

Development of European Ecolabel for Tourist Accommodation and Campsite Services:



Proposal of product definition and scope

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http://susproc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/tourist_accommodation/index.html

Project background

Two existing EU Ecolabel criteria relating to tourist services:

- **Tourist Accommodation services (TAS) 2009/578/EC**
- **Campsite services (CSS) 2009/564/EC**

Aim of the project:

- Merging Tourist Accommodation Services + Camp Site Services
- Revision of the criteria in the base on:
 - **Commission statement**
 - **Legal framework**
 - New Ecolabel Regulation 66/2010 -Article 6(6) and Article 7(7) Hazardous substances.
 - **Market changes**
 - **Experience from using both of the current criteria**

Current definition: Tourist Accommodation service

Commission Decisions 2009/564/EC define 'tourist accommodation services' as the following:

Tourist accommodation service: The product group 'tourist accommodation service' shall comprise the provision, for a fee, of sheltered overnight accommodation in appropriately equipped rooms, including at least a bed, offered as a main service to tourists, travellers and lodgers.

The provision of overnight sheltered accommodation may include the provision of food services, fitness and leisure activities and/or green areas.

In the framework of this Decision, food services include breakfast; fitness and leisure activities/facilities include saunas, swimming pools and all other such facilities, which are within the accommodation grounds and green areas include parks and gardens, which are open to guests.

Current definition: Camp Site service

Commission Decisions 2009/578/EC define 'tourist accommodation services' as the following:

Campsite service: The product group 'campsite service' shall comprise, as a main service provided for a fee, the provision of pitches equipped for mobile lodging structures within a defined area. Mobile lodging structures as referred are those such as tents, caravans, mobile homes and camper vans. Accommodation facilities suitable for the provision of shelter to lodgers are facilities such as bungalows, rental mobile lodging and apartments.

It shall also comprise other accommodation facilities suitable for the provision of shelter to lodgers and collective areas for communal service if they are provided within the defined area. Collective areas for communal services are such as washing and cooking facilities, supermarkets and information facilities.

The "campsite service" provided within the defined area may also include the provision, under the management or ownership of the campsite, of food services and leisure activities.

In the framework of this Decision, food services include breakfast; fitness and leisure activities/facilities include saunas, swimming pools and all other such facilities, which are within the accommodation grounds and green areas include parks and gardens, which are open to guests, and which are not part of the campsite structure.

Current scope for TAS & CSS:

Type of accommodation	Covered in the EU Ecolabel definitions?
Hotel (Large, medium or small)	✓ included in TAS definition
Motel	✓ included in TAS definition
Group accommodation and holiday homes	✓ included in TAS definition
Hostel	✓ included in TAS definition
Bed & breakfast	✓ included in TAS definition
Guest houses or rental apartments	✓ included in TAS definition
Lodges	✓ included in TAS definition
Visitor flats or bungalows	✓ included in TAS definition
Chalets or cabins	✓ included in TAS definition
Camp sites (provision of pitches for tents or other mobile structures such as motor homes)	✓ included in CSS definition
Bungalows, rental mobile lodging and apartments	✓ included in CSS definition

Current criteria:

Current structure for TAS & CSS

EU Ecolabel Criteria for TAS and CSS		Common criteria	Additional criteria
Mandatory criteria	Energy	✓	-
	Water	✓	-
	Detergents and Disinfectants	✓	-
	Waste		CSS includes additional criterion for: 16. Chemical toilet disposal points (CDP)
	Other Services	✓	-
	General Management	✓	-
Optional criteria	Energy	✓	-
	Water	✓	-
	Detergents and Disinfectants		CSS includes additional criterion for: 66. Car washing in specially outfitted areas
	Waste		CSS includes additional criteria for: 75. Run-off from car parks 77. Regulation of Camp Site traffic
	Other Services		CSS includes additional criteria for: 78. Camp Site generated traffic 79. Trolleys for guests on the Camp Site 80. Unsealed surfaces
	General Management	✓	-

90 common criteria
7 extra criteria for CSS

These differences will need to be considered in the process of revising the criteria, but do not prevent the two criteria sets from being merged

Different scope and definitions:

Other voluntary labelling schemes: Nordic swan, Malta Eco certification, Green Key, Travelife sustainability criteria, Global Sustainable Tourism Criteria.

