



Ecolabelling Certification Criteria for Tea Products CC-EL-02



National Cleaner Production Centre, Sri Lanka



1. Introduction

- 1.1** The Certification Scheme for Eco Labelling of Products/Services of the National Cleaner Production Centre, Sri Lanka (NCPC-SL) is based on the requirements laid down in the **ISO 14024:2018 Environmental Labels and Declarations - Type 1 environmental labelling – Principles and Procedures**.

ISO 14024 specifies the requirements for eco-labeling certification. The Eco Labelling criteria /s of NCPC SL satisfy the ISO 14024 requirements as required by the eco-labeling certification schemes. Here are the key requirements fulfilled accordingly;

- Scope: The eco-labeling certification scheme covers specific product categories/services with a significant impact on the environment.
- Product Criteria: Clear and transparent environmental criteria has been established for products/ services to be eligible for the eco-label. These criteria has been based on scientific evidence and consider the entire product life cycle.
- Independent Third-Party Verification: NCPC SL conduct independent third-party verification of compliance with the eco-labeling criteria.
- Impartiality: The certification process is impartial and free from any conflicts of interest that could undermine its credibility.
- Transparency: The eco-labeling scheme has provided transparent information about the certification process, criteria, and verification procedures.
- Continuous Improvement: The scheme encourages continuous improvement in the environmental performance of certified products /services.
- Stakeholder Involvement: Stakeholders, including businesses, NGOs, consumers, and government representatives, has been involved in the development and revision of the eco-labeling criteria.
- Non-Discrimination: The certification scheme has not discriminated against products or services from different sources based on factors unrelated to environmental performance.
- Compliance Monitoring: Regular monitoring and surveillance of certified products or services has been conducted to ensure ongoing compliance with eco-labeling criteria.
- Public Access to Information: Information about the eco-labeling scheme, certified products, and their environmental criteria shall be accessible to the public.
- Environmental Labeling and Advertising: The use of the eco-label in advertising or labeling has been controlled and subject to the certification scheme's rules.
- Review and Revision: The certification scheme should undergo periodic review and revision to ensure its relevance and effectiveness.



- 1.2** This document sets out specific managerial and technical criteria for tea growing, harvesting, transporting, tea production, and dispatching tea products for sale or the production of tea products. Terminologies and aspects related to the concepts of sustainability management are covered during the involved processes. The aspects related to sustainability management described in this document can include environmental impacts, energy, and water security, socio-economic development, or any combination thereof.
- 1.3** The certification of Eco Labelling of Tea Products is implemented through a set programme operated over a specified period as agreed upon with relevant parties. The NCPC-SL functions as the scheme owner of this certification scheme. This document includes environmental criteria, functional characteristics, and legal requirements related to tea products.
- 1.4** This specific product environmental criteria document has been prepared by the Expert Committee on Eco Labelling appointed by the NCPC-SL and authorized for adoption by the Board of Directors of NCPC-SL. The Tea products manufacturers who are seeking eco-labeling certification are required to meet the following requirements.
- I. The product and processing conditions shall comply with the requirements given in the below NCPC-SL guidelines;

and
 - II. The product and processing shall comply with relevant regulations mentioned in this document and enforced in the country, as applicable;

and
 - III. The product should conform to the relevant national, regional, and internationally recognized standards
- 1.5** This document supplements the below guidelines and provides guidance for the certification of tea products for both Assessors and Producers who are preparing for certification. Each criterion mentioned herein is categorized depending on the significance of its impact on the product environmental criterion or product function characteristic being discussed, e.g. energy, water, environment, or socio-development, as follows.
- I. Mandatory requirements (M) – Related to the legal requirements and product functional characteristics
 - II. Critical requirements (C) – Significant to product environmental criteria
 - III. Non-critical requirements (NC) – Not so significant to product environmental criteria when compared to critical requirements



- 1.6 This document should also be read in conjunction with the Rules and Procedures of NCPC-SL as applicable to the Eco Labelling Certification scheme.
- 1.7 This document will be periodically reviewed and updated based on the experience gained and the developments that have taken place in technology and the use of energy, water, material, and the environment. The term 'shall' is used in this document to indicate those provisions which are mandatory. The term 'must' is used to indicate the guidance which, although not mandatory, is provided by NCPC-SL as a recognized means of meeting the requirements of the standard. The term 'should' is used to indicate recommendations for implementation.
- 1.8 The client should submit the relevant pieces of evidence for conformity verification for the last calendar year.

