



Standards for a  
Sustainable Future

# Plastic Waste Reduction Program

Introduction to the second consultation

Sinclair Vincent, Sneha Balasubramanian & Hannah Robinson

16 July 2020

# Verra organizational overview

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- Non-profit organization founded in 2007
- Headquartered in Washington, DC; staff in US, Colombia, Peru, Chile, Canada and Spain



**Verified Carbon Standard**



**Climate, Community & Biodiversity Standards**



**Sustainable Development Verified Impact Standard**



**California Offset Project Registry**



**LANDSCALE**

- Key strengths
  - Project experience (>1600 projects registered; 25 project types in over 70 countries)
  - Convening diverse range of stakeholders, developing workable frameworks → drive finance to high-performing projects/policies/actions
  - Innovation

# Webinar overview

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- The 3R Initiative
- The Plastic Waste Reduction Program
- Documents for consultation: *Plastic Program Guide v0.1*, *Plastic Standard v0.2*, *Plastic Program Definitions v0.1*
- Questions
- How to use Collaborase

# 3R (Reduce, Recover, Recycle) Initiative

## Objective

Catalyze corporate leadership to **reduce plastic waste through internal and supply chain actions** and by **supporting recovery and/or recycling projects to mitigate plastic waste that a company cannot address directly**

## Secretariat



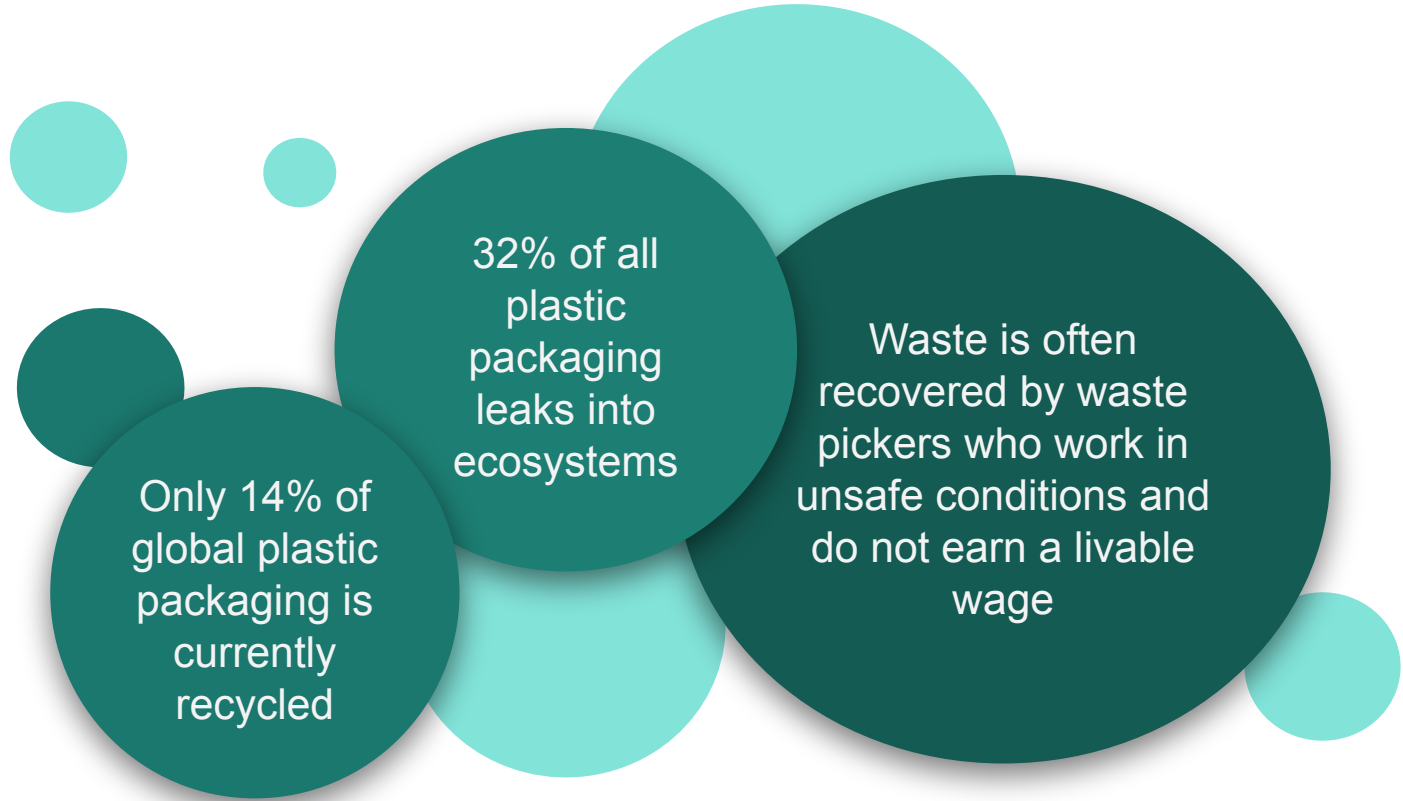
## Steering Committee



# The Plastic Waste Reduction Program

# Justification

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# Objective & benefits of the Plastic Waste Reduction Program

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Support and scale-up activities that increase plastic waste recycling and/or recovery from the environment

Enables robust impact assessment and comparable and transparent reporting

Addresses social risk

Facilitates project portfolio investment decision-making and prioritization

Drives increased availability of recycled plastic feedstocks

Supports corporate plastic use and waste commitments and claims

Catalyzes investment in high-impact projects

# Plastic Program value proposition

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Consistent, third-party assessed accounting of plastic waste recovery and/or recycling, with social and environmental safeguards

Generate Plastic Credits for activities that exceed baseline recovery or recycling rates

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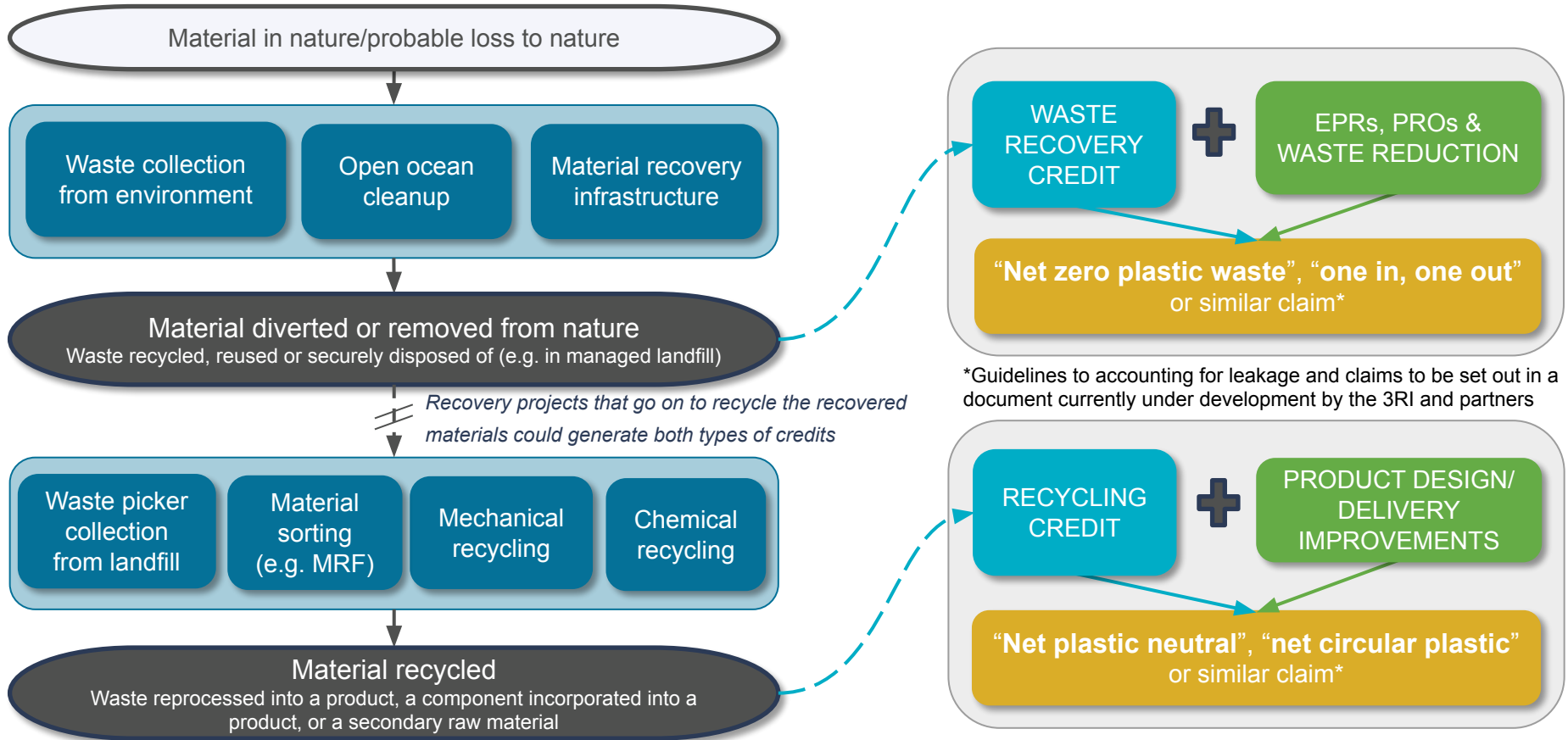
## Use cases

