

OCEAN BOUND PLASTIC

CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

RECOGNITION OF OTHER STANDARDS AND AUDITS



Copyrights

This document, the Zero Plastic Oceans, Ocean Bound Plastic, Ocean Bound Plastic Neutral/Positive and Social+ Ocean Bound Plastic trademarks and certification stamp are protected by Copyright laws. All rights are reserved to Zero Plastic Oceans organization and no reproduction of this material is allowed without previous written consent by Zero Plastic Oceans.

Disclaimer

This document has been developed by the authors with all possible care and best of intentions, however Zero Plastic Oceans and any third parties involved in the creation of this document hereby state that the document is provided without warranty, either expressed or implied, of accuracy or fitness for purpose, and hereby disclaim any liability, direct or indirect, for damages or loss relating to the use of this document.

Guidance Documents

ISEAL Sustainability Benchmarking Good Practice Guide Version 1.1 September 2020 was used when realizing the benchmark exercise necessary for the elaboration of these guidelines.

Reference Documents

OBP Standards and documents:

- OBP Collection Organization Standard (OBP-COL-STD)
- OBP Recycling Organization Standard (OBP-REC-STD)
- OBP Plastic Producers & Users Standard (OBP-PRO-STD)
- OBP Plastic Neutralization Services Provider Standard (OBP-NEU-STD)
- OBP FAQ (OBP-FAQ-GUI)
- OBP Program Definitions and Annexes (OBP-DEF-GUI)

Other standards:

- Textile Exchange Global Recycled Standard 4.0
- Textile Exchange Recycled Claim Standard 2.0
- Social Accountability International SA8000:2014
- ISCC 203 Traceability and Chain of Custody Version 301

Revisions and Updates

This document shall be revised as required in particular to adapt to the evolutions of OBP Standards and the other standards mentioned in this document. It may also be revised as opportunities to recognize other standards or other standards audit results arise. Please send any comment you have regarding this document to [contact\(at\)obpcert.org](mailto:contact(at)obpcert.org).



Revision history

Date	Version	Changes
12 th April 2021	V1	Initial Release
8 th Sept. 2021	V1.1	• Update of Zero Plastic Oceans' reference Standard and other documents
16 th June 2023	V1.2	• Addition of chapter 5.3 covering recognition of ISCC 203 Audit results.
8 th Sept. 2026	V1.3	• Addition of a partial recognition of other social standards as equivalent to OBP social requirements following the stakeholder consultation held in Q1 2026 in chapter 5 • Previous chapter 5 is modified and becomes chapter 6. • Chapter 6 is not modified and becomes chapter 7.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION.....	4
2. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS.....	5
3. SCOPE	5
4. EFFECTIVE DATE	5
5. RECOGNITION OF OTHER CERTIFICATIONS	6
5.1. SOCIAL REQUIREMENTS.....	6
6. RECOGNITION OF OTHER STANDARDS AUDIT'S RESULTS.....	7
6.1. ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS.....	7
6.1.1. <i>Recognition with the Global Recycled Standard - GRS</i>	7
6.2. TRACEABILITY AND QUALITY MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS.....	7
6.2.1. <i>Recognition with the ISCC 203 Standard</i>	7
7. RECOGNITION OF OTHER STANDARDS	9



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 Plastic¹ (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 recyclable², its collection and Recycling can be encouraged by certifying its origin and traceability, giving it a higher market value with the OBP Recycling Subprogram. This chain of custody is certified using the OBP Collection Organization Standard, the OBP Recycling Organization Standard and the OBP Brand Standard depending on which step on the chain an organization is.

When OBP is not commercially recyclable³, its collection and final treatment can be encouraged by certifying the process with the OBP Neutrality Subprogram. In this model, Plastic producers or users can contribute to a better environment by removing a determined volume of plastic waste from nature through the acquisition of OBP Credits. This model is certified using the OBP Neutralization Services Provider Standard and the OBP Plastic Producers & Users Standard.

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.

Organizations collecting OBP willing to provide enhanced social benefits to their employees and informal collectors (Independent Collectors), may additionally certify to the Social+ OBP Component.

¹ 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.

² 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.

³ 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. SCOPE

This document applies to all Audits performed against any of the OBP Standards within the requirements described in section 5,6 and 7.

4. EFFECTIVE DATE

The dispositions in these guidelines become effective on the release date and shall become compulsory to use on the 8th of December 2026. New certification applicants and already certified Organizations shall be assessed against this revision of the guidelines from this date onwards.



