

# PPRS V8 Public Consultation Report

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## 1. Introduction

The Plastic Pollution Reduction Standard (PPRS) sets out a framework for registering post-consumer plastic waste recovery and diversion projects and issuing plastic credits. It requires the consideration of additionality and compliance to safeguard systems that aim to protect the people involved in waste management initiatives. Our standard requires environmental and social safeguards such as: environmental and social risk management, labor and working conditions, gender equality and social inclusion, and feedback and grievance mechanisms — all of which are subject to review of Validation and Verification Bodies (VVBs). The PPRS and our processes constantly evolve to reflect the latest environmentally responsible solutions, government policies, and industry best practices in all the geographies we operate in. PCX Solutions reviews and publishes the PPRS regularly with support from its PCX Industry Steering Committee.

In an effort to align with the ISEAL Code of Good Practice for Setting Social and Environmental Standards, PCX Solutions conducted a public consultation for the draft version 8 of the Plastic Pollution Reduction Standard last 28 March to 30 April 2024. This milestone reflects our dedication to transparency, inclusivity, and continuous improvement.

## 2. Public Consultation Process

The Public Consultation of version 8 of the PPRS was promoted across various platforms to gather valuable insights from our diverse range of stakeholders. The following were used as our main platforms for dissemination:

1. PCX Solutions Website - A dedicated consultation section on our website was launched to facilitate the public consultation process. The public could review the draft version 8 and easily provide feedback through an online form. A webinar recording and a summary deck was also provided on the consultation page to help stakeholders navigate the key changes from the previous version. The consultation started on 28 March 2024 and concluded on 30 April 2024.
2. Industry Groups - As a member of the multistakeholder initiative PREVENT Waste Alliance, PCX Solutions conducted an information session on the PPRS V8 Draft and promoted the ongoing Public Consultation to all PREVENT members. The consultation was also shared with the Plastic Footprint Network.
3. Industry Experts - PCX Solutions tapped various experts in plastic waste management, plastic credits, circular economy, and industry standards, among others, to ensure an informed review of the PPRS from multiple representatives of the value chain.

4. Project Partners and Validation and Verification Bodies (VVBs) - PCX Solutions recognizes that the Project Partners and VVBs have first-hand experience on the implementation and conformance to the standard, and are primarily affected by the revisions of PPRS. The public consultation process was disseminated to these groups via electronic mail.

### 3. Key Feedback and Actions Taken

The feedback received from stakeholders were consolidated and analyzed based on the following criteria: relevance, appropriateness, accuracy, objectiveness, and impact. Feedback which satisfied these criteria were either taken into account for version 8 or were noted for consideration in future developments of the PPRS.

Summarized in Table 1 below are the actions taken based on the feedback gathered during the public consultation process which were included in the final version of the PPRS V8.

Table 1: Summary of the Actions Taken to improve the PPRS V8 Draft

Section	Relevant Aspect/Topic	Action Taken
<b>Module 1</b>	<i>Definitions/Terminologies</i>	References and/or clarifications were provided in the footnotes for lesser-known terminologies used in the standard. Examples or application of concepts were also provided as needed within the document where relevant.
	<i>Scope, Qualified Post-consumer Plastic Materials</i>	A list of excluded wastes from the definition of post-consumer plastic wastes has been added in the standard. Additionally, the technical paper "Guidance on Waste Definitions" by Circular Plastics Alliance was also referenced in the standard to aid project partners determine the eligibility of the materials they collect/ process.
<b>Module 2</b>	<i>Additionality</i>	Adopting a regional baseline approach for additionality, including the requirement to review regional baselines every five years was added in the standard.
	<i>Alignment to UN SDGs</i>	Demonstration of how PPRS aligns with the UN SDGs has been updated.

	<i>Alignment to International Regulations/ Standards</i>	Module 2 of the PPRS was also aligned with additional relevant references specifically, the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (2016) and the International Labour Organization Standards (ILO) Standards.
	<i>Environmental and Social Safeguards</i>	The following aspects were included in the Environmental and Social Safeguards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anti-bribery and corruption policies</li> <li>• Project impact to land use</li> <li>• Minimum scoping for stakeholder consultations</li> </ul>
Module 3	<i>PPRS Criteria and Requirements</i>	On Sound Environmental Processes, permits relating to handling, storage, transport, and treatment of hazardous wastes have been included. Monitoring and continuous improvement on Environmental management plans/ procedures (or similar) have also been elaborated.
	<i>PPRS Conformity Assessment</i>	Guidance for VVBs was provided in the standard for the use of non-statistical or risk-based sampling methodology where multiple collection and processing facilities are involved in the project scope.
Module 4	<i>Grievance Mechanism</i>	A mechanism for stakeholders to file an appeal has been included in the standard.
Module 5	<i>Self-declared claims</i>	PPRS V8 provides guidance on what a balanced claim is, and how companies can communicate their actions to address plastic pollution through self-declared environmental claims. It is to be noted however, that while the PPRS provides a certain level of guidance, it does not provide a framework for approval or endorsement of any claim made or intended by credit buyers.

#### 4. Conclusion

The Public Consultation for the PPRS V8 revealed there is strong interest among involved stakeholders on the development of robust and credible standards regarding plastic waste management and plastic credits.

PCX Solutions reinforces our commitment to transparency, inclusivity, and continuous improvement, and will continue to listen to and value the feedback of our stakeholders. We expect significant changes brought about by the rapidly evolving science behind plastic pollution prevention, mitigation, and management, and by the ongoing negotiations in the Global Plastic Treaty. We will continue to strive to keep the PPRS credible, robust, and relevant through continual review of the standard and the need to update the same.

We thank all those who have participated in the public consultation and review process and we encourage all stakeholders and interested parties to continue to provide feedback on the PPRS at any time by emailing [pprs@pcxsolutions.org](mailto:pprs@pcxsolutions.org).