



Standards Document

SBP Standard 6: Energy and Carbon Balance Calculation

Sustainable Biomass Program

sbp-cert.org



Version 2.1

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In the case of inconsistency between translations, the official English language version shall always take precedence.

SBP welcomes comments and suggestions for changes, revisions and/or clarifications on all of its Standards documentation. Please contact: info@sbp-cert.org

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Contents

A	Introduction	1
B	Purpose	1
C	Scope	2
D	How to use this document	2
E	Normative references	2
F	Glossary of terms and definitions	2
G	Summary of changes	3
1	General principles	4
2	GHG calculations	4

A

Introduction

The Sustainable Biomass Program (SBP) is a certification scheme designed for biomass, mostly in the form of wood pellets and chips.

The SBP certification scheme provides assurance to stakeholders that biomass is sourced both legally and sustainably, and it provides a means to collect and communicate reliable and verified data throughout the supply chain, including energy data, allowing companies in the biomass sector to demonstrate their responsible sourcing achievement and compliance with regulatory requirements, and to calculate their Greenhouse Gas (GHG) footprint.

There are six SBP Standards, which collectively represent the SBP certification scheme, against which Organisations can be assessed (as applicable) for certification by independent third-party accredited Certification Bodies (CBs). The Standards were developed and revised following a rigorous process aligned with ISEAL Standard-Setting Code of Good Practice, considering and building on existing regulatory requirements, peer voluntary certification standards and stakeholders' input.

An Organisation that satisfactorily demonstrates conformance with the SBP Standards receives a certificate and may be entitled to make use of the SBP Data Transfer System (DTS) and SBP claims in relation to the biomass it produces, sells, buys and/or uses.

B

Purpose

The SBP certification scheme provides assurance to End-users that the biomass is sourced from legal and sustainable feedstock as defined in SBP Standard 1. SBP certification relies on a third-party, independent certification process carried out by accredited CBs.

SBP Standard 6 sets out the requirements for the calculation of GHG emissions, including the calculation of GHG emissions savings. It relies on the use of data collected by Organisations along the supply chain as required by SBP Standard 5.

Organisations using SBP Standard 6 collect data from Organisations in the supply chain that are in a business relationship via the DTS and are certified against SBP Standard 4 and SBP Standard 5.

The results of the GHG emissions calculation may be used by End-users to fulfil their national or regional regulatory reporting obligations.

Organisations gain certification against SBP Standard 6 when they comply with the requirements set in this Standard and any related Instruction Documents.

C Scope

SBP Standard 6 applies to any Organisation taking legal ownership of certified biomass and wishing to certify GHG emissions calculations, including the calculation of GHG emissions savings. The Organisation shall also be certified against SBP Standard 4, SBP Standard 5 and the Instruction Document EU RED.

D How to use this document

For Organisations buying biomass with an SBP-compliant and/or SBP-controlled claim, delivery-specific data are passed on from their suppliers through the DTS. SBP Standard 6 defines how Organisations along the supply chain shall use this data to calculate their GHG emissions, including calculation of GHG emissions savings.

The following terms are used by SBP in its normative documents to indicate requirements, recommendations, permissions, and possibilities or capabilities:

“shall” indicates a requirement,

“should” indicates a recommendation,

“may” indicates a permission, and

“can” indicates a possibility or a capability.

SBP Standard 6 may be accompanied by guidance published from time-to-time by SBP to support the implementation of the requirements.

The Organisation shall also refer to the SBP Instruction Documents and/or Normative Interpretations related to Standard 6 as published by SBP.

The CB will evaluate compliance of the Organisation against SBP Standard 6 using the general certification rules set in SBP Standard 3 and related Instruction Documents.

E Normative references

SBP Standard 1: Feedstock Compliance

SBP Standard 2: Feedstock Verification

SBP Standard 3: Requirements for Certification Bodies

SBP Standard 4: Chain of Custody

SBP Standard 5: Collection and Communication of Data

F Glossary of terms and definitions

Please refer to the separate SBP Glossary of Terms and Definitions document.

G

Summary of changes

SBP Standard 6 v2.0	SBP Standard 6 v2.1	Comments
<p>Scope</p> <p>SBP Standard 6 applies to any Organisation taking legal ownership of certified biomass and wishing to certify GHG emissions calculations, including the calculation of GHG emissions savings. The Organisation shall also be certified against SBP Standard 4 and SBP Standard 5.</p>	<p>Scope</p> <p>SBP Standard 6 applies to any Organisation taking legal ownership of certified biomass and wishing to certify GHG emissions calculations, including the calculation of GHG emissions savings. The Organisation shall also be certified against SBP Standard 4, SBP Standard 5 and the Instruction Document EU RED.</p>	<p>Instruction Document EU RED has been added.</p>

1 General Principles

- 1.1** All calculations shall be supported by documented evidence which shall be available for verification by the CB.

2 GHG calculations

- 2.1** Energy and carbon balance calculations shall be undertaken in compliance with the relevant SBP Instruction Documents on energy and carbon balance calculations, according to the relevant market.
- 2.2** For markets that set GHG emissions savings requirements, the Organisation shall calculate the GHG emissions savings in compliance with the methodology described in the relevant Instruction Document of this SBP Standard 6, using either a GHG emissions calculator approved by the SBP Secretariat or by the relevant national authority. The CB will verify the calculations.
- 2.3** When the Organisation communicates aggregated GHG emissions data to SBP at the transfer point to the next legal owner (in gCO₂eq/MJ), the Organisation shall use the methodology described in the relevant Instruction Document of this SBP Standard 6.
- 2.4** When the End-user communicates aggregated CO₂ emissions savings to SBP, the Organisation shall use % of the applicable GHG reference.