurance, oversight, accreditation or certification procedure or equivalent normative document, or in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and assurance provider, or in a separate manual. | Only applicable if the scheme requires audits, laboratory testing or if claims are made regarding the origin of or certain ingredients or products (CoC is required).

Alternatively, the scheme owner's compliance with the ISEAL Assurance Code is equivalent as it requires that there is oversight of assurance providers' competence, consistency and impartiality.

Besides ISO/IEC 17025 (General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories), recognized standards are ISO 15189 (Medical laboratories - Particular requirements for quality and competence), OECD Principle of GLP (Good Laboratory Practice) or equivalent national standards. | | Yes No Not applicable | 1 0 - |

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
700240 C.2.03	Audit frequency	Does the scheme owner require that clients are audited on a regular, recurring basis?	The scheme owner defines this requirement in certification requirements/methodologies, or in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the oversight provider, or in a separate accreditation manual.	Only applicable if the scheme requires audits.\n\nThis question refers to external audits. In a full audit process, all requirements of the standard and the whole system of the client that is to be assessed are verified. This would usually include re-certification audits but not necessarily surveillance audits in case these are less rigorous. In the assessment, state the least possible frequency, i.e., if an interval can be skipped for certain clients, e.g., based on a risk assessment, the frequency shall be reduced (see also criterion on risk-based audit frequency)	ISO 17067 5.3.8 ISO 17065 7.9.3/4 ISEAL Assurance Code 5.1.2	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -
700241 C.2.06	Risk-based Audit Frequency	Is the frequency or intensity of an audit based on a risk assessment of the client or assurance provider?	Documented risk management protocol in the certification/verification /accreditation requirements detailing how the scheme assesses risk of clients or assurance providers and how it adapts the frequency or intensity of audits or assessments based on that risk assessment. The scheme owner shall require its use by assurance providers and oversight providers respectively.	Only applicable if the scheme requires audits. This question does not apply to CoC audits.\n\nRisk-based audits make the whole certification process more efficient and potentially less costly.	ISEAL Assurance Code 6.2.2 ISO 17021-1 9.1.4.2 ISO/IEC 17011 7.4.6	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score **106**
700243 OR 700017 (CoC) C.2.07	Audit activities	Does the scheme owner specify the required intensity for each type of audit and the activities that shall be carried out by assurance providers for each of its standards?	Guidance to assurance providers on the types of activities required to be included in a full audit. Activities might be: Document review (off-site) only / Document review on-site / Field visit (incl. office visit & doc. review) / Off-site interviews with clients / Remote sensing / Stakeholder engagement.	Only applicable if the scheme requires audits. Also applicable to Chain of Custody schemes. Intensity refers to how long an audit should take, how many interviews should occur, how many sites should be investigated, how many samples should be taken, how many issues shall be checked for each type of audit. Field visit can include any activity that assesses the implementation of practices as opposed to the existence of procedures.	ISEAL Assurance Code 5.1.2	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -
700249 C.2.08	Unannounced Audits	Does the scheme owner allow or require assurance providers to do unannounced audits?	The scheme owner defines this requirement in certification requirements/methodologies, or in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the oversight provider, or in a separate accreditation manual.	Only applicable if the scheme requires audits.	ISEAL Assurance Code 5.1.2	Required Allowed Not allowed Not applicable	2 1 0 -
700837 AND 700194 C.2.09	Stakeholder participation in audit	Are auditors and assessors required to seek external stakeholder input during the audit and oversight assessment process?	The scheme owner defines this requirement in certification requirements/methodologies, or in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the oversight provider, or in a separate accreditation manual.	Only applicable if the scheme requires audits. This question does not apply to CoC audits. There should be explicit reference that the scheme requires auditors to proactively solicit external stakeholder input during the audit process and to show how they took comments into account.	ISEAL Assurance Code 6.3.2	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score **106**
700246 C.2.10	Audit / Evaluation Report Format	Does the scheme owner require assurance providers to follow a consistent report format?	The scheme owner defines this requirement in certification requirements / methodologies, or in the contract / agreement between the scheme owner and the oversight provider, or in a separate accreditation manual.	Only applicable if the scheme requires audits.\n\nThe report should include section on explanations of auditors or assessors' decisions for determining conformity with requirements and for their choice of samples taken during the audit.\n\nThe scheme owner should have a guidance specifying formats for audit reports and reporting, in order to support consistency between assurance providers. Alternatively, to a guidance on audit report formats, mandatory templates may be provided, however, guidance on reporting should still be available.	ISEAL Assurance Code 5.1.2 ISO/IEC 17021-1 9.4.8 ISO/IEC 17065 7.7	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -
700248 C.2.11	Decision-Making Independence	Does the scheme owner require that assurance providers and oversight bodies use competent and impartial personnel (other than auditor/assessor/team) to make decisions on compliance?	The persons or committees taking conformity decisions shall be different from those who carried out the conformity assessments and shall have appropriate competence.\nThe scheme owner defines this requirement in certification requirements/methodologies, or in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the oversight provider, or in a separate accreditation manual.	Only applicable if the scheme requires audits.	ISO 17065 7.6.2, ISO 17021 9.5.1.1, ISEAL 5.6.4	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score **106**
				Group certification			**5**
10356_T17 C.2.13	Group Internal Management System	Is the group required to have a shared management system with clear responsibilities for implementation of the system?	The scheme owner defines this requirement in the group certification or verification requirements/methodologies, or in the contract/ agreement between the scheme owner and the oversight provider or in a separate accreditation manual.	Only applicable if the scheme requires audits and allows group certification.	ISEAL Assurance Code 5.1.6	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -
700258 C.2.14	Group Internal Verification	Does the scheme owner have a mechanism that prescribes and justifies how all sites within a group certification will be audited over time?	The scheme owner defines this requirement in the group certification or verification requirements/methodologies, or in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the oversight provider or in a separate accreditation manual.	Only applicable if the scheme requires audits and allows group certification. This should include the requirement of group manager(s), or the auditors (or assessors) to visit all group sites at least once during the period of certificate validity.	ISEAL Assurance Code 5.1.2	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -
700257 C.2.15	Group External Sample Size	Is there a sample size formula and sampling approach to determine the number of group members that is externally verified and how the sample is chosen?	The scheme owner defines this requirement in the group certification or verification requirements/methodologies, or in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the oversight provider or in a separate accreditation manual.	Only applicable if the scheme requires audits and allows group certification.	ISEAL Assurance Code 5.1.6	Yes based on risk assessment Yes No Not applicable	2 1 0 -
700260 C.2.16	Non-Conforming Group Members	Do the requirements on group certification/verification define the conditions under which a group member shall be suspended or removed from a group?	The scheme owner defines this requirement in the group certification or verification requirements/methodologies, or in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the oversight provider or in a separate accreditation manual.	Only applicable if the scheme requires audits and allows group certification.	ISEAL Assurance Code 5.1.7	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -

