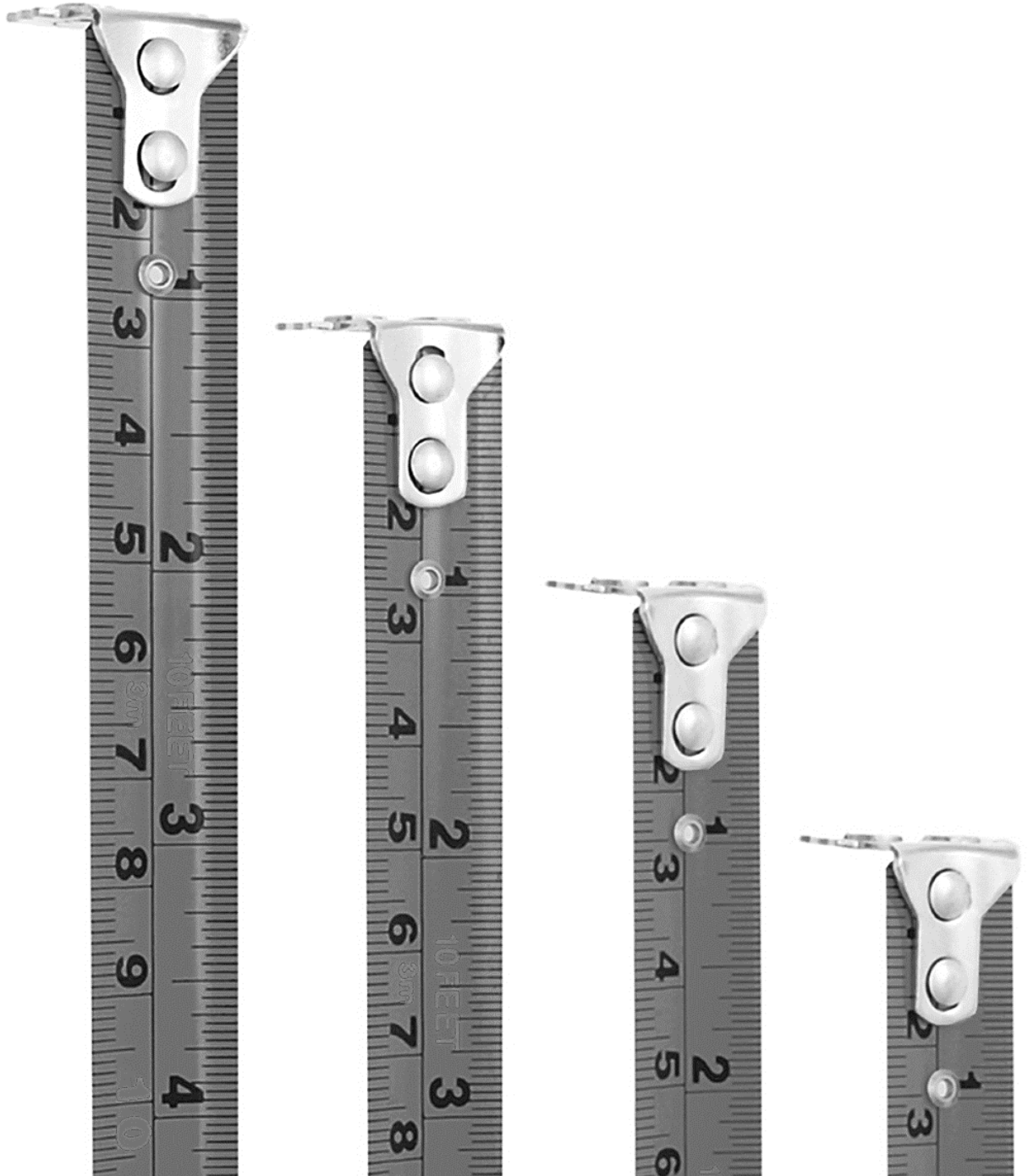


INSTRUCTIONS OF THE AUSTRALASIAN EPD PROGRAMME;  
EPD AUSTRALASIA LIMITED V4.2

A REGIONAL ANNEX TO THE GENERAL PROGRAMME INSTRUCTIONS OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL EPD® SYSTEM



## DOCUMENT VERSION

<u>Version</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Version 4.2	FINAL	<p>This document is a Regional Annex to the current version of the General Programme Instructions (GPI) for the International EPD® System, found at <a href="http://www.environdec.com">www.environdec.com</a>. This document applies to EPDs registered with EPD Australasia Ltd (formerly known as 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 (2018), Version 3.0 Published 2018-09-18. Version 4.1 included one minor change from version 4.0 (dated 2023-09-10) with the inclusion of “accredited body” in section 2 (S9.5.2 or GPI). Version 4.2 removes the ability to register multiple dataset EPDs (deletion of S9.3.1) and updates to correct referencing of Programme Information (S9.5.1 &amp; 9.5.2).</p>

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

EPD Australasia Limited (EPD Australasia) 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 Directors who are appointed by LCANZ and ALCAS.

