








# Certifications and Labels for meeting Sustainable Procurement Objectives




This following table includes a list of useful labels and certifications that can be considered when specifying sustainability objectives during procurement and to help guide the evaluation of sustainability credentials or claims. For more guidance on understanding eco-labels and avoiding Greenwash, see page 22 of the [Local Government NSW Sustainable Procurement Guide](#).

Name	Purpose	Scope	Logo	International Alignment	Webpage
<b>The Australasian Recycling Label (ARL)</b>	To provide a nationally consistent approach to packaging transparency with instruction on how to correctly dispose of each part of the product's packaging.	Packaging	<p><b>PACKAGE COMPONENT</b> Identifies the specific packaging component the label is referring to.</p> <p><b>INSTRUCTIONS</b> This tells you if any additional steps are required before you recycle the item, through either an action or alternative destination (e.g. soft plastics bins at Coles or Woolworths in Australia)</p> <p><b>RECYCLABLE</b> This can be placed in your kerbside recycling.</p> <p><b>CONDITIONALLY RECYCLABLE</b> Can be recycled ONLY if the instructions below the symbol are followed. Otherwise, these items are not recyclable.</p> <p><b>NOT RECYCLABLE</b> This cannot be placed in kerbside recycling. Please dispose in your rubbish bin.</p>	Australia Only	<a href="https://www.environment.gov.au/protecton/waste/consumers/australian-recycling-label">https://www.environment.gov.au/protecton/waste/consumers/australian-recycling-label</a>
<b>Seedling Logo</b>	To indicate that the product is suitable for composting and other microbial treatment according to AS 4736-2006.	Compostable and biodegradable plastics.	<p>Compostable AS 4736 ABAX 9999</p> <p>Home Compostable AS 5810 ABAX 9999</p>	Australia & New Zealand	<a href="https://bioplastics.org.au/certification/the-seedling-logo/">https://bioplastics.org.au/certification/the-seedling-logo/</a>
<b>Climate Active</b>	Carbon neutral certification program.	Goods and Services		Australia Only	<a href="https://www.climateactive.org.au/">https://www.climateactive.org.au/</a>
<b>Low CO2 and No CO2</b>	Carbon reduction and neutral certification program.	Goods and Services		Australia Only	<a href="https://noco2.com.au/">https://noco2.com.au/</a>
<b>Carbon Neutral Product</b>	Carbon neutral certification program.	Goods and Services		Australia Only	<a href="https://noco2.com.au/">https://noco2.com.au/</a>







# Certifications and Labels for meeting Sustainable Procurement Objectives

<b>GreenGuard</b>	Limits the chemical emissions of products to create healthier interiors.	Interior goods and services		Recognised by GENICES labels	<a href="https://spot.ul.com/greenguard/">https://spot.ul.com/greenguard/</a>
<b>GreenPower</b>	This label makes it easy to recognise and purchase renewable electricity that meets stringent environmental standards.	Energy		Australia Only	<a href="https://www.greenpower.gov.au/">https://www.greenpower.gov.au/</a>
<b>Declare</b>	Eliminates the most harmful chemicals and materials from building products and encourages transparency of materials.	Building Materials		Global Label	<a href="https://living-future.org.au/declare/">https://living-future.org.au/declare/</a>
<b>Windows Energy Rating Scheme</b>	Assessing the energy efficiency performance of fenestration products.	Windows		Australia Only	<a href="https://awa.associationonline.com.au/">https://awa.associationonline.com.au/</a>
<b>PVC Stewardship</b>	A partnership initiative to ensure transparent management of the health, safety, and environmental aspects of PVC products through their life cycle.	PVC Products		Australia Only	<a href="https://www.vinyl.org.au/sustainability/stewardship">https://www.vinyl.org.au/sustainability/stewardship</a>
<b>Forest Stewardship Council Certification</b>	Ensures that a forest is managed in a way that preserves biological diversity and benefits the lives of local people and workers.	Wood, bamboo and paper or pulp products or components		Global Label	<a href="https://fsc.org/en/forest-management-certification">https://fsc.org/en/forest-management-certification</a>
<b>Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification</b>	Ensures sustainable forest management including biodiversity and meeting the ILO conventions.	Wood, bamboo and paper or pulp products or components		Global Label	<a href="https://pefc.org/">https://pefc.org/</a>

