

Ogyre Protocol

for Waste Collection activities

On a mission to clean the Ocean.

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0. Preface

Marine pollution is a pervasive global challenge that continues to escalate at an alarming rate, with plastic waste making up 85% of marine debris. Despite growing awareness, over 400 million tonnes of plastic waste are generated annually, with single-use plastics contributing significantly to the crisis¹.

Current waste management systems are overwhelmed, capable of recycling less than 10% of the plastic produced globally². As a result, large quantities of **plastic leak into natural ecosystems**, causing severe environmental, economic, and health repercussions. Oceans, in particular, bear the brunt of this issue, accumulating an estimated 11 million tonnes of plastic waste per year, endangering marine life and compromising coastal livelihoods³.

Efforts to address waste and plastic pollution remain insufficient, as the **gap between production and waste management capacity continues to widen**. Global plastic production is projected to increase by 40% by 2030, yet investments in waste management infrastructure and recycling systems remain inadequate⁴.

International initiatives, such as the UN Plastic Treaty negotiations and other global efforts, have yet to yield concrete, enforceable agreements, and no binding framework has been adopted to meaningfully curb the plastic crisis. National pledges, while symbolic, often lack the necessary funding and regulatory mechanisms to drive real change.

To combat this crisis, solutions must go beyond traditional waste management and embrace proactive measures. Plastic action initiatives represent a critical pathway to recovery, encompassing efforts to remove existing waste, prevent further leakage, and support circular systems through recycling.

By purchasing **Ogyre Verified Waste Collection Credits**, companies directly support initiatives that remove waste from the environment by financing collection activities, while local partners reintroduce the collected materials into the production cycle.

This Protocol provides the framework for understanding, certifying and supporting such initiatives, ensuring transparency, accountability, and meaningful impact in the fight against plastic pollution.

¹ United Nations Environment Programme (2023). *Turning off the Tap. How the world can end plastic pollution and create a circular economy*. Nairobi.

² OECD (2022), *Global Plastics Outlook: Economic Drivers, Environmental Impacts and Policy Options*, OECD Publishing, Paris

³ United Nations Environment Programme (2024). *Global Waste Management Outlook 2024: Beyond an age of waste – Turning rubbish into a resource*. Nairobi.

⁴ OECD (2022), *Global Plastics Outlook: Economic Drivers, Environmental Impacts and Policy Options*, OECD Publishing, Paris

1. Introduction

Local governments and public waste management infrastructures worldwide are often insufficient and underfunded, and the price of recycled materials alone is not enough to cover the costs of collection and processing, discouraging recovery activities. Additional capital and income streams are necessary to prevent catastrophic consequences, particularly for the most vulnerable communities.

As a result, a significant portion of waste, especially plastic, is not properly managed. Alarming, only about 9% of plastic generated annually is recycled, while nearly 22% is mismanaged and ends up polluting the environment, causing severe consequences for ecosystems, human health, resource depletion, and climate change.

One additional resource stream can come from private financing of Plastic Action, where corporations and individuals support recollection projects as part of voluntary commitments or Extended Producer Responsibility obligations.

Ogyre is dedicated to bridging this gap by channelling capital into underfunded waste management systems that struggle to meet the scale of the challenges they face, developing new infrastructure or improving existing ones.

Through the development and support of Activities focused on environmental cleanup and the enhancement of collection and recycling capacity, Ogyre aims to create **impactful, scalable solutions** that mitigate marine pollution and benefit local communities.

The Ogyre Protocol outlines a comprehensive framework designed to certify and support Waste Collection initiatives. It sets out robust yet pragmatic principles, methodologies, and requirements to ensure that Ogyre Collection Activities meet the highest standards of **transparency and accountability**, while avoiding placing an excessive burden on local communities.

1.1 Purpose

The Ogyre Protocol aims to formalize and regulate Ogyre's waste collection and disposal initiatives by establishing **clear guidelines and criteria** that ensure Activities are verifiable, transparent, and environmentally sound. This framework supports consistent, reliable outcomes and guarantees that collected waste is appropriately managed, quantified and allocated, avoiding practices such as greenwashing and double counting, ensuring that collection efforts contribute meaningfully to environmental restoration.

The Ogyre Protocol provides stakeholders—such as project partners, verification bodies, corporate funders, policy makers and consumers—with clear guidance on Activities execution,

certification, and monitoring, alongside methodologies and processes to correctly allocate collected waste quantities, serving as a reference to understand and support Ogyre's initiatives.

By offering a structured and standardised approach to waste collection, the Protocol aims to allow the **scale up of collective efforts** to combat the global marine pollution crisis, ensuring that our operations are transparent, reliable and effective.

1.2 Scope & Applicability

This Protocol applies to Activities that collect post-consumer waste and plastic, either through Ocean-Bound Waste Collection operations leading to recycling or Ocean Waste Collection initiatives, collecting directly from the sea or marine ecosystems. It encompasses any activity that collects waste from the environment or from sub-optimal disposal destinations and redirects them to more appropriate end-of-life scenarios.

All plastic polymers and composite materials, as defined by the Verra Plastic Standard⁵, are included within the scope of this initiative⁶. Activities related to industrial waste, hazardous materials or by-products are excluded.

Ogyre Collection Activities focus solely on **post-consumer waste and plastic** collected and disposed of within the same country, preventing any transboundary movement. Other than this, there are no geographical limitations to the applicability of this Protocol.

The Protocol is applicable to both new and existing Activities, provided they demonstrate Additionality (see, [Chapter 3.2](#)) and that the environmental service is not already paid for.

Ogyre Verified Waste Collection Credits can be issued only for marine and ocean-bound waste that is collected, weighted, photographed, tracked and properly disposed of (see, [Chapter 2](#)). Activities that undertake the reduction or avoidance of waste generation or plastic usage are not eligible to issue the Ogyre Credits.

1.3 Development of the Protocol and Alignment with relevant frameworks

The development of the Ogyre Protocol has been guided by an evidence-based approach that draws from leading global standards and policy research. The Protocol aims to balance broad applicability and inclusivity with robust systems of traceability and accountability. By minimizing unnecessary burdens and costs for implementing partners, especially local communities and

⁵ Verra. (2021). *Plastic Waste Reduction Standard (Plastic Standard)*, v1.0. Verra.

⁶ Regarding marine litter, while the primary focus remains on plastics, any type of non-hazardous waste may be collected under this Protocol, as no waste belongs in the sea.

informal sector participants, the framework promotes practical yet effective solutions to combat marine pollution without compromising on transparency and credibility.

To enhance its consistency and reliability, the Ogyre Protocol incorporates insights from **key frameworks** such as Verra's Plastic Standard and Plastic Waste Collection Methodology⁷, as well as the Guidelines for Corporate Plastic Stewardship⁸ and the Ocean-Bound Plastic Certification⁹. These references provide essential guidance on measuring waste impacts, demonstrating additionality, and ensuring transparency throughout the waste and plastic collection process.

Moreover, the Protocol aligns with the Guidelines on Minimum Requirements for Plastic Waste Recovery & Crediting Standards developed by Prevent Waste Alliance¹⁰, respecting all the minimum requirements set and providing numerous premiums, such as social and biodiversity positive spillovers.

