

Green Gold Label Participant fees

Applicable fees for GGL Participants
charged through Certification Bodies



Participant fees

Version 1-5

Valid from 7 September 2026 (Adoption date)

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Document navigation

This document is part of the Operating section from the Overall documents. It concerns the fees related to certification of GGL Participants and biomass under the GGL Scheme.

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 regulations (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
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Changes and transitioning

This section lists the key changes in this version v1-5 from version v1-4.

No.	Change type	Section reference	Details of change
1	Content	Section D	Example clarified of fixed fees for End users based on converted GGL Biomass

This section lists the key changes in version v1-4 from version **GGL Participant fee – Version 1-3 (Nov. 2023)**.

No.	Change type	Section reference	Details of change
1	Fee change	Section D	The Fixed fee is charged per GGL Scope, i.e., multiple fees are charged for a Participant with multiple GGL Scopes.
2	Fee change	Section D	The Fixed fee is charged per role, i.e., multiple fees are charged for a GGL Participant that is active in multiple roles (Trader and End-user)
3	Fee change	Section E	The basis for Variable fees is all amounts brought into GGL supply chains with a Raw Material Statement; references to another basis have been removed for clarity.
4	Fee change	Section E	The Variable fee is also charged for all amounts brought into GGL supply chains from Endorsed schemes, and excluding operational and moisture losses
5	Text feature	Document navigation	Document navigation included
6	Text feature	Changes and transitioning	Changelog and transitioning procedure between the previous and current versions included
7	Text feature	Glossary	Glossary included
8	Formatting	All	Changed and edited formatting, text and wording for clarity and readability
9	Formatting	All	Converted layout to new templates for GGL Documents

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

Publication date	6 July 2026 (serving as notice per A.2)
Adoption date	1 January 2027
Effective date	1 January 2027
Transition period	Not applicable



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.
Amount of GGL Biomass	This is the amount of GGL Biomass in metric ton (MT).
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.
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: 1) Woody biomass from large FMU's (> 500 hectares) 2) Woody biomass from small FMU's (< 500 hectares) 3) Residues from natural site and landscape management 4) Agricultural biomass 5) Biogenic residues and waste
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).



Term	Definition
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.
GGL-Certified	Biomass that has been certified against all applicable GGL criteria, or against a certification scheme other than GGL, which has been endorsed and approved by the relevant authorities (e.g., EU for RED, METI for FIT/FIP) and holds 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 that has been endorsed and approved by the relevant authorities (e.g., the EU for RED or METI for FIT/FIP) holding equivalent status. GGL-Controlled biomass can only come from GGL categories 1, 2, or 3 for woody biomass and must meet specific key sustainability criteria. Therefore, the sustainability of GGL-Controlled woody biomass is certified to a lesser extent than that of GGL-Certified woody biomass.
GGLedger	GGL provides an IT platform designed to serve as a current and secure register for all types of Data, including both confidential and public information. Certification bodies (CBs) are responsible for ensuring that all data within GGLedger is accurate, up-to-date, and secure.
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 certified as a Power company, 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.



Term	Definition
TC / Transaction certificate	A certified statement of a transaction between GGL Participants that meets requirements of GGLS4 - Transaction and product certificate .
Transaction statement	A statement of a transaction from a GGL Participant to a non-certified buyer.
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

The objectives of the Green Gold Label Foundation (GGL) are laid down in its Articles of Association and do not include any financial objective. GGL charges fees to cover costs and safeguard the continuity of the GGL scheme. All applicable fees are solely based on the total GGL Biomass amounts sourced and traded within GGL Supply chains, as either Fixed or Variable fees, regardless of the number of transactions. GGL does not charge fees per Transaction Certificate.

A.1 Notice period

The fees and fee structure set out in this document are effective from the Adoption date in the Section Changes and transitioning above and may be amended from time to time with a notice period of at least 1 month after the Publication date of amendments.

A.2 Notification

GGL Board will notify Participants of changes to this document by email and announcements on the GGL website.

B. General

B.1

GGL Participants will be charged for the Participant fees through their Certification bodies. The GGL Foundation will not charge fees to GGL Participants directly unless agreed to in a prior written agreement. Annex I includes detailed examples of which rates apply to which type of GGL Participant for each possible trade within the GGL Scheme.

B.2

In addition to these Participant fees, Participants may also incur costs for certification and inspection processes charged by their Certification bodies. The GGL Foundation has no control over, nor any knowledge of, these separate costs.

B.3

Fees are in Euros (€) and are subject to Dutch VAT of 21% if applicable. Invoices must be paid within 30 days of their issue date.

B.4

Invoices will only be issued when the amount payable exceeds €250. Amounts below €250 will be invoiced once the total amount due exceeds €250.

B.5

Fees paid by the Certification Body are non-refundable. Data in GGLedger serves as the basis for all GGL invoicing. It is the responsibility of the Certification Body to register all Participants and the amount of GGL Biomass in GGLedger correctly.



