

INSTRUCTIONS OF THE AUSTRALASIAN EPD PROGRAMME  
V3.0

A REGIONAL ANNEX TO THE GENERAL PROGRAMME INSTRUCTIONS OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL EPD<sup>®</sup> SYSTEM



## DOCUMENT VERSION

<u>Version</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Version 3.0	FINAL	<p>This document is a Regional Annex to the General Programme Instructions (GPI) for the International EPD® System v3.0.</p> <p>This document applies to EPDs registered with the Australasian EPD Programme.</p> <p>Note: This document supersedes the Instructions of the Australasian EPD Programme – A Regional Annex to the General Programme Instructions (2017), Version 2.0 Published 1.05.2017.</p>

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

The Australasian EPD Programme is an independently operated public limited company which was formed to provide a credible and internationally recognised communication platform for organisations using Life Cycle Assessment and related techniques. The company's shareholders are the Life Cycle Association of New Zealand (LCANZ) and the Australian Life Cycle Assessment Society (ALCAS). The company is governed by a Board of six Directors who are appointed by LCANZ and ALCAS.

Harmonisation of methodology for EPDs within Australasia and international markets is a key founding principal of the Australasian EPD Programme. The Australasian EPD Programme maintains a strategic partnership with the International EPD® System (IEPDS), to enable a harmonised and efficient platform for global EPD development and communication. The technical rules and operating procedures for EPDs developed and registered with the Australasian EPD Programme are, wherever feasible, aligned between the Australasian EPD Programme and the IEPDS. EPDs registered with the Australasian EPD Programme are published on the websites<sup>1</sup> of the Australasian EPD Programme and the International EDP System for global and local market visibility. The Australasian EPD Programme has its own Board of Directors, Secretariat and Technical Advisory Group who collaborate with the International EPD® System's Secretariat and Technical Committee.

## 1.1. OBJECTIVES

The technical instructions of the International EPD® System are defined in the General Programme Instructions (GPI) of the International EPD® System. The Australasian EPD Programme has determined that:

- The Australasian EPD Programme shall follow the General Programme Instructions (GPI) of the International EPD® System, in addition some regionally specific rules shall apply to EPDs registered in Australasia, these are defined in Section 2 below,
- Sections of the GPI v3.0 of the International EPD® System that concern the administration of the IEPDS do not apply to the Australasian EPD Programme, such as Sections 3.1 and 3.2. The administration of the Australasian EPD Programme is described on the Australasian EPD Programme website<sup>1</sup>. The Board of Directors of the Australasian EPD Programme are responsible for the governance of the Australasian EPD Programme, including issues such as costs, fees and member benefits.

The purpose of this document is to:

- Define the regionally specific instructions of the Australasian EPD Programme that differ from the International EPD® System;
- Provide a checklist for EPD developers to follow when applying the Australasian EPD Programme specific EPD requirements;
- Outline administrative and organisational variations to the applicability of the GPI in Australasia.

This document functions as an Australasian annex to GPI of the International EPD® System, and should be read in conjunction with the current version of the International EPD® System GPI document. The regionally specific requirements set out in Section 2 below are applied in practice as exceptions to instructions contained in the GPI, and they are applicable to all EPDs registered with the Australasian EPD Programme.

Responsibility for the maintenance, updating and technical interpretations of this document lies with the Australasian EPD Programme Technical Advisory Group (TAG). Changes to this Regional Annex can only be made in consultation with the Australasian EPD Programme Board of Directors, and the Secretariat and Technical Committee of the International EPD® System.

The content of the GPI and this Annex are reviewed and updated approximately every one to two years to ensure market stability and also to incorporate the latest developments in standardisation and LCA methodology.

The GPI document can be downloaded from [www.epd-australasia.com](http://www.epd-australasia.com) and [www.envirodec.com](http://www.envirodec.com). This Regional Annex can be downloaded from [www.epd-australasia.com](http://www.epd-australasia.com).

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<sup>1</sup> The website of the Australasian EPD Programme is [www.epd-australasia.com](http://www.epd-australasia.com)

The website of the International EPD® System is [www.environdec.com](http://www.environdec.com)

References to this document are recommended to be: Instructions of the Australasian EPD Programme – a Regional Annex to the General Programme Instructions (2018) Version 3.0 Published 18.09.2018.

## 1.2. HIERARCHY OF DOCUMENTS

Instructions for the Australasian EPD Programme are defined in the General Programme Instructions of the International EPD® System (GPI), in conjunction with exceptions and variations described in Section 2 and 3 of this Regional Annex. In practice the GPI and this Regional Annex are applied as follows:

- The Australasian EPD Programme follows the General Programme Instructions (GPI) of the International EPD® System, with the exceptions described in this Regional Annex (Section 2 and 3 below).
- Where there is any potential conflict between this Australasian document and the International GPI, the requirements of this document shall take precedence.