The Ogyre Protocol also incorporates insights from **major reports** by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the European Union, and prominent research institutions. These documents address the systemic challenges of plastic and waste pollution and emphasize the importance of coordinated actions focused on reduction, prevention, and circular economy solutions.

Recognizing that experience is the most valuable tool for improvement, the development of the Protocol is an ongoing process. Ogyre and its partners are committed to using lessons learned from project implementation to continuously update and enhance the framework, ensuring it remains relevant, effective, and aligned with emerging challenges and opportunities in waste collection and recovery efforts.

1.4 Principles of the Protocol

The Ogyre Protocol is built on five core principles that ensure it remains inclusive, effective, and adaptable while upholding the highest standards of accountability and environmental impact.

Inclusive Design

The Protocol is designed to prioritize inclusivity for all stakeholders, especially local communities and informal waste collectors, encompassing projects of all sizes and locations. By minimizing unnecessary administrative burdens for these groups and promoting fair

⁷ Verra. (2022). *Plastic Waste Collection Methodology, Version 1.1*. Verra.

⁸ 3R Initiative, EA – Environmental Action, Quantis, & South Pole. (2021, February). *Guidelines for Corporate Plastic Stewardship: Summary for Decision Makers*.

⁹ Zero Plastic Oceans. (2022, January). *Ocean Bound Plastic Neutrality Certification Subprogram*

¹⁰ PREVENT Waste Alliance. (2024, March). *Guidelines on Minimum Requirements for Plastic Waste Recovery & Crediting Standards*. Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

participation, the Protocol empowers smaller operators and supports sustainable, community-driven solutions.

Replicable yet Flexible Approach

The Protocol balances broad applicability with the need for consistent and standardized processes. It recognizes the unique challenges of each project context while providing a replicable structure that ensures comparability and scalability across different collection initiatives. Therefore, it enables effective implementation across different contexts without compromising accountability.

Transparency

The Protocol is designed to provide sufficient and appropriate waste and plastic related information, along with exhaustive explanations, in order to allow every stakeholder to make informed decisions.

Evidence-Based Guidance

All criteria and methodologies are grounded in the latest research and best practices related to marine pollution and waste management. By incorporating data and insights from scientific studies, policy reports and experts' guidelines, the Protocol ensures that collection activities are effective, credible and can demonstrate measurable environmental benefits.

Continuous Improvement

The Protocol is designed to evolve over time, incorporating feedback from stakeholders and lessons learned from project implementation. Regular updates reflect advances in science, technology, and policy, ensuring that the framework remains relevant, innovative, and effective in addressing the ongoing waste and plastic crisis.

2. Ogyre Waste Collection Activities

All estimates predict that marine pollution will get worse. Despite increasing regulatory efforts, waste management systems worldwide remain underfunded. Without a systemic, multi-stakeholder response, ocean pollution will continue to threaten marine ecosystems, biodiversity, and human health.

The scale and complexity of the waste and plastic crisis make it particularly difficult to solve. One of the biggest challenges lies in the intricate and fragmented nature of the waste value chain, which spans from raw material extraction, production, distribution, consumption, and ultimately disposal, often in the environment.

Another major challenge is the lack of clarity on who should bear the operational and financial responsibility for waste and plastic collection and disposal. Should the burden fall on governments, consumers, or the companies that profit from plastic production and distribution? The absence of clear accountability has slowed progress, leaving waste collection and recycling efforts chronically underfunded in many regions.

At Ogyre, we have developed a structured and impact-driven strategy to combat ocean pollution, centered around two main pillars: (1) the **direct removal of waste from marine environments** through responsible cleanup operations and (2) the **collection and recycling of waste in coastal areas**, preventing further pollution while reducing the demand for virgin materials. This strategy is designed to empower companies and consumers to take direct action, filling the gaps left by public governance failures or inadequate waste management systems.

2.1 Background concepts

To fully understand the plastic and waste pollution crisis and the role of collection and recovery efforts, it is essential to explore some key concepts that shape waste management strategies and actionable solutions.

The Waste Management Hierarchy

The Waste Management Hierarchy is a widely recognized concept in environmental policy that establishes a prioritized framework for managing waste, guiding decision-making on the most sustainable end-of-life options. It has been integrated into European Union policies and legislation as a fundamental principle for waste reduction and resource efficiency.

We adopted a version of this hierarchy (see Figure 1), based on the UNEP & Basel Convention framework, further refined by the Prevent Waste Alliance¹¹, to develop a broader model that

¹¹ PREVENT Waste Alliance. (2024, March). *Guidelines on Minimum Requirements for Plastic Waste Recovery & Crediting Standards*. Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

illustrates the progression of waste from the worst-case scenario—such as environmental leakage—to increasingly responsible and sustainable disposal or recovery solutions.

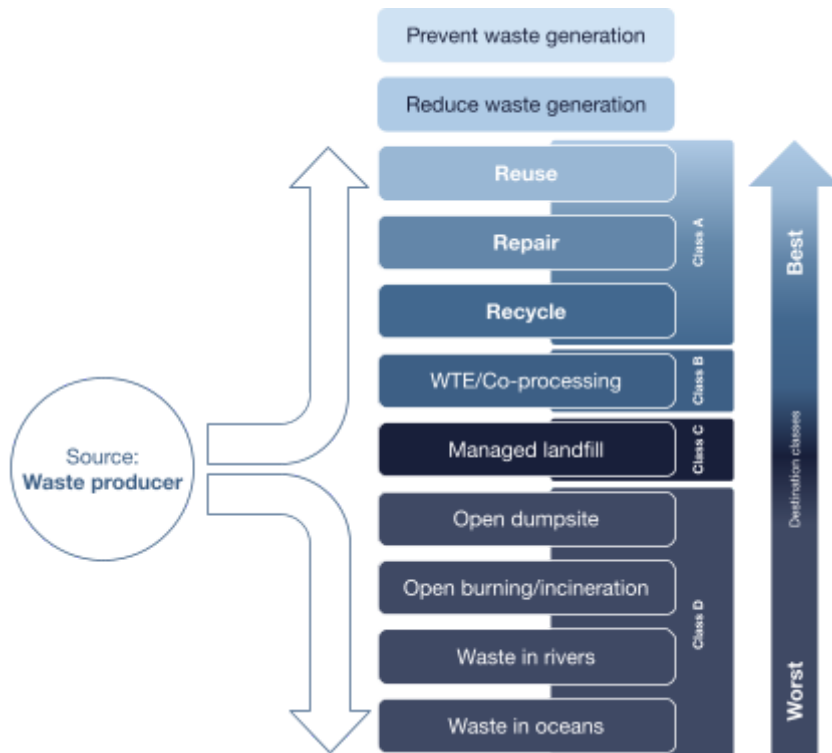


Figure 1 - Waste Management Hierarchy by Prevent Waste Alliance

The most effective approach to combat marine pollution is always to **prevent** and **reduce** waste generation; however, these actions are not considered waste destinations.