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ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
			Chain of Custody				1
800034 C.2.20	Chain of Custody: Physical handling	Does the scheme owner require all enterprises that are physically handling the certified product to undergo a CoC audit if the product can be destined for retail sale as a certified, labelled product?	This shall be in the form of a written requirement as part of the certification requirements. Possibly review scope of certificates, if available online.	Only applicable if CoC is required.		Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -
			Laboratory Testing				3
700213 C.2.21	Laboratory Testing: Information on Test Methods	In the documented assessment methodology, are test methods either referred to or included?	The required test methods need to be referred to or provided in the standard document or in other corresponding documents.	Only applicable if scheme requires laboratory testing	GENICES Schedule A2, 4.13 (2) ISO 17025	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -
3901 C.2.23	Laboratory testing: Surveillance lab testing of products	Are there rules on random sampling and testing for the conformity monitoring?	-Written evidence is required by the scheme owner that includes rules on random sampling and testing of the (final) products. OR -Written evidence is required by the scheme owner that includes rules on random sampling and testing of samples collected in the field e.g. soil or waste water samples.	Only applicable if scheme requires laboratory testing.	GENICES Schedule A2, 4.11 ISO 17025	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -
700220 C.2.24	Laboratory Testing: Non-Conforming Products	Is there a procedure to deal with non-conforming products manufactured by a client / licensee?	Written evidence is required by the scheme owner that includes a defined procedure to deal with non-conformity.	Only applicable if scheme requires laboratory testing.	GENICES Schedule A2, 4.11 ISO 17025	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
			C.3 - Assessor/ Auditor Competencies				7
700221 AND 700230 C.3.01*	Personnel Competencies	Does the scheme owner define the qualifications, competency, the required minimum industry audit experience and training requirements for assurance assessors?	The scheme owner has specified qualifications and competence criteria for assurance assessors or requires that assurance providers have. Qualifications and competencies criteria set minimum requirements for assurance assessor training and auditing experience in the sector covered by the standard. The scheme owner has a guidance specifying the training system and content in order to support consistency between assurance assessors. The scheme owner defines this requirement in certification requirements/methodologies, or in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the oversight provider, or in a separate accreditation manual.	This aims to ensure that the assurance assessor is familiar with the standard through both initial and ongoing training on its interpretation.	ISO /IEC 17021-1 7.1. & 7.2; ISO17065 6.1.2.1 and ISO 17021 7.1.2 and 7.1.4; ISO 17067 6.5.1; ISEAL Assurance Code 5.5.1, 5.5.2	Yes No	1 0

The criterion above (C.3.01) will become a minimum requirement after a transitional period of 1.5 years. The transitional period ends March 2025.

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
700231 C.3.03	Auditing Skills Training	Does the scheme owner require that assurance provider auditors successfully complete auditor training on a standard that is relevant to the scheme and that is based on ISO 19011, or equivalent?	The scheme owner defines this requirement in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the assurance provider, in a separate accreditation manual or for example in certification requirements/methodologies.	Only applicable if scheme requires audits.

It should be evaluated whether auditors are being trained on product-specific, industry-specific and country-specific social and ecological risks. It should also be evaluated whether they have been trained in identifying most prominent social risks, such as a lack of the freedom of association or gender-based risk such as gender-based violence. | ISEAL Assurance Code 5.5.1, 5.5.2 | Yes No Not applicable | 1 0 - |
| 700224 C.3.05 | Regular Assessor Evaluation | Does the scheme owner require that assurance and oversight providers implement a programme to monitor and ensure the continued competence and good performance of assessors and auditors? | The assurance and oversight provider have a programme to monitor competence and performance of auditors / assessors.

The scheme owner defines this requirement in certification requirements/methodologies, or in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the assurance and oversight provider, or in a separate accreditation manual. | Assessors and auditors should be evaluated at least every 3 years. Examples for evaluation methods to check competence and performance are: Review of records, feedback, interviews, observations, examinations. | ISEAL Assurance Code 5.5.4 | Yes No | 1 0 |
| 700226 C.3.06 | Assessors Calibration | Does the scheme owner carry out or require assurance providers to carry out calibration activities to ensure that assessors /auditors are aligned? | A calibration programme should entail:

- Monitoring and comparison of assessors' / auditors' performance
- Schedule of calibration activities
- Calibration formats | Calibration refers to activities that are undertaken to ensure that all assessors / auditors have the same understanding of a programme's requirements.

Monitoring and comparison of assessors / auditor performance: | ISEAL Assurance Code 5.5.3 | Annually Ad Hoc No | 2 1 0 |

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
				This is to understand where and when calibration is needed and should be based on various types of information sources, such as assessment reports, witness audits, feedback from clients, review of received complaints and appeals. Schedule of calibration activities: This should include calibration activities at pre-defined events, e.g. when scheme requirements change or when assurance provider processes change, when results from auditor monitoring have been processed. It should also include regular check-ins with assessors / auditors and ad hoc calibration events as needed. Calibration formats: This should encompass different types of calibration activities, e.g. classroom lectures / webinars, auditor roundtables, case studies and exercises, tests.			
700225 C.3.07	Personnel Suspension	Does the scheme owner require that assurance providers have a Code of Conduct, or equivalent, and supporting procedures to guide behaviour and actions of assurance providers' personnel and to address misconduct?	The scheme owner defines this requirement in assurance/certification requirements/methodologies, or in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the assurance provider, or in a separate manual.			Yes No	1 0

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
2672 C.3.08	Auditor and Assessor Impartiality	Does the scheme owner assess potential risks to auditor / assessor impartiality and where warranted, do they require assurance providers and oversight bodies to implement practices to mitigate these risks?	The scheme owner includes auditor / assessor impartiality risks in their risk management plan/register. A requirement for assurance and oversight providers is specified in certification requirements or oversight manuals or other normative documents.	Some of the practices that can mitigate the risks to impartiality include rotation of auditors and other technical experts in assessments; assurance body rotation; occasionally having second set of eyes - have a second auditor join; and witness audit / inspection every x time period.	ISEAL Assurance Code 5.6.2, ISO/IEC 17065 4.2.3, ISO/IEC 17021-1 5.2.3, ISO/IEC 17011 4.4.6, 4.4.7	Yes No	1 0
			C.4 - Accreditation / Oversight				13