2. References

In the preparation of this criteria document, the following documents were referred;

- 2.1 ISO 14020 – Environmental labels and declarations - General principles
- 2.2 ISO 14024 – Environmental labels and declarations- Type 1 environmental labeling– Principles and procedures
- 2.3 Guidelines for Providing Product Sustainability Information, UN Environment Programme, 2017
- 2.4 Reference: Sri Lanka Standard 1551: 2016, Principal Criteria And Indicator For Sustainably Produced Fuelwood

3. Terms and Definitions

For the purpose of this document, the terms and definitions given in the referred standards and the following shall apply.

3.1 **Conformity:** Fulfillment of a requirement

Note: Conformance and compliance are synonymously used for conformity but deprecated.

3.2 **Verification:** Confirmation through the provision of objective evidence that specified requirements have been fulfilled.

3.3 **Organization:** The Applicant organization is hereinafter referred to as an organization.



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Certification Criteria Requirements	Weighting Factor
4. Phase: Raw Material Extraction	
4.1 Soil Conservation and Management	
a) Appropriate practices (such as ground covers, mulches, re-vegetation of steep areas, terracing, filter strips) must be implemented to reduce water and wind erosion in the plantation <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Site inspection for best practices implemented to reduce water and wind erosion</i>	C
b) Appropriate practices (such as planting of nitrogen-fixing crops- Gliricidia, or application of compost fertilizer or mulch) must be implemented to enrich and maintain soil health and nutrition <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Site inspection for best practices implemented to maintain/enrich soil health and nutrition</i>	C
c) Organic fertilizers must be used as per the national guidelines and nutrient (Nitrogen, Potassium, Phosphorus) management practices should be implemented based on the assessment of crop needs, regular monitoring of soil fertility and crop nutrient status based on the recommendations from local agronomic experts, as per the national guidelines. <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Records on Fertilizer application based on crop need assessment reports and reports on testing soil fertility and crop nutrient, Agronomic experts advisory reports</i>	C
d) Good agricultural practices (such as the timely establishment of ground covers, high/low shades, forking, and draining) must be implemented in tea cultivation areas. <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Site inspection for best practices implemented, account records, budget monthly work programme, monthly progress report</i>	C
4.2 Water Conservation and Water Quality	
a) Plantation shall comply with the applicable law of withdrawal of surface or groundwater for agricultural, domestic, or processing purposes. <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Compilation of the legal requirements</i>	M
b) Natural water sources must be protected and maintained with adequate reservation <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Site Inspections</i>	M



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<p>c) Existing/New irrigation and water distribution systems should be managed and maintained to optimize crop productivity and minimize water waste and erosion.</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Site inspection for implementation of Water conservation practices</i></p>	NC
<p>d) Appropriate measures must be taken to avoid contamination of water resources from chemical applications and other farming activities</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Water quality test report of existing water sources of the tea plantation (Groundwater and surface water resources)</i></p>	C
4.3 Pest Management	
<p>a) Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan must be prepared and implemented covering the tea plantation/ estates.</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan, records on pest management, pesticide, biological and physical application and pest monitoring records, site visits</i></p>	C
<p>b) Pesticide consumption (Herbicide, Fungicide, weedicide) per unit of cultivation area must be maintained as per the national guidelines</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Pesticide consumption records are maintained</i></p>	C
<p>c) The results achieved from the IPM programmes (Eg:chemical consumption reduction, product quality improvement, enhance biodiversity in the ecosystem, etc) must be documented and communicated to the top management</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Records on results achieved from the IPM programmes are maintained</i></p>	C
<p>d) A list of allowable pesticides under applicable laws and regulations must be maintained</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Records on types and consumption of Pesticide</i></p>	C
<p>e) All pesticides must be stored in a safely locked storage under sound chemicals management practices</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Site Inspection for chemical storage</i></p>	C