Few of them provide a definition or scope outline of the type of organisation or service they are referring to. Generally, **definitions provided are broad.**

NACE definitions: Hotels and similar accommodation (55.10), Holiday and other short-stay accommodation (55.20), Camping grounds, recreational vehicle parks and trailer parks (55.30).

Definitions relate to specific characteristics such as to the provision of sheltered accommodation (or pitches for camp sites) or the types of services that are offered (such as the provision of food services). **similar way to the current EU Ecolabel criteria.**

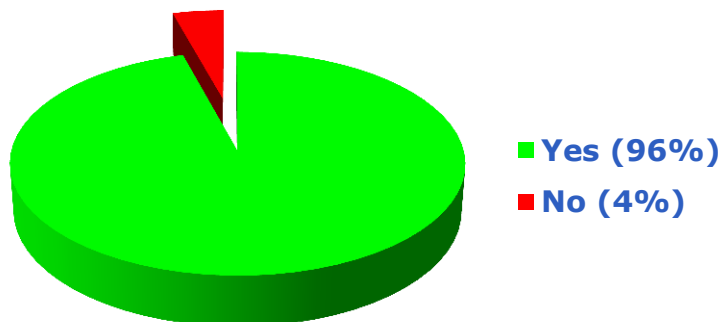
Stakeholder feedback:

Feedback on scope and definition

98 responses were received as part of the stakeholder questionnaire from Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Spain and UK.

72 hotel or camp sites (40 France, 20 from Italy, 12 others)
10 competent bodies
2 government organisations
8 travel/tourist associations
1 tour operator
5 other organisations.

Do you agree with these existing definitions of scope?



Large majority support current definition and scope.

Several respondents noted that conference rooms/training rooms (i.e. the provision of a room for an event such as a meeting or conference) should be included in the scope, where this service is incidental to the provision of accommodation.

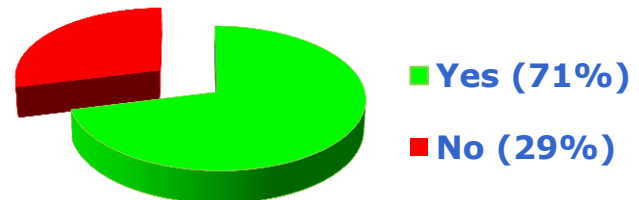
Stakeholder feedback: Feedback on merging(1)

It is proposed that common criteria are developed for both product groups by merging criteria which apply for both service types (tourist accommodation services and campsite services), including additional criteria which only apply to one of the categories.

This would result in common criteria for both service types; hereafter referred to as "tourist accommodation"

Do you agree with combining EU Ecolabel Criteria for tourist accommodation services and campsite services?

The majority agree with merging the criteria. However, it will be important to clearly distinguish where specific criteria vary between TAS and CSS.

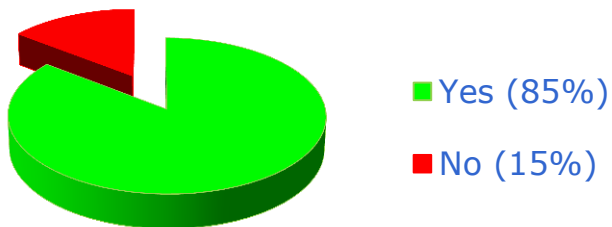


Stakeholder feedback: Feedback on merging(2)

It is proposed that common criteria are developed for both product groups by merging criteria which apply for both service types (tourist accommodation services and campsite services), including additional criteria which only apply to one of the categories.

This would result in common criteria for both service types; hereafter referred to as "tourist accommodation"

Do you think the term "tourist accommodation" accurately represents this merged criteria?



The majority agree with the term "tourist accommodation". With one suggestion to use "tourist accommodation and campsites".

