

# OCEAN BOUND PLASTIC

## CERTIFICATION PROGRAM OBP FEES STRUCTURE



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## **Revisions and Updates**

This document will be revised as required to reflect possible changes in other documents of the OBP Program and to update fees if required.

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

## **Revision history**

Date	Version	Changes
8 <sup>th</sup> June 2020	V1	Initial Release
8 <sup>th</sup> Sept. 2020	V2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>introduction in the scheme of the OBP Neutralization Services Provider and the OBP Plastic Producers &amp; Users Standards, the later replacing the OBP Financing Organization Standard which has been removed from the program.</li></ul>
8 <sup>th</sup> Sept. 2021	V2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Definitions have been removed from the document and are now available in document OBP-DEF-GUI.</li></ul>
10 <sup>th</sup> Jan. 2023	V2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Confirmation of the fees (previously valid until 31/12/2022) and clarification on the application of the fees for the multisite certifications.</li></ul>
8 <sup>th</sup> Sept. 2023	V3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Integral revision of the document to simplify the fees' structure.</li></ul>



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# 1. INTRODUCTION

The aim of Zero Plastic Oceans is to protect oceans from the continuous leakage of Plastic waste from land-based activity by developing incentives and models that promote the collection of Ocean Bound Plastic<sup>1</sup> (OBP).

The **OBP Certification Program** was designed to encourage the removal of OBP from the environment by adding value in effectively collecting and treating it before it reaches oceans. The scheme is composed of two subprograms; the **OBP Recycling Subprogram**, and the **OBP Neutrality Subprogram**.

When OBP is commercially recyclable<sup>2</sup>, its collection and Recycling can be encouraged by certifying its origin and traceability, giving it a higher market value. This model is certified using the OBP Collection Organization Standard and the OBP Recycling Organization Standard, for the OBP Recycling Subprogram.

When OBP is not commercially recyclable<sup>3</sup>, its collection and final treatment can be encouraged by certifying this process through the Ocean Bound Plastic Neutrality model. In this model, Plastic producers or users can offset their Plastic consumption or production, by removing a determined volume from the environment through the acquisition of OBP Credits. This model is certified using the OBP Neutralization Services Provider Standard and the OBP Plastic Producers & Users Standard, for the OBP Neutrality Subprogram.

Organizations may certify themselves for one, or both subprograms as they are complementary solutions. Working with both subprograms makes sense in terms of economic efficiency, given all OBP is collected and marketed at once. It also makes sense from the environmental perspective, since it is only by addressing both, Commercially and Non-Commercially Recyclable OBP, that we will be able to make a real impact.

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<sup>1</sup> Ocean Bound Plastic, is, as defined in OBP-DEF-GUI, Plastic litter that will be carried away to oceans in particular by the effects of currents, winds, river flows or tides.

<sup>2</sup> Commercially recyclable OBP as defined in OBP-DEF-GUI, means that OBP is technically recyclable and that it can be sold locally to recyclers for a price that renders its collection attractive to waste pickers or collection organizations. Currently, especially in countries where OBP is leaking into the oceans, a significant portion of technically recyclable OBP is unfortunately not commercially recyclable.

<sup>3</sup> Not commercially recyclable OBP as defined in OBP-DEF-GUI, means that OBP cannot be sold for an attractive price but also includes products or packaging which are technically not recyclable (because of the resin used, the mix of different materials or because they are too damaged).

## 2. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Capital letters are used throughout the document to signal the words that are included in the definitions available in OBP-DEF-GUI. Acronym's significance is also available in the same OBP-DEF-GUI document.

## 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 place. 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 organization Zero Plastic Oceans. 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 document center section of the OBP website ([www.obpcert.org](http://www.obpcert.org)) through this document.