## 2 AUSTRALASIAN SPECIFIC EPD REQUIREMENTS AND REGIONAL CHECKLIST

The requirements in Figure 1 below apply to EPDs registered with the Australasian EPD Programme. These regional requirements are exceptions to instructions specified in the GPI of the International EPD® System, as discussed in Section 1 above.

Figure 1 is formatted as a checklist template. Organisations developing EPDs can complete column 'EPD Compliance Status' to document compliance with Australasian EPD Programme requirements during the EPD verification process.

Figure 1 Australasian Specific EPD Requirements and Regional Checklist

EPD Name:
Date and Version:

No.	International GPI Section	Australasian EPD Programme EPD Requirements and Format	EPD Compliance Status Yes / No / Comments
1.	S. 4.2	<p><b>Programme related information</b></p> <p>The Programme related part of the EPD shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reference to the Australasian EPD Programme as the programme operator and alignment with the International EPD® System</li> <li>Reference to the Australasian EPD Programme's website (<a href="http://www.epd-australasia.com">www.epd-australasia.com</a>)</li> <li>The Australasian EPD Programme logotype</li> <li>The reference PCR document upon which the EPD is based identified according to registration number, date and CPC codes</li> <li>The Australian and New Zealand standard industrial classification (ANZSIC) code, where relevant</li> <li>Other relevant codes for product classification may be included as appropriate, e.g. the corresponding Common Procurement Vocabulary (CPV) code to be used for identifying the product within the framework of public procurement, the United Nations Standard Products and Service Code (UNSPSC) and/or code for Classification of Products by Activity (CPA)</li> <li>Registration number (provided by the Australasian EPD Programme Secretariat)</li> <li>Date of publication and validity</li> <li>Declaration of the year(s) covered by the data used for the LCA calculation and other relevant reference years. The main database(s) for generic data and LCA software used may be declared, if relevant</li> <li>Geographical scope of application of the EPD: e.g. Australian and/or New Zealand and/or international coverage.</li> <li>Reference to the approved Australasian EPD Programme independent verifier who has verified the EPD.</li> <li>Reference to relevant websites for more information</li> </ul>	

2.	S. 4.4	<p><b>Content Declaration</b></p> <p>Information on the hazardous properties of materials and chemical substances within the finished product shall follow the requirements given in latest revision of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)<sup>2</sup>, issued by United Nations or national or regional applications of the GHS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the absence of specific regional Australasian regulations, declarations must be made on the basis of the European REACH regulation<sup>3</sup></li> <li>• The classification of hazardous and dangerous substances contained within the product shall be declared according to the GHS requirements in national regulations, e.g. the Australian Work Health and Safety Regulations, or the New Zealand Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996. (HSNO Act). If this information exists in a product safety data sheet (SDS), a link to the SDS is sufficient</li> <li>• For construction product EPDs, which shall be compliant with EN 15804, the content declaration shall list, as a minimum, substances contained in the product that are listed in the “Candidate List of Substances of Very High Concern for authorisation” when their content exceeds the limits for registration with the European Chemicals Agency.</li> </ul>	
3.	Annex A A.3	<p><b>General Application of LCA Methodology</b></p> <p>The variation from the IEPD GPI 3.0 has been highlighted below in bold regarding the requirements around Australian state-based electricity mix.</p> <p><i>“For the electricity used in the upstream and core processes, there are two alternatives: the upstream company buys the energy from a specific electricity mix from a specific supplier. While in the first case the national electricity mix shall be adopted, in the second case a specific energy mix could be used, if available. Electricity production impacts should be accounted for in the priority when specific data is used in the upstream processes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) Guarantee of Origin from electricity supplier</i></li> <li>– <i>Electricity supplier’s residual mix”</i></li> <li>– <b><i>In Australia, state based electricity mix</i></b></li> <li>– <i>“National electricity production mix/electricity mix on the market (preferable residual mix, otherwise national electricity production mix).</i></li> </ul> <p><i>The mix of electricity used shall be documented.”</i></p>	
4.	S. 9.5.5	<p><b>Environmental Performance</b></p> <p>In Australian water user water flows should be disaggregated using The 36 ALCAS water catchments for which characterisation factors Are available for both Pfister WSI and the AWARE method from <a href="http://auslci.com.au/Documents/WaterCatchmentswithnames.png">http://auslci.com.au/Documents/WaterCatchmentswithnames.png</a>. This is critical due to the high variability of water stress across Australia. National and state aggregation values can be used when data location is not known.</p>	

<sup>2</sup> The GHS document is available on <http://www.unece.org>


<sup>3</sup> Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European parliament and of the council of 18 December 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals

5.	<b>General - Further technical guidance</b>	<b>Technical Guidance Notes</b> The Australasian EPD Programme issues Technical Guidance notes from time to time for LCA practitioners and verifiers. These are available on the website <a href="http://www.epd-australasia.com">www.epd-australasia.com</a>	
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### 3 AUSTRALASIAN VARIATIONS TO THE GENERAL PROGRAMME INSTRUCTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL EPD® SYSTEM

The instructions in the GPI of the International EPD® System are applicable to the Australasian EPD Programme as discussed in Section 1 above, with the exception of Australasian EPD Programme Specific EPD Requirements defined in Section 2 above. From an organisational perspective, other regional variations to the GPI in Australasia are described in Figure 2 below.

