Your Trusted Partner in Sustainability Standards & Assurance Systems Development

Building a Better Future for All

SCS standards
and assurance systems

Welcome to SCS Standards & Assurance Systems

We develop standards for products, processes, and services across a wide array of industry sectors. To uphold those standards, we also design assurance systems, which act as frameworks offering operational structure for on-the-ground implementation of the standards. Such standards range from proprietary supply chain specifications to international, multi-stakeholder consensus standards managed by a third party. They can be single-attribute or multi-attribute in scope, covering selected aspects or the entire life cycle.

Wherever you are on your sustainability journey, we're here to support you in meeting your objectives.

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What We Offer: Standards Development

SCS Standards & Assurance Systems develops standards that can help corporations, NGOs, and industry associations drive sound environmental, social, and governance business practices across their entire footprint. Robust in scope and versatile in aim, standards can help mitigate climate impacts, improve worker health and safety, and benefit communities. We have facilitated the development of SCS and proprietary standards addressing responsible sourcing practices and life cycle impact reductions related to food and agriculture, water stewardship, climate change, forest management, indoor air quality, mining and jewelry, biofuels, circularity, and more. Our clients have established globally applicable standards for a wide variety of claims, such as Bio-based Material Content, Reduced Carbon Intensity, and Sustainable Sourcing.

The Value of Sustainability Standards

Sustainability standards bring diverse value to companies, including:

- Uniformity
- Credibility
- Impact reduction
- Leadership demonstration

What We Offer:
Assurance Systems Development

Our team develops assurance systems on behalf of standard owners to support the credibility and consistent application of their programs. We work closely with clients to understand their needs, theory of change, and goals to design tailored, effective assurance systems. Additionally, assurance systems are based on international standards (such as ISO 17065 or ISO 17021), meet applicable regulatory requirements (such as the European Union Empowering Consumers Directive), and support sustainability claims.

The Value of Assurance Systems

An assurance system operationalizes a sustainability standard to:

- Provides truthfulness to claims

- Ensures impartial assessment of the implementation of the standard

- Offers reliable comparable data to measure and monitor the standard's impacts and efficacy

- Upholds the credibility of any certification or verification standard

What We Offer:
Scheme Management

SCS Standards & Assurance Systems manages SCS-owned standards as well as proprietary standards on behalf of scheme owners. This allows the scheme owner to provide strategic direction aimed at the specific outcomes they want to see, all while maintaining their core business and not having to serve this additional role. As the scheme manager, our team oversees the day-to-day management of standards including: providing interpretations to standard requirements, evaluating and addressing variance requests, overseeing approved certification bodies, and directing the revision of standards. We set the foundation and mobilize frameworks that are vital to operating a successful scheme. Because stakeholder engagement is essential, we also identify and involve relevant parties to update the standard and assurance system, ensuring alignment with the latest science and industry practices.

The Value of Scheme Management

As a scheme manager, SCS Standards collaborates with clients to support their needs throughout the process, offering major benefits, such as:

- Technical expertise built on SCS' four decades of experience

- Robust structure and iteration

- Relationship management between scheme owner and stakeholders

- Peace of mind and trust in the scheme owner's standard and its operationalization

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