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score **106**
699994 OR 10540 C.4.01*	Oversight Mecha-nism	Does the scheme require an oversight mechanism and is it documented?	The scheme owner documents this re-quirement in a contract/agreement be-tween the scheme owner and an over-sight body oversight provider, in a sep-arate accreditation manual or for exam-ple in certification requirements/meth-odologies. As a minimum the scheme owner shall include a review of the performance of assurance providers and assessors in conducting the assessment. The scheme owner also complies with this requirement if the scheme owner requires independent oversight that meets ISO 17011'.	Reviewing the performance of as-surance providers and auditors can be done remotely or in-person and incorporate reviews of audit reports and decision-making. Best practice is to ensure that there is an inde-pendent assessment and decision-making. This may mean independ-ent accreditation or that oversight is conducted by a separate organi-sation from the assurance provider and scheme owner.	SO/IEC 17011 ISEAL Assurance Code 5.4.1	Yes No	1 0
The criterion above (C.4.01) will become a minimum requirement after a transitional period of 1.5 years. The transitional period ends March 2025.							
700183 C.4.03	Indepen-dence of Oversight	Is oversight conducted by a third party independent of the scheme owner and assurance providers?	If oversight is carried out by an over-sight provider, the oversight provider and the assurance provider shall be separate legal entities.		ISEAL As-surance Code 5.4.2	Yes No	1 0

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
700193 C.4.04	Oversight Intensity	Does the scheme define the nature and intensity of oversight activities on assurance providers?	The scheme owner defines this requirement in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the oversight provider, in a separate accreditation manual or for example in certification requirements/methodologies.	Intensity refers to e.g. the kinds of oversight activities to be carried out, how long an oversight assessment should be, how many interviews should occur, how many sites should be investigated, how many samples should be taken, how many issues shall be checked for each type of activity. The scheme owners can devolve the responsibility of defining the details of the intensity to the oversight provider.	ISO 17011, 2017, 7.4.4-7.4.7, ISO 17067 6.5.1 ISEAL Assurance Code 5.4.1	every 1-3 years; every 4 years or more; No	2 1 0
700835 C.4.05	Risk-based Oversight Intensity	Does the intensity of oversight activities take account of risk factors associated with the assurance providers and their personnel?	There shall be a documented process of how the scheme requires risk to be assessed and how it accordingly allocates identified assessment needs.	Risk-based accreditation or oversight assessment make the whole accreditation/oversight process more efficient and less costly. Taking account of risk can also help focus oversight on issues that need attention.	ISEAL Assurance Code 6.2.2	Yes No	1 0

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score **106**
700184 C.4.06	Assurance Providers Application Restrictions	Does the scheme owner clearly define the application and selection process for assurance providers?	The application and selection process is sufficiently defined by the scheme owner in contracts/agreements, in referenced policies or certification requirements/methodologies to require that selection of assurance providers is only by reference to the scope (or issues relating to open financial payments or incomplete application submissions). The application process/forms of the oversight provider should be online and can be verified. Where the scheme owner limits participation of assurance providers in their scheme, are the reasons for this explained and justified.	The scheme owner ensures that all assurance providers that meet the scheme requirements are free to apply to operate under the scheme, irrespective of their country of residence, size and of the existing number of providers already operating under the scheme.	ISO 17011, 2017, 4.4.10; ISEAL Assurance Code 6.2.1.	Yes No	1 0
700182 C.4.07	Proxy Accreditation/Oversight	Does the scheme owner assess scheme-specific competence when accepting assurance providers that are accredited to other relevant standards (proxy accreditation)?	The scheme owner specifies this requirement in a contract/agreement between the scheme owner and an oversight provider, in a separate accreditation manual or for example in certification requirements/methodologies.	Proxy accreditation is a type of oversight employed by a scheme, whereby recognition of another scheme's oversight mechanism is deemed sufficient to demonstrate assurance. The response option "Yes" means that schemes only accept assurance providers that are accredited to similar or generic scopes only if they assess beforehand their scheme-specific competence, i.e. whether they have the competence required to do conformity assessment related to the scheme's standard(s).	ISEAL Assurance Code 5.4.6	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score **106**
700186 C.4.08	Oversight Body Complaints and Appeals Mechanism	Does the scheme have or require oversight providers to have documented and accessible complaints and appeals mechanisms?	The complaints resolution mechanism procedures define: clear steps, timelines and responsibilities to resolve the complaint in what form and to whom a complaint needs to be submitted to.		ISEAL Assurance Code 5.1.12	Yes No	1 0
700187 C.4.09	Procedure on Oversight Remediation	Does the scheme owner define or request that oversight providers define how assurance providers have to address non-conformities raised through oversight?	The oversight provider has a guidance and timeline specifying how different gradations of non-conformity are to be addressed and remediated. The requirements or guidance also specify the conditions under which accreditation may be suspended or withdrawn, partially or in total, for all or part of the scope of accreditation. The scheme owner specifies this requirement in a contract/agreement between the scheme owner and oversight provider, in a separate accreditation manual or for example in certification requirements/methodologies.		ISEAL Assurance Code 5.4.4; ISO 17011, 2017, 7.6.8 and 7.6.9	Yes No	1 0
709038 C.4.10	Oversight Reports Availability	Does the scheme owner require that summaries of oversight reports (with personal and commercially sensitive information removed) are made publicly available?	The scheme owner specifies this requirement in a contract/agreement between the scheme owner and an oversight provider, in a separate accreditation manual or for example in certification requirements/methodologies.	For schemes where assessment reports are not publicly available online, request summary reports from oversight body to verify availability.	ISEAL Assurance Code 6.3.1	Yes, publicly Yes, on request No	2 1 0

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
700189 C.4.11	On-Site Oversight Assessment	Does the scheme owner require that on-site assessments of assurance providers are included in the oversight cycle?	The scheme owner defines this requirement in the contract/agreement between the scheme owner and the oversight body, in a separate accreditation manual or for example in certification requirements/methodologies.	This is referring to the onsite assessment of an assurance providers head and affiliate offices according to their scope.	ISO 17011, 2017, 7.6.2	Yes No	1 0
700191 C.4.12	Oversight Witness Audit	Does the scheme owner require that oversight includes reviews of assurance provider performance in the field?	The scheme owner specifies this requirement in a contract/agreement between the scheme owner and an oversight provider, in a separate accreditation manual or for example in certification requirements/methodologies.	Only applicable if scheme requires audits (e.g. ISO Type I Labels).	ISEAL Assurance Code 5.5.4	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -

			D - Claims & Traceability				12
2			Claims and labelling policy and chain of custody				

			D.1 - Traceability				6

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score
700030 D.1.01	Chain of Custody Standard / Traceability Requirements	Does the scheme owner have a documented Chain of Custody standard or other traceability requirements that apply to the full supply chain?	Either of the following: - A CoC standard document which provides a description of its chain of custody approach and scope. OR - A description of other measures for ensuring that certain information on ingredients/products are passed through the supply chain e.g. data sheets of chemicals or certificates from used inputs.		UN Global Compact, BSR (2014). A Guide to Traceability	Yes, publicly Yes, on request No Not applicable	2 1 0 -