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f) Appropriate measures (such as Plastic containers must be triple-rinsed with water and followed by punching to avoid such containers in any other uses, Never pour leftover pesticides/chemicals down the drain. Never pour pesticides into storm drains, make agreements with suppliers to collect the empty containers) must be taken to dispose of empty chemical containers in an environmentally friendly manner <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Site verification, agreement with suppliers, records on chemical disposal</i>	C
g) The plantation must select the optimum pesticide application equipment and techniques for the crop and pesticide type to reduce spray drift. <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Site verification</i>	C
4.4 Waste Management	
a) The plantation must develop and implement a waste management plan including: I. Documentation of the origin, approximate volume, and current means of disposal for all waste streams; and II. Source segregation of different waste types and directing to facilitate reuse, recycling, or composting <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Records relevant to the waste management practices, Site inspection on the implementation of the waste management plan</i>	C
4.5 Energy Management	
a) Appropriate measures should be taken to minimize oil/fuel consumption and air emissions during plantation management activities <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Oil/Fuel consumption records are maintained</i>	NC
4.6 Tea leaves Transport to the factory	
a) Appropriate measures should be taken to minimize oil/fuel consumption and air emissions during tea leaves transportation. <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>The records on oil/fuel consumption for transportation are maintained (based on indicator -fuel consumption for transportation of 100kg of tea leaves)</i> <i>Emission test reports of the vehicles</i>	NC
The industry must use reusable/recyclable tea leaves carrying packs/sacks <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Records on tea carrying packages/sacks are maintained and onsite inspection</i>	C



5. Phase: Processing/ Manufacturing	
5.1 General Requirement	
a) Environmental Management System/s should be implemented in the organization <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Valid ISO 14001 EMS certificate</i> <i>Valid RA Certificate, etc</i>	NC
b) Documented Environmental Management Roadmap must be developed to address the potential environmental problems of the organization <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Environment management roadmap of the organization</i>	C
5.2 Water Resource Consumption and Conservation	
a) Infrastructure must be maintained to quantify the water usage for cleaning and other domestic purposes in the factory. <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Water supply metering and/or submetering facilities established in the organization</i> <i>Water consumption records are maintained on a daily/monthly basis</i>	C
b) Water conservation techniques and technologies must be implemented, so that water efficiency is maintained <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Site inspection regarding the implementation of Water conservation techniques and technologies, records on water consumption</i>	C
c) The best practices (such as Seepage/soil soak pit system) for used water discharge should be implemented. <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Site inspection</i>	C
d) Organizational/product water footprint should be calculated, recorded, and maintained. <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>The transparent and verifiable calculation method is available</i>	NC
5.3 Energy Resource Consumption and Conservation	
a) Infrastructure must be maintained to quantify the energy usage for industrial processes and other purposes in the organization <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Electricity sub-metering facilities established in the organization</i> <i>Electricity/Fuel consumption records are maintained on a daily/monthly basis</i>	C
b) Electricity consumption per unit of production output should be below 0.78 kWh/Kg of made tea (if the electricity consumption is higher than the benchmark. The electricity consumption per unit of production output must be reduced by a minimum of 1% from last year, and this	NC



