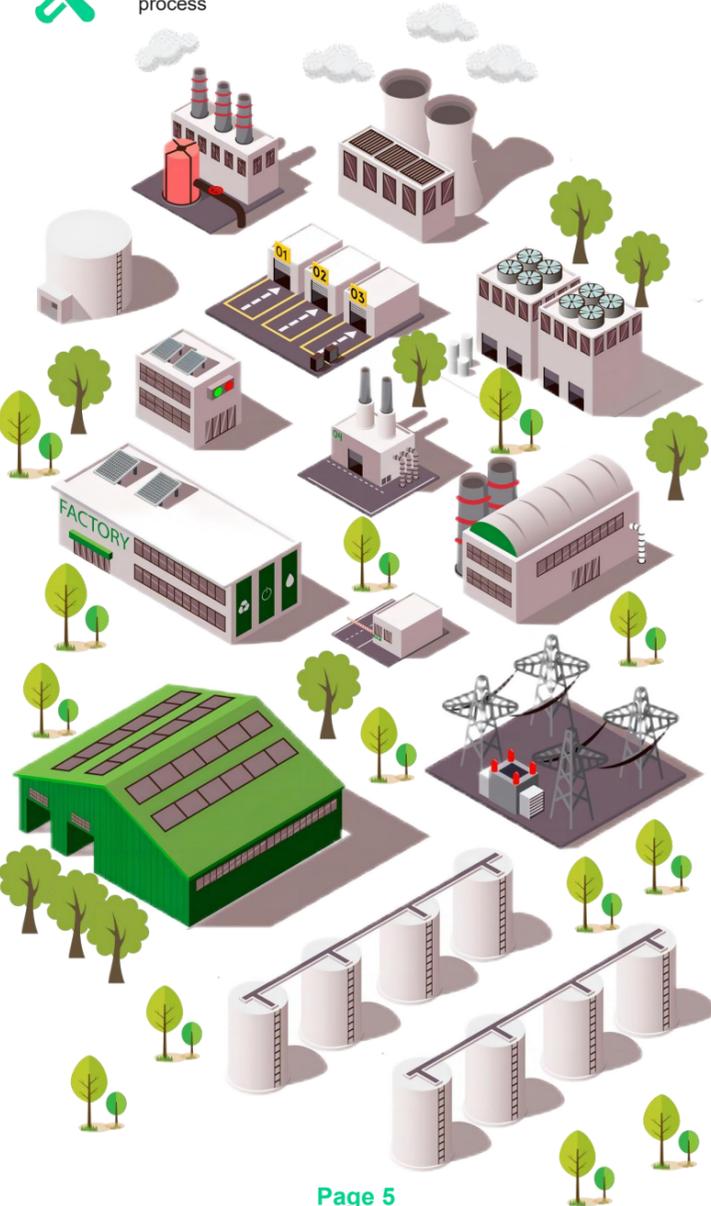


## Benefits of EPD China



- Reliable EPD verification by the qualified certification body and fast digital publication for the client with reasonable price
- National incentives for company participation
- Provide the reliable, validated, scientific, and transparent environmental information for declared products
- Joint collaboration nationally and internationally
- Timely and free support from the EPD China Secretary
- High quality in each published EPD through the strict and standard procedure
- The consideration of national situation for manufacturing process



## ECO EPD at EPD China



EPD China has joined the ECO Platform members as a small programme operator with the commitments of consistent EPD programme development, better recognition and acceptance, and common implementation of the EPD methodology.



## Mutual recognition agreement



The mutual recognition agreement (MRA) has been signed between EPD China and EPD Italy in 2022.

The strategic cooperation of EPD China and EPD Programme Operator in other countries can be found at EPD China Official website.

MRA is a bilateral agreement between two EPD operators that provides an assurance that EPD operators recognize consistebetween each other's policies and procedures. MRAs aim to:

- Enable greater efficiency by harmonizing PCRs (make better use of available PCRs and reduce the risk of PCR proliferation for the same product categories)
- Increase programme operating efficiency
- Avoid double charge on the verification for the client
- Encourage international harmonization, leading to a structured and cost-effective way of cooperation
- Reduce the barriers of facilitating market access



# A guide to EPD China Programme

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EPD refers to Environmental Product Declaration, which is the Type III environmental declaration providing quantified environmental data using predetermined parameters and, where relevant, additional environmental information.

### EPD Programme Operator



According to ISO14025, EPD Programme Operator is an independent body that conducts Type III environmental declaration programme.

The EPD Promotion Center is the Programme Operator of EPD China Programme, which the first registered and qualified EPD Programme Operator in China referred to in this Leaflet as "EPD China". EPD China actively respond to international and national policies and build the its competency to assure the quality, reliability, and consistency of the published EPDs.