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score 106
700036 D.1.03	Mixing of Inputs	Are there any CoC requirements for non-certified material, in case mixing of certified with uncertified inputs is allowed?	A description of how it traces back the origin of uncertified material.	If there is no evidence of a written statement, this shall be a 'No'. 'Not applicable' if: - Statement saying that it does not allow the mixing of its certified with uncertified ingredients. - It is a product label (ISO type I label, e.g. Blue Angel)		Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -
700037 D.1.04	Records for Traceability	Does the scheme owner require assurance providers to verify that all enterprises within the chain maintain accurate and accessible records that allow any certified product or batch of products to be traceable from the point of sale to the buyer?	A statement in which it requires assurance providers to verify that all suppliers maintain documentation of purchases (incl. supplier's name and address, date of purchase, quantity and product type, certificate code), and sales (incl. buyer's name and address, date of sale, quantity and product type, certificate code). This could also be covered by a requirement in the chain of custody standard.	Only applicable if claims are made regarding the origin of certain ingredients or products (CoC is required). This information can normally be found in the chain of custody standards. If available, mandatory template checklists could be used to verify the requirements.		Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -
700044 D.1.05	Record Keeping	Are companies required to keep CoC records for at least the term of certificate validity?	A statement requiring suppliers to maintain documentation of CoC records (documentation of purchases incl. supplier's name and address, date of purchase, quantity and product type, certificate code), and sales (incl. buyer's name and address, date of sale, quantity and product type, certificate code) for at least the time of certification validity.	Only applicable if claims are made regarding the origin of certain ingredients or products (CoC is required). In order to be available for possible checks and assurance activities, the required documentation should be available for at least the duration of certification.		Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score **106**
700045 D.1.06	Traceabi-lity System	Does the scheme have a traceability system that en-ables checking of product flow between links of the supply chain?	A description of the system it uses to collect and analyse data from suppliers in order to trace back different certified inputs across different supply chain en-tities.	Only applicable if claims are made regarding the origin of certain in-gredients or products.		Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -
D.2 - Claims & Labelling							**6**
700077 AND 700080 D.2.01	Claims and Label-ling Policy	Does the scheme owner have documented require-ments for the use of its symbols, logos and/or claims related to its scheme and make them publicly available?	A document that describes the rules for applying for and using claims and logos. A clear indication to what the claim/la-bel applies, e.g. the complete product, a product component, packaging, ser-vice, for promotional use, etc.	Labelling requirements ensure that any authorised claims or logos are accurate, truthful, can be substan-tiated and are correctly displayed on the product, packaging, etc.	ISO/IEC 17021-1, 8.4.1 ISEAL Claims Guide 2.5.1, 2.1.3 ISO/TS 17033 5.1.5 ISO/IEC 17030 4.2	Yes No	1 0

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ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score **106**
700064 D.2.03	Relevant Claims	Do claims requirements specify the types of claims that can be made for different types of CoC models, where the scheme owner allows for more than one model?	An overview of differences in claims, depending on the types of CoC used. These claims shall accurately reflect the type of CoC. For example: - Claims on origin can only be made under Identity preserved - Claims on 100% certified material require Segregation. - When Mass Balance or Controlled Blending is used, claims need to show that mixing is allowed. - When Certificate Trading (Book & Claim) is allowed, "supports sustainable production" (or similar) is an adequate claim.	"Not applicable" if: - Product label - Only use of one CoC model	ISEAL Claims Guide 1.1.6	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -
700065 D.2.04	Tracking Mechanism	Are claims and label users required to use unique license numbers or other tracking mechanisms?	A visible mechanism to be used by label and claims users which provides the ability to trace back the product to its origins. Schemes may distinguish between COC-numbers to be applied on claims and logo license numbers to be applied when labels are used.	Not applicable if no claims are made regarding the origin of certain ingredients or products (CoC is required).	ISEAL Claims Guide 3.3, 3.4	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Requirements	Guidance	Reference	Response Options	Total Score **106**
700066 D.2.05	Accurate Use of Claims	Does the scheme owner require surveillance of the accurate use of claims and labels in the market, including a complaints mechanism to report misuse?	Either of the following: - Clearly defined activities pursued to make sure labels and claims are used accurately. OR - A complaints mechanism that allows stakeholders to report the false use of labels and claims.	The surveillance can also be conducted by assurance or oversight providers.	ISO 17065 7.9.3-4, ISO 17021 8.3.5, ISO 17067 6.5.12, ISEAL Assurance Code 5.1.13.	Yes No	1 0
700063 D.2.09	Graphic Label Explanatory Statement	Is the label accompanied by an explanatory text claim or a link to further information?	Either of the following: - A short text next to the logo explaining some detail about the label. - A QR code, link or any other form of additional information which helps to understand the label.	Not applicable if no graphic labels are used.	ISEAL Claims Guidance 2.2.3	Yes No Not applicable	1 0 -
700068 D.2.10	Consequences of Misuse of Claims	Does the scheme have a procedure that defines specific consequences of misuse of claims and do they also require this of their assurance providers?	Statement/policy that defines what happens if misuse is discovered. Requirement in assurance manual or in agreements between scheme and assurance providers.	This question also relates to fraudulent claim use.		Yes No	1 0

II. ENVIRONMENTAL FRIENDLINESS

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity (DoI)	Total Score 36
			Chemicals			**10**
			Chemical Use			**10**
700402 E114	Hazardous chemicals - substances of very high concern under REACH	Does the standard include criteria on chemicals listed on the REACH Candidate List as substances of very high concern?	Refers to requirements that restrict or prohibit the use of substances of very high concern according to REACH. Refers to the authentic version of the Candidate List published by ECHA. To achieve compliance with this criterion the standard needs to restrict the use (basic) or prohibit the use, except for the defined derogations (advanced).	Immediate	Basic: Restrict use Advanced: Prohibit use except for defined derogations.	1 2
700358 E38	Chemicals harmful to the environment	Does the standard include criteria on H statements H400, H410, H411?	Refers to chemicals classified as environmental hazards statements according to GHS (Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals). To achieve compliance with this criterion, the standard must include requirements for an ecological risk assessment of the substances in use (e.g. assessing a correlation between biodegradation and aquatic toxicity) or the selection of substances for MRSL considers H statements (e.g. H statements and exposure situation depending on the sector of use and application field of the chemicals are considered).	Within 5 years	Basic: Prohibit use for some applications Advanced: Prohibit use for all applications	1 2