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<p>reduction must be reported)</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Electricity consumption records and production records are maintained</i></p>	
<p>c) Firewood consumption per unit of production output should be maintained below the benchmark value of 1.9 Kg of firewood/Kg of made tea (If the firewood consumption exceeds the benchmark, the firewood consumption per unit of production output must be reduced by at least 1% compared to last year, and this reduction must be reported)</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Fuel/Firewood consumption records and production records are maintained</i></p>	NC
<p>d) Sustainable firewood sources Such as;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Trees used in agriculture systems such as intercropping, alley cropping, and support trees○ Rubber plantations (includes intercropping systems)○ Timber plantations○ Agro energy plantations like Gliricidia○ Dedicated fuelwood plantations○ Uprooted tea and shade trees or their branches○ Invasive species removed through sanitation programs○ Woody agricultural by-products such as cinnamon sticks○ Coconut plantations with fuelwood intercrops. Includes husks and other coconut by-products that can be used as fuel.○ Home gardens <p>must be used to fulfill the firewood requirement of the factory</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> Valid certificate <i>If the certificate/certification process is not available, through the observation during the site visit in the firewood storages. (Reference: Sri Lanka Standard 1551: 2016, Principal Criteria And Indicator For Sustainably Produced Fuelwood)</i></p>	C
<p>e) A documented roadmap/plan should be developed to address the organization's firewood requirement by sourcing it from sustainable firewood sources</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Documented roadmap/plan for sustainable firewood sourcing in the organization</i></p>	C
<p>f) Effective Energy Management System (EnMS) or policies, procedures, and energy management programmes must be implemented by the organization</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Valid EnMS Certificate</i> <i>Records on Energy management Policy, procedures, and energy management programmes are maintained</i></p>	C



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<p>g) Appropriate measures (Eg: Variable Frequency Drives(VFDs), Fuel switching, waste heat recovery applications, etc) must be implemented to improve energy efficiency in the organization</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Site inspection relevant to the energy efficiency measures implemented</i> <i>Records on energy savings done through such implementation (refer to Annex 1 for energy efficiency measures)</i></p>	C
<p>h) The organization should substitute nonrenewable energy sources with renewable energy (Eg: biomass , solar power, hydro power, waste to energy)</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>The energy requirement is supplied by the Biomass boiler</i> <i>Electricity Generation from Solar power systems, Hydro Power, etc</i></p>	NC
<p>i) Organizational/product carbon footprint (assertion of GHG emissions and removals) should be calculated, recorded, and maintained.</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>A transparent and verifiable calculation method is available.</i></p>	NC
5.4 Raw material consumption	
<p>a) Tea leaves and other Input material usage must be quantified</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Material consumption records are maintained on a daily/monthly basis</i></p>	C
<p>b) The best available techniques (such as containers for tea leaves transportation) should be implemented to maintain the material efficiency in the tea production</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Site inspection in the tea processing plant/Factory and records maintained</i></p>	NC
<p>c) Refused tea percentage must be below 12% of the total quantity of the input tea leaves</p> <p><i>Conformity Verification</i> <i>Records on input tea leaves quantities, production output and refused tea quantities are maintained</i></p>	C
5.5 Solid Waste Management	
<p>a) Effective waste management policies and programmes must be implemented.</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>The records on waste management are maintained, Site inspection on the implementation of the waste management programmes/plan</i></p>	C



6. Phase: Product Quality, Packing and Labelling Requirements	
a) A traceability system must be maintained to trace the finished product back to the invoice <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>maintain traceability records indicating products back to the invoice</i>	C
b) The organization must maintain the Maximum Residue Levels (MRL) allowed as per the national standards/guidelines <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Sample test reports</i>	C
7. Phase: Distribution	
a) Efficient transport modes/plans should be used for finished product distribution <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>The transport management plan/Product distribution plan is maintained</i>	NC
8. Phase: Occupational Health and Safety	
a) A fire safety management plan must be implemented. <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>An evacuation plan is available and the fire extinguishers, fire alarm, fire hydrant, etc have been established</i>	C
b) Occupational Health and Safety practice guidelines must be developed and communicated to the relevant workers <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Occupational Health and Safety practice guidelines are available</i> <i>Interview relevant workers during the site inspection</i>	C
9. Phase: Legal Requirements	
a) The Environmental Protection License (EPL) shall be obtained and implemented all its requirements <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Valid Environmental Protection License is available</i>	M
b) All production activities and products shall comply with the requirements of the relevant national legislation in Sri Lanka <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Compilation of all the applicable Environmental and other Regulations are maintained</i>	M



