



Sustainable Constructional Steel Scheme

Glossary

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CARES Sustainable Constructional Steels Scheme (SCS) Glossary

This glossary provides definitions applicable to organisations seeking certification to the CARES SCS scheme. Where a term specifies a requirement in the Glossary, this shall be normative. For example, there are requirements as to what constitutes ‘Publicly reported’ which need to be followed to gain or maintain certification.

Alien Species - Species that occur outside their natural past or present distribution because of human introduction, whether deliberate or accidental. Alien species can become invasive when they spread rapidly and cause adverse impacts on ecosystems, biodiversity, or local communities. (Adapted from IUCN Guidelines for Invasive Species Management.)

Apprentices - Individuals engaged in structured, often certified, work-based training programs combining practical work experience with technical instruction, typically as part of early career development. (Adapted from ILO R195, Recommendation on Human Resources Development).

Bribery - the offering, promising, giving, accepting or soliciting of an advantage as an inducement for an action which is illegal or a breach of trust.

Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas (CAHRAs) - Areas identified as being affected by armed conflict, widespread violence, or other risks of serious human rights abuses, often requiring enhanced due diligence in sourcing practices. (From OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Mineral Supply Chains).

Corruption - the abuse of entrusted power for private gain.

Corrective Action Plan (CAP) – A plan put in place to address the root causes of non-conformities identified during an audit. CAP's should highlight the root cause of the non-conformity, details actions to address the root causes to avoid a repetition of the non-conformity in future, should be time bound and allocated to a particular role. They may include a number of process stages or actions required to address the non-conformity. A CAP should be approved by the Lead Auditor.

Documented procedure - description of a prescribed course of action or process in a written format.



Documented policy - intentions and direction of an organisation as formally expressed by its top management in a written format.

Documented information - information required to be controlled and maintained by an organisation and the medium on which it is contained in a written format.

Due Diligence - An on-going, proactive and reactive process through which companies can identify, prevent, mitigate and account for how they address their actual and potential adverse impacts as an integral part of business decision-making and risk management systems. (Adopted from the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas). For the purposes of the CARES SCS Scheme, due diligence scope includes environmental and social impacts, ethical business practices and effective governance of these.

Ecosystem Services - services that we depend on such as clean air, water, soil generation, crop pollination and for disease suppression, the development of drugs, food and resources. Ecosystem services are common goods and are often un or poorly priced in markets and their value not recognized appropriately.

Environmental aspect - element of an organisation's activities or products or services that can interact with the environment.

Environmental impact - any change to the environment, whether adverse or beneficial, wholly or partially resulting from an organisation's environmental aspects.

Environmental product declaration (EPD) - A standardized environmental declaration providing quantified environmental data for a product using predetermined parameters and life cycle assessment (LCA) methodologies, in accordance with ISO 14025 and EN 15804. EPD communicate verified, comparable environmental performance information.

Ethical Business - ethical business practices relate to business conduct, ethics, anticorruption, anti-bribery, responsible sourcing in the supply chain and responsible market Practices.

Feedstock - raw or semi-finished material used in the steelmaking process, such as billets, blooms, slabs, or recycled scrap, which is either produced in-house or purchased from suppliers.



Fines - a financial payment made in response to an ethical, environmental, social and economic incident that has been recorded and reported to an external Regulator in the data collection/reporting period; those that resulted in the issuance of enforcement and/or prohibition notices by an external Regulator in the data collection/reporting period; and those that resulted in a successful prosecution by an external Regulator in the data collection/reporting period

Global Warming Potential (GWP 100 years) - an impact assessment with global effect and a relative measure of how much heat a GHG traps in the atmosphere when calculated over 100 years. The GWP of different greenhouse gases is measured in relation to the GWP of CO₂ which is indexed as 1. For example, Methane (CH₄) has a GWP100 of 28. It should be noted that GWP100 is used in the SCS to align to the LCA and EPD standards, however over a shorter time period such as 20 years GWP varies, so for Methane it has a higher GWP20 of 86.