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity (DoI)	Total Score **36**
700353 E33	Use of flame retardants	Does the standard include criteria on the use of flame retardants?	Refers to the ban of halogenated flame retardants and other problematic flame retardants like Sb2O3. Justifiable and clearly defined exemptions e.g. plastic parts weighing equal to or less than 25 g are accepted. To achieve compliance with this criterion the standard needs to prohibit the use of halogenated flame retardants.	Within 5 years		1
740203 E115	Chemicals harmful to human health	Does the standard include criteria on H statements?	Refers to chemicals classified as health hazard statements according to GHS (Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals) or are identified as substances of very high concern (SVHC) under REACH. To achieve compliance with this criterion the standards needs to prohibit the use for some applications (basic) or prohibit the use of additional H statements for all applications (advanced).	Immediate	Basic: Prohibit use for some applications Advanced: Prohibit use for H statements as well as additional H statements for all applications	1 2
700345 E26	List of chemicals of low concern	Does the standard include a list of substances which are of low concern for the intended use?	Refers to a list of chemicals of low concern for the intended use for substitution of substances with high concern.	Within 5 years		1
800054 E122	Use of heavy metals	Does the standard include criteria on the use of mercury, cadmium, lead, chromiumVI?	Refers to restricted use or ban of those heavy metals that are partly prohibited due to the Directive 2011/65/EU: Restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances (RoHS). To achieve compliance with this criterion the standard needs to require compliance with the RoHS directive.	Within 5 years		1

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity (DoI)	Total Score 36
1000048 E124	Use of plasticizer	Does the scheme include criteria on other substances which have impact on human health and the environment?	Refers to restricting the use of plasticizers, polymers containing halogens, allergenic substances, colouring agents or other substances which can have a negative environmental and human health impact. To achieve compliance with this criterion, the standard needs to restrict the use of problematic substances.	Within 5 years		1
3			**Inputs**			**3**
800062 E130	Metal	Does the standard include criteria on environmental responsible mining practices?	Refers to any criteria on minimizing the environmental impact of mining, e.g. regarding the use of chemicals like cyanides, mine closure, mining activities in protected areas and the management of acid mine drainages (e.g. by introducing water treatment).

The standard can refer to "credible" mining certification schemes. It has to be evaluated if the mining certification scheme is credible. If the standard requires that all minerals come from recycled sources, the criterion should be answered with "yes". To achieve compliance with this criterion the standard needs require implemented risk assessments. | Within 5 years | | 1 |

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity (DoI)	Total Score 36
800064 E132	Postconsumer recycled content in the product or packaging	Does the scheme include criteria on the use of postconsumer recycled content in the product or packaging?	Refers to the usage of recycled card boxes in the packaging or to the usage of postconsumer recycled content (e.g. plastics or metal) in the product. To achieve compliance with this criterion the standard needs to require information on postconsumer content in the packaging (basic) or require that postconsumer content in the product is ≥ 10%.	Within 5 years	Basic: Information on postconsumer recycled content in product or packaging	1
					Advanced: Postconsumer recycled content in product ≥ 10%	2
Energy & Climate						**5**
Climate Change Mitigation						**5**
2091 E18	Reducing Energy Consumption (Production Phase)	Does the standard include criteria on energy consumption in the production phase?	IT, PH: General criteria on environmental management systems are not sufficient. The standard might refer to existing norms like ISO 50001 (Energy management systems) or reporting tools like GRI (Global Reporting Initiative). The nine main suppliers are the manufacturer's top three suppliers (by spend) of each of the following three types of components: in the case of laptops: principle storage device(s), principle semiconductor device(s), primary printed circuit board(s); in the case of mobile phones: display, integrated circuits, printed circuit board. To achieve compliance with this criterion the standard needs to require the measurement of the energy consumption of the main nine suppliers.	Within 5 years		1

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ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity (DoI)	Total Score 36
800049 E117	Use of Renewable Energy (production phase)	Does the standard include criteria on the usage of renewable energy in the production phase of the hardware?	Refers to the use of renewable energy sources leading to additional environmental benefits and hence to an increase in the share of renewable energies in the total electricity mix of the country/ region. To achieve compliance with this criterion the standard need to require a balance sheet of electricity usage or comparable evidence for selected major suppliers of hardware components that purchased electricity leads to additional environmental benefits.	Within 5 years		1

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity (DoI)	Total Score **36**
700441 E119	Power Consumption and Management (use phase)	Does the standard include criteria on power consumption and power management (during the use phase)?	Refers to energy efficiency of the device and of the external power supply during the use phase of the product and to settings of the power management system at the time of delivery and features saving power during the use phase e.g. specific sleep mode settings, wake management and wake on LAN requirements. The term "current version of the energy star" is met if the most recently published version was used during the standard setting/ revision process or the most recently published version on the date of application is required. EU Regulation refers to Regulation 617/2013/EU on ecodesign for computers and computer servers. To achieve compliance with this criterion the standard needs to require energy efficiency criteria equivalent to current version of energy star OR criteria need to meet EU regulation including requirements effecting on 1 January 2016 (basic). To comply with the advanced level the standard needs to inlcude energy efficiency criteria stricter than current version of energy star OR criteria are stricter than EU Regulation including requirements effecting on 1 January 2016 (advanced).	Within 5 years	Basic: Energy efficiency criteria equivalent to current version of energy star OR criteria meet EU Regulation including requirements effecting on 1 January 2016	1
					Advanced: Energy efficiency criteria stricter than current version of energy star OR criteria are stricter than EU Regulation including requirements effecting on 1 January 2016.	2

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity (DoI)	Total Score 36
2117 E118	Fluorinated GHG Emissions	Does the scheme include requirements for the reduction of GHG emissions?	Refers to any production activity aimed at minimizing greenhouse gas emissions (e.g. changing to use of renewable sources of energy, optimizing use of energy-intensive inputs, efficient use of equipment, avoiding forest degradation and conversion, advanced formulation fertilizers, soil sequestration). This also refers to fluorinated GHG emissions, e.g. during display or chip production. Provide evidence (criterion number and URL) that the scheme includes requirements to reduce GHG emissions.	Within 5 years		1
Waste & Air Pollution						**7**
Waste Management						**7**
2052 E53	Waste Management (production phase)	Does the standard include criteria on waste management in the production phase?	Refers to recording waste streams and to waste management procedures including collection and suitable disposal of waste streams (excl. wastewater). At least one of the production phases has to be covered by the standard. The standard has to include specific criteria on this aspect. General criteria on environmental management systems are not sufficient. The standard might refer to existing reporting tools like GRI (Global Reporting Initiative; e.g. indicator EN23: Total weight of waste by type and disposal method).	Within 5 years		1

