

Green Gold Label Document structure

How to navigate across and interpret
GGL documentation



Document structure

Version 1-0

Valid from 1 January 2026 (Adoption date)

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Document navigation

This document is part of the Setup and Governance section from the Overall documents. It concerns the Document structure of the GGL Scheme and applies to all GGL Modules.

The Overall documents comprise the GGL Setup and Governance, GGL Standards and GGL Operating documents. Additionally, the GGL scheme offers Instructions and Guidances for specific regulatory frameworks (RED, FIT/FIP, SDE+/++), which can supersede clauses in the Overall documents. This applies only when explicitly stated in the relevant Instructions and Guidances.

GGL Setup and Governance - Articles of association GGL foundation ➔ GGL Document structure - GGL Regulation - GGL Scope definitions - GGL CB agreements - GGL Partner Code of Conduct - GGL Operating Agreement	GGL Standards - GGLS1 – Chain of custody criteria - GGLS2 – Agricultural source criteria - GGLS4 – Transaction and Product Certificate - GGLS5 – Forest management criteria - GGLS6 – Power company criteria	RED – Instructions - Instruction A.0 – RED Module - Instruction A.1 – RED Reporting duties - Instruction A.2 – RED Internal monitoring - Instruction A.3 – RED Auditor requirements - Instruction A.4 – RED GHG emissions - Instruction A.5 – RED Additional Agricultural source and Forest management criteria	RED – Guidances - Guidance A.0.i – RED Raw materials statement template - Guidance A.0.ii – RED Transaction certificate template - Guidance A.0.iii – RED Audit template - Guidance A.4.iv – RED GHG default values - Guidance A.5.v – RED Level A Risk assessments	GHG Guidance Guidance ABC.1 – GHG calculator
	GGL Operating documents - GGL Participant fees - GGL Logo and tradename use - GGL List of prohibited materials	FIT / FIP – Instructions - Instruction B.0 – FIT/FIP Module - Instruction B.1 – FIT/FIP Endorsed schemes - Instruction B.2 – FIT/FIP GHG emissions	FIT / FIP – Guidances - Guidance B.0.i – FIT/FIP Raw materials statement template - Guidance B.0.ii – FIT/FIP Transaction certificate template - Guidance B.0.iii – FIT/FIP Audit template - Guidance B.0.iv – FIT/FIP Supplier verification checklist for residues - Guidance B.2.v – FIT/FIP LCGHG default values	
		SDE++ – Instructions - Instruction C.0 – SDE++ Module - Instruction C.1 – SDE++ Endorsed schemes - Instruction C.2 – SDE++ GHG emissions	SDE++ – Guidances - Guidance C.0.i – SDE++ Raw materials statement template - Guidance C.0.ii – SDE++ Transaction certificate template - Guidance C.0.iii – SDE++ Audit template	

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Changes and transitioning

This is the first version of this document.

In transitioning to this current version of this document, the following applies to Certification bodies, Participants and Certificates:

Publication date	7 November 2025
Adoption date	This document version <u>applies only</u> for the GGL Scope with FIT/FIP-Module as of: • 1 January 2026
Effective date	Not applicable for first versions of a document
Transition period	Certification decisions prior to Effective date that have not been based on the current version of this document <u>lose their validity</u> for the GGL Scope with FIT/FIP-Module as of: • 31 December 2026

To clarify: For GGL Scopes with the **SDE+ Module**, this document does not apply until further notice.

Glossary

Term	Definition
Adoption date	New (versions of) GGL documents state their Adoption date in the transitioning section. This is the date after which certification against the GGL Scheme and the specific document to which the Adoption date applies, is possible. Certification against previous versions remain valid until the Effective date of such document.
Biomass	Biomass means the biodegradable fraction of products, waste and residues from biological origin from agriculture, including vegetal and animal substances, from forestry and related industries, including fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the biodegradable fraction of waste, including industrial and municipal waste of biological origin.
Certification Body / CB	An independent third party that evaluates and certifies the certification process. Certification Bodies approved by GGL for 1 or more GGL Scopes, are listed on the GGL website.
Effective date	New (versions of) GGL documents state their Effective date. This is the date after which only certification against the GGL Scheme and the specific document to which the Effective date applies, is effective. Certification against previous versions of such document is no longer valid.
GGL Module	These are the Instructions and Guidance documents based on which GGL has been approved and recognized as a Certification scheme under different legal and voluntary frameworks (e.g., RED in Europe, FIT/FIP in Japan).