Figure 2 Australasian variations to the GPI

International GPI Section	Australasian EPD Programme variations to the GPI
Sections 3.0 and 4.0	<b>Program Organisation and Roles and Process for Programme Administration</b> The organisation, roles and administration of the Australasian EPD Programme, including costs, fees and registration documents are available at <a href="http://www.epd-australasia.com">http://www.epd-australasia.com</a>
Section 3.3.2 and Annex D	<b>Programme Logotype</b> The Australasian EPD Programme logotype is applicable for use by organisations registering EPDs in Australasia with the Australasian EPD Programme. Contact the Australasian EPD Programme Secretariat for more information (GPI Annex D).  ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION
Section 4.7	<b>Feedback or complaints</b> Complaints about registered and published Australasian EPDs are encouraged to be referred firstly to the EPD owner for clarification or explanation. If the complainant does not find the response to be satisfactory a formal complaint may be lodged with the Secretariat. Complaints about documents published by the programme, the appointment of individual verifiers, decisions of the Technical Advisory Group, decisions of the Board of Directors or complaints of any other nature should firstly be directed to the Secretariat. Any complaints must meet the following requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not be anonymous (i.e., the name and contact details of the Complainant are to be provided),</li> <li>• include a clear description of the scope and nature of the Complaint, and</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>include a reference to the rule in the General Programme Instructions, ISO 14025, or other standard or reference that is the topic of the complaint.</li> </ul> <p>Following a referral of a complaint, the Secretariat shall acknowledge the complaint as soon as possible (within 5 business days) and contact the organisations that are affected.</p> <p>The Secretariat may consult with the members of the TAG and/or the International EPD System Secretariat if the complaint requires technical interpretation.</p> <p>Depending on the nature of the complaint the Secretariat may form a sub-committee including members of the Technical Advisory Group and/or the Board of Directors to investigate the complaint.</p> <p>In the case of complaints regarding published EPDs the Secretariat will provide a recommendation to the Board of Directors, where appropriate in consultation with the IEPDs, TAG or any other relevant party, what action should be taken and in what timeframe. The Board of Directors reserves the right to temporarily withdraw the document in question from <a href="http://www.epd-australasia.com">www.epd-australasia.com</a> and <a href="http://www.environdec.com">www.environdec.com</a> pending investigation or corrective action by the document owner if the concerns are deemed significant. If no corrective action is taken within a reasonable time-period, the Board of Directors reserves the right to de-register the EPD in question (see Section 6.5 and 6.6 of the GPI v3.0).</p>
<p><b>Section 6.0</b></p>	<p><b>Development of PCRs</b></p> <p>The Australasian EPD Programme recommends Product Category Rule (PCR) development takes place in line with the procedures defined in the International GPI, overseen by the Technical Committee of the International EPD® System.</p> <p>Organisations in Australasia interested in PCR development are requested to contact the Secretariat of the Australasian EPD Programme to discuss options for developing PCRs.</p>
<p><b>Section 6.4.3</b></p>	<p><b>Single issue Declarations</b></p> <p>Templates for single issue declarations (e.g. Climate Declarations) are provided by the Australasian EPD Programme. Contact the Australasian EPD Programme Secretariat to request single issue declarations.</p>
<p><b>Sections 4.12</b></p>	<p><b>Competence Requirements and Approval of Individual Verifiers</b></p> <p>Qualification criteria and competence requirements for individual verifiers of the Australasian EPD Programme are defined in the document 'Application Form for Individual External Verifiers' is available on request from the Australasian EPD Programme Secretariat.</p> <p>Individuals applying to operate as verifiers for Australasian EPD Programme should complete this application form and submit the required documentation to <a href="mailto:info@epd-australasia.com">info@epd-australasia.com</a>.</p> <p>Applications are assessed and applicants approved by the Technical Advisory Group of the Australasian EPD Programme. A peer review process is in place to monitor the quality of independent verifiers work.</p>

## 4 REFERENCES

General Programme Instructions (GPI) for the International EPD® System. Version 3.0, 2017.12.11.

Instructions of the Australasian EPD Programme – a Regional Annex to the General Programme Instructions. (2017)  
Version 2.0 Published 1.05.2017. [Withdrawn]

Withdrawn documents are available on request.