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity (DoI)	Total Score 36
700391 E56	Consumer Information regarding Sustainable Use and Disposal of Product	Does the scheme include criteria on consumer information on the sustainable use and disposal of the product?	Refers to requirements on consumer information on the packaging regarding the sustainable use and disposal of the product. In the case of information technology (IT) hardware, it refers to information on where and how the user shall dispose of the product. In the case of other product sectors such as cleaning agents, it refers to guidelines for washing, dosage of product, etc.	Within 5 years		1
800740 E168 (OR E128)	Common External Power Supply	Does the standard include criteria on a common external power supply?	Refers to the design of harmonised chargers in order to reduce electronic waste. The standard refers e.g. to the EN / IEC 62684 standard "Interoperability specifications of common external power supply (EPS) for use with data-enabled mobile telephones".	Immediate		1
800059 E127	Recyclability of Plastics	Does the standard include criteria on the recyclability of plastics used?	Refers to (1) allowed number of plastic types, (2) recyclability of polymers and (3) the prohibition of surface coating / metal inlays. Criteria regarding the packaging are excluded for the assessment of this criterion. To achieve compliance with this criterion, the standard must include requirements that cover one of the listed aspects (basic), or requirements that cover at least two of the listed aspects (advanced).	Within 5 years	Basic: One of the listed aspects are covered Advanced: At least two of the listed aspects are covered	1 2

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity (DoI)	Total Score **36**
800060 E128 (OR E168)	Design for Disassembly	Does the standard include criteria on disassembly of the product for recycling?	Refers to a disassembly for recycling purposes, especially of metal and plastic parts and to a design that allows the easy removal of incompatible and hazardous material as well as precious resources. In the case of mobile phones, this refers to easy removal of batteries. A testing report (internal or from a dismantler) verifies that the dismantling is practicable for recycling purposes.	Immediate		1
800061 E129	Take back System	Does the standard include criteria on a take back system for the product?	Refers to a company take back system to ensure proper recycling if there is no legal take back system in place. The criterion can be answered with "yes", if the standard ensures that the certified products are only sold in countries with WEEE (Directive 2002/96/EC on waste electrical and electronic equipment) or similar legislations OR if the standard defines criteria on a take back system.	Within 5 years		1

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity (DoI)	Total Score 36
			Environmental Management			2
800066 E183	Environmental Policy and Management	Does the standard include criteria on environmental policy or management instruments (like EMAS or ISO 14001)?	Refers to environmental management systems confirmed either through self-declaration or certification (third-party). Certifications of suppliers have to address tier 1 suppliers as a minimum level. Equivalent schemes that require the companies to reduce energy, water and waste are recognized as well. In the case of standards for cleaning agents, the A.I.S.E. Charter is an equivalent environmental management instrument. To achieve compliance with this criterion, the standard must require verification (self-declaration) of final manufacturing plant (basic), or certification (third party) of the final manufacturing plant (advanced).	Within 5 years	Basic: Verification (self-declaration) of final manufacturing plant Advanced: Certification (third party) of final manufacturing plant	1 2

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity (DoI)	Total Score 36
			Quality			**2**
			Quality and Environmental Management Standards			**2**
800742 E169	Electro-magnetic Radiation	Does the standard include criteria on electromagnetic radiation?	Refers to the specific absorption rate (SAR) induced by radio-frequency electromagnetic radiation below the basic restriction of 2 W/kg recommended by the Council of the European Union.	Within 5 years		1
800743 E170	Material use on touchable surfaces	Does the standard include criteria on the use of materials on touchable surfaces?	Refers to any materials that might be irritating to consumers' skin, e.g. nickel (contact allergen) or biocidal silver (for antimicrobal purposes).	Within 5 years		1
			Lifetime			**8**
800069 E137	Modular Design	Does the standard include criteria on a modular design of the product?	Refers to a modular design that allows exchanging major components of the product for the purpose of upgrades and/or repairs (including memory, disk drives) without the use of special tools. To achieve compliance with this criterion, the standard must require modular design with major components not being specified (basic), or modular design specified for battery AND display (advanced).	Immediate	Basic: Modular design with major components not being specified	1
					Advanced: Modular design specified for battery AND display	2

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity (DoI)	Total Score 36
800070 E138	Spare Parts	Does the standard include criteria on the availability of spare parts for the product?	Refers to the period, spare parts are available after production stopped. The spare parts can be either original or backwardly compatible. To achieve compliance with this criterion, the standard must require the availability of spare parts for 3 years after end of production (basic), or for 5 years after end of production OR explicit availability of spare parts for public / independent repairers (advanced).	Within 5 years	Basic: Availability for 3 years after end of production Advanced: Availability for 5 years after end of production OR explicit availability of spare parts for public / independent repairers	1 2
800071 E139	Criteria on Battery Properties / Quality	Does the standard include criteria on properties / quality of the battery?	Refers to properties / quality of the battery. In the case of laptops, this refers to rechargeable, battery capacity and replaceable without tools. In the case of mobile phones, this refers to the battery capacity after certain charge and discharge cycles.	Immediate		1
800073 E141	Information on Reparability, Upgradeability and Usage of Battery	Does the standard include criteria on providing information concerning reparability, upgradeability and usage of the battery to the user?	Refers to consumer information. Information on these three aspects has to be introduced to the user: reparability, expansion options, proper usage of batteries. To achieve compliance with this criterion, the standard must require information in a user manual.	Within 5 years		1

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity (DoI)	Total Score 36
800746 E174	Data Deletion	Does the standard include criteria on data deletion for facilitating second use?	Refers to a software provided by the manufacturer free of charge and/or the possibility of an easy removal of the internal memory (on PCB, i.e. not to be confused with external memory / SD card) to allow the user to completely and safely delete all personal data on his own.	Within 5 years		1
800067 E135	Lifetime Guarantee	Does the standard include criteria on an additional lifetime guarantee for the product beyond the legal obligations?	Refers to a lifetime guarantee by the producer that assures the functionality of the device for a certain period (inappropriate use excluded; in the case of mobile phones: without battery). This guarantee has to be free of charge. For software products, this includes maintenance and upgradability (e.g. provision of regular software updates or upgrades) of the product. To achieve compliance with this criterion, the standard must require a period of guarantee of between 1-2 years.	Within 5 years		1

III. SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity	Total Score **31**
			Social & Cultural Rights and Community Engagement			**5**
5						
			Local Economic Development			**2**
2025 HR09	Community Investment	Does the standard include criteria on investment in community development beyond the business' operations?	Standard includes criteria related to the active (philanthropic) support of community development including, among others, education, health, and sanitation. For agricultural standards, the term "business" includes "farms"/ "plantations". For IT products: The criterion is particularly relevant in the phase of resource extraction.	Within 5 years		1
300461 HR10	Community Access to Livelihoods	Does the standard include criteria on not adversely affecting local communities and neighboring small producers access to livelihoods (especially land and water)?	Community access to livelihood means access to land, housing, aquatic resources and transport. This includes respecting third parties' legal or customary rights on land and other resources. The main difference to the FPIC criterion is that no proactive involvement of local communities in the decision-making process is required. For IT products: The criterion is particularly relevant in the phase of resource extraction.	Within 5 years		1