10. Phase: Specific Requirements	
a) The applicant should implement a HACCP or ISO 22000 Food Safety Management System (FSMS) programme. <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>A valid certificate is available</i>	NC
b) The monetary values gained through the resource efficiency improvements (water, energy, material) and waste management must be calculated, reported and communicated to the top management <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>records are maintained</i>	C

11. Phase: Tea Blending/ Value Addition Centers	
11.1 General Requirements	
a) Environmental Management System/s should be implemented in the organization <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Valid ISO 14001 EMS certificate</i> <i>Valid RA Certificate</i>	NC
b) Documented Environmental Management Roadmap should be developed to address the potential environmental problems of the organization <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Environment management roadmap of the organization</i>	C
11.2 Water Resource Consumption and Conservation	
a) Infrastructure must be maintained to quantify the water usage for cleaning and other domestic purposes in the factory. <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Water supply metering and/or submetering facilities established in the organization</i> <i>Water consumption records are maintained on a daily/monthly basis</i>	C
b) Water conservation techniques and technologies must be implemented so that water efficiency is maintained <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Site inspection regarding the implementation of Water conservation techniques and technologies</i>	C
c) Organizational/product water footprint should be calculated, recorded, and maintained. <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>The transparent and verifiable calculation method is available</i>	NC



11.3 Energy Resource Consumption and Conservation	
<p>a) Infrastructure must be maintained to quantify the energy usage for industrial processes and other purposes in the organization</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Electricity sub-metering facilities established in the organization</i> <i>Electricity/Fuel consumption records are maintained on a daily/monthly basis</i></p>	C
<p>b) Electricity consumption per unit of production output should below 0.65 kWh/kg of made tea (If the electricity consumption exceeds the benchmark, it is required to reduce the electricity consumption per unit of production output by at least 1% compared to last year. This reduction must be reported.)</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Electricity consumption records and production records are maintained</i></p>	NC
<p>c) Effective Energy Management System (EnMS) or Energy Management policies, procedures, and energy management programmes must be implemented by the organization</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Valid EnMS Certificate</i> <i>Records on Energy management Policy, procedures, and energy management programmes are maintained</i></p>	C
<p>d) Appropriate measures (Annex 1) must be implemented to improve energy efficiency in the organization</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Site inspection relevant to the energy efficiency measures implemented</i> <i>Records on energy savings done through the such implementation</i></p>	C
<p>e) The organization should substitute non-renewable energy sources with renewable energy (Example: biomass, solar power, hydropower) to substitute nonrenewable energy sources with renewable energy</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>The energy requirement is supplied by the Biomass</i> <i>Electricity Generation from Solar power systems, Hydro Power, etc</i></p>	NC
<p>f) Organizational/product carbon footprint (assertion of GHG emissions and removals) should be calculated, recorded, and maintained.</p> <p><i>Conformity verification</i> <i>A transparent and verifiable calculation method is available.</i></p>	NC