Graduate trainees - Recent university graduates employed under structured programs designed to provide cross-functional experience, skills development, and preparation for future leadership or specialist roles.

Grievance Mechanism - A formal process through which workers or external stakeholders can raise concerns related to actual or perceived adverse impacts from a company's operations, and receive timely, fair resolution. (Adapted from UNGPs on Business and Human Rights).

Greenhouse gases (GHG) - Gaseous constituents of the atmosphere, both natural and anthropogenic, absorb and emit infrared radiation. Greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), and fluorinated gases. (Aligned with IPCC AR6 definitions.)

Hot Briquetted Iron (HBI) - A compacted form of Direct Reduced Iron (DRI) produced by briquetting DRI at high temperature to improve density and reduce reactivity for safer handling, storage, and transport. HBI is used as a ferrous metallic feedstock in steelmaking.

Human Rights - are rights that all humans have and includes but is not limited to: Freedom from Slave Labour (Modern Slavery) and Child Labour, Fair and just Workers' Conditions, Freedom to join Trade Unions (Freedom of Association), Equality in respect of Gender, Ethnicity, Religion, Political Persuasion, Sexuality, Disability. The foundations



of which were laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Bill of Rights.

The impact area of the site - includes areas outside of the direct site boundary which are impacted by associated services or outputs of the site. These include gas pipelines, electricity generating facilities, water treatment plants, ports and other facilities which service the site. Sometimes known as the 'area of influence'.

Inclusivity - The active and meaningful involvement of all relevant stakeholders in decision-making processes, ensuring their perspectives, needs, and concerns are considered. Inclusivity requires identifying affected stakeholders and providing equitable opportunities for participation.

Integrity - Ensuring that organisational behaviour is aligned with defined and communicated values, commitments, and policies. Integrity requires ethical conduct in all internal and external activities.

Input or Constituent materials - Materials, additives, or substances used within the steelmaking process, including but not limited to dolomite, lime, limestone, fluorspar, and ferroalloys. Inputs may be raw materials, auxiliary materials, or substances that enter a unit process and contribute to the chemical or physical transformation of steel. (Aligned with ISO 14040 definitions of "input.")

Indicator - measurable representation of the condition or status of operations, management or conditions.

Lagging indicators - Reactive, outcome-based metrics that reflect the results of past events or performance, such as incident rates, lost-time injuries, or grievance resolutions (Adapted from ISO 45001 and GRI guidance).

Leading Indicators - Proactive, predictive measures that monitor conditions or behaviors to help prevent adverse outcomes, such as safety training completion rates or maintenance checks. (Adapted from ISO 45001 and GRI guidance).

Labour Rights – relate to but is not limited to maintaining; Fair Treatment, Fair Wages, Employment Equality, Fair Working Hours, Overtime and Holidays. The foundation principles of which are defined by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Standards.



Life Cycle - consecutive and interlinked stages of a product system, from raw material acquisition or generation from natural resources to end-of-life treatment.

Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) - compilation and evaluation of the inputs, outputs and the potential environmental impacts of a product system throughout its life cycle. (ISO 14040)

Protected sites - areas formally designated for the conservation of biodiversity, ecosystems, or natural and cultural heritage. These include legally protected sites, sites of special scientific interest, and other areas recognized for their environmental or cultural value. Protected sites may also include areas identified as important through inclusive engagement with local and Indigenous peoples.

Protected sites encompass:

- World Heritage Sites;
- Protected areas classified under IUCN management categories I–VI;
- Conservation areas protected under national or local law;
- Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs), unless activities are undertaken with the Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) of affected peoples and communities;
- Ramsar wetlands of international importance;
- Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs).

Protected species – species that are nationally or internationally recognized as requiring conservation due to their ecological, cultural, or economic significance. This includes species formally listed as protected or endangered (such as those on national schedules or the IUCN Red List), as well as species identified through inclusive engagement as important to local communities or Indigenous peoples.