Harmonisation of methodology for EPDs within Australasia and international markets is a key founding principal of EPD Australasia. EPD Australasia 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 EPD Australasia are, wherever feasible, aligned with the IEPDS. EPDs registered with EPD Australasia are published both on the EPD Australasia and IEPDS websites<sup>1</sup> for global and local market visibility. EPD Australasia 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. EPD Australasia has determined that:

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

The purpose of this document is to:

- Define the regionally specific instructions of the EPD Australasia Programme that differ from the International EPD® System;
- Provide a checklist for EPD developers to follow when applying the EPD Australasia 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 EPD Australasia.

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

The content of the GPI and this Annex are reviewed and updated every 2 years as a minimum or sooner as required 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).

References to this document are recommended to be: Instructions of the Australasian EPD Programme – a Regional Annex to the General Programme Instructions (2023) Version 4.1 Published 2023-10-31.

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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)

## 1.2. HIERARCHY OF DOCUMENTS

Instructions for the EPD Australasia 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:

- EPD Australasia 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 EPD Australasia. 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 EPD Australasia requirements during the EPD verification process.

Figure 1 Australasian Specific EPD Requirements and Regional Checklist

EPD Name:			
Date and Version:			
No.	International GPI Section v4.0 dated 2021-03-29	EPD Australasia EPD Requirements and Format	EPD Compliance Yes / No / Comments
1	S. 9.5.1	<b>Cover Page</b> The cover page shall include; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Logotype of EPD Australasia and EPD International.</li> <li>• Reference to the Programme Operator as “EPD® International AB” and the Regional Programme “EPD Australasia”</li> <li>• Registration number (provided by the EPD Australasia Programme Secretariat)</li> <li>• Date of publication, version and validity</li> <li>• Geographical scope of application of the EPD: e.g. Australian and/or New Zealand and/or international coverage.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	
2.	S. 9.5.2	<b>Programme related information</b> The Programme related part of the EPD shall include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reference to EPD Australasia as the regional programme and International EPD® System as Programme Operator.</li> <li>• Reference to EPD Australasia’s website (<a href="http://www.epd-australasia.com">www.epd-australasia.com</a>)</li> <li>• The EPD Australasia and EPD International Programme logotypes</li> <li>• The reference PCR document upon which the EPD is based identified according to registration number, date and CPC codes</li> <li>• Reference to the approved EPD Australasia independent verifier or accredited body who has verified the EPD or process certification.</li> </ul>	

3	S. 9.5.3	<p><b>Product information</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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> </ul>	
4.	S. 9.5.4	<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>	
5.	Annex A A.3	<p><b>Electricity Modelling</b></p> <p>The electricity modelling requirements in IEPSPD GPI are being updated to align with PCR2019:14 version 1.3. Following PCR2019:14 version 1.3:</p> <p><i>“Generation of electricity used in the manufacturing process in module A3 shall be accounted for in module A3 according to ISO 21930 and in module A1 according to EN 15804, but as the results of modules A1-A3 shall be declared in aggregated form, this difference is of no importance to the user of the EPD.</i></p> <p><i>LCI data for the generation of electricity used in A1-A3 (A1-A5 for services) shall be chosen in this priority:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Specific electricity mix as generated, or purchased from an electricity supplier, demonstrated by a Guarantee of Origin or similar.</i></li> <li>2. <i>Residual electricity mix of the electricity supplier on the market.</i></li> <li>3. <i>Residual electricity mix on the market.</i></li> <li>4. <i>Electricity consumption mix on the market. This option shall not be used for electricity used in processes over which the manufacturer (EPD owner) has direct control, as long as the composition of the residual grid mix has been publicly disclosed.”</i></li> </ol>	

<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


		<p>Currently the composition of the residual grid mix in Australia and New Zealand has not been publicly disclosed<sup>4</sup>, the second or third options in the above hierarchy are not feasible and thus the fourth option is the only remaining option (if the first option is not chosen).</p> <p>For Australia the 'electricity consumption mix on the market' refers to state-based electricity consumption mixes.</p> <p>For further guidance, please refer to the IEPDS PCR2019:14 version 1.3 until the electricity modelling has been updated in IEPDS GPI version 5.0 to align with PCR2019:14v1.3.</p>	
6.	S. 9.5.5	<p><b>Environmental Performance – Water Deprivation Potential</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>.</p> <p>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>	
7.	General - Further technical guidance	<p><b>Technical Guidance Notes</b></p> <p>EPD Australasia 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></p>	

<sup>4</sup> In sufficient detail to enable consistent modelling by different LCA consultants across all environmental performance indicators which also takes into account the characteristics of the physical grids and economic markets.