- **Class A** destinations focus on material circularity, extending the use and lifespan of materials like plastic through reuse, repair, or recycling.
- **Class B** destinations recover energy from waste, including waste-to-energy processes and industrial co-processing in cement, steel, or glass production. This approach is encouraged when equipped with certified emission filters.
- **Class C** destinations refer to managed landfills, where waste is contained but not repurposed.
- **Class D** destinations represent environmental leakage.

Upstream Solutions, Internal Improvements and Downstream Activities

Since the value chain of waste generation and management is long and complex, extending from raw material extraction to consumer use and disposal, solutions to mitigate pollution can be implemented at various stages and are categorized as follows:

- **Upstream Solutions**

These solutions focus on production-level changes to minimize the environmental impact of virgin materials. Examples include bioplastics derived from renewable sources, alternative materials that replace fossil-based plastics, and improved formulations that reduce the use of harmful additives.

- **Internal Process Improvements**

These are company-led efforts to minimize waste within their own operations. Strategies include eco-design for packaging (designing for recyclability) and process efficiency improvements to reduce waste in manufacturing, along with increasing recycled content and reducing virgin materials usage in products and packaging.

- **Downstream Activities**

These focus on post-consumer waste management, including collection, recycling, and disposal, playing a crucial role in mitigating pollution by capturing and repurposing plastic and waste before it causes environmental harm. Funding for downstream solutions often comes from Plastic Crediting Mechanisms and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes, which provide financial support for waste management efforts.

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Schemes & Plastic/Waste Credits

EPR schemes are policy-driven frameworks, increasingly adopted by countries worldwide, that require companies placing products on the market to assume financial responsibility for their end-of-life management. By shifting the burden of waste management from governments and consumers to producers, these schemes encourage businesses to reduce waste generation, improve recyclability, and invest in sustainable alternatives. Under a well-functioning EPR system, producers contribute fees based on the amount and type of materials they introduce into the market, which in turn funds waste collection, sorting, and recycling infrastructure, embedding corporate accountability into national waste strategies.

Plastic/Waste Credits and EPR schemes should not compete but complement each other, ensuring that producer responsibility remains central to waste management strategies while expanding the reach and effectiveness of waste collection and recovery efforts.

Where EPR frameworks exist, Plastic/Waste Credit mechanisms can be integrated into compliance systems, allowing companies to meet regulatory obligations while supporting additional certified collection projects, such as clean-up of plastic and waste pollution in the terrestrial and marine environment.

In regions without EPR regulations, Plastic/Waste Credits become even more essential, as they provide a direct financial stream to support waste collection and recycling where no structured funding exists. By mobilizing voluntary corporate investments, plastic/waste crediting

ensures that collection efforts happen in underserved areas, bridging critical gaps and driving the transition toward a circular economy.

2.2 Ogyre Waste Collection Activities categories

Ogyre's Activities fall within the category of **downstream solutions**, focusing on post-consumer waste and plastic collection. While not mandated by EPR schemes, Ogyre Activities are designed to be potentially compatible with them, ensuring that collection efforts meet high environmental and social standards. These initiatives are funded through the sale of **Ogyre Verified Waste Collection Credits**, enabling companies to take responsibility for their Waste and Plastic Footprint while directly supporting effective waste management systems.

To address marine pollution both at its source and once the waste has entered the environment, Ogyre has developed two complementary categories of Collection Activities:

1) **Ocean Waste Collection Activities**

Fishing for Litter initiatives where waste is collected directly from marine ecosystems by Ogyre's fleet of partner fishermen, or any activity that collects waste from environments in close proximity to the sea or waterways. These Activities focus on mitigating pollution's harmful impact on biodiversity and human health.

These Activities collect waste from class D destinations (Environment) and redirect them to appropriate end-of-life scenarios. Class C destinations (managed landfill) are acceptable only if no other feasible options are available.



2) **Ocean-Bound¹² Waste Collection Activities**

Activities focused on collecting recyclable materials that would otherwise end up in landfills or leak into the environment, ensuring they are properly reintegrated into the circular economy through recycling or reuse, thereby reducing the need for virgin materials production.

These Activities collect waste from destinations that do not allow the repurposing to Class A destinations. Class B and C destinations (energy recovery and managed landfill) are not acceptable for this category, meaning that all waste collected are recycled or reused¹³.



This dual approach recognizes that solving marine pollution requires both cleanup efforts and preventive measures: removing the waste that is already harming ecosystems while cutting off new inputs at the source, enhancing recycling capacity.

Both Activities' categories are eligible to generate **Ogyre Verified Waste Collection Credits**, which include key information within their serial number, such as the Activity category, collection source and end-of-life scenario.

All principles and requirements of this Protocol apply equally to both categories, with any exclusions or specific conditions explicitly noted.

¹² We align with the definition used by Zero Plastic Oceans' Ocean Bound Plastic Certification (OBPC), which considers "Ocean Bound" any waste found within 50 km of a coastline in areas lacking adequate waste management infrastructure. Under these conditions, the plastic is at high risk of eventually entering the ocean.

¹³ In some Ocean-Bound Collection projects, particularly in very remote areas, it may not be feasible to direct all collected waste to Class A destinations. In these situations, any alternative end-of-life scenarios must be clearly disclosed within the project description documents.

2.3 Ogyre Collection Activities principles

All Ogyre Activities are developed in accordance with seven fundamental principles that ensure effectiveness, credibility, transparency, and commitment to social and environmental responsibility.

Additionality

Additionality ensures that Collection Activities deliver benefits that would not have occurred without support from Ogyre. These initiatives must demonstrate that their operations go beyond legal or market-driven obligations and provide clear evidence that, without the project, the waste in question would not have been collected or managed properly (see Chapter 3 for Demonstration of Additionality).

No Double Counting

No Double Counting ensures that the environmental benefits generated by a Collection Activity are attributed to a single entity and recorded only once. This principle prevents multiple parties from claiming the same impact, requiring a robust tracking system that ensures each **Ogyre Verified Waste Collection Credits** reflects a unique contribution to waste reduction.

Best end-of-life available

Collected waste must be directed to the *most sustainable end-of-life option available*, prioritizing recycling over disposal. Landfilling is allowed only as a last resort for marine-collected waste when recycling is not feasible due to material contamination or degradation, and there are no certified energy recovery facilities available in the area.

Impact Traceability

Traceability requires that procedures exist to ensure that every step of the process—from collection to final disposal or reuse—is documented and verifiable¹⁴, and that every step of the allocation of positive environmental impact – from credit issuance to their transfer and retirement – is recorded and available for controls.

Social Impact

Collection Activities shall strive to create positive social value in the communities where they operate. In addition to their environmental benefits, Collection Activities support local

¹⁴ Exceptions may apply only for disposal of marine collections that are landfilled due to unavailability of more suitable end-of-life destinations, when the authorized facility does not provide receipts for the material sent. For marine waste collection projects in Italy, the legal responsibility for correctly managing the retrieved materials lies with local authorities. Consequently, Ogyre is not required to maintain records of disposal activities.

livelihoods, foster economic opportunities, and promote social inclusion, contributing to sustainable development and community well-being.

