



OCEAN BOUND PLASTIC

CERTIFICATION SCHEME | OBP FEE
STRUCTURE

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Revisions and Updates

This document will be revised if required, during its first year of launching (between the 8th of June 2020, and the 8th of June 2021), to incorporate improvements or clarifications that will not change substantially the content of the document. If deemed necessary, a deeper revision will be made and published before the first anniversary of the document (8th of June 2021).

Please send any comment you have regarding this document to [contact\(at\)obpcert.org](mailto:contact(at)obpcert.org).



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1. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Abandoned Plastic Waste Plastic waste is considered abandoned if it has been inappropriately disposed in the environment, and it will not be collected by any municipal or private collection service.

Approved Certification Body Independent body that has been approved by Zero Plastic Oceans to conduct Audits against the requirements of one of the OBP Standard. The term **Certification Body**, or **CB** is also used in this document.

Multisite Certification Certification option for a group of sites that have a contractual link between them. They must work under a central office and be administered using an internal control system. Specific details are found in annex of the respective Standards.

Ocean Bound Plastic (OBP) Abandoned Plastic Waste that will eventually end up discharged in the ocean by the effect of winds, rainfall, river flow or tides. More specifically Ocean Bound Plastic is divided in three categories (**OBP Categories**).

Potential Ocean Bound Plastic: Abandoned Plastic Waste located within the range of 50km¹ from shore in communities or areas where waste management is inexistent or very inefficient. This definition excludes Plastic waste collected in landfills or managed dumps but allows for the collection within unmanaged dumps.

Waterways Ocean Bound Plastic: Abandoned Plastic Waste located within a river stream or within a distance of 200m from both sides of the river stream.

Shoreline Ocean Bound Plastic: Abandoned Plastic Waste found within 200m from the highest tide limit towards the land and 100m from the lowest tide limit towards the sea.

For Shoreline and Waterways OBP, exception to the 200m distance rule can be accepted by the Auditor if the Collection Organization can reasonably demonstrate that due to particular conditions of the site (rainfall, winds, inclination),

¹ This reference is taken from the publication by Jenna Jambeck et al. in an article in Science published on 13 Feb 2015. This distance may evolve as new Scientific Publications further define Ocean Bound Plastic.



Abandoned Plastic Waste is carried away to rivers or seas from a greater distance.

There is no limitation of size, microplastics and microplastic collection models are acceptable provided they target OBP.

In this document OBP or Ocean Bound Plastic means all three categories of OBP, when needed, the specific category is otherwise specified.

Organization	Legal entity that is interested to become certified or is already certified to one to the OBP Standards.
Plastic	Synthetic or semi synthetic organic compounds that are malleable and can be molded into solid or flexible objects.
Scope Certificate	Organizations having successfully passed an audit performed by a Certification Body are given a Scope Certificate (SC) which specifies the activity, location and products it covers. The Organization shall renew their certification on an annual basis. The validity of the SC shall not be more than 12 months. The renewal date shall commence upon successful reassessment of the Organization by the CB; therefore, the Organization shall plan the renewal of its certification before the end of its validity.
Small Collector	Legal entity collecting Ocean Bound Plastic and selling it to a Collection Organization certified to the OBP Collection Organization Standard. Small Collectors can sell a maximum of 400 metric tons of OBP per year to one Collection Organization only as member of a Supplier Group as detailed in ANNEX III of the Collection Organization Standard (OBP-COL-STD).
Standard	One of the Ocean Bound Plastic Standards
Supplier Group	Group of Small Collectors linked contractually to a certified Collection Organization to perform collectively the collection of OBP following the requirements as detailed in ANNEX III of the Collection Organization Standard (OBP-COL-STD).



2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Zero Plastic Oceans (ZPO) is an organization that is focused on protecting our oceans from Plastic waste by ensuring Ocean Bound Plastic (OBP) is properly collected and managed before it leaks into rivers and seas.

This can be achieved by the creation of incentives like [Zero Plastic Oceans' Initiative](#) to promote the collection of “Ocean Bound Plastic – OBP”, or by encouraging the recycling of OBP, creating a market for collectors to focus on OBP and brands to incorporate certified recycled OBP in their products.

There is a Standard for **Collection Organizations** that covers the specific collection and management practices that need to be followed for OBP, focusing on integrity and traceability.

There is a Standard for **Recycling Organizations** that covers specific traceability requirements for the recycling industry and plastic packaging/goods manufacturing industries in order to make recycled OBP content claims.

