

Green Gold Label Scope definitions

Definitions of certification scopes
under the GGL Scheme



Scope definitions

Version 1-0

Valid from 2 March 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 GGL Scopes under 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.

Refer to the **GGL Document Structure** (as part of the GGL Setup and Governance documents) for more detailed information on navigating and interpreting GGL documentation.

GGL Setup and Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GGLS1 – Chain of custody criteria GGLS2 – Agricultural source criteria GGLS4 – Transaction and Product Certificate GGLS5 – Forest management criteria GGLS6 – Power company criteria 	RED – Instructions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 Instruction A.6 – RED Supplier verification programme for biogenic residues and waste 	RED – Guidances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 Guidance A.6.vi – RED Supplier verification checklist for biogenic residues and waste 	GHG Guidance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidance ABC.1 – GHG calculator
	GGL Operating documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GGL Participant fees GGL Logo and tradename use GGL List of prohibited materials 	FIT / FIP – Instructions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruction B.0 – FIT/FIP Module Instruction B.1 – FIT/FIP Endorsed schemes Instruction B.2 – FIT/FIP GHG emissions Instruction B.3 – FIT/FIP Additional power company criteria 	FIT / FIP – Guidances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 biogenic residues and waste Guidance B.2.v – FIT/FIP LCGHG default values 	
	SDE++ – Instructions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruction C.1 – SDE++ Endorsed schemes Instruction C.2 – SDE++ GHG emissions 	SDE++ – Guidances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidance C.0.i – SDE++ Raw materials statement template Guidance C.0.ii – SDE++ Transaction certificate template 		



Table of contents

Document navigation.....	3
Table of contents	4
Changes and transitioning	5
Glossary.....	6
A. Introduction.....	8
B. Current GGL Scopes.....	9
C. GGL Scope of Certification Bodies	10
D. GGL Scope of GGL Participants.....	10
E. GGL Scope of GGL Biomass	12



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	For all GGL Modules except the SDE+ Module : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 March 2026
Effective date	N/A – this is the first version of this document
End of Transition period	N/A – this is the first version of this document

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 include an Adoption date in the transitioning section. This date indicates when certification against the GGL Scheme and the specific document becomes possible. Certifications based on previous versions will remain valid until the Effective date of the new document.
Batch	A quantity or consignment of biomass originating at one Point of origin and covered by one Raw Material Statement.
Biomass producer	The first participant in the GGL supply chain for woody and agricultural biomass (covering GGL categories 1, 2, 3, and 4) is known as a Biomass Producer. This entity produces raw materials through harvesting or farming activities and is responsible for delivering Raw Materials Statements. Biomass Producers are similar to First Collectors in that they represent the initial participants in the GGL supply chain.
Biomass	Biomass refers to the biodegradable portion of products, waste, and residues derived from biological sources in agriculture, which includes both plant and animal materials. It also encompasses materials from forestry and related industries, such as fisheries and aquaculture. Additionally, biomass includes the biodegradable fraction of waste, including industrial and municipal waste of biological origin.
Certification Body / CB	An independent third party evaluates and certifies the certification process. Certification bodies approved by GGL for one or more GGL scopes are listed on the GGL website.
Effective date	New (versions of) GGL documents specify an Effective Date. This is the date after which certification can only be granted according to the GGL Scheme and the specific document that has the Effective Date. Certification based on previous versions of the document is no longer considered valid.
First Collector	The first participant in the GGL supply chain for residues and wastes (GGL category 5) is known as the First Collector. This entity collects raw materials from suppliers who provide Raw Materials Statements. First Collectors are similar to Biomass Producers in that they are the initial GGL Participants within the GGL supply chain.
FMU / Forest Management Unit	A well-defined land area that is predominantly (>50%) forested, incorporating planned human intervention within a forest ecosystem to meet specific goals and objectives.
Foundation / GGL Foundation	The Green Gold Label Foundation owns the Green Gold Label (GGL) scheme, including all technical documents, promotional materials, logos, websites, and other intellectual properties related to GGL.
GGL Biomass	Biomass certified with a GGL-Certified or GGL-Controlled claim.
GGL Categories	Biomass is classified into one of five categories recognized by GGL: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Woody biomass from large FMUs (> 500 hectares) 2) Woody biomass from small FMUs (< 500 hectares) 3) Residues from natural site and landscape management 4) Agricultural biomass 5) Biogenic residues and waste



