



GLOBAL
ELECTRONICS
COUNCIL

Sustainability for a Connected Future

Final Implementation Plan for Updated EPEAT Criteria

Stakeholder Information Session | February 22, 2023

Welcome



Katherine Larocque
Senior Manager
Ecolabels and Resources



Cara Beatty
Director
Conformity Assurance

Agenda

- Background
- Development of Implementation Plan: Consultation and Principles
- Final Implementation Schedule
- Climate Change Mitigation Early Adopter Status
- Other Critical Implementation Elements
- Questions

Background

GEC is undertaking a multi-year initiative to update its EPEAT Criteria to align with priority sustainability impacts of electronic products and their supply chains, to ensure the Criteria:



Address sustainability impacts consistently across product categories



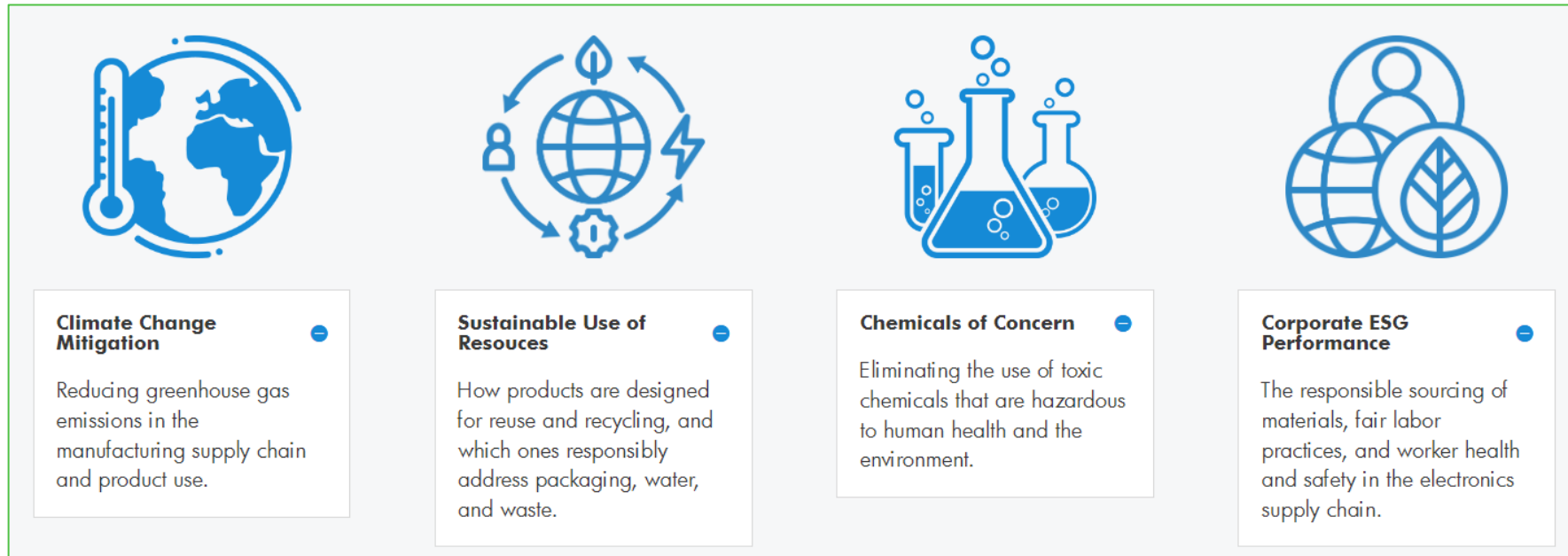
Address purchaser demands for increased focus on climate change and supply chains



