



**Travalyst Certifications Initiative**  
**Second Iteration**  
**Declaration Form for Certification Schemes**

*Last updated: 16th March*

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## **About this document**

Effective January 2026, our [initial set of criteria](#) has been replaced with the set of criteria as listed below, bringing it in alignment with the impending [EU Empowering Consumers for the Green Transition Directive](#). This is the declaration form for participating certification schemes to declare they meet the relevant eligibility requirements and criteria. For more information, please see the [Second Iteration Overview](#).

*Please note that compliance with the eligibility requirements and criteria is **mandatory** for participation in the initiative. Please read the terms and conditions carefully before declaring compliance and note that by submitting this form, you acknowledge that you have carefully read and understood all of the criteria, and that the company meets and will continue to comply with such criteria. For further questions, contact us at [certifications@travalyst.org](mailto:certifications@travalyst.org)*

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## **Terms and conditions**

1. Certification schemes are invited to self-declare compliance with the Directive criteria to be added to the Travalyst List. It is the responsibility of certification schemes to comply with all applicable legislation (including the Directive), and the liability for such compliance remains with the individual applicant. As such, certification schemes on the Travalyst List are required to **immediately inform** the Travalyst Team of any breach, suspected breach, or other risk of non-compliance.
2. Responsibility for ensuring strict compliance with all applicable rules and regulations (including the Directive) will lie with the certification scheme. While a [guidance note from our legal counsel](#), Vedder, is provided to support the industry in the application of the criteria as set by the Directive, certification schemes are advised to seek legal guidance for any clarification.
3. Our partners reserve the right to display certification schemes on their platforms at their own discretion. Travalyst does not facilitate display on our partner platforms and certification schemes are requested to liaise with partners and other such organisations directly.

4. To ensure data quality and adoption across all data distribution channels we believe standardisation is necessary. We therefore encourage certification schemes to provide high-quality, accurate, and consistent data. Certification schemes are requested to coordinate with Travalyst partners any additional requirements they may have for data collection and distribution in line with their organisational requirements.
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## Eligibility/Who can apply [MANDATORY]

Travalyst Certifications Initiative is open to schemes that meet the following requirements. To be eligible, schemes must be applicable to the accommodation sector, and relate to the room stay<sup>1</sup>. Please check the boxes to declare your scheme meets the following requirements. *[Please note it is mandatory to meet both to be compliant with ECGT, and to participate in the initiative].*

- Certification schemes promoting environmental and/or social characteristics for accommodations and stays anywhere in the world.
  - Wherein a certification scheme means a third-party verification scheme that certifies that a product, process or business complies with certain requirements, that allows for the use of a corresponding sustainability label<sup>2</sup>.
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## Criteria per EU Empowering Consumers Directive [MANDATORY]

To be included on Travalyst's Certifications list, the eligible certification schemes are *required to meet the following criteria*. By checking the boxes below, you declare compliance with each criteria. *[Please note it is mandatory to meet all four to be compliant with ECGT, and to participate in the initiative]*

- The certification scheme is open under transparent, fair, and non-discriminatory terms to all accommodation providers willing and able to comply with the scheme's requirements.

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<sup>1</sup> Travalyst reserves the right to review schemes for eligibility, and where applicable, to not include a scheme on the list that is deemed to not meet the eligibility criteria. Please contact [certifications@travalyst.org](mailto:certifications@travalyst.org) for any questions relating to eligibility for this initiative and feedback on expanding the initiative beyond the current accommodation stay sector.

<sup>2</sup> Note that this definition of a certification scheme is per the EU Empowering Consumers Directive. While no changes in the definition are possible, feedback may be provided on the application of this definition.

- The certification scheme's requirements are developed by the scheme owner in consultation with relevant experts and stakeholders.
- The certification scheme sets out procedures for dealing with non-compliance with the scheme's requirements and provides for the withdrawal or suspension of the use of the sustainability label by the accommodation provider in case of non-compliance with the scheme's requirements; and
- The monitoring of the accommodation provider's compliance with the scheme's requirements is subject to an objective procedure and is carried out by a third party whose competence and independence from both the scheme owner and the accommodation provider are based on international, European Union or national standards and procedures.

To support the certification schemes to self-declare compliance with these criteria, Travalyst, in collaboration with its legal counsel, Vedder, has made available a [guidance note](#) that interested entities can use as reference.

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## **Categorisation based on Third-party Auditing [OPTIONAL]**

As a certification scheme that meets the above criterion requiring an *“objective procedure...carried out by a third party whose competence and independence from both the scheme owner and the accommodation provider”*, please provide the following information.

We collect the following information to increase transparency around third party auditing and accreditation. Providing this information is optional, but we encourage you to please share it.

1. Details of the third party auditors used by the applicant scheme, in line with criterion 4 above.

Name of organisation	
Website of organisation	

2. In addition, is your certification scheme accredited by an accreditation body?

- Yes. If yes, please provide the details of the accreditation body.

Name of accreditation body	
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Website of accreditation body	
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No

### Categorisation based on Sustainability Criteria [MANDATORY]

Each certification scheme is required to self-categorise the requirements in its standard as having a) only environmental or b) only social or c) both characteristics. This categorisation is in keeping with the definition in the Directive of a sustainability label “...by reference to its environmental or social characteristics, or both...” and is aimed at providing transparency to our partners and the wider industry of the sustainability pillars that a given certification scheme addresses.

Please check the relevant box below to self-categorise your sustainability standard (list of criteria) to include:

- Only environmental characteristics
- Only social characteristics
- Both environmental and social characteristics

Please note that Travalyst will also require all self-declared compliant schemes to map their sustainability criteria to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to increase transparency for all stakeholders and the consumer. We will be sharing more details with you in due course.

### Declaration [MANDATORY]

By submitting this form, we acknowledge that we have carefully read and understood all of the criteria, and that the company meets and will continue to comply with such criteria, and that all information provided is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge at the time of submission.

Signature	
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Date of signing of Declaration Form	
Full name [Name, Surname] of person making the declaration on behalf of the certification scheme	
Name of certification scheme <i>[Note: this must be the signing party]</i>	
Website of certification scheme	
Name of the label [corresponding to the certification scheme]	
Name of owner of the certification scheme [organisation name]	