11.4 Tea and other Material Consumption	
a) Purchased tea from the auction shall be stored in a covered, clean, and dry location to reduce the risk of contamination of the environment <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Site Inspection</i>	C
b) Tea moisture content shall be controlled under the national guidelines on tea quality control <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Tea moisture content test reports</i>	C
c) Purchased tea from auctions and other Input materials must be quantified <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Material consumption records are maintained on a daily/monthly basis</i>	C
d) The best available technologies and techniques must be implemented in the organization to maintain the material efficiency in tea blending process <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Site inspection in the tea processing plant/Factory and records maintained</i>	C
11.5 Chemicals Consumption	
a) Sound chemical management practices including storage, use, and disposal must be implemented and maintained <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Site inspection regarding the implementation of chemicals safety best practices</i>	C
b) Chemicals safety best practice guidelines must be communicated to the relevant workers <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Chemicals safety best practice guidelines are available</i> <i>Interview relevant workers during the site inspection</i>	C
c) Chemical accidents preparedness plan and fire safety management plan must be implemented. <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Chemical accidents preparedness plan is available.</i> <i>An evacuation plan is available and the fire extinguishers, fire alarm, fire hydrant, etc have been established</i>	C



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d) Natural additives/flavoured shall be used and the proper controlling additive procedures shall be implemented <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Tea testing reports</i>	C
11.6 Solid Waste Management	
a) Effective waste management policies and programmes must be implemented. <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>The records on waste management are maintained</i>	C
12. Phase: Product Quality Control	
a) Quality control procedures (such as moisture control, and sterilization) must be maintained throughout the blending and value addition process <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>The records on laboratory test reports</i> <i>Valid QMS certificate or Specific Product quality control procedures</i>	C
13. Phase: Packing and Labelling Requirements	
a) Quality of the packaging shall be maintained (Such as usage of food grade quality material, Controlling methods adopted for reducing wastage of tea when packaging) <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Onsite verification and records on types of packaging materials used are maintained</i>	C
b) Recyclable Packaging materials should be used for packaging purposes <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Records on types and quantities of packaging materials used are maintained</i>	NC
c) Food grade packaging materials must be used for packaging purposes <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Records on types and quantities of packaging materials used are maintained</i>	C
d) A traceability system must be maintained to trace the finished product back to the production batch <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Traceability records indicating products back to the production batch are maintained</i>	C
14. Phase: Distribution	
a) Efficient transport modes/plans should be used for finished product distribution <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>The transport management plan/Product distribution plan is maintained</i>	C



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15. Phase: Health and Safety	
a) Occupational Health and Safety practice guidelines must be developed and communicated to the workers <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Occupational Health and Safety practice guidelines are available</i> <i>Interview relevant workers during the site inspection</i>	C
b) A fire safety management plan must be implemented. <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>An evacuation plan is available and the fire extinguishers, fire alarm, fire hydrant, etc have been established</i>	C
16. Phase: Legal Requirements	
a) The Environmental Protection License (EPL) shall be obtained and all its requirements should be implemented <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Valid Environmental Protection License is available</i>	M
b) All production activities and products shall comply with the requirements of the relevant national legislation in Sri Lanka <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>Compilation of all the applicable Environmental and other Regulations is maintained</i>	M
Specific Requirements	
c) The applicant should implement a HACCP or ISO 22000 Food Safety Management System (FSMS) programme. <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>A valid certificate is available</i>	C
d) The monetary values gained through the resource efficiency improvements (water, energy, material) and waste management must be calculated, reported, and communicated to the top management <i>Conformity verification</i> <i>A valid certificate is available</i>	C



INSTRUCTIONS FOR USERS

Note 1:

If the applicant organization is sourcing tea leaves from external plantations/ smallholders/ etc other than their plantations and seeking the Eco Labelling for covering those products in the certification scope, the applicant should provide adequate information (i.e the supplier should comply with the given eco labelling criteria) for conformity verification of the supply chain/the raw material extraction phase as necessary.

Accordingly, the applicant should prepare and communicate the best practice guidelines relevant to the eco labelling criteria for the external plantations/smallholders/etc to comply.

Note 2:

If the Applicant organization (Private tea factories,) does not maintain their tea plantations, but sourcing tea leaves from external plantations/smallholders/etc and seeking the Eco labelling certification for their tea products, the company should provide adequate information (i.e the supplier should comply with the given eco labelling criteria) for conformity verification of the supply chain/Raw Material extraction as necessary.