Do Not Harm

Collection Activities shall strive to minimize negative impacts on other environmental objectives set out by the European Taxonomy, such as climate change mitigation and biodiversity protection. Activities must implement safeguards to prevent unintended consequences and meet determined environmental protection criteria, contributing positively without compromising other sustainability goals.

Verifiability

Verifiability requires that all Collection Activities be subject to audits—either internal or independent—to ensure credibility and reliability. Each project must maintain detailed records of their operations, including collection data and impact metrics, which must be available for review.

2.4 ESG Activities Requirements and Selection Criteria

Ensuring that Ogyre Collection Activities uphold high social, environmental, and ethical standards is essential to maximizing their positive impact and avoiding unintended harm. While the primary objective of these initiatives is to remove waste from the environment, their design and execution also create opportunities to generate broader environmental and social benefits.

By adhering to strict ESG safeguards, Waste Collection initiatives can contribute not only to waste reduction and circularity but also to biodiversity protection, climate resilience, fair labor practices, and local economic development. Embedding these principles into Collection Activities helps create positive spillovers, amplifying the long-term value of these interventions and ensuring that they align with the broader sustainability agenda.

Alongside adhering to the Collection principles, all Activities under the Ogyre Protocol must comply with rigorous standards for social and environmental safeguards and business integrity. These requirements, further detailed in [Ogyre's Code of Conduct](#), which also provides implementation guidelines, ensure that Collection Activities meaningfully contribute to environmental restoration while promoting human rights and ethical business practices.

2.4.1 Environmental Responsibility (E)

Ensuring strong environmental standards in all Ogyre projects is essential to achieving a meaningful and lasting impact in the fight against marine pollution.

Since waste management and leakage are closely linked to broader environmental challenges such as climate change, water scarcity, and biodiversity loss, it is crucial that our

operations—and those of our partners—adhere to rigorous environmental safeguards. This commitment not only protects natural ecosystems but also strengthens the long-term sustainability and credibility of our initiatives.

Ogyre's environmental safeguards guarantee that Collection Activities deliver real impact and achieve their objectives creating positive spillovers, without causing significant harm to other environmental goals, in line with the **Do No Significant Harm (DNSH) principle of the European Taxonomy**¹⁵.

This principle mandates that economic activities contribute positively to at least one environmental objective while avoiding significant negative impacts on others. In Ogyre Collection Activities, this means adopting measures that balance environmental benefits of reducing waste pollution with the mitigation of potential negative impacts across other key areas, such as GHG emissions.

1) Proper Waste Collection and Disposal

All waste must be responsibly collected and directed toward optimal end-of-life scenarios to prevent leakage into the environment. Ocean-Bound Waste Collection Activities must all be directed to recycling, unless impossible due to context specific conditions. Waste from marine collection efforts, where contamination or degradation limits the possibility of upcycling, may be sent to authorized landfills as a last resort. Activities must adhere to the No Diversion Principle, ensuring that waste intended for recovery is not rerouted from existing waste management systems. Additionally, Activities must prohibit transboundary movement of waste, ensuring that materials are processed locally, avoiding unnecessary emissions and respecting international regulations.

2) Climate Change and Energy Efficiency

Partners and suppliers are expected to take proactive, measurable steps to avoid or reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, wherever feasible. Their operations should align with internationally recognised environmental standards and targets, supporting the long-term temperature goals outlined in the Paris Agreement. Additionally, they should adopt and continuously enhance energy management practices that prioritise efficiency, conservation, and the sustainable use of resources. These efforts should focus on achieving tangible reductions in environmental impact and contributing meaningfully to global climate change mitigation efforts.

3) Sustainable Water Use

Water is a critical resource, particularly in the coastal and marine environments where Ogyre operates. Partners are expected to implement sustainable practices that contribute to water conservation and responsible water management. This involves reducing water consumption, enhancing process efficiency, and preventing unnecessary waste.

¹⁵ European Commission. (2023). *Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/363 on sustainability disclosures for financial products*. Official Journal of the European Union, L 50, 3–27.

Additionally, partners should ensure responsible wastewater management, treating and disposing of effluents in ways that prevent pollution, protect local ecosystems, and safeguard human health. Uncontrolled discharge of untreated wastewater can severely impact biodiversity and communities that rely on clean water sources, making compliance with strict environmental standards essential.

4) Pollution Prevention

Preventing pollution throughout all stages of Ogyre Collection Activities—collection, transportation, and processing—is essential to minimizing environmental harm. Partners are expected to adopt comprehensive waste management strategies that not only ensure the proper disposal or repurposing of materials but also actively limit the release of microplastics, airborne particles, and other pollutants into the environment. Proper handling and storage of collected waste should prevent spills and leakage, particularly during transit, while measures should be in place to control dust and runoff that could contaminate soil and waterways.

Additionally, partners should take proactive steps to limit the release of hazardous substances that may impact air, water, and soil quality. By prioritizing pollution prevention, they help protect marine ecosystems, reduce long-term environmental risks, and align their operations with global sustainability standards.

5) Habitat and Ecosystem Protection

The preservation of habitats and biodiversity is closely tied to Collection efforts, particularly in coastal and marine environments, where ecosystems are highly sensitive to disturbances. Partners and suppliers must ensure their activities support ecosystem health or, at a minimum, avoid habitat degradation. This requires careful planning of waste collection efforts to limit disruption and prevent harm to wildlife, especially in vulnerable areas such as biodiversity hotspots and breeding grounds.

To mitigate risks, partners should conduct environmental impact assessments where appropriate and engage with local stakeholders to identify concerns and develop responsible strategies. Collection and processing activities should be timed to minimize interference with natural processes like breeding or migration periods. Where feasible, Activities should include habitat restoration efforts, such as replanting vegetation or removing debris that hinders ecosystem recovery.

2.4.2 Social Safeguards (S)

Ogyre’s mission extends beyond environmental restoration—our Activities aim to generate both environmental and social value, ensuring a holistic and lasting impact. By integrating strong social safeguards into Waste Collection initiatives, we promote fair, safe, and inclusive working conditions, empower local communities, and enhance the well-being of those involved.

Upholding human rights, fair labor practices, and safe working conditions is essential to sustainable change. In alignment with ILO standards¹⁶, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights¹⁷, and the EU Taxonomy for Sustainable Activities, our approach embeds social equity and local development at every stage of our value chain. Ogyre's Code of Conduct sets clear guidelines and minimum requirements to safeguard worker dignity, labor rights, and community engagement, reinforcing our commitment to high-impact, socially responsible collection operations.

1) Occupational Safety and Health (OSH)

A safe and healthy work environment is critical in Waste Collection, where workers may handle hazardous materials and operate in challenging conditions. Ogyre is committed to preventing harm and ensuring both physical and mental well-being.

Partners must uphold high safety standards, identifying and providing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), implementing clear safety protocols, and offering regular training to prepare workers for emergencies. Ensuring access to medical support and establishing reporting systems further contribute to a culture of safety and prevention.