Published or Publicly and freely available - means that the relevant sustainability information shall be effectively communicated, made freely and publicly accessible on-line (e.g. web page, statement in policy, Annual Report or Sustainability Report) AND shall be available in other formats (e.g. printed) if requested. It needs to be readily available to employees, contractors and other workers on site as well as to all interested external stakeholders in a format and languages that are appropriate to stakeholders.

Publicly available information shall be maintained throughout the certification period, ongoing and accessible, i.e. sustainability reporting shall be maintained for the complete



period of certification and not temporarily made available on a website and then removed.

Responsible sourcing / Sustainable procurement - the systematic management of sustainability aspects and impacts associated with the provision or procurement of materials in the supply-chain. It is also called sustainable sourcing, sustainable procurement, sustainable supply chain and other terms.

Rolling mills - Steel producers having rolling mills and supplying feedstock from CARES approved Steel Mill(s). Some of the Rolling mills may have additional finishing processes.

Rosette Rating System (RRS) - system for evaluating and rating the sustainability management system of the organisation against the sustainable constructional steel criteria.

Scrap / Ferrous Scrap - Iron and steel material in metallic form that is recovered in multiple life cycle stages, including steel production processes of final products and at the end of life of final products, and is recycled as raw material for steel production. It excludes runaround or home scrap generated in the same process. (Aligned with ISO 20915:2018 scrap definitions). Scrap is more accurately described as secondary

Small or Medium Sized Enterprises (SME's) - A SME is defined as a company with less than 250 employees.

SMART Targets - Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time Framed targets.

Steel Manufacturers or Steel Makers - Companies or legal entities that operate facilities for the production of steel through melting, casting, and rolling processes.

Steel mills - Steel producers having steel melting shop(s) and rolling mill(s). Some steel mills may have additional finishing processes.

Stewardship - The capability and management approach of the organization to provide sustainable development.

Suppliers - Organisations or individuals providing materials, products, or services to the entity, including contractors and subcontractors. Suppliers may operate at different tiers



in the supply chain and can influence the entity's environmental, social, and governance performance. (Aligned with ISO 20400 Sustainable Procurement.)

Sustainability aspect - element of an organisation's activities or products or services that can interact with the environment, society, community, economy.

Sustainability impact - any change to a sustainability aspect whether adverse or beneficial.

Tier 1 for rolling mills - Suppliers of input materials and feedstock. Other auxiliary materials and water are excluded.

Tier 1 for steel mills – Input / constituent materials - all ferrous inputs and selected auxiliary materials (coal, coke and ferro alloys). Other auxiliary materials and water are excluded.

Tier 2 - Suppliers, contractors, or service providers that supply goods, materials, or services to a Tier 1 supplier rather than directly to the entity. Tier 2 suppliers form part of the upstream supply chain and may indirectly influence the entity's sustainability performance. (Aligned with ISO 20400 and common supply-chain terminology.)

Top Management – C-suite, VP level, Executive level or other senior decision maker.

Transparency - The open, accessible, and timely communication of relevant information that enables stakeholders to understand an organisation's decisions, performance, and impacts. Transparency requires clarity, accuracy, and accessibility of information. Increasing levels of stakeholder confidence helps enhance credibility and transparency of an organization's performance. (Aligned with BS 8902 principles.)

Voluntary, Community or Social Enterprise (VCSE) - A VCSE are often purpose driven enterprises seeking to achieve social objectives through commercial activities. For example, they may support getting vulnerable groups into employment. There are many forms of VCSE's for example Charities, Community Interest Company, Benefit Corporations (B-Corps) and other entities which may vary by jurisdiction.



Better for customers

Product
Quality
certification

Full traceability
from steel mill to
construction site

Sustainable
Constructional
Steel certification

Attract credits in
Building and Infrastructure
Rating Systems

CARES Cloud
and digital
ecosystem

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