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity	Total Score 31
			Community Rights			**3**
30049 HR12	Community Grievance	Does the standard include criteria on dispute resolution mechanisms for affected communities?	Non-judicial system for reporting, assessing and addressing complaints and claims by affected parties in the region where the economic activity is taking place. The criterion explicitly asks for mechanisms that can be used by the local communities, not by workers (see separate criterion on workers grievance mechanisms). For IT products: The criterion is particularly relevant in the phase of resource extraction. To achieve compliance, the standard has to require a grievance mechanism for affected communities (basic) and provide fair compensation for negative impacts of operations on local communities and individuals (advanced).	Within 5 years	Basic: The standard has to require a grievance mechanism for affected communities. Advanced: The standard provides fair compensation for negative impacts of operations on local communities and individuals.	1 2

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity	Total Score 31
1952 HR16	Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)	Does the standard include criteria to seek Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) of local communities?	FPIC refers to the principle that a community has the right to give or withhold its consent to proposed projects that may affect the lands they customarily own, occupy or otherwise use. This is particularly relevant in cases of land use change or changes in land ownership. The main difference to the criterion on access to livelihoods is that FPIC requires an active involvement and participation of affected communities in the decision-making process (codetermination). In order to pass this criterion, the FPIC concept needs to be explicitly mentioned. No double-counting of criteria that only look at land use aspects or community grievance mechanisms.\nFor IT products: The criterion is particularly relevant in the phase of resource extraction.	Within 5 years		1
			Conflict Minerals			**1**
800074 HR24	Conflict Minerals	Does the standard include criteria on conflict minerals (based on the OECD Due Diligence Guidance)?	The criterion refers to policies and processes that explicitly aim at identifying, preventing or mitigating any risks of adverse impacts associated with mineral production and trade from conflict-affected or high- risk areas. The criterion refers to the requirements for a supply chain due diligence assessment in accordance with the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas.	Within 5 years		1

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity	Total Score 31
			Labour Rights and Working Conditions			**25**
			ILO Core Conventions			**9**
1989 LR04	Minimum Age / ILO 138	Does the standard include criteria on the prohibition of child labour as defined under ILO 138?	Only standards which contain the requirements for minimum age laid down in ILO Convention 138 will be recognised: The general minimum age for admission to employment or work is set at 15 years (13 for light work) and the minimum age for hazardous work at 18 years (16 under certain strict conditions). Articles four to eight of the ILO-Convention govern exceptions. In cases where ILO norm and national law differ, the stricter rule shall apply. For agriculture standards: if children work on their family's farm, Article 32(1) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) needs to be respected, making sure that children are "protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development."	Within 5 years		1

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity	Total Score 31
1979 LR05	Prohibition of the worst forms of child labour / ILO 182	Does the standard cover requirements on the prohibition of the worst forms of child labour as defined under ILO 182?	Worst forms of child labour comprises: (a) all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict; (b) the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances; (c) the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties; (d) work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.	Within 5 years		1
1986 LR13	Prohibition of Forced Labour	Does the standard prohibit forced and compulsory labour as defined in ILO 29 and ILO 105?	This includes any types of forced and compulsory labour, as defined in ILO 29 and ILO 105, including bonded labour and slavery. Two elements characterise forced or compulsory labour: - Threat of penalty, and - Work or service undertaken involuntarily Indications can also include the non-appearance of the auditee on relevant national/regional/local indices e.g. the "dirty list" (lista suja) in Brazil.	Within 5 years		1

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity	Total Score 31
1993 LR16	Freedom of Association	Does the standard include criteria on freedom of association and the right to organize as described in ILO 87?	According to ILO Convention 87, workers and employers, without distinction whatsoever, shall have the right to establish and, subject only to the rules of the organisation concerned, to join organisations of their own choosing without previous authorisation (art 2). To achieve compliance with this criterion, standards must include criteria on freedom of association and the right to organize as described in ILO 87.	Within 5 years		1
1996 LR17	Collective Bargaining	Does the standard include criteria on the right to collective bargaining, as laid down by ILO 98?	This criterion refers to the right for the group to take collective action to pursue the interests of the group without fear of discrimination or retaliation. To achieve compliance with this criterion, standards must include criteria on collective bargaining as described in ILO 98. Especially where restricted by law standards must promote or facilitate parallel other means of collective negotiations.	Within 5 years		1

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ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity	Total Score **31**
800728 LR41	Core Labour Standards along the Supply Chain	Does the standard require compliance with (at least) all ILO core labour standards for different suppliers along the supply chain?	The criterion refers to the main suppliers along the supply chain. The ILO core conventions are: ILO 87 on Freedom of Association; ILO 98 on Collective Bargaining; ILO 29 on Forced labour; ILO 105 on Forced Labour Abolition; ILO 138 on Minimum Age; ILO 182 on Worst forms child labour; ILO 100 on Equal Remuneration; ILO 111 on Non-Discrimination. All of these Rights must be granted in order to receive a "yes". There must either be explicit reference to the conventions or requirements must be equivalent to the requirements contained therein. If the standard goes beyond the ILO conventions, the answer will of course still be "yes". If the standard ensures that all of the production is taking place within EU, this can be answered with a "yes". To achieve compliance with this criterion, the standard must require the compliance with all ILO core labour standards for main tier 1 suppliers (basic) or all tier 1 suppliers (advanced). In the IT sector, the "tier 1 suppliers" refers to the final assembly plants of the certified products. The main tier 1 suppliers could be defined by level of turn over.	Within 5 years	Basic: main tier 1 suppliers Advanced: all tier 1 suppliers	1 2

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity	Total Score 31
1987 HR19	Non-Discrimination	Does the standard include criteria on the non-discrimination in the workplace, as defined in ILO 111?	To achieve compliance with this criterion, the standard must include criteria on the prohibition of discrimination. As described in ILO 111 and ILO 100, this refers to any discrimination on the basis of race, colour, sex, religion, political opinion, national extraction or social origin, which has the effect of nullifying or impairing equality of opportunity or treatment in employment or occupation (incl. access to vocational training, access to employment and to particular occupations, equal opportunities in recruitment process, equal access to promotions within the company, equal remuneration).	Within 5 years		1
1994 HR21	Equal Remuneration / ILO 100	Does the standard address the payment of equal wages as defined in ILO 100?	Equal remuneration for men and women workers for work of equal value refers to rates of remuneration established without discrimination based on sex (ILO 100 Art 1)	Within 5 years		1
	Labour Rights					**10**
	Gender					**1**
2531 LR43	Women's Rights	Does the standard include any requirements to promote women's (economic) rights?	The criteria go beyond a non-discrimination clause, legal compliance or any other aspect that is already addressed elsewhere. It refers to any process or policy that specifically aims at promoting women's (economic) rights. Examples could be special quotas for women workers.	Within 5 years		1