C. Fee structure

C.1 Types of fees

GGL charges 2 (two) types of fees to Certification Bodies:

- a) **Fixed fees**, charged to Traders and End-users based on their annual amount of GGL biomass sold or used;
- b) **Variable fees**, charged to Biomass producers or First Collectors based on their annual amount of GGL biomass that has been certified, and to any GGL Participant for their annual amount of GGL biomass procured from an Endorsed scheme. This fee applies to both GGL-Certified and GGL-Controlled biomass.

C.2 Determinants for GGL fees

The fees charged by GGL to the Certification Bodies for certification activities related to GGL Participants are dependent on three (3) factors, namely:

C.2.1 **The amount of biomass certified under the GGL Scheme**

The amount is determined as follows per calendar year:

- a) In the case of any GGL Participant, the amount of biomass brought into GGL supply chains from Endorsed certification schemes endorsed by GGL with a certified Raw Material Statement.
- b) In the case of a Biomass Producer / First Collector: the amount of GGL biomass produced or collected and brought into GGL supply chains with a certified Raw Material Statement;
- c) In the case of a Trader: the amount of biomass sold (i.e. amounts on certified Transaction certificates sold to another Participant or to a non-GGL-certified buyer);
- d) In the case of an End-user: the amount of biomass used to produce energy (i.e., amounts on certified Product certificates)

C.2.2 **The type(s) of GGL Participant**

GGL distinguishes 3 (three) types of Participants: Biomass Producer / First Collector, Trader, and End-user. If a GGL Participant is active in multiple roles during a year, each activity recorded in the GGLedger transaction amounts shall be used to determine the applicable fees for each role the GGL Participant has performed in that year.

C.2.3 **The number of GGL Scopes per Participant**

The number of GGL Scopes per Participant is determined by the total number of scopes registered in GGLedger during a calendar year.



D. Fixed fees

GGL Participants active as Traders selling GGL Biomass or End-users converting GGL Biomass into energy, will be charged a Fixed fee per year through their Certification Bodies.

D.1 Fixed fee for Traders

The following fixed fees apply to Traders selling GGL biomass:

Traders - Annual volume of GGL Biomass sold	Applicable fixed fee per GGL Scope
>= 200,000 MT	€ 2,500
>= 50,000 -199,999 MT	€ 1,250
<50,000 MT (minimum fee)	€ 250

D.2 Fixed fee for End-users

The following fixed fees apply to End-users:

End-users - Annual volume of GGL Biomass used	Applicable fixed fee per GGL Scope
>= 200,000 MT	€ 10,000
<199,999 MT (minimum fee)	€ 5,000

D.3 Basis for calculating Fixed fees

D.3.1

Fixed fees are charged twice per calendar year for GGL Participants **applicable to each GGL Scope and to each role** (as defined in C.2.1) that they perform:

- Firstly, at the start of each calendar year, the **minimum applicable fee** is charged,
- Secondly, at the end of the calendar year, the **residual fee** for the total amount of GGL Biomass sold or used is charged to Traders and End-users, respectively, being the total fee due minus the minimum applicable fee (already paid).

Note - As an example:

For an End-user who has converted 250,000 MT of GGL-Certified biomass during year X into energy, its Certification Body will be charged €5,000 (**minimum fee**) at the start of year X, and €10,000 (total fee) minus €5,000 (already charged) = € 5,000 (**residual fee**) at the beginning of year X+1.

D.3.2

Fixed fees for Traders and End-users are always based on the total annual amount of GGL biomass sold or used under a Transaction or Product certificate per **GGLS4 – Transaction and product certificate**, and not pro-rated for the Effective date of becoming a GGL participant in a calendar year.



D.4 GGL Scopes and roles, with examples

GGL Scopes are defined in ***GGL Scope definitions***. The roles of GGL Participants and GGL Scopes throughout the year are based on the data in GGLedger.

Note - The tree examples below clarify how the GG Participant fees work with different roles, different Certification Bodies and different GGL Scopes.

1. A GGL Participant acting both as an End-user and as a Trader who sells GGL Biomass (e.g., to another End-user or Trader) during a specific year, will be charged 2 (two) separate fixed fees for that year.
2. When a Trader with a FIT/FIP scope switches from one Certification Body to another within a calendar year, each Certification Body will charge a fixed fee based on the amount of GGL biomass sold under that Certification Body for that specific scope during that year.
3. When a Trader switches its GGL Scope from “SDE+ – GGL Categories 1 and 2” to GGL Scope “FIT/FIP – GGL Category 5”, the CB will charge a fixed fee for each scope based on the amount of GGL biomass sold.



E. Variable fees

Variable fees are charged to Certification Bodies of Biomass producers (GGL Categories 1 to 4 biomass), First collectors (GGL Category 5 biomass) and any GGL Participant that brings biomass into GGL supply chains. These amounts can originate from own production, first collection or integration from an Endorsed scheme for any **GGL Category of biomass**.