2) Child Welfare and Anti-Exploitation

Ogyre strictly prohibits child labor, forced labor, and exploitation in its supply chain. Partners must comply with ILO Conventions 138¹⁸ and 182¹⁹ and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, ensuring that no individual below the legal working age is employed in hazardous work.

Hiring practices must align with local laws, respecting the higher threshold between the legal minimum working age and compulsory schooling age. Where legally allowed, adolescent employment must be light, non-hazardous, and not interfere with education or development. All work must be voluntary, and partners must enforce transparent hiring policies with regular oversight to prevent exploitation.

3) Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

Ogyre promotes a workplace culture based on dignity, fairness, and equal opportunities. Partners should uphold these values by ensuring inclusive hiring, training, and leadership access for all workers, regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, or socio-economic background.

Discriminatory practices of any kind are strictly prohibited. Partners should adopt anti-discrimination policies and encourage the participation of underrepresented groups, including women and marginalized communities. Engaging local communities and

¹⁶ International Labour Organization. (2022). *ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work* (1998, amended in 2022).

¹⁷ United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner. (2011). *Guiding principles on business and human rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" framework*.

¹⁸ International Labour Organization. (1973). *Minimum Age Convention, 1973* (No. 138).

¹⁹ International Labour Organization. (1999). *Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999* (No. 182).

promoting equitable decision-making strengthens the sustainability and success of Collection Activities.

4) Fair Working Conditions

Ogyre ensures fair and ethical working conditions that uphold workers' rights, dignity, and well-being. All labor must be voluntary, with strict prohibitions against forced labor, human trafficking, and exploitation. Partners must respect freedom of association, collective bargaining, and protection from unjust treatment.

Partners must comply with wage and labor laws, ensuring fair pay, reasonable working hours, and legally mandated benefits. Employment conditions should be transparent and well-documented to prevent unfair practices. By fostering equity, job security, and ethical treatment, Ogyre promotes social well-being and the long-term sustainability of Waste Collection initiatives.

5) Prevention of Harassment and Inappropriate Behaviour

A safe, respectful, and harassment-free workplace is non-negotiable. Ogyre enforces a zero-tolerance policy for harassment, abuse, discrimination, and coercion, ensuring that all workers are treated with dignity and respect.

Partners should uphold high ethical and professional standards, preventing any behavior that may be offensive or harmful. They should also establish clear reporting channels, handle complaints confidentially and without retaliation, and implement robust anti-harassment policies.

2.4.3 Business Integrity (G)

Business integrity safeguards ensure that Collection Activities operate with transparency, accountability, and ethical conduct at every stage. These safeguards promote adherence to local and international laws, prevent unethical practices, and build trust with stakeholders, including local communities, partners, funders, and regulatory authorities.

1) Regulatory Compliance

Partners must ensure to comply with all applicable local, national, and international laws, regulations, and standards. This includes securing any necessary permits, adhering to labour and environmental regulations, and following legal requirements for waste collection, handling, and reporting.

By ensuring full legal compliance, Activities demonstrate their commitment to responsible operations and avoid reputational and operational risks that could undermine their impact.

2) Prevention of Corruption, Fraud, and Bribery

Preventing corruption, fraud, and bribery ensures that all operations are conducted with transparency and fairness. Financial transparency, accurate reporting, and unbiased decision-making are key to maintaining ethical standards and avoiding fraud, undue influence or conflicts of interest.

Ogyre and its partners are committed to continuously improving internal processes and controls to minimize the risks of unethical behaviours, promoting a culture of accountability and trust across all Collection Activities.

3) Prohibition of Unauthorized Subcontracting

Unauthorized subcontracting can compromise project quality, safety, and accountability. Therefore, subcontracting is only permitted when explicitly authorized and when the subcontracted parties comply with the same ethical and operational standards as partners.

Ensuring oversight of subcontractors helps maintain consistent standards across all Activities and prevents potential risks related to quality control and ethical conduct.

4) Involvement of local communities

The involvement of local communities ensures that Ogyre Collection Activities are not only effective but also socially inclusive and respectful of the people they affect. Engaging with communities fosters mutual trust, strengthens local support, and ensures that all projects align with cultural values and community needs, contributing to long-term sustainability.

Ogyre and its partners are committed to building meaningful relationships with local communities by listening to their concerns, respecting their priorities, and promoting inclusive collaboration. This approach helps create shared and social well-being, key elements for the stability and success of the Ogyre Activities.

5) Impact Traceability

Partners must ensure comprehensive documentation of the collection process by photographing and weighing all collected materials, then uploading the collected data onto Ogyre's digital platform in strict adherence to established guidelines.

Additionally, partners are required to retain detailed records of the disposal phase and must be able to provide verifiable proof upon request. Acceptable forms of evidence include sales invoices from end-of-life facilities, disposal certificates, or other reliable means of verification that confirm the waste has been processed in accordance with regulatory and sustainability standards.

3. Methodology application

The methodology outlined in this Protocol provides **clear procedures** to quantify the additional waste removed or diverted from the environment through formal and informal activities that prevent waste and plastic from accumulating or leaking into natural ecosystems. Rigorous assessment of additionality, along with transparent and accurate quantification of baseline scenarios and collected volumes, is essential to ensure that this system operates effectively and earns stakeholder trust²⁰.

In the past, when fewer assurance mechanisms were in place, some environmental projects approved by major standard-setters were found to be lacking additionality or miscalculated their impact²¹. This led to an increase in financial and bureaucratic requirements, which, in turn, lengthened approval times and raised implementation costs²². These added burdens have often discouraged small organizations, informal workers, and marginalized communities from participating, limiting their access to the supplementary income provided by Plastic Credits—beyond the modest payment for the collected material itself.

However, research shows that heightened bureaucratic demands do not always reduce uncertainty or improve transparency²³. Complex calculations required to determine baseline scenarios and demonstrate additionality may not always guarantee greater accountability²⁴.

Moreover, the challenges of proving additionality and quantifying impact are more pronounced in carbon credit and emissions reduction or avoidance projects—areas excluded from this Protocol. In contrast, Collection Projects face fewer quantification issues, as the collected material is tangible, measurable, and easily documented thanks to photographs and disposal evidence. Collection initiatives also more clearly demonstrate additionality since the proper collection and disposal of waste, if not externally funded, would often not occur at all or would be performed under exploitative conditions, given that material payments alone do not adequately compensate waste pickers.

For these reasons and in response to these challenges, the methodology outlined in this Protocol is designed to balance inclusivity with reliability by minimizing unnecessary financial and administrative burdens on participants while maintaining rigorous verification standards.

²⁰ Ellen MacArthur Foundation. (2019). “New Plastics Economy Global Commitment & Vision.”

²¹ Cames, M. et al. (2016). “How Additional is the Clean Development Mechanism?” *Oeko-Institut Report for the European Commission*.

²² Schneider, L. (2009). “Assessing the additionality of CDM projects: practical experiences and lessons learned.” *Climate Policy* 9(3), 242–254.

²³ Kollmuss, A., Zink, H., & Polycarp, C. (2008). “Making Sense of the Voluntary Carbon Market: A Comparison of Carbon Offset Standards”. *WWF Germany*.