Respond to rapid changes in both technology and market trends

Background

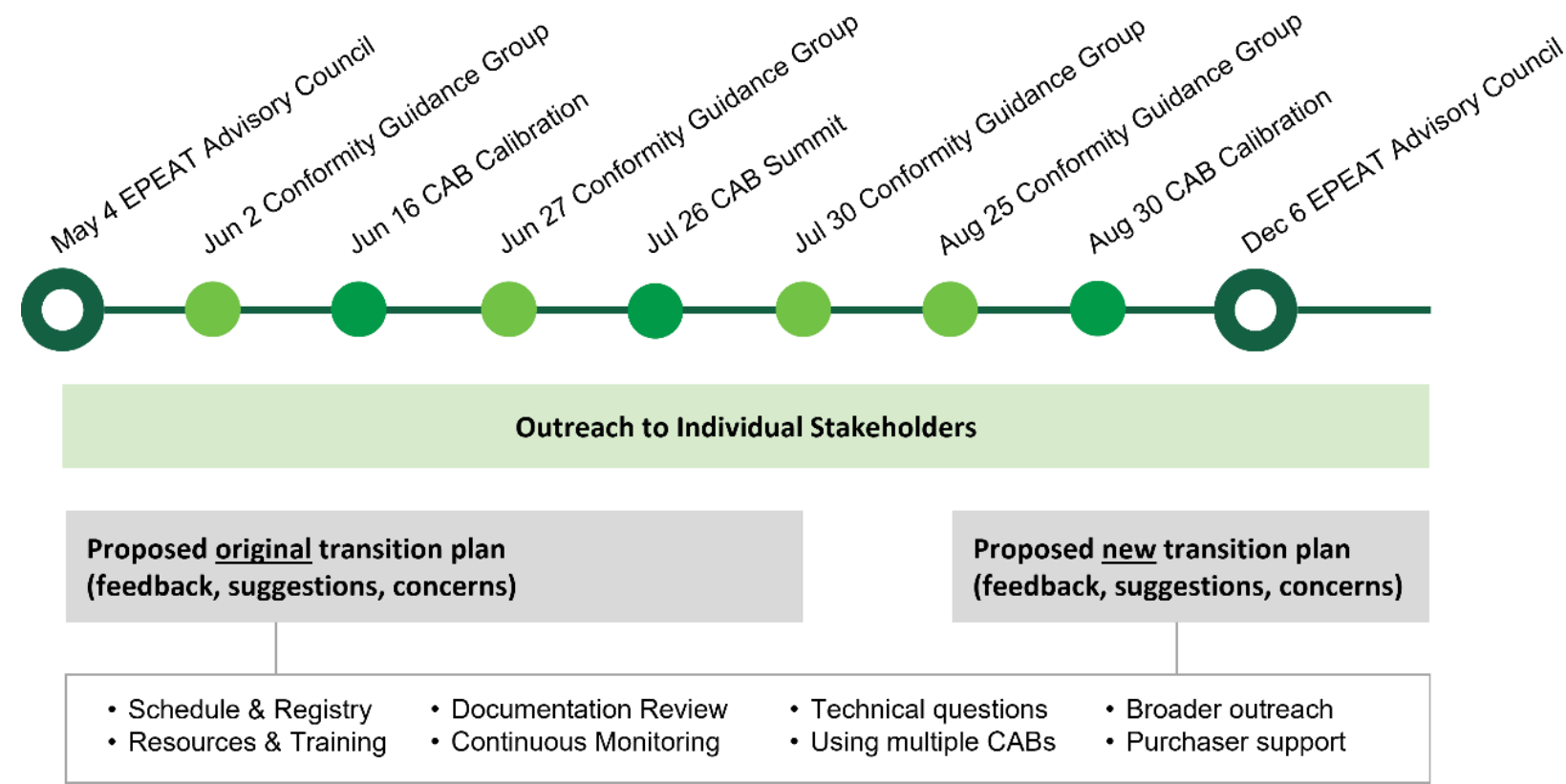
The priority sustainability impact areas include:



When complete, the updated Criteria will be applied across all EPEAT product categories, starting with Computers and Displays, Imaging Equipment, Mobile Phones, Servers, and Televisions.

Development of the Plan: Stakeholder Consultation

GEC undertook extensive stakeholder consultation throughout 2022 in the development of the Implementation Plan



Development of the Plan: Guiding Principles

GEC identified basic overarching principles to guide the development of the Implementation Plan:

- Must meet requirements and principles of ISO 14024
- Must be fair, impartial, and transparent
- Cannot provide preference to a single product category or product type, or to a single or group of Participating Manufacturers
- Must enable consistent and objective implementation
- Must be easily understood by all stakeholders
- If possible, find a way to recognize early adoption without penalizing others

Overarching Principles:

Credibility
Consistency
Objectivity
Transparency
Leadership

Implementation Schedule

The final Implementation Schedule below will guide the transition to the updated EPEAT Criteria

Final Schedule for Transition to All Updated Criteria	
September 30, 2023	(1) Estimated publication date of final criteria <i>(Note that each set of criteria will be publicly available upon its individual publication date)</i>
September 30, 2024*	(2) Manufacturers can access new back-end of Registry.
April 1, 2025*	(3) Public launch where products meeting updated criteria from all impact areas available on EPEAT Registry Date up to which new products can be registered against old criteria
December 31, 2025*	(4) Products meeting old criteria will be archived after this date.