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity	Total Score 31
			Wages and Benefits			**3**
1991 LR08	Living wage	Does the standard require paying wages sufficient to meet basic needs of the worker and his or her family (living wage)?	Living wage is defined by the wage that can meet the basic needs to maintain a safe, decent standard of living within the community. Basic needs include housing, nutrition, transport, health care and savings. Currently, there is no internationally accepted way of calculating or defining a living wage. This criterion therefore rather looks at a standards intention to pay wages that are enough to pay for a decent standard of living and recognizes those standards that use and thereby actively promote the living wage concept. Explicit reference needed. It needs to be ensured that a living wage is not only granted on paper but that it is effectively paid. This means that i.e. no fees are levied that have the purpose to reduce the actual payment and are used as an indirect way to transfer money back to the employer (German: "Lohnsicherung").	Within 5 years		1
1988 LR09	Legal Minimum Wage	Does the standard require paying legal minimum wages?	To achieve compliance with this criterion, the standard must require that wages must meet at least legal or industry standard (if higher) and should be paid in a timely manner. By no means, the employer can deduct salary from workers, e.g.: - Fees are levied to reduce the actual payment - Fees are used as an indirect way to transfer money back to the employer (German: "Lohnsicherung") Controls for payment of minimum wage should include price rate calculation, additional benefits etc.	Within 5 years		1

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ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity	Total Score 31
1983 LR22	Provision of Social Benefits	Does the standard require the provision of social benefits?	Refers to workers being entitled to social benefits including insurance payments to employees covering for instance: unemployment, pension, medical and job related accident insurance. References to ILO Convention 102 and 121 can also be counted for this criterion.	Within 5 years		1
Working Hours						**1**
1990 LR19	Regulated working Hours / ILO 1	Does the standard include criteria on working hours, rest days or overtime?	To achieve compliance with this criterion, the standard needs to comply with the specifications in ILO 1. The ILO specifications on working hours differ from sector to sector. For industrial work, the specifications of ILO Convention 1 should be used as Guidance. These include: 1) normal maximum working hours excluding overtime < 48h/ week; 2) one day off every 6 days; 3) overtime is voluntary and paid/ compensated with a rate of at least 125% of the regular wage. All of these provisions should be met by the standard.	Within 5 years		1
Other Labour Rights						**3**
30086 LR03	Worker Grievances	Does the standard include criteria on worker grievance mechanisms?	Policy and processes under which all workers can voice grievances (also anonymously).	Within 5 years		1

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity	Total Score 31
700411 LR18	Workers Representation Where Restricted by Law	Does the standard include criteria on the formation of workers representations where freedom of association is restricted by law?	Standards that have requirements to facilitate parallel means to the right to freedom of association in countries which have not ratified ILO 87 or 98 and/or national laws prohibit or impair organizing for the furthering and defending the interests of workers or employees, will be captured by this criterion. To achieve compliance with this criterion, the standard must require allowing parallel means to the right to freedom of association, such as the formation of workers representations.	Within 5 years		1
800077 LR44	Information about Labour Rights	Does the standard include requirements to inform workers about their labour rights?	Any mechanism that raises awareness and builds capacity among workers to claim their labour rights.	Within 5 years		1
2			**Scope of Labour Rights**			2
30072 LR02	Rights for sub-contractors	Do the standard's rights and benefits for workers also apply to sub-contracted labour?	Subcontracting refers to outsourced or sub-contracted labour from employment agencies as opposed to a formal employee relationship with formal rights and protections. These sub-contracted workers need to be granted the same rights as formal employees and producers shall not use sub-contracted labour to avoid their obligations. Though placed under the topic Labour Rights, this includes benefits and rights of other sections (e.g. health and safety), too. To achieve compliance with this criterion, the standard must include criteria on sub-contracting (e.g. through due diligence process).	Within 5 years		1

ITC ID SSCT ID	Criteria Name	Criteria Question	Guidance	Degree of Obligation	Degree of Intensity	Total Score 31
1978 AND 900017 LR20	Labour Contracts	Does the standard include criteria on the establishment of labour contracts compliant with national legal requirements?	Every worker (also temporary, seasonal / part-time, home workers) should have a contract. Employment contracts shall be - documented - in a language that the worker can understand - be made available to both parties. To achieve compliance with this criterion, the standard must include criteria on the establishment of labour contracts compliant with national legal requirements and fulfilling above mentioned requirements.	Within 5 years		1
Health and Safety						**6**
Occupational Health and Safety						**6**
1985 LR14	Prohibition of Harassment and Abuse	Does the standard prohibit harassment or abuse of workers?	To achieve compliance with this criterion, the standard prohibits all forms of physical or verbal abuse, intimidation, sexual harassment and abusive punishments or discipline.	Within 5 years		1
740206 LR39	Criteria on occupational health and safety / ILO 155	Does the standard include criteria on occupational health and safety, as defined in ILO 155?	To achieve compliance with this criterion, the following must be addressed by the standard: - Workplaces, machinery, equipment are safe and without risk to health. - Chemical, physical & biological substances and agents are without risk to health when appropriate measures are taken. - Employers shall provide adequate protective clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE). - Provide measures to deal with emergencies and accidents, including adequate first-aid arrangements. - Workers and their representatives are given	Within 5 years	Basic: partial compliance with ILO 155 Advanced: full compliance with ILO 155	1 2

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			appropriate training in occupational health and safety. If the standard requires the aspects mentioned above specifically or refers to ILO 155 in general, this criterion is fulfilled. To achieve compliance, the standard must require partial compliance with ILO 155 (basic) or full compliance with ILO 155 (advanced).			
700405 LR29	Coverage of Medical Costs	Does the standard require compensation payments/ covering of costs in case of work-related accidents and injuries?	Reference to applicable schemes run by bodies other than the farm or the company should be accepted (e.g. national insurance schemes). To achieve compliance with this criterion, the standard must require partial coverage of costs (basic) or full coverage of costs (advanced).	Within 5 years	Basic: partial coverage of costs Advanced: full coverage of costs	1 2
10120 LR36	Housing	Does the standard require safe and appropriate housing for workers?	If accommodation is provided, it shall be safe and clean, ensuring structural safety and reasonable levels of decency, hygiene and comfort. ILO Recommendation 115, para II provides guidance on housing standards.	Within 5 years		1