### 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 EPD Australasia Programme as discussed in Section 1 above, with the exception of EPD Australasia’s 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 V4.0 dated 29/3/21	EPD Australasia Programme variations to the GPI
Sections 3.0 and 4.0	<p><b>Program Organisation and Roles and Process for Programme Administration</b></p> <p>The organisation, roles and administration of EPD Australasia, including costs, fees and registration documents are available at <a href="http://www.epd-australasia.com">http://www.epd-australasia.com</a></p>
Annex B.	<p><b>Programme Logotype</b></p> <p>The EPD Australasia logotype is applicable for use by organisations registering EPDs in Australasia with EPD Australasia. Contact the EPD Australasia Secretariat for more information (GPI Annex D).</p>  <p>ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION</p>
Section 4.5	<p><b>Feedback or complaints</b></p> <p>Feedback or complaints about EPDs registered and published with EPD Australasia should firstly be directed to the EPD Owner. If the complainant does not find the response to be satisfactory, a formal complaint may be lodged with the EPD Australasia Secretariat.</p> <p>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:</p> <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> <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 EPD Australasia Secretariat shall acknowledge the complaint as soon as possible (typically within 5 business days) and contact the organisations that are affected.</p> <p>The Secretariat may refer the complaint to the relevant EPD owner, LCA consultant or individual verifier for response. The Secretariat may also consult with the members of the TAG and/or the IEPDS 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 corrective action is not taken by the EPD Owner within a reasonable time-period, the Board of Directors reserves the right to de-register the EPD in question.</p>
<b>Section 5.0</b>	<b>Development of PCRs</b>  EPD Australasia 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.  Organisations in Australasia interested in PCR development are requested to contact the Secretariat of EPD Australasia to discuss options for developing PCRs.
<b>Section 2 and 7.5.4.5.2</b>	<b>Single issue Declarations/Climate Declarations</b>  Templates for single issue declarations (e.g., Climate Declarations) are available on request from EPD Australasia. A small administration fee is charged for publication of single-issue declarations on the EPD Australasia website. Note that before a single-issue EPD/Climate Declaration can be published a normal EPD must first be published with EPD Australasia.
<b>Sections 4.10</b>	<b>Competence Requirements and Approval of Individual Verifiers</b>  Qualification criteria and competence requirements for individual verifiers of the EPD Australasia Programme are defined in the document 'Application Form for Individual External Verifiers' which is available on request from the EPD Australasia Secretariat.  Individuals applying to operate as independent verifiers for EPD Australasia should complete this application form and submit the required documentation to the EPD Australasia Secretariat.  Applications are assessed and applicants approved by the Technical Advisory Group of the EPD Australasia. A peer review process is in place to as both part of the approval and acceptance process and to monitor the ongoing quality of independent verifiers work. Approval and surveillance of independent verifiers is undertaken in line with the EPD Australasia internal document "Independent Verifier Approval and Surveillance Process."

## 4 REFERENCES

IEPDS. 2023. 'PCR 2019:14 Construction Products (EN 15804+A2) (1.3.1)'. version 1.3.1. Sweden: The International EPD System. <https://api.environdec.com/api/v1/EPDLibrary/Files/e4464fd1-9ce7-41fb-9880-08db7e35bd3c/Data>.

General Programme Instructions (GPI) for the International EPD® System. Version 4.0, 2021.03.29, <https://www.environdec.com/resources/documentation#generalprogrammeinstructions>

Instructions of the Australasian EPD Programme – a Regional Annex to the General Programme Instructions. (2018) Version 3.0 Published 18.09.2018. [Withdrawn]

Instructions of the Australasian EPD Programme – a Regional Annex to the General Programme Instructions. (2023) Version 4.0 Published 10.09.2023. [Withdrawn] and Version 4.1 Published 31.10.2023. . [Withdrawn]

Withdrawn documents are available on request.

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