5.RECOGNITION OF OTHER CERTIFICATIONS

5.1. SOCIAL REQUIREMENTS

The social requirements of OBP Standards are covered by a range of other social specific standards. To reduce audit fatigue, OBP social requirements below mentioned can be considered as complied by the OBP Auditor if the Organization holds a valid certificate that covers the OBP cycle, for the following standards: SA 8000, SEDEX 4 pillars, BSCI, WRAP, SMETA, SLCP, RBA, GRS or any standard which clearly covers the OBP criteria concerned.

For Organizations that want to get certified with the OBP-REC-STD or the OBP-PRO-STD the proof of certification shall be used by OBP Auditors to demonstrate compliance for requirements 5.1.b, 5.1.c and 5.1.d of both OBP Standards.

For Organizations that want to get certified with the OBP-COL-STD or the OBP-NEU-STD Standards, the proof of certification shall be used by OBP Auditors to demonstrate compliance for requirements 5.1.b, 5.1.c and 5.1.d of the OBP-COL-STD and requirements 6.1.b, 6.1.c and 6.1.d of the OBP-NEU-STD.

Additionally, for Organizations that are not purchasing OBP to Independent Collectors, the proof of certification can also be used to demonstrate compliance for requirement 5.1.d. or 6.1.d. If however, the Organization is purchasing OBP to Independent Collectors, to demonstrate compliance for requirement 5.1.d or 6.1.d, independent verification is needed.

The Auditor remains in capacity to decide whether to use totally or partially another certification as equivalent and may decide to conduct additional verifications to ensure compliance to the OBP requirements mentioned in this section.



6. RECOGNITION OF OTHER STANDARDS AUDIT'S RESULTS

6.1. ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

6.1.1. RECOGNITION WITH THE GLOBAL RECYCLED STANDARD - GRS

For Organizations that want to get certified with the OBP-REC-STD and are already certified under the GRS, the audit results of section C2.5 of the GRS, can be recognized and used by OBP Auditors to demonstrate compliance for requirements 5.8 a) and 5.8 b) of the OBP Standard.

For Organizations that want to get certified with the OBP-PRO-STD and are already certified under the GRS, the audit results of section C2.5 of the GRS, can be recognized and used by OBP Auditors to demonstrate compliance for requirements 5.7 a) and 5.7 b) of the OBP Standard.

6.2. TRACEABILITY AND QUALITY MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

6.2.1. RECOGNITION WITH THE ISCC 203 STANDARD

For Organizations that want to get certified with the OBP-REC-STD and are already certified under the ISCC 203 standard, the audit results of the ISCC can be recognized and used by OBP Auditors to demonstrate compliance for the requirements listed in the table below. Additionally, if required, ZPO can provide a complete benchmark carried out between all the requirements of both standards.

OBP-REC-STD REQUIREMENT	ISCC 203 REQUIREMENT	COMMENTS
5.2 QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM		
5.2.a	3.2	When the Organization is ISCC certified with a specific OBP stream all requirements are covered. If not, an OBP stream shall be added to the documentation and processes created for other sustainable streams.
5.2.b	3.2.2	
5.2.c	3.2.1 and 3.2.3	
5.2.d	3.2.2	
5.3 MATERIAL SOURCING AND SUPPLIER VALIDATION		
5.3.b,c,d,e,f	3.3.1	It is essential to verify that the OBP provider is considered like a certified supplier for the ISCC certification and not like a "Point of Origin" so "3.3 General Documentation and
5.3.g	3.3.1 / 3.3.2	



		Information Requirements" is fully applicable to the OBP Supplier.
5.4 INTERNAL TRACEABILITY REQUIREMENTS		
5.4.a,b,c,d	3.3.5 and 3.4.7 for Traders and 3.4.8 for Recyclers	When the Organization is ISCC certified with a specific OBP stream all requirements are covered. If not, an OBP stream shall be added to the documentation and processes created for other sustainable streams.
5.6 SALES		
5.6.a	3.3.3	When the Organization is ISCC certified with a specific OBP stream all requirements are covered. If not, an OBP stream shall be added to the documentation and processes created for other sustainable streams.
5.6.b	3.3.1	
5.8 TRANSPORT, PACKAGING AND LABELLING		
5.8.a,b	3.4.9	When the Organization is ISCC certified with a specific OBP stream all requirements are covered. If not, an OBP stream shall be added to the documentation and processes created for other sustainable streams.

7. RECOGNITION OF OTHER STANDARDS

There are currently no other standards recognized as equivalent to any of the OBP Standards.