## 4. OBP FEES

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

### 4.1. OBP RECYCLING SUBPROGRAM

#### 4.1.1. OBP FEES FOR THE OBP COLLECTION ORGANIZATION STANDARD

An Organization willing to become certified with the OBP Collection Organization Standard, will pay an OBP fee, additional to its inspection and certification fee, which varies depending whether it is a multisite certification or not, and whether it is composed of a Supplier Group or not. OBP fees are shown in the table below:

OBP FEE CONCEPT	AMOUNT
BASE FEE	US\$ 125
ADDITIONAL FEE FOR MULTISITE CERTIFICATION	+ US\$ 50
ADDITIONAL FEE FOR SUPPLIER GROUP CERTIFICATION	+ US\$ 50

#### 4.1.2. OBP FEES FOR THE OBP RECYCLING ORGANIZATION STANDARD

An 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 depending whether it is a multisite certification or not. OBP fees are shown in the table below:

OBP FEE CONCEPT	AMOUNT
BASE FEE	US\$ 200
ADDITIONAL FEE FOR MULTISITE CERTIFICATION	+ US\$ 50



## 4.2. OBP NEUTRALITY SUBPROGRAM

### 4.2.1. OBP FEES FOR THE OBP NEUTRALIZATION SERVICES PROVIDER STANDARD

An Organization willing to become certified with the OBP Neutralization Services Provider Standard, will pay an OBP fee additional to its inspection and certification fee which varies depending whether it is a multisite certification or not, and whether it is composed of a Supplier Group or not. OBP fees are shown in the table below:

OBP FEE CONCEPT	AMOUNT
BASE FEE	US\$ 125
ADDITIONAL FEE FOR MULTISITE CERTIFICATION	+ US\$ 50
ADDITIONAL FEE FOR SUPPLIER GROUP CERTIFICATION	+ US\$ 50

Additionally, an OBP fee of US\$5 will be charged for the registry by ZPO of each Neutralization Certificate and corresponding OBP Credits batch.

### 4.2.2. OBP FEES FOR THE OBP PLASTIC PRODUCERS & USERS STANDARD

An Organization willing to become certified with the OBP Plastic Producers & Users Standard, will pay an OBP fee, additional to its inspection and certification fee, which varies depending whether it is a multisite certification or not. OBP fees are shown in the table below:

OBP FEE CONCEPT	AMOUNT
BASE FEE	US\$ 200
ADDITIONAL FEE FOR MULTISITE CERTIFICATION	+ US\$ 50

## 4.3. SOCIAL+ OBP FEES

The Social+ OBP Component is voluntarily used in combination with the OBP Collection Organization Standard and/or the OBP Neutralization Services Provider Standard.

There is no additional OBP fee for using the Social+ OBP Component. Organizations will only pay the fees corresponding to the other(s) Standard(s) selected.



## 4.4. DISCOUNTS 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) A Multisite Organization willing to become certified to the OBP Collection Organization Standard, and, to the OBP Recycling Organization Standard, will pay:

US\$ 250 (Recycling Organization Multisite)  
+ US\$ 87.5 (50% of the Collection Organization Multisite)  
= US\$ 337.5

- 2) A single site Organization composed of a Supplier Group willing to become certified to the OBP Neutralization Services Provider Standard, to the Collection Organization Standard, and to the Recycling Organization Standard, will pay:

US\$ 200 (Recycling Organization Single site)  
+ US\$87.5 (50% of the Collection Organization with Supplier Group)  
+ US\$87.5 (50% of the Neutralization Service Provider with Supplier Group)  
= US\$ 375.

Note: When an Organization subscribes to several Standards, the single site/Multisite fee option and/or the Supplier Group fee option is applied/calculated for every applicable Standard.

In case there are any doubts about 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 FEES VALIDITY

The OBP fees exposed in the document are valid from 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2024.

This is the first revision and update of the OBP fees since the launch of the OBP Program. This update has been made to simplify, and overall reduce the OBP fees.

If it becomes necessary to further update the OBP fees through a revision of this document, new fees would become applicable at the start of the next calendar year concerned.

