



# **PPP environmental product declarations program**

**for the creation of type III environmental product  
declarations according to ISO 14025**

## **General program instructions**

Version 1.0

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## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Program operator

PeoplePlanetProfit GmbH (hereinafter referred to as "PPP" in the document) is an independent consulting company in the field of sustainability and software development. As the sole program operator, PPP is responsible for the development and administration of the program.

According to Section 6.3 of ISO 14025, the program operator is responsible for at least the following tasks:

- 1.) Preparation, maintenance and communication of the general program instructions
- 2.) Publication of the names of the organizations involved in the development of the program
- 3.) Ensuring compliance with the requirements for type III environmental declarations
- 4.) Establishment of a procedure for data consistency within the program
- 5.) Publication of PCR documents and type III environmental declarations and listing of PCR documents and type III environmental declarations
- 6.) Follow up of changes in procedures and related type III environmental declarations from other programs and, if necessary, adapt your own documents
- 7.) Ensuring the selection of competent examiners and PCR examination committee members
- 8.) Establishment of a transparent procedure for the PCR examination
- 9.) Development of a process that prevents the misuse of ISO 14025 as a reference for the Type III environmental declaration program or its logo

### 1.2 General program instructions

These general program instructions describe the structure of the PPP EPD program for the creation of type III environmental product declarations and define more precise instructions for the creation, certification and publication of documents within the framework of the program.

### 1.3 Scope

The program is designed for the global market and includes the creation and management of product category rules (PCR) and environmental product declarations (EPD). It is to be applied to all products or services for which a life cycle assessment can be carried out according to the requirements of ISO 14040 and ISO 14044. Accordingly, there is no exclusion of product categories.

#### 1.4 Addressees

The addressees are the supplying industry, end consumers, organizations, government authorities and any other interest group interested in the publication or information of environmental data on a product based on type III environmental declarations.

#### 1.5 applicants

Anyone interested in the creation, verification or issuing of product category rules and / or environmental product declarations can apply.

#### 1.6 Language (s)

These general program instructions and all other documents relating to the program are available in German. As a second language, these general program instructions and all product category rules are provided in English. The language versions of the environmental product declarations are specified in the respective product category labels.

## 2. Normative references

ISO 14020: 2001 (hereinafter: ISO 14020)

Environmental labels and declarations - General principles (ISO14020: 2000); German version EN ISO14020: 2001

ISO 14025: 2006 (hereinafter: ISO 14025)

DIN EN ISO 14025: 2011-10, Environmental labels and declarations - Type III environmental declarations - Principles and procedures (ISO 14025: 2006); German and English version EN ISO 14025: 2011

ISO 14040: 2006 (hereinafter: ISO 14040)

DIN EN ISO 14040: 2009-11, Environmental management - Life cycle assessment - Principles and framework conditions (ISO 14040: 2006); German and English version EN ISO 14040: 2006

ISO 14044: 2006 (hereinafter: ISO 14044)

DIN EN ISO 14044: 2018-05, Environmental management - Life cycle assessment - Requirements and instructions (ISO 14044: 2006); German and English version EN ISO 14044: 2006

## 3. Explanation of terms

Addressee:

Any natural person, organization, company or authority who feels addressed in the context of the environmental declaration program or who shows interest in the environmental information of a product.

General program instructions:

Basis of the PPP environmental product declaration program, regulates the general principles.



**Applicants:**

Any organization, company or authority that is interested in actively participating in the program or in a paid service by PPP within the framework of the program.

**Program:**

Procedure for creating environmental product declarations for a specific operator, here PPP.

**Program operator:**

Leading unit of the environmental declaration program, within this document: PPP.

## 4. Program objectives

The program is used to evaluate environmental information of a product or service on the basis of a life cycle assessment in accordance with ISO 14040 and ISO 14044. The results are then compiled in an environmental product declaration in accordance with ISO 14025 Enabling services within a certain product category on the basis of the environmental balance and thus enabling transparent environmental communication between various interest groups.

All interest groups, but especially end consumers, should be provided with an easily understandable and compact processing of the environmental impact of a product on the basis of the environmental product declaration.

PPP acts neutrally and objectively and is available to all interested parties with further information and contact options.

## 5. Program development

### 5.1 Financing

PPP finances the development of the program exclusively with its own resources. The maintenance of the program is financed by the income from the fees.

### 5.2 Interested parties

PPP appoints a committee of experts to ensure that interested parties are involved. A request for participation in the program is expressly open to all interested parties. PPP tries to enable all participation requests. Interest groups can write to PPP and we will provide all the necessary information updated on our website (<https://ppp.ms>).

### 5.3 Review of the program instructions

The general program instructions are periodically checked by PPP, but at least every 2 years, for completeness and topicality and updated if necessary. The update will be communicated on the website of PPP and the updated version will be published there. If the general program instructions need to be updated periodically, this can be suspended. This is also communicated via the website.

## 6. Tasks of PPP

PPP adheres to the tasks assigned to him from ISO 14025 and ensures that they are met with all due care.

