

Sustainability Standard Setting Bodies

Relevant Green Bond Market Information on Sustainability Standards Form¹

Forms filled in by standard setters should be sent back to greenbonds@icmagroup.org, for publication on the [Green Bond Principles Resource Centre](#).

Section 1. Basic Information

**Organization name: Global Seafood Alliance (Best
Aquaculture Practices)**

Name of sustainability standard:² [specify as appropriate]

Farm Standards:

[BAP Farm Standard 3.0](#)

[BAP Mollusk Farm Standard 1.1](#)

[BAP Salmon Farm Standard 2.3](#)

¹ The Form follows the characterisations of Environmental Labelling and Information Schemes as set out in OECD Environment Working Papers No.62 – A characterisation of Environmental Labelling and Information Schemes

² Use separate forms for each standard if multiple standards are set by the same standard setting body and the criteria of those standards differ significantly from one another

Completion date of this form: 9 April 2021

Publication date of the standard: *[where appropriate, specify if it is an update and add reference to earlier relevant standard]*

BAP Farm Standard 3.0	01 March 2021
BAP Mollusk Standard 1.1	15 March 2021
BAP Salmon Farm Standard 2.3	13 October 2016

Section 2. Detailed review

Standard setters are encouraged to provide the information below to the extent possible and use the comment section to explain the scope of their review.

1. Green Bond Principles (GBP) project categories relevant to the standard

Overall comment on section *(if applicable):* BAP Farm standards address a wide range of environmental, social, food safety and animal welfare issues:

Environmental Responsibility

- Effluent Management
- Habitat Protection and Site Selection
- Water Quality and Sediment Monitoring
- Sediment Monitoring
- Efficient Use of Fishmeal and Fish Oil
- Stocking Sources and GMOs
- Control of Escapes
- Biodiversity and Wildlife Protection
- Storage and Management of Farm Supplies and Solid Wastes

Social Accountability

- Legal Rights and Regulatory Compliance
- Local Community Relations
- Worker Rights and Employee Relations

Food Safety

- Chemical and Drug Management
- Microbial Sanitation, Hygiene, Harvest and Transport

Animal Health and Welfare

- Health and Biosecurity
- Welfare

GBP³ Project categories that the standard applies to (for additional information on the GBP see appendix 1):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewable energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy efficiency |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pollution prevention and control | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Clean transportation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable water and wastewater management | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate change adaptation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eco-efficient and/or circular economy adapted products, production technologies and processes | <input type="checkbox"/> Green buildings |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): |

If applicable please specify the environmental taxonomy or category, if other than GBPs:

2. Alignment with relevant international targets, thresholds and guidelines for sustainability

Please explain how alignment with international targets, thresholds and guidelines for sustainability are built into your governance frameworks and standard setting process. A non-exhaustive list of examples includes: ISEAL code compliant, alignment with EU Taxonomy for sustainable activities, Paris Climate Agreement, UN Global Compact, etc.

Please explain (if applicable): GSA's BAP Standards are the basis for 3rd party, independent certification and operate to ISO 17065 norms. They are compliant with the [FAO Technical Guidelines on Aquaculture Certification](#), as verified by benchmarking to the Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (www.ourgssi.org), the leading global benchmarking organisation for aquaculture and fisheries schemes. GSA standards also encompass benchmarking to GFSI (Global Food Safety Initiative). All standards are developed through a rigorous multi-stakeholder [process](#), and are based on science and transparency. BAP standards are based on/refer to relevant international agreements or treaties including ILO Conventions, Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, and IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

³ <https://www.icmagroup.org/green-social-and-sustainability-bonds/green-bond-principles-gbp/>

3. Main Characteristics (please choose all options that apply to the standard)

Governance

a. Leadership or ownership (What type of institution runs the standard?)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> For-profit | <input type="checkbox"/> Public |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-profit | <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid (please provide more details below) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-governmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership based |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Multistakeholder | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): |

b. Standard scheme management

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The scheme owner has a sustainability-oriented mission or vision | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The scheme owner has defined and makes publicly available its desired long-term sustainability impacts and strategy for achieving those impacts |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stakeholders have an opportunity to provide input on the intended sustainability impacts and possible unintended effects of the standards system | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On a regular basis, the scheme owner monitors and evaluates progress towards its sustainability impacts and accurately and publicly communicates the results |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The scheme owner applies adaptive management by using the learning from monitoring and evaluation to improve its standard and supporting strategies | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The scheme owner carries out internal or external audits of its management system and operations at least annually and incorporates the findings |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The scheme owner makes information on the governance structure and income sources or financing structure of the scheme publicly available | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stakeholders have the possibility to participate in or provide formal input on the governance of the scheme |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The scheme is registered under ISEAL membership | |

c. Standard-setting characteristics

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documented procedures for the process under which each standard is developed or revised form the basis of the standard setting process | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documented procedures for the process under which each standard is developed or revised shall be made available to stakeholders, at a minimum through the organisation's website |
|--|--|

A regular review of the standard setting procedures is conducted (at least every 5 years)

Participation in governance bodies making decisions on the content of the standard are constituted by a balance of key stakeholders

Participation in governance bodies making decisions on the content of the standard are limited to members, but the procedure for becoming a member is transparent and non-discriminatory

A regular review of the standard is conducted (at least every 5 years)

Participation in governance bodies making decisions on the content of the standard are open to all stakeholders

