

Life Cycle-Based Ecolabels & Global Ecolabelling Network

Descriptions

Life Cycle-based Ecolabels

Life cycle-based Type 1 ecolabels, as described by International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO)14024:2018, are ecolabels that are awarded to environmentally preferable products and services. A life cycle ecolabel indicates that a product or service has been certified against a science-based standard specific to its category. Criteria and product categories can differ, reflecting regional variables, but all life cycle-based standards address multiple environmental and health attributes and most have requirements for issues such as toxicity, air quality, energy use, recyclability, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), carcinogens and other areas of concern.

Global Ecolabelling Network (GEN)

GEN protects health and the environment by developing, promoting and supporting the world's leading ecolabels. GEN was founded in 1994 to foster cooperation, information exchange and standard harmonisation among its members and other ecolabelling programmes. GEN members set and publish life cycle-based environmental standards or criteria and certify products and services that meet the standards. Members provide information, advice and technical assistance to organisations that develop ecolabelling programmes, and they make information easily available for the public to make environmental choices.