²⁴ Michaelowa et al., (2019). “Additionality revisited: guarding the integrity of market mechanisms under the Paris Agreement.” *Climate Policy*.

3.1 Applicability Conditions

This methodology applies only when all the following conditions are met:

1) Post-consumer Waste Collection

Project activities must focus on post-consumer waste, removing it directly from marine ecosystems or intercepting ocean-bound debris in underfunded coastal areas for recycling. These may include sub-activities such as sorting, shredding or decontamination before transferring the waste to the next entity in the value chain.

2) New or Expanded Activities

The collection activity must be a new initiative or the enhancement of an existing activity.

3) Identifiable Collection Sites

The sites of collected waste must be clearly identifiable and specified (names and geographical location of selected areas, seas, ecosystems, riverbanks, shores, districts and communities or any other site type).

4) Suitable End-of-Life Destination and No transboundary movement:

Collected waste must be sent to an appropriate end-of-life destination, which include (in order of preference):

- Recycling, Reprocessing and/or Reusing (Class A destinations, mandatory for Ocean-Bound Waste Collection Activities)
- Incineration with Energy Recovery (Class B destinations, acceptable only for Ocean Waste Collection Activities)
- Sanitary Landfill (Class C destinations, acceptable only for Ocean Waste Collection Activities)

Transfers may include intermediary agencies, provided the transfer is documented and the final destination is identifiable and appropriate. End-of-life destinations must be within the same country of collection, preventing any transboundary movement of waste.

5) Measurement and Documentation:

The weight of collected waste must be measured and recorded with documental evidence and scale readings. Evidence of recycling and other processing of the waste (such as the invoice of end-destination facilities) must be kept and provided upon request.

6) Legality of Use:

The collected waste must not be used in any unauthorized, illegal, or non-statutory activities.

7) No Diversion:

The Activity operations must not divert waste already managed by historically established systems.

8) Low value waste

Activities should prioritize low-value, non-commercially recyclable materials, meaning that the material's intrinsic value alone is insufficient to cover collection and repurposing costs.

3.2 Demonstration of Additionality

“A Project activity is additional if it can be demonstrated that the activity results in collected or recycled plastic waste that is in excess of what would most likely have occurred in the absence of the project activity and the activity would not have occurred in the absence of the incentive provided by the plastic crediting mechanism.

Additionality is an important characteristic of Plastic Credits because it indicates that they represent a net environmental benefit and a real reduction in plastic waste in the environment compared to what would have occurred in the absence of the project.²⁵” -

Verra Plastic Waste Reduction Standard

Additionality refers to the principle that a project's environmental or social benefits would not have occurred without the intervention of the project developers. In the context of Ogyre's Activities, this means that the waste collected (and processed by local partners) would not have been removed or recycled with social benefits and traceability safeguards through existing market mechanisms or regulatory obligations, ensuring a genuine **net-positive impact**.

To ensure the credibility of Ogyre Collection Activities, each project must demonstrate that it generates quantifiable and verifiable impact beyond existing waste management efforts at the regional, polymer, or project activity level. The methodology to demonstrate additionality aligns with best practices in the sector and takes inspiration from internationally recognised standards, such as the Verra Plastic Standard, which provides structured approaches to validate additionality.

Establishing the baseline scenario

Additionality is determined by assessing deviation from a baseline of practices—a reference scenario that represents what would occur in the absence of the Activity. Baselines are typically projections of past trends into a future scenario, considering factors such as waste generation, collection rates, and existing infrastructure. Therefore, the first step in determining additionality is to establish a clear baseline scenario.

²⁵ Verra. (2021). *Plastic Waste Reduction Standard (Plastic Standard)*, v1.0 (p. 22). Verra.

“The baseline scenario is that in which, without project implementation, the plastic waste would have remained in the environment, been disposed of by open burning, been incinerated without energy recovery and/or disposed of in a dumpsite.”²⁶ - Verra

- **New Projects:** if the initiative is newly implemented and Waste Collection efforts did not previously exist in the area and for certain materials, the baseline is assumed to be zero, meaning that all collected and processed waste is additional.
- **Existing Projects:** for Projects that build upon pre-existing waste collection activities, additionality must be demonstrated by showing that the volume of collected waste, the quality of social benefits, the traceability of waste flows, or the end-destination of collected material has been improved. For instance, Projects that divert waste and plastic from being landfilled to recycling or from informal dumping to regulated waste treatment are considered additional.

Ogyre recognizes the importance of supporting Collection Activities in developing contexts, where formal waste management infrastructure is often lacking. Therefore, additionality requirements should not impose unnecessary administrative complexity on small-scale projects, particularly those involving informal waste workers. Instead, a pragmatic approach ensures that valuable initiatives are not excluded due to disproportionate reporting demands.

Positive Lists for Automatic Additionality

To streamline additionality assessments, Ogyre applies a Positive List approach, inspired by best practices within the sector. Activities that meet the following criteria are automatically deemed additional:

- Small-scale Collection projects in developing countries
- Projects involving informal waste pickers, provided they guarantee fair wages and improved working conditions
- Projects operating in regions with inadequate or absent formal waste management infrastructure
- Projects that involve fishermen that would not be otherwise compensated to collect and responsibly dispose of marine waste

These projects inherently fill a gap in existing waste systems and create both environmental and social benefits that would not have been realized otherwise, therefore are considered automatically additional for the purpose of this document.

Additionality Assessment for Projects not on a Positive List

For Activities that do not fall under the Positive List, additionality must be demonstrated using one of two methods:

²⁶ Verra. (2022). *Plastic Waste Collection Methodology, Version 1.1.(p.12)* Verra.

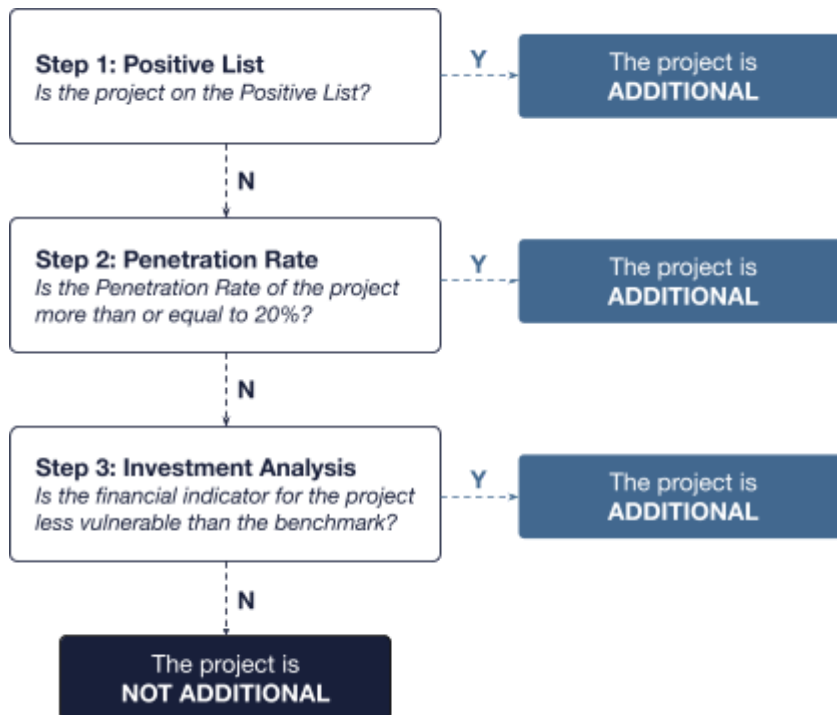
A. Penetration Rate Analysis

This method evaluates how much of the relevant waste is currently being collected and properly processed in the region. A project is considered additional if the Penetration Rate—the percentage of total waste being collected and managed correctly—is below 20%.