# Certifications and Labels for meeting Sustainable Procurement Objectives

<b>Responsible Wood</b>	Certifies environmental ly sound, socially just and economically viable wood products sourced from Australia.	Wood products		Australia	<a href="https://www.responsiblewood.org.au/">https://www.responsiblewood.org.au/</a>
<b>Water Rating Label</b>	Allows comparison of appliances based on their water efficiency. 4 stars or above is considered "green".	Appliances		Australia and New Zealand	<a href="https://www.waterrating.gov.au/choose-water-rating-label">https://www.waterrating.gov.au/choose-water-rating-label</a>
<b>Energy Rating Label</b>	Indicates the energy efficiency of an appliance up to 6 stars compared to similar models of similar capacity or size.	Appliances		Australia Only	<a href="https://www.energylab.gov.au">https://www.energylab.gov.au</a>
<b>EPEAT</b>	Assesses the entire lifecycle of electronic goods including design, production, energy use and recycling for environmental sustainability.	IT Sector		Global Label	<a href="https://epeat.net/">https://epeat.net/</a>
<b>TCO Certified</b>	A certification covering conflict minerals, social responsibility, hazardous substances, electronic waste, and circular economy.	IT Sector		Global Label	<a href="https://tcocertified.com/">https://tcocertified.com/</a>
<b>Fuel Consumption Label</b>	Allows consumers to compare vehicles on fuel consumption and carbon emissions.	Vehicles up to 3.5t gross vehicle mass.		Australia Only	<a href="https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/vehicles/environment/fuel-consumption-label.aspx">https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/vehicles/environment/fuel-consumption-label.aspx</a>







## Certifications and Labels for meeting Sustainable Procurement Objectives

<b>Good Environmental Choice Australia</b>	Life cycle criteria for specific product categories across environment and social issues.	Goods and Services		Recognised by GENICES labels	<a href="https://geca.co/">https://geca.co/</a>
<b>Global Green Tag Certification</b>	Life cycle criteria for specific product categories across environment and social issues. Includes a product declaration for Modern Slavery	Goods and Services		Australia and US Label	<a href="https://www.globalgreentag.com/">https://www.globalgreentag.com/</a>
<b>Green Tick Sustainable Certified</b>	Delivers life cycle criteria for specific product categories across environment and health issues.	Goods and Services		New Zealand	<a href="https://www.reentick.com/">https://www.reentick.com/</a>
<b>Global Recycles Standard</b>	Verifies the recycled content of products as well as ensuring that the production of the recycled material is done in a responsible way.	All products		Global Label	<a href="https://textileexchange.org/standards/">https://textileexchange.org/standards/</a>
<b>Global Organic Textile Standard</b>	Ensures that textile products are organic and are produced in a socially responsible fashion.	Textiles		Global Label	<a href="https://global-standard.org/">https://global-standard.org/</a>
<b>Organic Content Standard</b>	Ensures the traceability of organic cotton.	Textiles		Global Label	<a href="https://textileexchange.org/standards/">https://textileexchange.org/standards/</a>

## Certifications and Labels for meeting Sustainable Procurement Objectives

<b>Better Cotton Initiative</b>	Certifies environmental and social standards in all cotton plantations.	Textiles		Global Label	<a href="https://bettercotton.org/">https://bettercotton.org/</a>
<b>Cotton Made in Africa</b>	Certifies a socially and environmentally responsible production of cotton.	Textiles		Global Label	<a href="https://cottonmadeinafrica.org/en/">https://cottonmadeinafrica.org/en/</a>
<b>Oeko-Tex</b>	This is a range of labels that covers testing of harmful substances, sustainable working conditions and environmentally responsible manufacturing.	Textiles		Global Label	<a href="https://www.oeko-tex.com/en/">https://www.oeko-tex.com/en/</a>
<b>Australian Made</b>	Communicates the Australian and local origin of products	All products		Australia Only	<a href="https://australianmade.com.au/">https://australianmade.com.au/</a>
<b>Fairtrade</b>	Ensures social, economic, and environmental standards are met across the supply chain and all financial benefits are delivered transparently to the community.	Crop and agricultural products, including food and textiles with a focus on 'at risk' commodities		Global Label	<a href="https://www.fairtrade.net/">https://www.fairtrade.net/</a> <a href="https://fairtradeanz.org/">https://fairtradeanz.org/</a>
<b>Rainforest Alliance</b>	Certifies that the product or ingredient was produced using methods that support social, economic, and environmental development.	Goods and Services		Global Label	<a href="https://www.rainforestalliance.org/">https://www.rainforestalliance.org/</a>