Term	Definition
GGL Scope	Means the scope of a Certification Body's license to perform certification services or Participants to trade biomass within GGL, and use the GGL Trademark. A GGL Scope is a combination of (a) regulation(s) under which GGL is recognized per its different modules and (b) types of biomass. Each GGL Participant and each CB is limited to perform activities under the GGL Scheme by the GGL Scope for which it is recognized. GGL Scopes are defined in the GGL Scope definitions document.
GGL-Certified	Biomass that has been certified against all applicable GGL criteria, or against a certification scheme other than GGL which has been endorsed & approved by the relevant authorities (e.g., EU for REDII, METI for FIT/FIP) to holds the equivalent status. GGL-Certified biomass meets all criteria for sustainability and legality.
GGL-Controlled	Woody biomass that has been certified against some of the applicable GGL criteria, or against a certification scheme other than GGL which has been endorsed & approved by the relevant authorities (e.g., EU for REDII, METI for FIT/FIP) to holds the equivalent status. GGL-Controlled biomass can only be from GGL-categories 1, 2 or 3 for Woody biomass, and only meets specific key criteria for sustainability. The sustainability of GGL-Controlled woody biomass has therefore been certified to a lesser extent than GGL-Certified woody biomass.
GHG (Greenhouse Gas) Emissions	Greenhouse gases constitute a group of gases contributing to global warming and climate change. It includes - according to the Kyoto Protocol - seven gases: carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, sulphur hexafluoride, nitrogen trifluoride. Converting them to carbon dioxide equivalents (CO ₂ eq) makes it possible to compare them and to determine their individual and total contributions to global warming.

Term	Definition
Normative	Normative elements are those that are prescriptive, that is they are to be followed in order to comply with scheme requirements.
Participant / GGL Participant	Economic operator that has been certified under GGL per GGL Regulation Section G or against a certification scheme other than GGL which has been endorsed & approved by the relevant authorities (e.g., EU for REDII, METI for FIT/FIP) to hold the equivalent status, such as forest and agricultural biomass producers, waste and residue producers, first gathering points, collectors, suppliers, traders, processing plants and conversion plants (end-users).
Publication date	New (versions of) GGL documents state their Publication date. This is the date at which that version is published. Certification against the new version of such document is not possible until after its Adoption date.
RED	EU Renewable Energy Directive (EU) 2018/2001 (REDII) and amended by Directive (EU) Directive 2023/2413 (REDIII), most recent consolidated version (including amendments and corrections) as published on https://eur-lex.europa.eu
Transition period	New (versions of) GGL documents state their Transition period. This is the period within which (re-)certification decisions taken prior to the Effective date against the previous version of the current document, remain valid. Initial audits, renewal audits and surveillance audits by a Certification Body during the Transition period shall only take place against the current version of the GGL Scheme document to which the Transition period applies.



A. Introduction

A.1

This document shall help readers including GGL Participants and GGL Applicants, to navigate across and use all documents of the GGL scheme. Also, it provides rules and guidelines that GGL uses for naming of documents, style structures and versioning that shall facilitate harmonized interpretation by all readers.

A.2

Because GGL is not a regulator, the GGL scheme is developed to work under different national (and other) regulations and has been designed to be modular. The GGL scheme aims to cover all types of biomasses, to the extent national regulators recognize do so. To integrate different national regulatory regimes into a single GGL Scheme, GGL makes use of GGL Modules and GGL Scopes.



B. Basic guidelines for interpreting GGL documents

B.1 GGL Scope

The combination of i) regulation under which GGL is recognized and ii) type(s) of biomass defines a specific GGL Scope. Each Certification Body can only provide certification services, and each Participant can only trade under the specific GGL Scope(s) for which it is accredited respectively certified by GGL. GGL Scopes are defined in ***GGL Scope definitions***.