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Achieve corporate commitments: “net zero plastic waste”, “net plastic neutral”

Support extended producer responsibility schemes

# Waste Recovery and Recycling Crediting



# The Plastic Program

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# Governance & development

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## Plastic Standard Development Committee (PSDC)

Guide development, pre-approve v1.0 of the Plastic Standard

## Assessment Working Group

Support development of assessment reqs

## Methodology Developer(s)

Developing initial methodologies

## Plastic Standard Technical Advisors

Support specific elements of standard development on an ad hoc basis

## Verra Board

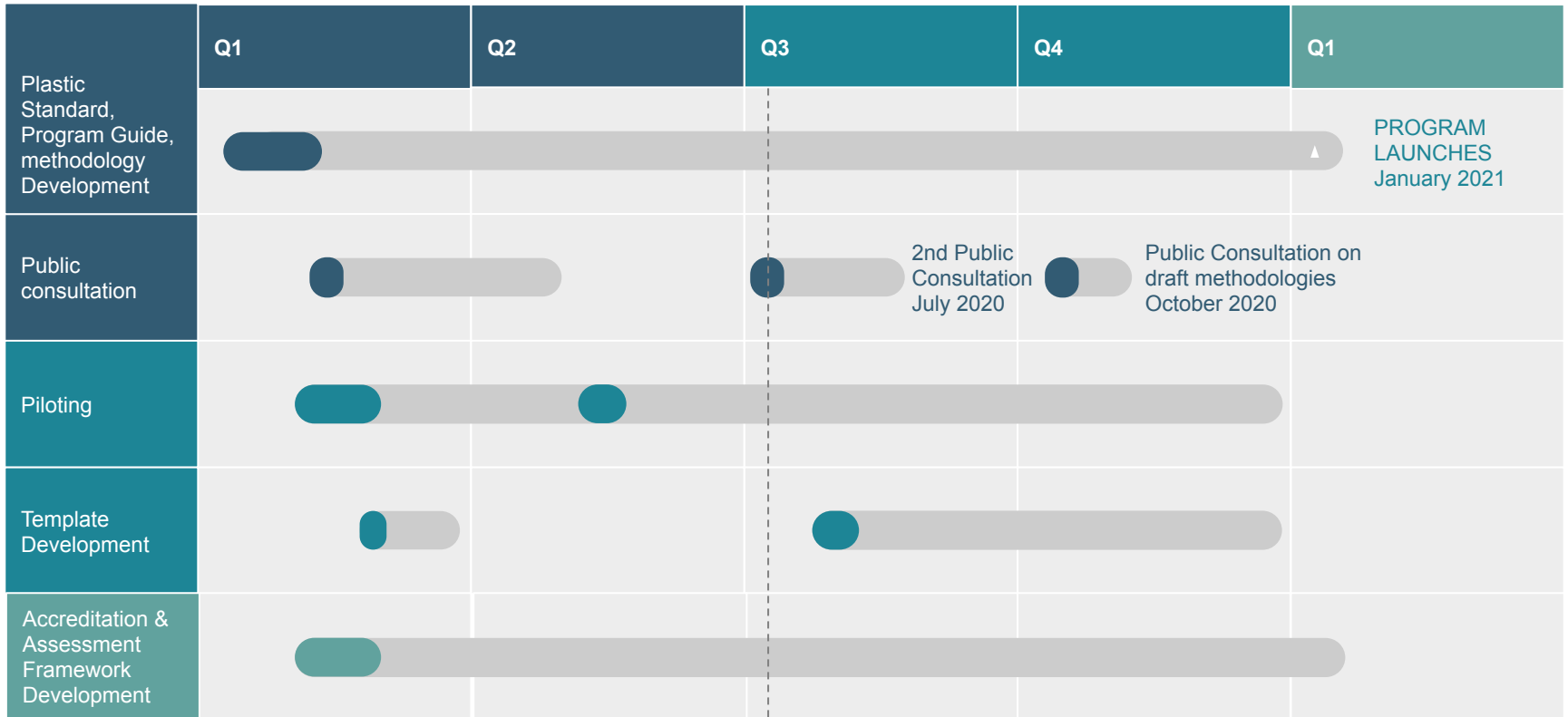
Two Board members on the PSDC; approve v1.0 of Plastic Standard