## Certifications and Labels for meeting Sustainable Procurement Objectives

<b>Cruelty Free International</b>	Certifies the elimination of animal testing through supplier monitoring systems down to an ingredient level.	Goods and Services		Global Label	<a href="https://www.crueltyfreeinternational.org/">https://www.crueltyfreeinternational.org/</a>
<b>World Fair Trade Organisation</b>	Assessments of an entire business including operations and supply chain for social and environmental criteria.	Goods and Services		Global Label	<a href="https://wfto.com/">https://wfto.com/</a>
<b>Responsible Wool Standard</b>	Ensures wool comes from farms that have a progressive approach to managing their land, practice holistic respect for animal welfare of sheep and respect the five freedoms of animal welfare.	Wool		Global Label	<a href="https://textileexchange.org/standards/">https://textileexchange.org/standards/</a>
<b>Responsible Down Standard</b>	Aims to ensure down and feathers do not come from animals who have experienced unnecessary harm.	Down & Feathers		Global Label	<a href="https://textileexchange.org/standards/">https://textileexchange.org/standards/</a>
<b>PETA-Cruelty free</b>	Certifies that products have not been tested on animals.	Cosmetics and personal care products		Global Label	<a href="https://crueltyfree.peta.org/">https://crueltyfree.peta.org/</a>
<b>CCF CERTIFIED</b>	Certifies that products have not been tested on animals.	Cosmetics and personal care products		Global Label	<a href="https://www.choosecrueltyfree.org.au/choose-cruelty-free-ccf-list-brands">https://www.choosecrueltyfree.org.au/choose-cruelty-free-ccf-list-brands</a>



## Certifications and Labels for meeting Sustainable Procurement Objectives

<b>PETA-Approved VEGAN</b>	Highlights clothing, accessories, furniture and home décor items made of vegan alternatives to animal-derived materials.	Clothing, accessories, furniture, and home décor.		Global Label	<a href="https://www.peta.org/living/personal-care-fashion/peta-approved-vegan-logo/">https://www.peta.org/living/personal-care-fashion/peta-approved-vegan-logo/</a>
<b>Marine Stewardship Council</b>	Certifies sustainable fishing practise (healthy fish populations, impacts on ecosystems minimised, responsible and effective management) and traceability of supply chains.	Fish and fish products		Global Label	<a href="https://www.msc.org/">https://www.msc.org/</a>
<b>Aquaculture Stewardship Council</b>	Certifies the environmental and social sustainability of farmed seafood.	Fish and fish products		Global Label	<a href="https://www.asc-aqua.org/">https://www.asc-aqua.org/</a>
<b>Best Aquaculture Practices</b>	Certifies the full production supply chain of aquaculture, looking at environmental responsibility, animal welfare, food safety and social accountability.	Fish and fish products		Global Label	<a href="https://www.bapcertification.org/">https://www.bapcertification.org/</a>
<b>Australian Certified Organic</b>	Ensuring that organisations have a written plan for managing their organic business, defining all aspects and related risks to ensure ongoing organic status.	Goods and Services		Australia Only	<a href="https://www.aco.net.au/">https://www.aco.net.au/</a>

## Certifications and Labels for meeting Sustainable Procurement Objectives

EarthCheck	Science based certification and benchmarking program for environmentally responsible tourism.	Travel & Tourism		Global Label	<a href="https://earthcheck.org/">https://earthcheck.org/</a>
International Eco Certification Program	Assures travellers that the tourism product has a primary focus on nature and have a commitment to sustainable practices.	Travel & Tourism		Global Label	<a href="https://www.ecotourism.org.au/our-certification-programs/eco-destination-certification/">https://www.ecotourism.org.au/our-certification-programs/eco-destination-certification/</a>



***SSROC's Sustainable Procurement project is a NSW Environment Protection Authority Waste Less, Recycle More initiative funded from the waste levy.***