B.2 GGL Modules

For each national regulation under which GGL is recognized, a specific GGL Module is available (e.g., the GGL RED Module). The GGL documentation therefore consists of Overall documents and Modules.

B.3 Modular instructions and guidances

Overall documents apply to all GGL Modules. Within the GGL scheme the Instructions and Guidance documents from a certain GGL Module, can overrule specific clauses in the Overall Documents. This is only the case when that specific GGL Module is concerned and is explicitly stated in these Instructions and Guidances. Figure i shows the Overall documents (1) and Modules, which in turn are divided into Modular instructions (2) and Modular guidances (3).

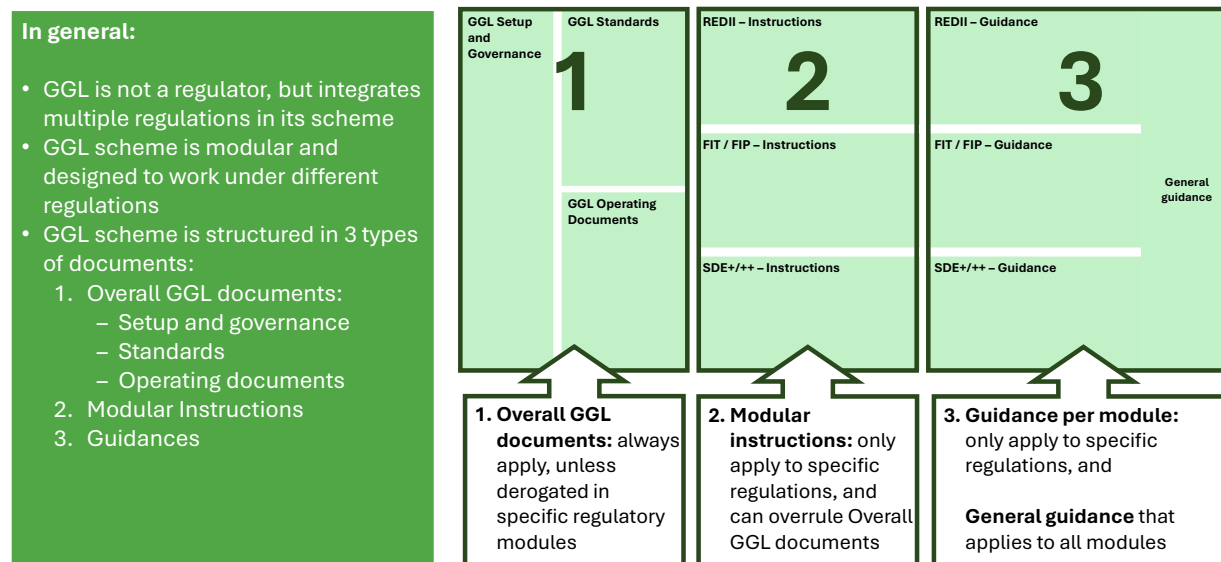


Figure i – Overall documents and Modules

B.4

For easy reference and clarity, each document within the GGL Scheme contains the following information:

- Structured title
- Version information
- Document navigation
- Glossary
- Changes and transitioning
- Table of contents
- Numbered paragraphs

B.5

Also, each document's text is formatted consistently:

- Structuring its contents in Sections (A, B, ...), Paragraphs (A.1, A.2, ...) and Sub-paragraphs (A.1.1, A.1.2, ...)
- Showing lists that include but are not limited to the listed elements in bullets (•) or dashes (-), and finite lists of sub-elements in letters (a, b, ...) or numbers (1,2,...)
- Indicating Principles as such (Principle 1, Principle 2) and in **Bold**, while sub-principles and criteria (1.01, 1.02, ...) as well as indicators for each sub-principle or criterium (1.01(a), 1.02(b), ...) are numbered in a recognizable format
- Highlighting references to other GGL documents in ***Bold Italic*** (e.g., ***GGLS1 – Chain of custody criteria***) and always with their full names, noting that the GGL Standards may be referred to in figures and drawings by their first 5 symbols (e.g., GGLS1).