If publicly available data is not accessible, the project proponent may conduct field studies or use industry benchmarks to estimate waste management rates.

B. Investment Analysis

This method assesses whether the project would have been financially viable without external funding. If the project's expected financial returns (e.g., Internal Rate of Return (IRR)) fall below a justifiable benchmark (such as commercial lending rates, cost of financing, or industry-required return on capital), it qualifies as additional. The analysis should demonstrate that credits enable an activity that would not have otherwise been implemented due to financial constraints.



3.3 Quantification of Collected Materials and issuance of Credits

An **Ogyre Verified Waste Collection Credits** is issued when 1 kilogram of post-consumer waste is collected and is destined to be processed at an appropriate end-of-life facility that complies with local, regional, or national regulations and meets the ESG requirements outlined in this Protocol.

To ensure transparency and traceability, partners must document and verify the weight of

collected waste, maintaining a clear chain of custody through an internal data management system or the upload on Ogyre's digital platform.

The number of Ogyre Credits issued by an Activity is calculated as follows:

- For **Ocean Waste Collection Activities**, the wet weight of collected materials from the sea or marine ecosystems is considered, rather than the dry weight of correctly disposed waste. This approach ensures fair compensation for both fishermen and waste managers, who face significantly higher transportation and processing costs due to the unique challenges of marine waste collection.
Fishermen, often using non-motorized boats, must carry the excess weight of waterlogged waste, mud, and debris, making their task considerably more demanding. At the same time, waste managers must invest extra effort and resources to clean, dry, and treat the collected materials before they can be repurposed. Given these additional burdens, it is both fair and necessary to account for the full wet weight of marine waste in compensation calculations, recognizing the extensive work required to bring these materials back into the circular economy.
- For **Ocean-Bound Waste Collection Activities**, on the other hand, the **dry weight** of the waste reaching the appropriate end-of-life destination is considered, in order to discount any material loss incurred in the process of transportation and treatment.

Only post-consumer plastic and waste with a fully verifiable chain of custody documented in Ogyre's or its partners' internal data management system is eligible for **Ogyre Verified Waste Collection Credits** issuance. This ensures transparency, traceability, and compliance, guaranteeing that only properly documented and authenticated collection efforts contribute to credit generation.

Ocean Waste Collection		Ocean-Bound Waste Collection	
Collection from fishermen	11.367kg	Collection from waste pickers	11.367kg
Transfer to MRF	10.278kg	Transfer to MRF	10.278kg
Processed at MRF	10.112kg	Processed at MRF	10.112kg
Transfer to End-destination	9.582kg	Transfer to End-destination	9.582kg
Received at End-Destination	8.752kg	Received at End-Destination	8.752kg
Ogyre Verified Waste Collection Credits issued	11.367kg	Ogyre Verified Waste Collection Credits issued	8.752kg

All issued and allocated Ogyre Credits must be registered both on Ogyre's digital traceability platform and on a blockchain registry in order to guarantee that the positive impact generated

and attributed to companies is not double counted and can be verified by external auditors and institutions.

4. Monitoring & Evaluation

To ensure compliance with the Protocol, uphold transparency, traceability, and credibility, and drive continuous improvement, a robust Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) system is fundamental to all Ogyre Collection Activities. This system captures key environmental and social indicators, tracking their evolution over time to assess project performance and mitigate negative unintended consequences that could undermine the success of collection efforts.

By embedding systematic data collection and quality assurance across the project value chain, the M&E framework ensures that all reported impacts are verifiable, contributing to the integrity of the system and preventing double-counting of collected waste quantities. Accordingly, all Activities under this Protocol are subject to regular monitoring and evaluation by Ogyre and must comply with specific data collection and quality assurance requirements.

4.1 Description of Monitoring & Evaluation system

Logical Framework and M&E Template

All Activities under the Ogyre Protocol must implement a Logical Framework and M&E templates that define the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), Means of Verification (MOV), and data collection frequency. These tools establish the spatial and temporal boundaries of the Activity, ensuring that both intended and unintended outcomes are systematically identified and managed. The KPIs are selected based on their relevance to the mission and sustainability objectives of the Activity, capturing the most critical environmental and social impacts.

Each project's M&E framework should also outline the data collection procedures and identify potential risks that could compromise data accuracy or effectiveness. To address these concerns, each Project should define mitigation strategies and incorporate measures for quality assurance and data validation, ensuring that all collected information is reliable, transparent, and aligned with best practices in environmental and social impact monitoring.

Dedicated Resources and Organisational Breakdown Structure (OBS)

All projects require dedicated personnel with clearly assigned roles and responsibilities. The organisational structure must include, at a minimum:

- **Site Manager**
Responsible for overall reporting and compliance with M&E requirements. Reporting to the M&E Coordinator, this role focuses on operation planning, data gathering, data

validation, and ensuring that community feedback is integrated into project improvements.

- **Project Officer**

Reporting to the Programme Manager, this role is responsible for direct monitoring and field-level implementation, including activity execution, data collection, data cross-checking, and acting as a community *liaison*.

Partners must allocate sufficient human, technical, and financial resources to conduct effective M&E activities. This includes appointing a dedicated point of contact for project-related Monitoring & Evaluation and ensuring that internal capabilities are in place for data collection, analysis, and continuous oversight. The resource allocation is detailed in the monitoring plan, ensuring that all projects have the necessary infrastructure to maintain robust M&E standards.

Stakeholder Engagement

Effective stakeholder engagement is essential to ensuring that projects align with the needs and priorities of local communities. Each project must incorporate structured stakeholder engagement activities, including - as an example - interviews, surveys, and focus group discussions with:

- Fishermen and waste collectors involved in Waste Collection activities
- Community leaders and representatives of local groups
- Local government authorities and environmental agencies

These engagements serve to validate project effectiveness, identify unintended social or environmental consequences, and gather insights for continuous improvement. Since local knowledge holders are best positioned to understand the unique challenges and opportunities of their regions, their input is invaluable in refining project operations and maximizing impact.

Regular Reporting

All projects must submit regular impact reports detailing both quantitative and qualitative aspects of project activities.

These reports must include:

- The total quantity of waste collected and processed during the reporting period
- A summary of additional activities undertaken to enhance project effectiveness, such as capacity-building workshops, new partnerships, or community engagement efforts

Data should be submitted using standardized reporting formats within defined deadlines, ensuring that all information is consistent, verifiable, and aligned with Ogyre's M&E protocols. All projects must submit required Key Performance Indicators about waste management activities at least on a monthly basis.