Tourism services - Hotels and other types of tourism accommodation - Terminology (ISO 18513:2003)
covers camping sites

Proposed scope and definitions

Tourist accommodation product group (1)

The merged product group “**tourist accommodation**” will be defined as:

The provision of tourist accommodation services and/or campsite services.

Tourist accommodation service: *The product group ‘tourist accommodation service’ shall comprise the provision, for a fee, of sheltered overnight accommodation in appropriately equipped rooms, including at least a bed, offered as a main service to tourists, travellers and lodgers.*

The provision of overnight sheltered accommodation may include the provision of food services, fitness and leisure activities, green areas and/or conference facilities.

In the framework of this Decision, food services include breakfast; fitness and leisure activities/facilities include saunas, swimming pools and all other such facilities, which are within the accommodation grounds; green areas include parks and gardens, which are open to guests and conference facilities includes the provision of a room for singular events such as business conferences, meetings or training events.

Proposed scope and definitions

Tourist accommodation product group (2)

The merged product group “tourist accommodation” will be defined as:

The provision of tourist accommodation services and/or campsite services.

Campsite service: *The product group ‘campsite service’ shall comprise, as a main service provided for a fee, the provision of pitches equipped for mobile lodging structures within a defined area. Mobile lodging structures as referred are those such as tents, caravans, mobile homes and camper vans. Accommodation facilities suitable for the provision of shelter to lodgers are facilities such as bungalows, rental mobile lodging and apartments.*

It shall also comprise other accommodation facilities suitable for the provision of shelter to lodgers and collective areas for communal service if they are provided within the defined area. Collective areas for communal services are such as washing and cooking facilities, supermarkets and information facilities.

The “campsite service” provided within the defined area may also include the provision, under the management or ownership of the campsite, of food services and leisure activities.

In the framework of this Decision, food services include breakfast; fitness and leisure activities/facilities include saunas, swimming pools and all other such facilities, which are within the accommodation grounds and green areas include parks and gardens, which are open to guests, and which are not part of the campsite structure.

Revision process

Shortened procedure(1)

Comprehensive coverage of environmental impacts

A report has recently been published by the IPTS on best environmental management practice (BEMP)* in the tourism sector . This report is intended for use by all stakeholders in the tourism sector, as a source of reliable information to help reduce environmental impacts and encourage continuous improvement. The most important environmental impacts identified in the report are all reflected in the current EU Ecolabel criteria for tourist accommodation, i.e. the hotspots for tourism have not changed since the previous revision of EU Ecolabel criteria in 2009.

*<http://susproc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/activities/emas/tourism.html>

Revision process

Shortened procedure(2)

Success of the current criteria

The current EU Ecolabel criteria for TAS/CSS have been very successful, with an estimated 600 licensees awarded the label across both product groups.

Revision process

Shortened procedure(3)

Practicality of changes to the current criteria

After the previous (2009) revision of TAS/CSS criteria, it took up to two years for all existing licence holders to reapply and for CBs to assess their applications. Cost and administrative burden (both for tourist applicants and CBs) can be substantial, without leading to increased sustainability of the product group.

Focus of shortened procedure

Shortened procedure (Regulation (EC) No 66/2010)

updating of the criteria and their stringency levels

- **Merging in a common set of criteria:** Differentiating between technical characteristics where necessary.
- **Update of current criteria:** To ensure that these reflect any relevant policy and market changes. Furthermore, background gathered information will be used to ensure that updated criteria cover the main environmental impacts of tourist accommodation.
- **Clarification of existing criteria:** Feedback from the stakeholder survey can be used to better understand any ambiguity or problems surrounding existing criteria and these can be addressed as part of the shortened revision process.
- **Revision of the criteria requirements and points allocation:** The shortened criteria allows for revision of the current point allocation for optional criteria as well as making mandatory criteria optional or vice versa..