# Plastic Standard Development Committee members

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- João Daim, **BVRio**
- Shannon Bouton, **McKinsey.org**
- Patrick Burgi, **South Pole**
- Jim Cannon, **Verra Board**
- Lindsay Christianson, **Plastic Bank**
- Joi Danielson, **SYSTEMIQ**
- Rachel Goldstein, **Mars**
- Alix Grabowski, **WWF**
- Jennifer Howard, **Conservation International**
- Richard Helling, **Dow**
- Mark Kenber, **Verra Board**
- Vivien Luk, **WORK**
- Christie Pollet Young, **SCS**
- Cesar Sanches, **ValGroup**
- Lakmini Senadheera, **Sustainable Future Group**
- Komal Sinha, **rePurpose**
- Kendall Starkman, **Lonely Whale**

# Timeline (2020-Q1 2021)



# The Public Consultation

# Plastic Program Guide v0.1

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# Plastic Program Guide v0.1

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- Program overview
  - Outlines the Program objectives, scope, documents and credit types
- Project registration and issuance process
  - Procedures for project listing, registration and issuing Plastic Credits under the Plastic Program

# Plastic Standard v0.2

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Provides the requirements for developing projects and for the validation and verification process

\*Tracked changes version comparing v0.1 and v0.2 available on the [Verra website](#).

# Plastic Standard v0.2

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- **Scope**
  - Developed a table of material categories, material sub-categories and examples including the 7 plastic types (including other plastics) and composite materials
- **Project configuration**
  - Included examples of eligible project configurations
- **Stakeholder engagement & safeguards**
  - Revised these sections to be more robust, and clarified the requirements to reflect different project types and scales
- **Validation and verification requirements**
  - Full set of requirements included

# Plastic Program Definitions v0.1

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Provides definitions  
for terms used in  
the Plastic Program  
documents

## 2 DEFINITIONS

### **Accession representation**

The deed issued by a project proponent and an acceding entity made in respect of an acceding entity joining a project as project proponent; prepared using the *Plastic Program Deed of Accession Template*

### **Authorized representative**

An entity authorized by the project to communicate with and provide instructions to the Verra registry on its behalf, with such an authorization granted through a communications agreement signed by both/all parties and submitted to the Verra registry

### **Cancellation**

The permanent removal of a Plastic Credit from circulation in the Verra registry for purposes other than retirement (e.g., compensating for excess Plastic Credit issuance)

### **Chemical recycling**

The conversion to monomer or production of new raw materials by changing the chemical structure of plastic waste through cracking, gasification or depolymerization, excluding energy recovery and incineration ([ISO 15270:2008\(en\) Plastics — Guidelines for the recovery and recycling of plastics waste](#))

### **Circular economy**

An economy that is restorative and regenerative by design, where economic activity builds and rebuilds overall system health. A circular economy relies on three principles: designing out waste and pollution; keeping products and materials in use; and regenerating natural systems.<sup>1</sup>

# Questions?

Public consultation closes 23 August

Sinclair Vincent, [svincent@verra.org](mailto:svincent@verra.org)

Sneha Balasubramanian, [sbalasubramanian@verra.org](mailto:sbalasubramanian@verra.org)

Hannah Robinson, [hrobinson@verra.org](mailto:hrobinson@verra.org)

Julianne Baroody, [jbaroody@verra.org](mailto:jbaroody@verra.org)

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**Verra**

1 Thomas Circle NW

Suite 1050

Washington, DC 20005

[www.verra.org](http://www.verra.org)



# Public consultation via Collaborase

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Collaborase is an online software that supports an unlimited number of reviewers and allows reviewers to easily provide comments and navigate documents

[collaborase.com/plastic-program](https://collaborase.com/plastic-program)

