

## Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation **(ESPR)**

24 March 2025

This document is intended for present and prospective users of the Global Sustainable Enterprise System. The goal of this document is to briefly describe ESPR and to explain the alignment between ESPR and GSES.

www.gses-system.com

## About GSES



### Who We Are

GSES is a holistic sustainability rating system, helping organizations make sustainable choices. It measures, benchmarks and externally verifies the sustainability performance of organisations, physical products and assets worldwide.

### What We Do

The GSES platform uses the Global Sustainable Enterprise Standard as a universal language to measure sustainability. This standard is an overarching meta-standard, translating more than 500 widely accepted standards and certificates into KPI's making them measurable and comparable.

### **Our Mission**

With the goal of simplifying the sustainability certification landscape and working against greenwashing, GSES works from the ground up - verifying and rewarding existing efforts and showing room for improvement.

### Our Vision

Our vision is a world where sustainability is not just a goal, but a well-defined path that guides every organization towards responsible and ethical practices. We envision a future where companies, governments, and individuals have access to clear, transparent, and actionable guidelines for achieving sustainability, without the burden of complexity and ambiguity.

## What is ESPR?



### What?

The ESPR is a regulatory framework designed to increase the sustainability and circularity of products placed on the EU market. It sets out ecodesign requirements for a wide range of goods, with the exception of specific categories like food and feed. These requirements address various product performance factors such as product durability, reusability, upgradability, reparability, energy efficiency, and the use of recycled content.

#### Key measures of ESPR

- Digital Product Passport (DPP): The well known DPP was created under the umbrella of the ESPR. The goal is to have ESPR information shared through DPP.
- Product Durability: Ensuring products last longer and are more repairable.
- Circular Economy: Promoting the use of recycled materials, improving disassembly for further use, and facilitating recycling.
- Rules on Unsold Products and Returned Products: Addressing the destruction of unsold and returned consumer products to reduce waste.
- Energy Efficiency: Reducing energy use and carbon emissions during the product's lifecycle.
- Substances of Concern: Minimizing or eliminating harmful substances that hinder product recyclability and safe reuse.

### Why?



The ESPR plays a critical role in addressing the environmental and climate impacts of consumption in the EU. By regulating product design, it seeks to ensure products are made for circular use across their entire lifecycle, from production to disposal treatment. The regulation is expected to:

- Double the EU's circularity rate by 2030, fostering a more sustainable use of resources.
- Complement and streamline Digital Product Passport (DPP).
- Reduce carbon emissions and promote energy efficiency to achieve the EU's 2030 climate goals.
- Enhance the EU's competitiveness by fostering innovation in sustainable product design and supporting new business models aligned with the circular economy.
- Protect the environment by reducing waste, promoting recycling and repair services, and encouraging the use of non-hazardous substances.

By making sustainability the standard for products sold in the EU, ESPR supports the EU's broader goal of becoming a climate-neutral continent by 2050, in line with the European Green Deal.

### For whom?

The ESPR is aimed at a variety of stakeholders across the EU, including:

- Manufacturers: Companies that produce physical goods for the EU market must comply with ecodesign requirements to improve product sustainability.
- Retailers and Distributors: Must ensure the products they offer meet the ESPR's sustainability standards.
- Consumers: The regulation empowers consumers by making sustainable products more accessible, reliable, and cost-effective.
- Public Sector: Government agencies involved in Green Public Procurement are incentivized to prioritize sustainable products in their purchasing decisions.
- Recyclers and Repair Service Providers: The regulation encourages services related to product maintenance, repair, and recycling, creating new business opportunities in the circular economy.

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### When?

The ESPR officially came into force on 18 July 2024. However, its implementation will be gradual, starting with a prioritization exercise to identify key product categories and set the timeline for introducing specific product rules. The European Commission will issue the requirements of targeted product groups on 19 April 2025.

Key milestones include:

- 2024-2025: The Commission will publish a working plan outlining the products and measures to be prioritized under ESPR. This plan will be developed through detailed impact assessments and public consultations.
- 2025-2026: The development of product-specific rules will begin, targeting product groups with the greatest potential for improved sustainability. Large companies will be required to report on how unsold products and returned products are deconstructed.
- 2026 onwards: Final ecodesign requirements for targeted groups and producers.

By 2030, ESPR aims to have fully operational ecodesign requirements for a broad range of goods, helping to achieve the EU's environmental targets.

## How can GSES help?



The GSES platform can help you show how your company's products are more sustainable and circular. GSES has a variety of features that align with the ESPR that help our clients show the sustainability of their products and also accompanies them on their path to becoming more circular.

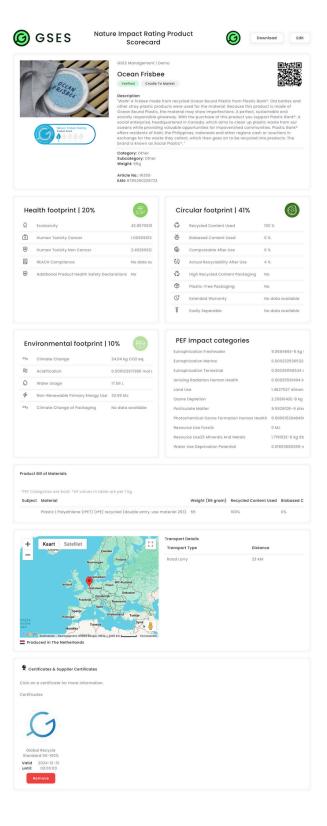
### Modules to boost your preparation for ESPR

### Digital Product Passport (DPP)

The GSES platform integrates the EU's DPP, allowing our users to have a digital record of the sustainability and recyclability of their products

### Consumer Oriented Platform

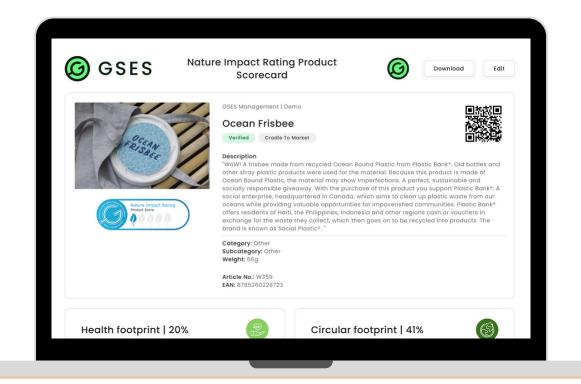
ESPR and GSES both share the same long term goal of empowering consumers in making sustainable choices



### Product Scorecards



Use our comprehensive product scorecards to highlight how your products meet the key principles of the ESPR, ensuring they are "sustainable, accessible, reliable, and cost-effective." These scorecards provide a detailed assessment, allowing you to demonstrate your commitment to meeting EU sustainability standards, enhancing product transparency, and aligning with consumer and regulatory expectations. By showcasing these attributes, you can effectively communicate the environmental and economic benefits of your products.



## Get your ESPR third party verified



### Independent Verification

At GSES we have partnered up with independent certification institutions/accountants. By incorporating third party verification through our partnership with Audit Independer, GSES ensures that there is no room for greenwashing or any other false claims.

All scorecards on the GSES platform will be independently verified by one our trusted partner institution.



Sources



https://commission.europa.eu/energy-climate-change-environment/standardstools-and-labels/products-labelling-rules-and-requirements/ecodesignsustainable-products-regulation\_en

https://www.afvalcirculair.nl/circulair-ontwerp/espr/

### Get in **touch**!

Do you have any questions or would you like to learn more? Please contact *support@gses-system.com* 

Please consult the website of the European Commission for the latest information about laws and regulations.