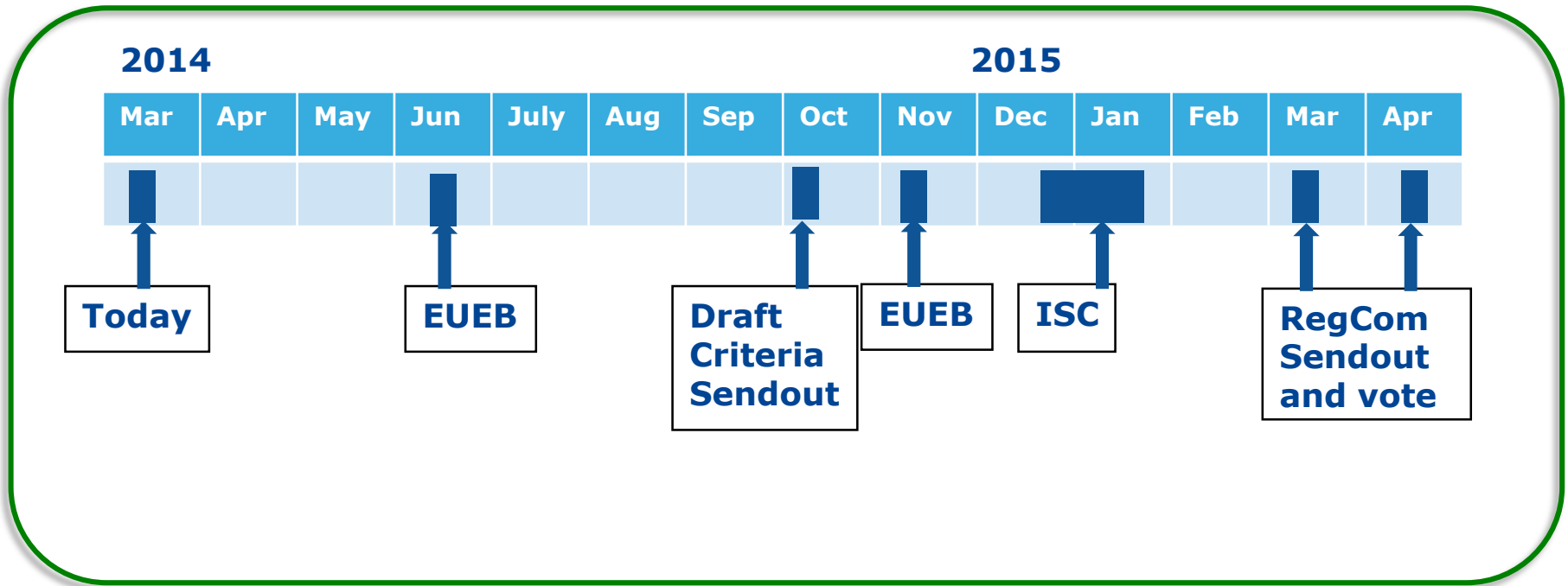
Stepwise approach

Starting point is the shortened procedure as laid down in Regulation EC 66/2010 Annex I c for non-substantial revisions

A stepwise approach is intended as follows:

1. Planning horizon is preparing the background report on the basis of the BEMP report, and a criteria set for vote in April 2015.
2. We send out after this meeting the questions posed to the CB Forum and today with request for feedback until 28st March
3. If it is asked to add additional criteria, the Commission will develop a proposal for each criterion, or provide a rationale why not to develop a criterion for this product group.
4. If no consensus on the proposal can be reached, the Commission will prepare one AHWG.
The planning horizon will be adapted, with a planned vote in November 2015.

Planning horizon



Questions to Competent Bodies and EUEB members

- Are the proposed **scope and definitions** appropriate and suitable for this product category?
- Do you agree with **combining** EU Ecolabel Criteria for tourist accommodation services and campsite services?
- Do you agree to use the term “**tourist accommodation**” for this product category?
- Do you think the revised criteria for the EU Ecolabel for tourist accommodation and camp site services should include **additional social and/or quality criteria**? Or other environmental criteria?
- What can we learn from the **current criteria set**?
 - What is your experience with the criteria to date?
 - What are the barriers to applicants?
 - What do you think the priorities should be?



Thank you for your attention

Contact

http://susproc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/tourist_accommodation/index.html

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