# Collborase landing page

## Plastic Waste Reduction Program Public Consultation Guide



**More than 350 million tons of plastic are being used every year and just a fraction of this is being recycled. There is a clear need to scale up recovery and recycling activities and increase accountability for plastic waste reduction efforts. The [3R \(Reduce, Recover, Recycle\) Initiative](#) is developing a market-based approach to transparently and sustainably increase the value of plastic waste: the Plastic Waste Reduction Program (the Plastic Program).**

Using independent and transparent assessments against robust criteria, the Plastic Program will drive finance to activities that make verifiable contributions to the circular economy. Three principal documents of the Plastic Program, the *Plastic Waste Reduction Standard* v0.2, the *Plastic Program Guide* v0.1 and the *Plastic Program Definitions* v0.1, are available for this consultation.

The Plastic Program is managed by [Verra](#), a member of the 3R Initiative secretariat. Its development is guided by a multi-stakeholder [Plastic Standard Development Committee](#). The Plastic Program is expected to launch in January of 2021. If you have any questions on the Plastic Program development process, please visit the [Verra website](#) or write to [SBalasubramanian@verra.org](mailto:SBalasubramanian@verra.org).

### Consultation

Thank you for helping improve the Plastic Program by participating in this public consultation. Your feedback will help ensure that the requirements are practical for use by all types of plastic waste recovery and recycling activities and that the Program meets corporates' needs.

The public consultation runs from 15 July through 23 August 2020. After the consultation period, we will assess all comments and then post a summary of how comments have been considered in finalizing the Plastic Program. (You can see the comments from a consultation on the first draft of the *Plastic Standard* and resulting updates on the [Verra website](#).)

### Access the consultation documents

To comment on any of the documents, click on the pages linked below.

- [Plastic Program Guide v0.1](#)
- [Plastic Waste Reduction Standard v0.2](#)
- [Plastic Program Definitions v0.1](#)

Feedback

# Registering to view the document

Collaborase Log in

## Plastic Waste Reduction Program Guide v0.1

Verra would appreciate your feedback on the first draft of the *Plastic Waste Reduction Program Guide*, which sets out rules for actors involved in implementing the Program.

The current consultation is open from 15 July to 23 August. If you have any questions regarding the Plastic Program development process, please contact [SBalasubramanian@verra.org](mailto:SBalasubramanian@verra.org).

Please access the *Plastic Program Guide* by entering your email address below. To return to the main Plastic Program consultation page, [click here](#).

Enter your email address \*

Feedback

Collaborase Log in

## Plastic Waste Reduction Standard v0.2

Verra would appreciate your input to the second draft of the *Plastic Waste Reduction Standard*. This draft has been revised based on feedback from the first consultation and lessons learned from pilot projects. In addition to Plastic Program-specific issues and project requirements, the document now includes assessment requirements.

The current consultation is open from 15 July to 23 August. If you have any questions regarding the Plastic Program development process, please contact [SBalasubramanian@verra.org](mailto:SBalasubramanian@verra.org).

Please access the *Plastic Standard* by entering your email address below. To return to the main Plastic Program consultation page, [click here](#).

Enter your email address \*

Feedback

Collaborase Log in

## Plastic Waste Reduction Program Definitions v0.1

Verra would appreciate your feedback on the first draft of the *Plastic Waste Reduction Program Definitions*, which sets out definitions for terms used in the Plastic Program.

The current consultation is open from 15 July to 23 August. If you have any questions regarding the Plastic Program development process, please contact [SBalasubramanian@verra.org](mailto:SBalasubramanian@verra.org).

Please access the *Plastic Program Definitions* by entering your email address below. To return to the main Plastic Program consultation page, [click here](#).

Enter your email address \*

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Collaborase

Log in

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Please access the *Plastic Program Guide* by entering your email address below. To return to the main Plastic Program consultation page, [click here](#).

Enter your email address \*

Submit



Feedback

# Your view in Collaborase

## Plastic Waste Reduction Standard v0.2

Content Comments Resources Activities Manage ▾

Public Page

### Note to Reviewers

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Plastic Program Specific Issues
- 3 Project Requirements
- 4 Validation and Verification Requirements

### Note to Reviewers

Updated less than a minute ago by Sneha Balasubramanian

Edit History Comments 0

Welcome to the *Plastic Standard* - thank you for taking the time to review the *Plastic Standard*, formerly referred to as the *Plastic Recovery and Recycling Project Accounting Standard*. Please review the document alongside the *Plastic Program Guide* and the *Plastic Program Definitions*.