B.6

All pages across GGL documents are numbered (bottom-right) with reference to the total number of pages of that document, contain a title and version summary (bottom-left) and can be identified by the 8°-tilted GGL logo in the top-right corner.



C. Navigating across GGL documents

C.1 Overall documents

These normative documents contain core regulations and norms that always apply across the whole of the GGL Scheme, unless explicitly derogated in specific GGL Modules. Overall documents are grouped into 3 types of documents, relating to:

- Setup and Governance
- GGL Standards
- Operating documents

Each document that is part of the Overall documents is named containing “GGL”, for example “**GGL Regulation**” as part of GGL Setup and Governance, or , “**GGLS5 – Forest management criteria**” as part of the GGL Standards.

Annex 1 includes an overview of all current GGL documents.

C.2 Modular instructions

These normative instructions only apply to a specific regulation, like e.g., FIT/FIP for Japanese biomass or RED for biomass in the European Union. To each regulation under which the GGL Scheme is valid and recognized, a specific set of Modular instructions is applicable. Norms and instructions in these Modular instructions can overrule and derogate Overall documents only when this is explicitly stated.

For each regulation under which the GGL Scheme is recognized, a corresponding set of Modular instructions exists. For each single GGL Scope as defined in **GGL Scope definitions**, a GGL Participant may retain only one (1) Certification body.

Each document that is part of the Modular instructions is named containing “Instruction”, for example “**Instruction A.4 – REDII GHG Emissions**” as part of the Modular instructions for RED.

C.3 Guidance per module

These documents provide guidance and templates to using specific Modular instructions in practice. Together with their associated



Modular instructions the Guidances for a specific regulation (like e.g., FIT/FIP for Japanese biomass) may be referred to as a Module. Each document that is part of the Guidances is named containing “Guidance”, for example “**Guidance A.4.i – REDII GHG default values**” as part of the Guidances for REDII.

C.4 General guidance

These tools or documents support all GGL Modules, like e.g., “**Guidance ABC.1 – GHG calculator**”.

D. Updates of GGL documents

D.1 Future updates

GGL documents are amended from time to time at the sole discretion of the GGL Foundation. Updates shall come in force upon publication on GGL's website. GGL may provide Certification Bodies and Participants with a grace-period as defined below under D.3 to properly prepare and arrange for the implementation.

D.2 Versioning

All documents have a version that consists of 2 digits and a date. Major changes and amendments to GGL documents are reflected by increasing the whole number by 1 (e.g. 2-1, 3-0). Minor amendments to GGL standard documents are reflected by incrementing the sub-version number by -1 (e.g. 2-1, 2-2).

D.3 Changes and transitioning

Valid documents are always published in the GGL website and are the latest available and applicable version of that document (unless otherwise stated explicitly). The Section Changes and Transitioning that is included in each document, defines the validity of that document in particular in relation to its previous version. Specifically:

1. **Publication date** - the date at which that version is published (e.g., for stakeholder consultation). Certification against the new version of such document is not possible until after its Adoption date.
2. **Adoption date** - the date after which certification against the GGL Scheme and the specific document to which the Adoption date applies, is possible. Certification against previous versions remain valid until the Effective date of such document.
3. **Effective date** - the date after which only certification against the GGL Scheme and the specific document to which the Effective date applies, is effective. Certification against previous versions of such document is no longer valid.
4. **Transition period** - the period within which (re-)certification decisions taken prior to the Effective date against the previous version of the current document, remain valid. Initial audits, renewal audits and surveillance audits by a Certification Body during the Transition period shall only take place against the current version of the GGL Scheme document to which the Transition period applies.



D.4 Feedback and recommendations

To continuously improve and strengthen the GGL Scheme, the Foundation welcomes all feedback and recommendations by Certification bodies, GGL Participants and Applicants as well as other stakeholders. For any change or update to the GGL Scheme to be implemented, there is an internal review and approval process in place jointly with the GGL Advisory council. Furthermore, GGL will always seek approval from the relevant national authorities for changes and updates of documents before the date set as their Adoption date.

Annex I. Overview of all GGL documents

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		SDE++ – Instructions Instruction C.0 – SDE++ Module	SDE++ – Guidances Guidance C.0.i – SDE++ Raw materials statement	