The main objectives of EPD China Programme include:

- Provide validate, transparent, and reliable information on the environmental impacts of a product or the service throughout its life cycle.
- Provide quantified, multi-criteria, objective and environmental data, based on transparent and scientifically validated methods
- Encourage the demand for products with less impact on the environment, especially within the scope of Eco-responsible public procurement.
- Support companies in relevant sectors controlling the environmental impacts of their products or services, through approaches such as design, R&D, manufacturing and innovation of green products and services.
- Support compliance with existing and upcoming regulatory requirements for environmental declarations or environmental product labeling, ensuring the conditions for fair competition are present.
- To enhance collaboration and jointly serve the interests of consumers, the market, and relevant stakeholders with open and transparent information on environmental impacts of products and the sustainable development of the company.
- Participate in relevant international collaboration platforms, international PCR harmonization activities, and standardization.



Product Category Rules (PCR) contain specific instructions detailing LCA-based data collection methods for different product groups, conversion of the collected data to the present indicators, and the format for presentation of the information. PCR enable EPDs to have a consistent framework for calculating and presenting results for different products within the same product category. PCRs under the framework of EPD China shall be developed in Chinese and/or English.



Under the EPD China framework, the product category covered by a PCR shall be based on the function of the product, and shall follow the classification rules of China GB standard. The PCR types and their differences are listed below:

**Main PCR/ Core PCR:** specifies the rules for developing EPDs based on more industrial-specific requirements, the industrial PCR can be referred to by EPD developers if a product-specific PCR is not available.

Note: As the ECO EPD PO at ECO-Platform, EN15804 is the main PCR of construction products.



**Complementary PCR/specific product PCR (c-PCR/ PSR):** provides more specific rules e.g. functional units, scope and other information and requirements (e.g.methodological aspects of specific relevance for its scope, such as recommendations on allocation or modelling of end-of-life scenarios) for a subset of the product category covered by the general PCR, and when suitable, industry PCR. A specific PCR should be in line with the industry PCR, when applicable, when there is deviation, it should be noted in the specific PCR.



Standard and transparent procedure for the PCR review from the scope of the review to details of the review is established at EPD China.



**Identify a relevant, valid and applicable PCR:** The main PCR to use for construction products is EN 15804: Sustainability of construction works - Environmental product declarations - Core rules for the product category of construction products and c-PCR documents for specific product categories developed by EPD China can be found on the website.



**Conduct an LCA study:** conforming with the identified PCR, ISO 14025, ISO 14040/44, and any other applicable regional, national, and international standards: the organization may perform the LCA study internally or with the help of an external consultant with expertise in LCA. The project report, database, and software shall meet requirements in PCR and EPD China General Programme Instructions.



**EPD report:** writing an EPD report which compiles LCA results and the finalized EPD reports shall meet all requirements listed in the core PCR or/and c-PCR.



**Verification:** the LCA and EPD reports shall be verified by an independent third certification body approved by the EPD China Programme. The verification report shall be compiled according the EPD China verification report template. (To be updated based on core PCR).



**EPD registration and publication:** prior to EPD publication, the organization must register with the EPD China Programme. The final EPD report, and the verification report signed by approved verifier shall be submitted to the General Secretariat for final EPD publication. EPDs are assigned the declaration number, published and accessible to the public at the EPD China website.



As the type III environmental labeling, the technical and managerial independence of the verifier from the LCA practitioner and the EPD owner shall be guaranteed. In order to fulfill the mandatory requirements of independent third party verification from ISO 14025, EPD China sets the following rules when supervising the verifying process:

The institute verifier shall not be the same organization as LCA practitioner and EPD owner.

The institute verifier shall not participate or be involved in the LCA study of the project.

Only approved institute verifier from the verification and certification body can conduct the verification of EPD China Programme. This is due to the concern that EPD China can not fully guarantee whether the competent individual verifier has any other business contracts with LCA practitioner or/and EPD owner before or during the verification.

To avoid the financial pressure to verifier, the EPD Owner shall sign the contract and pay the verification fee to the approved certification body before the verification.

The institute verifier shall conduct the EPD procedure based on the strict and systematic procedure described at EPD China General Programme Rules.

The competence of institute verifiers from the certification body is guaranteed from the strict competence check procedures. The national certification body shall meet following requirements:

- Approved by the Certification and Accreditation Administration of the People's Republic of China CNCA;
- Recognized and authorized by the China National Accreditation Service for Conformity Assessment (CNAS);
- Conform to product certification ISO/IEC 17065:2012.



For the abroad certification bodies, they shall provide evidence that they are qualified to conduct verification and certification in their countries.