There is also a Standard for **Financing Organizations**, so they can certify the claim they are making about the volume of OBP that they have removed from the environment by taking part in ZPO's Initiative.



3. CERTIFICATION FEES

The costs for Organizations willing to become certified are composed of 2 elements: i) inspection and certification fees, and ii) OBP fees.

Inspection and certification fees cover the services offered by an Approved Certification Body. These costs vary according to the human resources/man hours the CB needs to invest to verify compliance of the Organization with a specific Standard, which in turn varies according to project locations, sizes, complexity, etc. Fees for each Organization will be determined on a case by case basis and CBs will prepare proposals for the Organizations before an Audit takes places. Inspection and certification fees are handled independently by CBs directly with Organizations, this document only handles information regarding OBP fees.

The OBP fees cover costs for maintenance, support, development, updates and guidance of the whole OBP certification scheme by the non-for-profit Zero Plastic Oceans Organization. This is an annual fixed fee structure for each Organization. This fee will be collected on ZPO`s behalf by the CB along with their inspection and certification fee with a clear identification on the invoice. CBs shall not take any commission on this fee, however if applicable the CB will add to this fee any legally required sale tax. The amount of the OBP fee destined for each organization type is published and updated on the OBP website (www.obpcert.org) through this document.



4. OBP FEES

Fees vary according to type of certification Standard used, and type of Organization. Fees are expressed in USD.

4.1. OBP FEES APPLICABLE TO COLLECTION ORGANIZATIONS

A Collection Organization willing to become certified with the OBP Collection Organization Standard, will pay an OBP fee, additional to its inspection and certification fee, of US\$ 150 per year for a single site certification and US\$ 200 for a Multisite Certification.

In case the Collection Organization is composed of a Supplier Group it will pay an OBP fee of US\$ 150, plus an additional US\$ 5 per Supplier Group member up to 30 members and an additional US\$ 1 for any additional member above 30.

4.2. OBP FEES APPLICABLE TO RECYCLING ORGANIZATIONS

A Recycling Organization willing to become certified with the OBP Recycling Organization Standard, will pay an OBP fee, additional to its inspection and certification fee, which varies according to its total annual turnover (or expenses for a non-for-profit Organization), and whether it is a multisite certification or not. Fees are shown in the table below.

Table 1 – OBP Fee Structure

RECYCLING ORGANIZATION TOTAL ANNUAL TURNOVER	OBP FEES	
	SINGLE CERTIFICATION	MULTISITE CERTIFICATION
UP TO US\$ 1,000,000	US\$ 150	US\$ 200
FROM US\$ 1 MILLION TO US\$ 100 MILLION	US\$ 250	US\$ 300
FROM US\$ 100 MILLION TO US\$ 1 BILLION	US\$ 350	US\$ 450
ABOVE US\$ 1 BILLION	US\$ 500	US\$ 700

4.3. OBP FEES APPLICABLE TO FINANCING ORGANIZATIONS

A Financing Organization willing to become certified with the OBP Financing Organization Standard, will pay an OBP fee of US\$ 200 per year, additional to its inspection and certification fee.



4.4. DISCOUNT FOR MULTIPLE CERTIFICATIONS

An Organization willing to become certified to more than one OBP Standard will pay the full OBP fee on the most costly of the OBP Fees plus 50% of the OBP Fee of the other(s) Standard(s).

For examples:

- 1) an Organization willing to be certified to the OBP Collection Organization Standard and the OBP Recycling Organization Standard for a multisite certification with an annual turnover of US\$ 25 million will pay: US\$ 300 (Recycling Organization) + US\$ 150x0.5 (Collection Organization) = US\$ 375
- 2) An Organization willing to be certified to the OBP Collection Organization Standard with a Supplier Group of 45 members and to the Recycling Organization Standard with a single site and an annual turnover of US\$ 850,000 will pay: US \$ 315 (Collection Organization – 150+150+15) + US\$ 150x0.5 (Recycling Organization) = US\$ 390.

In case there are any doubts on the amount of the OBP Fee to pay, the CB and/or the Organization shall contact ZPO at [contact\(at\)obpcert.org](mailto:contact(at)obpcert.org) to get clarification on the OBP Fee.

5. OBP FEE VALIDITY

OBP Fees are valid starting 8th June 2020 until 31st of Decembre 2022.