Other (*Please specify*):

Sustainability Claims and Communications

a. Communication Channel (*Who is using the standard to communicate, and who is the target of that communication?*)

Communication from:

Business (excluding financial institutions)

Government

Bank

Insurance Company

Development Bank

Investor

Asset owner (e.g. Building)

NGO

Other (*please specify*):

Communication to:

Business (excluding financial institutions)

Government

Bank

Insurance Company

Development Bank

Investor

Asset manager (e.g. Building)

Consumer

Other (*please specify*):

b. Means of communication (*What is the mode of communication to the target audience?*)

Seal (logo)

Declaration

Certificate

Trademark

Exception

Other (*please specify*):

c. Communication scope (*What activities are covered by the communication?*)

Agriculture and food

Furniture

Timber forest products

Non-timber forest products (rubber, cork, bamboo)

Paper, packaging

Cleaning products

Biofuels

Electronics

Cosmetics

Textile products

Energy

Transportation

Tourism

Transportation

Tourism

Luxury Products

Sustainable Sites & Locations

Water

- Building materials
- Waste
- Ecosystem Services

- Indoor Air Quality/Health
- Other (*please specify*):

Standard Characteristics

a. Monitoring and auditing⁴ (*Who has the ability to determine whether the standard is met and what degree of independence exists?*)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Standard setter | <input type="checkbox"/> External certifier |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self-assessment | <input type="checkbox"/> Second party verifier |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accredited third party certifier/verifier | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please specify</i>): |

b. Adoption of the standard (*To what extent are relevant organizations required to apply the standard?*)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voluntary | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory (<i>please explain</i>): |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please specify</i>): |

c. Sustainability characteristics

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental outcomes are clearly and explicitly defined in the standards | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The standard exceeds regulatory requirements |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The standard references relevant, existing national and/or international laws and regulations | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please specify</i>): |

d. Transparency (*To what extent is relevant information publicly available?*)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Final versions of the standard available to the public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Draft version of the standard available to the public |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public disclosure on standard setting process | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public disclosure on assessments of compliance with the standard |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public disclosure of compliance by standard user | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public disclosure on those complying with the standard (organizations and the level/type of compliance achieved) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Final versions of the standard in additional languages are available to the public | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please specify</i>): |

⁴ Whom has the ability to determine whether the standard is applied?

e. Methods of environmental assessment (*How comprehensive is the standard in accounting for environmental impact?*)

Life cycle approach (please specify which environmental goals)

Operating/process/practice approach (please specify which environmental goals):

Performance based or impact approach (please specify which environmental goals)

Other (please specify method and which environmental goals it applies to):

Please explain any requirements to embed mechanisms/tools for future reporting, requirements to report on selected criteria and reporting scope, as well as the environmental goals being assessed:

f. Resolving complaints

The standard-setting organization shall make impartial and documented efforts to resolve procedural complaints related to standard-setting, based on a publicly document complaints resolution mechanism

The standard-setting organization shall disclose, at least to interested parties, decisions taken on procedural complaints

Other (*please specify*):

g. Standard focus (*To what type of processes do the standards apply?*)

Product related process and production methods (please specify): The BAP Farm Standards include detiled requirements to ensure traceability and, combined with other standards for hatcheries, feed mills and processing plants, provide full, supply chain assurances.

Non product related processes and production methods (please specify): BAP Standards are based on best practices and sound science. They are designed to cover all scales of production and to be globally applicable

Services (please specify):

Other (*please specify*):

h. Standard scope:

International

Regional

National

Jurisdictional

Other (*Please specify*):

i. Activities beyond certification:

Platform for discussion and collaboration amongst members and certified entities

Platform for discussion and collaboration amongst other standards addressing the same sector/activity/topic

4. Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (please choose all options that apply to the standard)

Overall comment on section (please rank the SDGs by level of contribution of the standard and specify the scale of contribution to each of the relevant SDGs):

SDG 2 to end hunger and ensure food security – Aquaculture has been growing steadily for decades, while total seafood supplies from wild fisheries have plateaued. Ensuring that aquaculture is conducted responsibly and sustainably will mean that it can continue to contribute massively to global food needs. Moreover, aquatic foods deliver high quality nutrition, delivering health benefits as well as meeting food needs. Aquaculture standards, such as BAP, make a major contribution to sustainable food production by codifying requirements for responsible practices.

SDG 12: Responsible consumption and production – The BAP program is built around the principles of responsible consumption and production. Responsibility towards the environment is combined with responsibility towards communities and workforces, and towards animal welfare.

SDG 14: Life below water – Sustainable aquaculture reduces pressure on wild fishery resources and helps to preserve marine and freshwater habitats. The environmental provisions in BAP standards ensure that externalities (such as pollution) from farming activities are carefully controlled.

SDG 15: Life on land – Global biodiversity benefits greatly from seafood production because it reduces pressure for protein production on land. Responsible aquaculture, as addressed through BAP standards covers responsible sourcing of terrestrial plant ingredients as well as marine ingredients. Aquafeed producers, partly thanks to pressure from programs such as BAP, are adopting sustainable and certified sourcing policies and are now moving towards DCF (deforestation and conversion free) plant ingredients. This protects natural habitats and biodiversity.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 1 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SDG 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 6 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 11 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SDG 12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 13 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SDG 14 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SDG 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 16 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 17 | |

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