Accordingly the applicant should prepare and communicate the best practice guidelines relevant to the eco labelling criteria for the external plantations/smallholders/etc to comply.

Note 3:

Applicant organizations (Such as Tea Exporters, Tea Brokers, Tea Importers, Tea Warehouses, and Tea Packers) who are seeking Eco labelling for their tea products, the applicant should provide adequate information (i.e the supply chain should comply with the given eco labelling criteria) for conformity verification of the supply chain as necessary.

This criteria document contains 79 requirements; 06 Mandatory requirements, 55 critical requirements, and 18 non-critical requirements. marks are allocated for each criterion except Mandatory criteria. At least 70% of the total marks allocation for the criteria shall be scored by the applicant for being successful in the Eco Labelling certification process.

Requirements	Total Marks
Critical (C)	230
Non-Critical (NC)	70

Mandatory Requirements

When the adequacy audit of the organization's application is conducted, there shall be no non-compliance related to the mandatory requirements, and if any nonconformity is reported during the adequacy audit stage or the certificate audit, a major nonconformity will be raised, and that shall be corrected within two months of the certification Audit.

Critical Requirements

If any violation of critical requirements is found during the verification visit, a minor nonconformity will be raised, and suitable corrective action shall be taken within two months.

Non-critical Requirements

If any non-compliance of non-critical requirements is found during the certification Audit, it will be considered as an observation for the improvement. The effectiveness of the corrective actions taken for the observations raised will be audited in the next surveillance audit.



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Note: Until the non-conformities are addressed, the marks should not be released to the governing council, and the certificate should not be granted

If organization practice tea growing and manufacturing and also Tea Blending/Value addition

This criteria document contains 79 requirements; 06 Mandatory requirements, 55 critical requirements, and 18 non-critical requirements. Marks are allocated for each criterion except Mandatory criteria. At least 70% of the total marks allocation for the criteria shall be scored by the applicant for being successful in the Eco Labelling certification process.

Requirements	Total Marks
Critical (C)	230
Non-Critical (NC)	70

If organization practice only tea growing and Manufacturing (Phase 04 to Phase 10)

This criteria document contains 47 requirements; 04 Mandatory requirements, 31 critical requirements, and 12 non-critical requirements. Marks are allocated for each criterion except Mandatory criteria. At least 70% of the total marks allocation for the criteria shall be scored by the applicant for being successful in the Eco Labelling certification process.

Requirements	Total Marks
Critical (C)	151
Non-Critical (NC)	46

If organization practice only Tea Blending/Value addition (From Phase 11 to Phase 16)

This criteria document contains 32 requirements; 02 Mandatory requirements, 24 critical requirements, and 6 non-critical requirements. Marks are allocated for each criterion except Mandatory criteria. At least 70% of the total marks allocation for the criteria shall be scored by the applicant for being successful in the Eco Labelling certification process.

Requirements	Total Marks
Critical (C)	79
Non-Critical (NC)	24



Annex 1

Energy Efficiency Technologies for Tea Sector

Mitigation Option (MO)	Abatement cost in USD/tonne CO ₂ e	Abatement potential, in '000 tonnes CO ₂ e
VFDs for tea factories - 5-8 kW	-222.0	9.6
LED replacing CFL	-218.8	45.0
LED replacing incandescent lights	-171.4	10.7
Biomass replacing diesel/oil - industry	-108.3	550.5
Efficient air conditioning - domestic	-78.5	100.9
Efficient ballasts (T8 to T5)	-28.0	353.9
Efficient air compressors - New	-6.4	12.9
Roof solar PV – 5-10 kW	76.5	116.2
Biodigester - 8 -20 cubic meters	131.3	311.5
Efficient air compressors - Retrofit	201.6	12.2
HEM in tea factories - 5-8 kW	458.1	0.5
HEM in tea factories - 8-20 kW	462.6	0.9