

A close-up, profile view of a man wearing a light-colored straw hat and a dark blue button-down shirt. He is looking down and to the left. The background is a lush green field with trees and foliage, slightly out of focus. A blue square logo with the text 'for life' is positioned in the upper left corner of the image.

for  
life

# FOR LIFE TERMS OF REFERENCE

September 2025

# FOR LIFE'S MISSION

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**For Life (FL) is a certification system promoting Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in supply chains. It offers a structured and credible framework for companies to implement and continuously improve social and environmental practices.**

Grounded in the belief that all organizations, producers, processors, traders, retailers, can contribute to sustainable development, the For Life standard **fosters collaboration between actors** who share common values of **ethical responsibility, transparency, and long-term engagement.**

## SCOPE OF THE STANDARD

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The For Life Standard is designed to **certify companies and organizations across sectors. It is not a product certification.**

Applicants must be involved in production, processing or trade of products derived from:



**Natural raw materials** crops, wild plants, livestock, beekeeping fisheries and aquaculture, sea salt, etc.

**Materials used in handicraft** 





In line with its principles, **applicants involved in the production of certain products are not eligible for For Life certification.** This includes, but is not limited to: products derived from mining; products made from endangered or threatened species; non-recycled metal materials; leather treated with harmful substances; parts of archaeological or historical monuments.

The following sectors, among others, can be certified under the scheme:



## ELIGIBILITY

In addition to defining the broad scope of application of For Life, an **eligibility check** serves as a verification step to ensure that an operator can indeed be considered for certification. It confirms that specific prerequisites, defined as eligibility criteria, are met both before and after application.

These criteria cover critical issues aligned with the **core values and strategic orientations** of the standard. The purpose of the eligibility check is to ensure that companies or organizations demonstrate a **genuine interest in and commitment to ethical, social, and environmental values.**



# FOR LIFE'S ADDED VALUE

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For Life stands out through its flexible yet robust approach, designed for **global applicability across a wide range of sectors and local contexts**. The standard emphasizes that each actor, from producers to final processors, has a role to play in the company's overall Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) strategy. Its **continuous improvement model** supports a dynamic approach that combines baseline compliance with clear incentives for organizations to progressively enhance their social and environmental performance over time.

## INTENDED SUSTAINABILITY OUTCOMES

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For Life provides a practical and inclusive framework that enables companies and organizations to **implement Corporate Social Responsibility in a credible, measurable, and continuous way**. Through its core requirements and monitoring mechanisms, the For Life Standard aims to ensure four key impacts.



### DIGNIFIED LIVELIHOODS



**Workers benefit from safe, respectful working conditions**, where their fundamental rights are protected, their wellbeing is prioritized, and their dignity is upheld.

### SELF-DETERMINATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



**Local communities are empowered to shape their own sustainable development** pathways, supported by inclusive participation, and increased social capital.



## SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT ECOSYSTEMS

**Negative impacts of production are reduced**, while ecosystems and communities strengthen their capacity to adapt to environmental and climate-related challenges.



## TRANSPARENT AND TRUST-BASED SUPPLY CHAINS



**Trade relationships are grounded in transparency and accountability** fostering trust between consumers and brands, enabling responsible choices and ethical oversight.

The detailed strategies, intended outcomes, and impacts of For Life, in line with its vision and mission, are presented in our ***Theory of change*** available for reading on our [website](#).

# INTEROPERABILITY WITH OTHER CERTIFICATION

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For Life works within a **diverse ecosystem of sustainability labels** and recognizes both the advantages of alignment and the challenges of multi-labeling for businesses.

Other standards can be used as adequate proof of social and environmental good practices for specific criteria, within the framework of an equivalence system. The differentiating elements of the For Life standard are verified as part of the certification process through a dedicated audit.



# SUPERVISION SYSTEMS

To ensure effective implementation, the standard's requirements are supported by **supervision systems** that include rigorous mechanisms, while remaining adaptable to diverse local contexts, cultures, and traditions. These mechanisms are implemented by the **certification body Ecocert**, which is responsible for evaluating compliance with the standard.

For Life applies two supervision mechanisms based on **supply chain role**:



## Certified entities

Subject to regular audits (e.g. producers, brand holders)

## Registered entities

Exempted from regular audits based on role and risk (e.g. subcontractors, intermediaries)



# SUSTAINABILITY CLAIMS

Upon successful implementation and certification, For Life will enable organizations to make credible claims regarding:

1 Respect for human rights  
and decent working conditions

2 Environmental sustainability  
across their operations

3 Engagement with local communities  
and contribution to sustainable development

These claims will continue to be supported by **rigorous verification**.