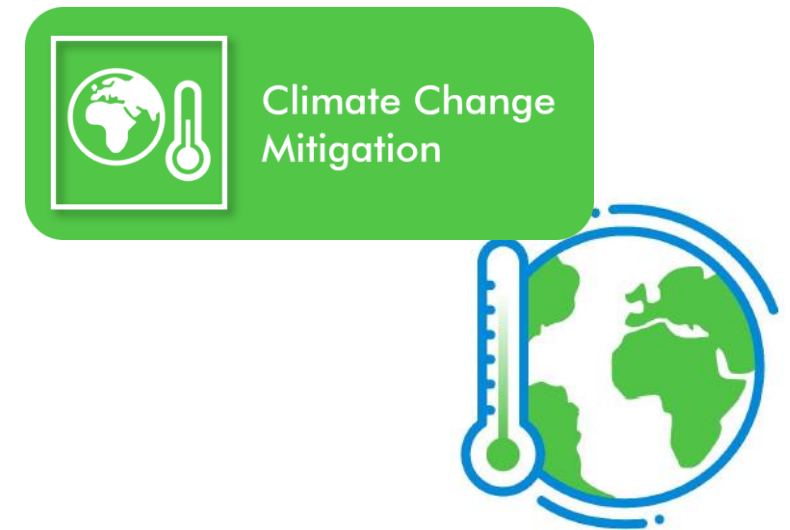
*Indicates firm date that will not change



Climate Change Mitigation: Early Adopter Status

Goals of Climate Change Mitigation Early Adopter Status

- Position EPEAT as the global market leading ecolabel by early release of climate change mitigation criteria.
- Respond to the priority that national and international bodies, including the current US Federal Government Administration, have placed on climate change mitigation.
- Meet critical stakeholder and purchaser demands for EPEAT-registered products that have further reduced climate change impacts.
- Provide incentives for, and EPEAT Registry recognition to, brands that are first movers.

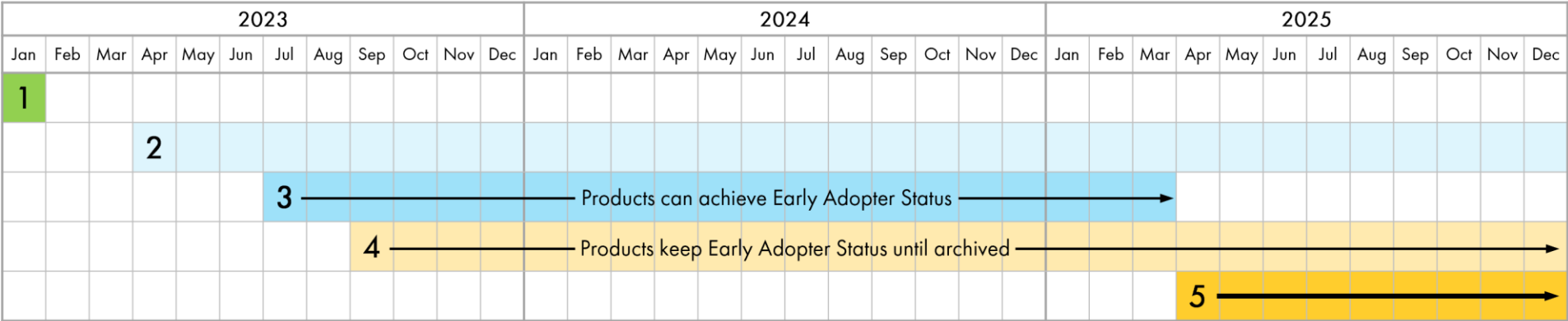


Early Adopter Status: Key Details

- To achieve Early Adopter Status, a product must meet all Required Climate Change Mitigation Criteria and be verified by a Conformity Assurance Body as having done so (in addition to meeting all current Required Criteria).
- Early Adopter Status can be achieved only by individual products (and not on a per manufacturer basis).
- Participating Manufacturers are not required to obtain Early Adopter Status.
- Early Adopter Status will not affect a product's tier level of Bronze, Silver, or Gold:
 - Early Adopter Status will be in addition to Tier level.
- Products keep the Early Adopter Status until they are no longer active in Registry.