We invite you to provide any and all feedback you have on the *Plastic Standard*. Some questions you may bear in mind while reading the *Plastic Standard* include:

- Do you have any general feedback on the *Plastic Standard*?
- Are the requirements of the *Standard* straightforward and easy to interpret? Are there requirements missing or some that might be too burdensome on projects?
- Are there project activity types and/or projects of certain scales for which the requirements of some or all sections of the *Standard* would be: a) too burdensome or b) not applicable?

### 1 Introduction

Updated about 2 hours ago by Sneha Balasubramanian

Edit Comments 0

Feedback

# How to comment in Collaborase (1 of 3)

Note to Reviewers

1 Introduction

2 Plastic Program Specific Issues

3 Project Requirements

4 Validation and Verification Requirements

## 1 Introduction

Updated about 24 hours ago by Sneha Balasubramanian

Edit

Comments 0

The *Plastic Waste Reduction Standard (Plastic Standard)* provides a global standard for plastic waste (including packaging) recovery and recycling projects. The *Plastic Standard* is operationalized by the Plastic Waste Reduction Program (Plastic Program) to enable the validation of plastic recovery and recycling projects, and the verification of recovered and/or recycled plastic waste. The three principal documents of the program are the *Plastic Waste Reduction Program Guide (Plastic Program Guide)*, the *Plastic Standard* and the *Plastic Waste Reduction Methodology Requirements (Plastic Methodology Requirements)* (to be developed). The *Plastic Program Guide* describes the rules and requirements governing the Plastic Program and further describes the constituent parts of the program, such as the project registration process, the Verra registry system, the methodology approval process and the accreditation requirements for validation/verification bodies. The *Plastic Standard* provides the requirements for developing projects, as well as the requirements for the validation, monitoring and verification of projects that recover and/or recycle plastic waste. The *Plastic Methodology Requirements* document provides the rules and requirements for developing new plastic recovery and recycling methodologies.

The *Plastic Standard* can also be used by plastic waste recovery and/or recycling projects that intend only to account for the results of their recovery and/or recycling activities and are not interested in issuing Waste Recovery Credits or Recycling Credits (Plastic Credits). Requirements pertaining to the issuance of Plastic Credits and eligibility requirements for crediting are not applicable to such projects and are noted as such.<sup>1</sup> Consequently, projects using the *Plastic Standard* solely for accounting purposes are not eligible to issue Plastic Credits.

The *Plastic Standard* was developed with the support and leadership of the [3R Initiative](#) and the technical and strategic input of the [Plastic Standard Development Committee \(PSDC\)](#).

*Note to readers – All documents cited as “to be developed” are subsequently referred to throughout this draft as documents that are already developed to avoid edits to language in future drafts. The documents are currently under development and will be part of the Plastic Program launch in 2021.*

<sup>1</sup> In this *Plastic Standard* v1, those requirements are Sections 3.5, 3.6 and 3.10.

# How to comment in Collaborase

(2 of 3)

Note to Reviewers

1 Introduction

2 Plastic Program Specific Issues

3 Project Requirements

4 Validation and Verification Requirements

## 1 Introduction

Updated about 2 hours ago by Sneha Balasubramanian

Edit

Comments 0

### Comments

0 Open

0 Closed

Both

Newest

New comment



No Comments Yet

The *Plastic Waste Reduction Standard (Plastic Standard)* provides a global standard for plastic waste (including packaging) recovery and recycling projects. The *Plastic Standard* is operationalized by the Plastic Waste Reduction Program (Plastic Program) to enable the validation of plastic recovery and recycling projects, and the verification of recovered and/or recycled plastic waste. The three principal documents of the program are the *Plastic Waste Reduction Program Guide (Plastic Program Guide)*, the *Plastic Standard* and the *Plastic Waste Reduction Methodology Requirements (Plastic Methodology Requirements) (to be developed)*. The *Plastic Program Guide* describes the rules and requirements governing the Plastic Program and further describes the constituent parts of the program, such as the project registration process, the Verra registry system, the methodology approval process and the accreditation requirements for validation/verification bodies. The *Plastic Standard* provides the requirements for developing projects, as well as the requirements for the validation, monitoring and verification of projects that recover and/or recycle plastic waste. The *Plastic Methodology Requirements* document provides the rules and requirements for developing new plastic recovery and recycling methodologies.