## 7. Request for environmental product declarations

An interested party can send an inquiry to PPP at any time by email or telephone. PPP will respond to the request within a reasonable period of time.

## 8. Fees

There are fees for the creation and publication of environmental product declarations and life cycle assessments. These are submitted to the interested party on request in the form of an offer and the transmission of the fee schedule.

## 9. Definition of product categories

A product category describes products with a similar function and is described by a functional or declared unit that is applicable to all products in the same category. Product categories are defined in a transparent process in accordance with the applicable PCR. The parameters for the definition of product categories should be based on international industry standards.

## 10. Product Category Rules (PCR)

### 10.1 Creation of product category rules

Product category rules are developed by PPP in accordance with the rules of ISO 14025 and ISO 14027 and are made available to interested parties for a period of 28 days for review and comments in an open consultation process. PPP takes care of providing the resources for the open consultation. PPP responds to comments, contributions or inquiries from interested parties within a reasonable period of 60 days. According to Paragraph 6.7.1 of ISO 14025, the PCR committee must check the existence of existing PCR documents for the same market region of the PCR and, if necessary, adopt rules. If publicly available documents are not taken into account, this must be justified in the PCR.

### 10.2 Content of the PCR

PPP provides a PCR template with the content to be filled in according to ISO 14025. The PCR document must contain the results of the PCR review and comments and recommendations from the PCR review committee.

### 10.3 Duration

A PCR is valid for 5 years. If the validity of the PCR differs, this is noted in the PCR document. Should the information in the PCR change during the period of validity, a PCR will also be updated before the period of validity expires. The update of the PCR is communicated publicly by PPP.

### 10.4 Publication

PPP is responsible for the publication of created PCR and corresponding other documents. A list with all PCR of the PPP EPD program can be viewed on the PPP website.

## 10.5 Review of the PCR

According to the rules of ISO 14025, PPP puts together a PCR test committee of independent third parties from at least the chair and two members. The PCR review committee carries out the review of the PCR and reviews the following points in accordance with Section 8.1.2 of ISO 14025:

- 1.) The PCR was developed in accordance with the ISO 14040 series of standards and with Section 6.7.1 of ISO 14025
- 2.) The PCR follows the general program instructions
- 3.) The PCR provides a description of the essential environmental aspects of the product with the details of the life cycle assessment and the additional environmental information

## 10.6 Qualification of the PCR review committee

The PCR review committee works independently without instructions from PPP and determines the chairperson itself.

The members must meet the following minimum requirements according to Section 8.2.3 ISO 14025:

- 1.) General background knowledge of the relevant production sector, the product and the product-related environmental aspects,
- 2.) Expertise in the method and implementation of life cycle assessments,
- 3.) General knowledge of the relevant standards in the field of environmental labeling and declaration and life cycle assessment,
- 4.) Knowledge of the legal framework for the scope of the PCR; and,
- 5.) Knowledge of the type III environmental declaration programs.

## 11. Creation of environmental product declarations

Environmental product declarations must be drawn up in accordance with the rules of ISO 14025, ISO 14040 and ISO 14044 and on the basis of the parameters and the defined functional unit defined in the PCR document.

## 12. Procedure for the independent verification of environmental product declarations

PPP ensures that the environmental product declarations are carried out by an independent external auditor who was neither involved in the execution of the life cycle assessment nor in the development of the declaration. Any conflicts of interest must be excluded.

The environmental product declarations can contain life cycle assessments prepared by the PPP as well as by other institutions and organizations. The normative requirements apply.

### 12.1 Qualification of the examiners for verification

The external independent auditor must meet the following criteria according to Section 8.2.2 of ISO 14025:



- 1.) Knowledge of the relevant production sector, the product and the product-related environmental aspects;
- 2.) Process and product knowledge in the product category;
- 3.) Expertise in the method and implementation of life cycle assessments;
- 4.) Knowledge of the relevant standards in the area of environmental labeling and declaration and life cycle assessment;
- 5.) Knowledge of the set of rules within which the requirements for type III environmental declarations were developed; and
- 6.) Knowledge of the type III environmental declaration program.

### **13. Handling of data and documentation**

Documents of the PPP environmental product declaration program must be appropriately labeled and described and be available in electronic form. PPP takes care of the safe storage and publication of documents and creates clear documentation of the program on its website.

### **14. Confidential Information**

Confidential product-specific data need not be disclosed in the environmental product declaration. According to ISO 14025 Paragraph 8.3, various reasons can lead to this: competitive reasons, intellectual property rights to the data or comparable legal restrictions. If confidential data is included in the independent verification process, it must remain confidential.

PPP may not publish the declaration if the verification report reveals that the data to be published in the declaration are incorrect or insufficient.

### **15. Copyright**

The general program manual and the PCR documents are the property of PeoplePlanetProfit GmbH. These and the type III environmental product declarations drawn up according to the PCR documents may only be published with the involvement and approval of PPP.

### **16. Disclaimer of Liability**

PPP is not liable for incorrect information provided by manufacturers in the environmental product declarations.



# Imprint

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