E.1 Fees for GGL Biomass amounts

These fees are based on the GGL Biomass amounts produced, collected or brought into GGL supply chains as GGL-Certified or GGL-Controlled, regardless of the type of biomass and equal:

€0.11 per MT of GGL Biomass

E.2 Basis for calculating Variable fees

E.2.1

Variable fees are calculated based on the biomass amounts brought into the GGL supply chain under a Raw Material Statement per **GGLS1 – Chain of custody criteria** and applicable GGL Modules. For the calculation, data entered into GGLedger at the start of the GGL supply chain is used, which should match the amount on the Raw Material Statement.

E.2.2

The biomass amounts brought into the GGL supply chain after deduction of “operational losses” (i.e., moisture loss, operational and handling losses between the Point of origin and first processing site, or other explicable losses) can be used, as long as this is declared on the Raw Material Statement.

F. Disputes and non-payment

F.1

In the event of any doubt or dispute, the Participant shall provide all necessary information and access to sites to validate the claimed amounts to the GGL Foundation and the Certification Body.

F.2

In case a Certification Body fails to pay the fees for its Participant(s), the certification of that Participant for the relevant GGL scope shall be suspended. Repeated failure (i.e., more than 1x) to fulfil the applicable fees shall result in the termination of the certificate for that GGL scope.

F.3

Participants and Certification Bodies can file a complaint at any time in accordance with the **GGL Regulation** to seek resolution of disputes.

Annex I. Detailed examples of applicable rates

The illustration below shows the type of fee applicable for each potential trade of GGL Biomass within the GGL Scheme.

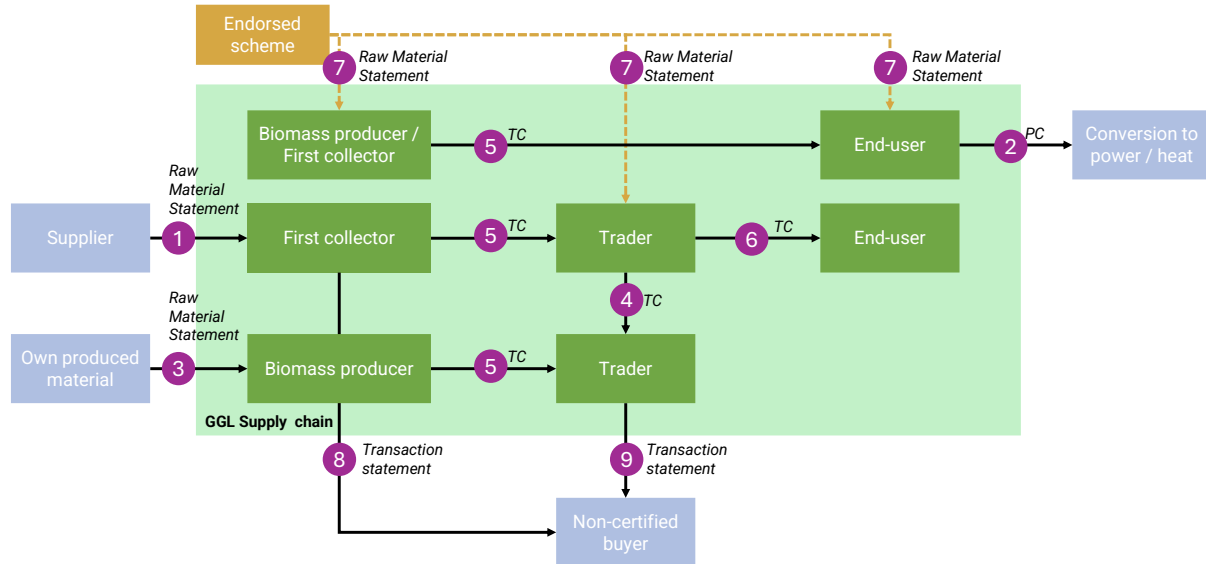


Illustration 1 – Possible types of trades within the GGL Scheme

The table shows which fee applies to each Participant for each type of trade within the GGL Scheme.

	Fixed fee	Variable fee
1 Supplier sells to First Collector	-	• First collector (E.1)
2 End-user converts GGL Biomass into power and/or heat	• End-user (D.2)	-
3 Biomass producer harvests or produces GGL Biomass	-	• Biomass producer (E.1)
4 Trader sells to Trader	• Trader (seller; D.1)	-
5 Biomass producer / First Collector sells to Trader / End-user	-	-
6 Trader sells to End-user	• Trader (seller; D.1) • End-user (D.2)	-
7 Biomass producer / First Collector or Trader or End-users procures from Endorsed scheme	-	• Biomass producer / First collector or Trader or End-user (E.1)
8 Biomass producer / First Collector sells to Non-certified buyer	-	-
9 Trader sells to Non-certified buyer	• Trader (seller; D.1)	-

Table 2 – Applicable fee per Participant for each type of trade within the GGL Scheme