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# How to comment in Collaborase

(3 of 3)

The screenshot displays the 'Add a comment' form in the Collaborase interface. On the left, a sidebar titled 'Note to Reviewers' contains a table of contents with four items: '1 Introduction', '2 Plastic Program Specific Issues', '3 Project Requirements', and '4 Validation and Verification Requirements'. The main content area shows the title '1 Introduction', updated 'about 2 hours ago by Sneha Balasubramanian', and '0 Comments'. Below this is a 'Comments' section with filters for '0 Open', '0 Closed', 'Both', and 'Newest', and a 'New comment' button. The 'Add a comment' form includes visibility options (Authors, Authors and Reviewers, Notify Me, Anonymous), an 'Issue\*' text field, a rich text editor for the 'Proposal', and a 'Get Selection' button. The 'Publish' button is highlighted with a red box.

Note to Reviewers
1 Introduction
2 Plastic Program Specific Issues
3 Project Requirements
4 Validation and Verification Requirements

## 1 Introduction

Updated about 2 hours ago by Sneha Balasubramanian

Edit Comments 0

### Comments

0 Open 0 Closed Both Newest

New comment

No Comments Yet

#### Add a comment

Visibility:  Authors  Authors and Reviewers  Notify Me  Anonymous

Issue\* - brief description of a problem:

Insert description here

Proposal - suggested change or solution to the problem:

Insert proposal here

POWERED BY TINYMCE

Highlight text in Section as Reference for your Comment Get Selection

Publish Cancel

# How to view comments in Collaborase

## 1 Introduction

Updated about 2 hours ago by Sneha Balasubramanian

Edit

Comments 1

## Comments

New comment

1 Open

0 Closed

Both

Newest



Sample comment description

#1

Author Comment opened by Sneha Balasubramanian less than a minute ago on version 1



The *Plastic Waste Reduction Standard (Plastic Standard)* provides a global standard for plastic waste (including packaging) recovery and recycling projects. The *Plastic Standard* is operationalized by the Plastic Waste Reduction Program (Plastic Program) to enable the validation of plastic recovery and recycling projects, and the verification of recovered and/or recycled plastic waste. The three principal documents of the program are the *Plastic Waste Reduction Program Guide (Plastic Program Guide)*, the *Plastic Standard* and the *Plastic Waste Reduction Methodology Requirements (Plastic Methodology Requirements) (to be developed)*. The *Plastic Program Guide* describes the rules and requirements governing the Plastic Program and further describes the constituent parts of the program, such as the project registration process, the Verra registry system, the methodology approval process and the accreditation requirements for validation/verification bodies. The *Plastic Standard* provides the requirements for developing projects, as well as the requirements for the validation, monitoring and verification of projects that recover and/or recycle plastic waste. The *Plastic Methodology Requirements* document provides the rules and requirements for developing new plastic recovery and recycling methodologies.

# How to reply to comments

## 1 Introduction

Updated about 2 hours ago by Sneha Balasubramanian

Edit

Comments **1**

### < Sample comment description #1



**Active** Sneha Balasubramanian opened this comment 2 minutes ago on V.1 · 0 replies ·



Sneha Balasubramanian:

Sample comment proposal



Your reply



Rich text editor toolbar: Undo, Redo, Refresh, Bold, Underline, Italic, Strikethrough, Link, Unlink, Image.










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**Publish** Cancel

# How to vote on comments

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3 results

Section	Comment	Stakeholder	Country	Ref.	
0	 <b>Answers to questions</b> opened by Bosse Rothe about 8 hours ago on version 4	Service Provider	Germany	#3	  0  0
2.1	 <b>7 type of plastics is no longer useful - we need more polymers and granularity in our codes</b> opened by Aly Khalifa 1 day ago on version 6	Service Provider	Australia	#2	  0  0

Sinclair Vincent, [svincent@verra.org](mailto:svincent@verra.org)

Sneha Balasubramanian, [sbalasubramanian@verra.org](mailto:sbalasubramanian@verra.org)

Hannah Robinson, [hrobinson@verra.org](mailto:hrobinson@verra.org)

Julianne Baroody, [jbaroody@verra.org](mailto:jbaroody@verra.org)

---

**Verra**

1 Thomas Circle NW  
Suite 1050  
Washington, DC 20005

[www.verra.org](http://www.verra.org)