Term	Definition
GGL Module	These Instructions and Guidance documents outline how GGL has been approved and recognized as a Certification scheme under various legal and voluntary frameworks (e.g., Renewable Energy Directive (RED) in Europe and FIT/FIP in Japan).
GGL Scope	Each GGL Participant and each Certification Body (CB) is restricted to performing activities under the GGL Scheme based on the specific GGL Scope for which they are recognized. GGL Biomass has a specific GGL Scope. The GGL Scope is a combination of (a) applicable regulatory GGL Modules and (b) the GGL Categories of biomass. Detailed definitions of GGL Scopes can be found in the GGL Scope definitions document.
Normative	Normative elements are prescriptive guidelines that must be followed to comply with scheme requirements.
Participant / GGL Participant	An economic operator that has been certified under the GGL Regulation Section G, or under another certification scheme endorsed and approved by the relevant authorities (e.g., EU for RED or METI for FIT/FIP), holds equivalent status. This includes forest and agricultural biomass producers, waste and residue producers, first gathering points, collectors, suppliers, traders, processing plants, and conversion plants (end-users).
PC / Product certificate	A certified statement confirming the final conversion of GGL Biomass by GGL Participants that meets the requirements of GGLS4 - Transaction and product certificate .
Point of origin	The location where the raw material directly originates, before its classification as GGL Biomass.
Publication date	New (versions of) GGL documents include their Publication date, which indicates when that version is published. Certification against a new version cannot occur until after its Adoption date.
Raw material	The batch of biomass from a single Point of origin before it is classified as GGL Biomass, for which a single Raw Material Statement is verified and that falls within a single GGL Category of biomass.
RMS / Raw Material Statement	A certified statement describing the batch of raw materials brought into GGL supply chains by a GGL Participant that meets the requirements of GGLS1 - Chain of Custody criteria and applicable GGL Modules.
TC / Transaction certificate	A certified statement of a transaction between GGL Participants that meets requirements of GGLS4 - Transaction and product certificate .
Transition period	The new versions of the GGL documents specify the end of a Transition Period. This is the time until which (re-)certification decisions made before the Effective Date (based on the previous version of the document) remain valid. During the Transition Period, audits conducted by a Certification Body must be based solely on the valid (new) version of the GGL Scheme documents.



A. Introduction

A.1 Current state

This document defines the various Scopes covered by the current version of the GGL Scheme. Any future addition or change to the applicable scopes will be reflected in updates to this document.

A.2 Definition of GGL Scope

The combination of i) the regulation under which GGL is recognised and ii) the type(s) of biomass defines a specific **GGL Scope**. Each Certification Body can provide certification services, and each Participant can trade only under the specific GGL Scope for which it is accredited and approved by GGL.

A.3 GGL Module

For each national or regional regulation under which GGL is recognised, a specific GGL Module is available. The GGL documentation, therefore, consists of Overall documents (valid for all GGL certifications) and Modules (additional documents per regulatory framework). Each document of a GGL Module applies to all GGL Participants that are certified under the GGL Scope of that Module.

A.4 GGL Categories of biomass

Under GGL, distinct types of biomass are each defined by a GGL Category. A single batch of raw material can only belong to a single GGL Category.



B. Current GGL Scopes

B.1

The GGL Scheme currently covers 15 different GGL Scopes elements. GGL Scopes are defined by the combination of the applicable regulation (i.e., GGL Module) and the type of biomass (i.e., GGL Category).

B.2

Multiple types of biomass can be combined in a single scope. However, only a single regulation can be part of a single scope.

Note - For example, and with reference to Figure i below, a GGL Scope can be:

- I. RED – GGL Categories 1 and 2;
- II. FIT/FIP – all GGL Categories; or
- III. SDE+ – GGL Category 5.

	GGL Category 1: Woody biomass from large FMU's (>500ha)	GGL Category 2: Woody biomass from small FMU's (<500ha)	GGL Category 3: Woody biomass from nature or landscape management	GGL Category 4: Agricultural biomass	GGL Category 5: Biogenic wastes and residues
RED					
FIT/FIP					
SDE+					

Figure i – possible GGL scopes

B.3

Both GGL Participants and GGL Biomass have a GGL Scope, and are to be certified against the applicable GGL Modules and GGL Standards for that GGL Scope.



C. GGL Scope of Certification Bodies

C.1

Certification Bodies approved by GGL are recognised for a specific (set of) GGL Scope(s), which limits the certification services Certification Bodies can provide to GGL Participants to such GGL Scope(s) only. A GGL Participant cannot retain more than 1 (one) Certification Body per GGL Scope.

Note - For example, a Certification Body approved for the scope “FIT/FIP – All GGL Categories of biomass” cannot provide certification services against the GGL RED Module since this is not included in their approved scope.

D. GGL Scope of GGL Participants

A GGL Participant cannot participate in GGL supply chains for GGL Biomass of a specific GGL Scope, unless that participant has been certified against (at least) that same GGL Scope.

D.1

Certification requirements for GGL Participants are determined by: the applicable regulatory framework per GGL Module, the type of biomass per GGL Category and the type of GGL Participant.

D.2 Multiple GGL Scopes per Participant

A GGL Participant can be certified against more than one (1) GGL Scope.

Note - For example, a single GGL Participant can be certified against:

- RED – Cat 1 and 2,
- FIT/FIP – Cat 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, and
- SDE+ - Cat 5

D.3 Single GGL Module but multiple GGL Categories per GGL Scope

A single GGL Scope cannot combine more than one (1) regulatory GGL Module. Per the GGL Module, a single GGL Scope can combine multiple GGL Categories of biomass types.

D.4 Single CB per Participant’s GGL Scope

A Participant cannot retain more than one (1) CB for overlapping GGL Scopes. For example, when a Participant acts as a Biomass Producer / First Collector for GGL Scope “FIT/FIP – Cat 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5” with CB YYY, he cannot act as a First Collector for GGL Scope “FIT/FIP – Cat 5” with CB XXX. This is only possible with the same CB (1).

