



# Green Bond Certification Standards

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# Green Bond Certification Projects

## -General Caveats-

(a) Green Tick Certification Limited (GTC) will consider applications for certification of Green Bonds, Blue Bonds, Climate Bonds, other Financial Services Instruments (FSI) and Green Projects from financial services organisations or other reputable government registered organisations in accordance with the financial services guidelines and regulations prescribed in the law of the relevant jurisdictions in the country of origin of the applicant, and in the country of the location of the use of the Green Bond, Climate Bond, Blue Bond, FSI, or Green Project.

(b) In particular, GTC will follow the legal and practice requirements of the New Zealand Financial Services Authority and New Zealand Commerce Commission as a minimum service standard.





# Definition of Sustainability

- (1) A **Green Tick<sup>®</sup>-certified SUSTAINABLE Green Bond** finances projects that do not cause permanent harm to people or the environment. Preferably a measurable improvement in Environmental, Social or Governance (ESG) outcomes will occur as a result of the project. The Green Bond's performance and effectiveness as a 'green' financial instrument is audited independently with respect to the outcomes of the financed project/s, in accordance with the Green Tick<sup>®</sup> standards for sustainability assessment.
- (2) A **Green Tick<sup>®</sup>-certified SUSTAINABLE Green Bond Project** is a project that provides products and/or services to human society without causing permanent harm to people or the environment. Preferably a measurable improvement in ESG outcomes will occur as a result of the project. Its sustainability performance is audited independently in its planning stage and during operation of the project, in accordance with the Green Tick<sup>®</sup> standards for sustainability assessment.





## **1. SAFETY**

### **1.1 Accident Record**

- No major harm (2 days or more in hospital) accidents, incidents, injuries recorded in past 12 months.

### **1.2 Staff Health and Safety**

- No continuing or unsatisfactorily addressed staff complaints about working conditions in past 12 months.

### **1.3 Supplier Health and Safety**

- No continuing or unsatisfactorily addressed supplier issues with on-site working conditions in past 12 months.

### **1.4 Customer Health and Safety**

- No continuing or unsatisfactorily addressed customer complaints about health or safety issues (including product quality) in past 12 months.

### **1.5 Safety Management System**

- Occupational Safety and Health regulation-compliant health and safety management system in place.





## **1. SAFETY continued...**

### **1.6 Minimising Risk**

- Annual reviews of potential risk areas and mitigation taken.

### **1.7 Safety Performance Record**

- Less than five minor non-conformances per 100 workers to H&S management system reported in past 12 months.

### **1.8 Safety Legal Compliance**

- 100% compliance with all legal requirements;
- No successful enforcement actions by government health and safety agencies in past 12 months.

### **1.9 Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Standards**

- 100% compliance with ESG standards for safety as apply by law or best practice in the relevant industry sector and jurisdiction.
- Monitoring programme in place to confirm post-issuance compliance.





## **2. SUSTAINABILITY**

### **2.1 Product Origin**

- All product content identified by country of origin.

### **2.2 Product Quality**

- Product meets all quality standards of industry or government authority.

### **2.3 Product Labeling**

- Labelling meets required legal standards.

### **2.4 Resource Use**

- i) Programme in place to maximise resource use efficiency with defined performance targets;
- ii) Resources used at lowest practical for site/s with current technology per sales unit;
- iii) Programme in place to identify and use recycled materials where appropriate;
- iv) Where resource use is extractive, relevant industry or government sustainability standards met.





## **2. SUSTAINABILITY continued...**

### **2.5 Chemical Use**

- Chemical residues comply with industry or government standard.

### **2.6 Energy Use**

- Programme in place to minimise energy use with defined performance targets;
- Energy resources used at lowest practical for site/s with current technology per sales unit.

### **2.7 Nuisance Effects**

- No continuing or unsatisfactorily addressed complaints from neighbours about nuisances in past 12 months.

### **2.8 Contaminant Discharges**

- Programme in place to minimise contaminant discharges with defined performance targets;
- Contaminant discharges at lowest practical for site/s with current technology per sales unit.

### **2.9 Waste Management**

- Waste minimization and recycling programme in place with defined performance targets;
- Wastes reduced, re-used, recycled, or properly disposed to authorised facilities.





## **2. SUSTAINABILITY continued...**

### **2.10 Environmental Management System**

▪ Environmental management programme in place with defined performance targets consistent with industry or government standards.

### **2.11 Environmental Management Performance**

▪ Less than five minor non-conformances per 100 workers with Environmental Management System reported in past 12 months.

### **2.12 Legal Compliance**

- i) 100% legal compliance with any environmental consents and applicable plan rules;
- ii) No successful enforcement actions by government environmental agencies in past 12 months.

### **2.13 Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Standards**

- i) 100% compliance with ESG standards for sustainability as apply by law or best practice in the relevant industry sector and jurisdiction.
- ii) Monitoring programme in place to confirm post-issuance compliance.





**Notes:**

1. Minimum 12 months' evidence of compliance required, special process for new projects (start-ups) less than a year old.
2. Certification standards are generic (not prescriptive, but outcome based), supported by specific ESG relevant to the industrial sector. ESG may include appropriate ISO standards.
3. Standards that are not relevant are excluded or adapted in accordance with applicable ISO, ESG and other international standards and law.
4. Applications for certification should include as a minimum:
  1. Part I: Project Proposal, including full project description, life cycle analysis (LCA) scope and results, related set of proposed ESG to be measured and complied with, evidence to prove how the Green Tick® Standards and ESG will be met (eg. proposed technology type, performance standards achieved, annual performance targets), proposed funding and monitoring programme; and,
  2. Part II: Independent sustainability assurance system (SAS) report, being an independent (third party) certification report on Part I by suitably qualified and experienced persons (eg. scientists, engineers or other professionals in the appropriate fields of expertise registered with GTC), including as a minimum a document audit, Green Tick® Standards audit, ESG audit, site visit, and reputational audit of the project constructor and operator.
5. Desk-top reviews of theoretical data provided solely by the applicant to a reviewer (second party verification) will not be acceptable.
6. Publicly available Pre-Issuance (certification report) and Post-Issuance reports (monitoring report) in English are a standard requirement, and will be made freely available on the Green Tick® website.
7. General terms and conditions on our website [here](#).
8. [Contact us](#) for more information.



# Green Bond Certification Costs

Costs fall into three categories:

- (a) Scoping costs – costs of scoping the extent, nature, and certification requirements of the Green Bond offering or project (where GTC input is requested).
- (b) Certification costs (set by individual application):
  - (a) Application fee (payable to GTC on application);
  - (b) Audit fee - costs of auditing the bond project in its planning stage; and,
  - (c) Monitoring fee – annual costs of monitoring performance on-site in the “as-built”, operational stage.
- (c) Royalty fees for use of the Green Tick<sup>®</sup> certification brand.





## More Information

- Inquiries to us direct at [info@greentick.com](mailto:info@greentick.com)
- Phone inquiries to Keith Wood Tel: +64 27 663 0100 or Susan Harris Tel: +64 22 1544 958 (business hours NZ time)
- More information on our website [www.greentick.com](http://www.greentick.com)
- Downloads of application forms, brochures, documents, papers, audit reports and presentations on our website.

**Green Tick<sup>®</sup> – powerful, obvious, reliable green certification**





## The Ultimate Ecolabel

[www.greentick.com](http://www.greentick.com)