Early Adopter Status: Key Dates

Climate Change Early Adopter Status: Key Dates	
March 30, 2023	(1) Estimated publication date of Climate Change Mitigation criteria
April 30, 2023	(2) Training & resources available; manufacturers can begin officially working with CABs
July 1, 2023	(3) Manufacturers can access new back-end of Registry for Climate Change Mitigation criteria
September 30, 2023	(4) Early Adopter Status appears in the EPEAT Registry
March 30, 2025	Last day products can achieve Early Adopter Status
April 1, 2025	(5) Public launch where products meeting updated criteria from all impact areas will be available on the EPEAT Registry



Supporting Resources

- The EPEAT Program will develop Conformity Requirements and Guidance Materials for each criterion, approximately within two months of publication of the criteria for each sustainability impact module.
 - The actual schedule may differ based on number/complexity of criteria.
- Conformity Requirements and Guidance Materials will include information such as:
 - Comparison of old and new Criteria;
 - Examples;
 - Previous questions and answers;
 - Additional information not specifically identified in Verification Requirements.
- The EPEAT Program will also develop template(s) for supplier letters / declarations that meet the requirements of ISO 14024 and ISO/IEC 17050.
- Resources will be available on the back-end of the EPEAT Registry.

Training

- An on-demand training for CAB Auditors and Participating Manufacturers will be available approximately two and a half months after publication of the criteria for each module.
- CAB Auditors must pass training and exams for each module to be qualified to perform Documentation Review and Continuous Monitoring activities.

Documentation Review

- Auditors must complete the Auditor training and achieve 75% or higher on the corresponding exam to complete Documentation Review.
- CABs can help Participating Manufacturers with questions as soon as criteria are published, before completing training.

Continuous Monitoring

- This plan was developed to balance the needs of all stakeholders.
- The EPEAT Program will follow up on inconclusive Level 0 investigations to ensure information is available. If publicly available information cannot be found, Level 1 investigations will be initiated.

2023	2024	2025
Product testing Round (Level 2) to existing criteria. Round will launch in Q1	Product testing Round (Level 2) to existing criteria. Round will launch in Q1	Product testing Round (Level 2) to updated criteria. Round will launch later in 2025
Round(s) assessing publicly available information (Level 0) to existing criteria	Round(s) assessing publicly available information (Level 0) to existing criteria	Round(s) assessing publicly available information (Level 0) to updated criteria

Questions Arising During Documentation Review

Question-and-Answer Document

- Will develop and publish a Question-and-Answer document available to Participating Manufacturers and CABs.
- Will be updated at the same time each week to identify newly answered questions that have arisen.

CAB Calibration Meetings

- Will continue to hold monthly CAB Calibration Meetings with all CABs to review questions that arise during conformity assurance activities.

Conformity Guidance Group Meetings

- Monthly Conformity Guidance Group meetings have been scheduled for the remainder of 2023.
- Registration links for all meetings available on the EPEAT Announcements page (<https://epeat.net/announcements>)

Manufacturers Using More than One CAB

Background

- Except for consumables, product energy efficiency, and some criteria with small differences in language and/or requirements for different product types, criteria will be identical across the Computers and Displays, Imaging Equipment, Mobile Phones, Servers, and Televisions product categories.
- Product registration and product listings on the EPEAT Registry will remain by product category.
- Participating Manufacturers may choose to use different CABs for different categories.
- Corporation level criteria are criteria where evidence is required to cover all these product categories which the manufacturer has EPEAT-registered products.
- Needed to identify process for “corporation level criteria” for Participating Manufacturers that use different CABs for different product categories.

Manufacturers Using More than One CAB

Process

- If a Participating Manufacturer uses different CABs for different product categories, they may choose one of the following options:
 - 1) Participating Manufacturer selects a single CAB which will complete Documentation Review of all corporation level criteria. All Continuous Monitoring investigations for the corporation level criteria will be implemented by this CAB.
 - 2) Participating Manufacturer has both CABs complete Documentation Review of the corporation level criteria. Continuous Monitoring investigations will be implemented on a product category basis by the CAB for the product category.

Questions?

Resources:

[Final Implementation Plan](#)

[GEC Website Dedicated to the Transition to Updated Criteria](#)

[Criteria Development Schedule](#)

Thank you for your participation