D.5

The first GGL Participant in the GGL supply chains for GGL Categories 1 through 4 types of biomass is called a Biomass Producer. The first participant for the GGL Category 5



type of biomass is called a First Collector.

D.5.1

Every GGL Participant shall at least be certified under **GGLS1 – Chain of custody criteria** and **GGLS4 – Transaction and product certificate**.

D.5.2

Additionally, GGL Participants should be certified against the GGL Module for the regulatory framework they are subject to, as well as the GGL Standards applicable, depending on the GGL Category of biomass or the specific role of the GGL Participant.

Note - For the avoidance of doubt, when the Power company uses GGL Biomass, the certification requirements for that Power company as a GGL Participant are determined by the GGL Module, the type of Participant, as well as the GGL Category of biomass.

D.5.3

For a transaction between GGL Participants that have been certified against the same and more than 1 GGL Scope, for GGL biomass with the same GGL Scopes, a single Transaction certificate shall be issued listing each GGL Scope individually, compliant with **GGLS4 – Transaction and product certificate**.

D.5.4

Which GGL Modules and GGL Standards apply to which type of GGL Participants is shown in Figure ii below.

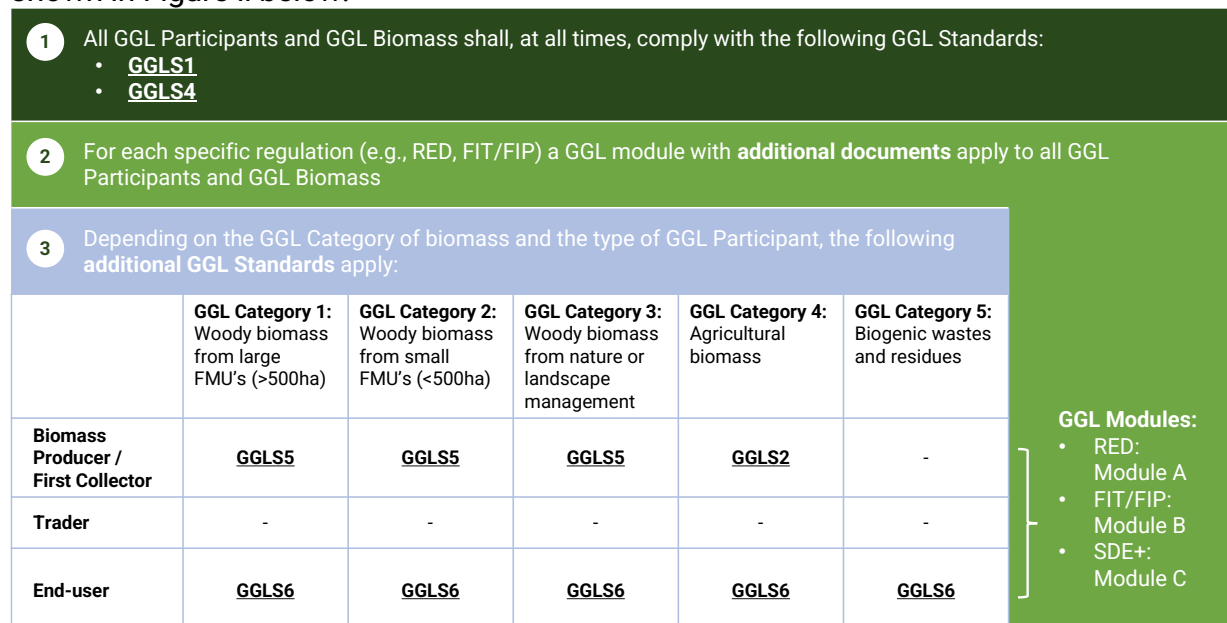


Figure ii - Applicability of GGL Modules and GGL Standards.



E. GGL Scope of GGL Biomass

E.1

GGL Biomass cannot be traded under a GGL Scope against which it has not been certified. When GGL Biomass is traded by a GGL Participant that has not been certified against the GGL Scope for which the GGL Biomass was certified, the GGL Biomass loses its certification to match that of the last GGL Participant.

Note - For example, when GGL Biomass is certified both under [SDE+ - Cat 5] and under [FIT/FIP – Cat 5] and is traded by a Trader certified under [FIT/FIP – All categories], the GGL Biomass loses its certification under [SDE+ - Cat 5] upon the Trader taking ownership of and control over the GGL Biomass.

E.2

GGL Biomass shall be certified against the regulatory framework to which it is subjected per GGL Module and against the GGL Standards that apply per their GGL Category.

Note - For the avoidance of doubt, when a Trader trades GGL Biomass, the GGL Module and the GGL Category of biomass determine the certification requirements for the GGL Biomass.

E.3

For GGL biomass that has been certified against more than 1 GGL Scope and that is being sold by and bought by GGL Participants with the same GGL Scopes, a single Transaction certificate shall be issued for all GGL Scopes compliant with **GGLS4 – Transaction and product certificate**.