Performance Improvement and Data Evaluation

The M&E system must ensure that reported data is periodically analyzed and validated, including expert assessments, to confirm that desired outcomes are being achieved without unintended negative consequences. If any risks or inefficiencies are identified, appropriate mitigation strategies must be developed and implemented to safeguard Activities' integrity and effectiveness.

To further strengthen environmental impact assessments, Ocean Waste Collection Projects should incorporate additional biochemical and physical parameter analyses, evaluating the long-term effects of waste removal on marine and coastal ecosystems. Collaborations with academic institutions and independent research centers are encouraged to ensure that environmental and social impacts are measured using scientifically robust methodologies.

4.2 Data and Parameters Monitored

Ogyre recognizes the unique characteristics and challenges of each project's operating environment, which necessitate context-specific Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) plans tailored to local conditions. However, to ensure standardization, comparability, and minimum quality benchmarks, all projects must report a core set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) at a minimum yearly frequency. This approach balances flexibility with consistency, allowing for meaningful impact assessment while maintaining uniform standards across all collection initiatives.

Core Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

To ensure effective monitoring of waste management activities, all projects must report a core set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) at least yearly to accurately measure collected quantities and evaluate the end-of-life pathways of collected materials. Higher data granularity is encouraged but not required. These KPIs include:

	Plastics	Non Plastics
Kg collected		
Kg recycled		
Kg waste-to-energy		
Kg landfilled		

Additionally, all projects must track key social impact and traceability indicators to ensure transparency and accountability. These include the number of fishermen and collectors involved, the number of workers engaged, geographical coordinates of collection sites and

end-of-life facilities, proof of payments to workers and stakeholders, and documentation of waste disposal, such as invoices from receiving facilities.

Additional Parameters Monitored

Beyond the core set of KPIs required for all projects, Ogyre encourages the adoption of tailored Monitoring & Evaluation plans that incorporate additional environmental and social parameters relevant to each specific project. This is particularly important for environmental collection initiatives operating in sensitive ecosystems and interacting with biodiversity.

Projects collecting waste from marine and coastal environments can integrate bio-physical and bio-chemical indicators to assess the ecological impact of their interventions. Relevant parameters may include the eutrophication rate, measured through nutrient concentrations and water transparency; changes in the abundance of keystone species, such as fish, mollusks, and crustaceans that indicate ecosystem health; and the concentration of toxic substances in water and sediments, including carcinogens, neurotoxins, and endocrine disruptors linked to waste and plastic pollution.

By incorporating these additional monitoring efforts, projects can generate valuable insights into the broader environmental impact of Waste Collection Activities and contribute to long-term ecosystem restoration strategies and critical ocean knowledge generation and sharing.

5. Governance of the Programme & Third-Party Verification

To ensure the effective implementation and quality of Ogyre Collection Activities, a structured governance framework is in place. This framework is designed to uphold transparency, credibility, and operational efficiency, integrating field personnel, central teams, rigorous procedures, and digital technology.

5.1 Quality Management System

Ogyre's Quality Management System is built on a multi-layered approach that guarantees the correct implementation, monitoring, and verification of Waste Collection activities. It comprises dedicated on-field personnel, a central coordination team, robust quality assurance mechanisms, digital traceability solutions, and an environmental claims validation process.

5.1.1 On-Field Team

The On-Field Team is responsible for overseeing daily Collection operations and ensuring adherence to Ogyre's guidelines. This Team includes:

- **Site Manager** – Oversees the proper handling, sorting, and processing of collected waste, ensuring compliance with environmental and regulatory standards at the end-of-life stage. This role also includes coordinating with local waste management facilities to guarantee proper disposal and recycling pathways.
- **Fishermen & Collectors Coordinator** – Acts as the primary *liaison* with partner fishermen and waste collectors, ensuring their engagement follows ethical labor practices, maintaining clear communication on operational procedures, and addressing any field-level challenges.

Having an on-the-ground team ensures real-time supervision of Waste Collection activities, facilitates direct engagement with local stakeholders, and enables immediate intervention in case of discrepancies or inefficiencies. It also strengthens the integration of local knowledge into project activities, improving both environmental and social impact.

5.1.2 Ogyre Central Team

The Central Team provides strategic coordination and operational oversight across all Ogyre projects. Key responsibilities include:

- Providing logistical and administrative support to field operations;
- Ensuring proper use of the digital traceability platform and addressing any issues related to data entry and monitoring;
- Guiding monitoring and verification efforts, ensuring consistency in reporting and compliance with the Ogyre Protocol.

By acting as the primary interface between on-field activities and global oversight, the Central Team guarantees that projects align with the broader objectives of the Waste Collection Project while maintaining standardized procedures across different locations.

5.1.3 Quality Assurance

A dedicated Quality Assurance team is responsible for verifying the accuracy and completeness of Collection data before the issuance of **Ogyre Verified Waste Collection Credits**. This process includes:

- Digital monitoring of each recorded waste batch, ensuring that all data is accurately logged and aligned with Ogyre's reporting standards
- Resolving inconsistencies or data gaps that may arise in the reporting process
- Conducting quality checks on collection evidence, such as geotagged photos, weight records, and disposal receipts
- Approving the issuance of Ogyre Credits only after a thorough review of collection activities and compliance with Ogyre's guidelines

By implementing these quality control mechanisms, Ogyre ensures data integrity, prevents errors, and upholds the credibility of its Collection initiatives.

5.1.4 Digital Traceability

Ogyre's IT (Information Technology) Team manages the digital traceability infrastructure, which allows for the real-time tracking of collected waste. This system:

- Registers collected quantities and allocates them to digital wallets
- Stores and safeguards all project data through a blockchain-based registry, ensuring immutability and protection against tampering
- Provides transparent access to collection data, enhancing stakeholder trust and preventing double counting

By leveraging secure digital solutions, Ogyre ensures that all Waste Collection activities are fully traceable, verifiable, and resistant to fraudulent claims.

5.1.5 Environmental Claims Validation

To prevent greenwashing and ensure compliance with international environmental standards, Ogyre has rigorous standards and a dedicated team responsible for validating all claims related to Waste Collection Activities. This team:

- Verifies the alignment of environmental claims with Ogyre's Certifications Standards, which establish strict requirements and procedures in line with European regulations
- Ensures that all claims are transparent, accurate, and scientifically backed, avoiding misleading statements about the environmental impact of Waste Collection Activities
- Provides compliance guidance to corporate partners, helping them responsibly communicate their involvement in Waste Collection activities

This validation process ensures that all environmental claims related to Ogyre-certified Waste Collection Activities maintain credibility, integrity, and compliance with regulatory best practices.

5.2 Third-Party Verification

In the emerging field of Plastic Credit Mechanisms, establishing credibility and transparency is crucial to building trust among stakeholders. Past challenges in environmental credit markets, including concerns over data integrity and unverifiable claims, have underscored the need for rigorous oversight. To uphold the highest standards and prevent any risk of greenwashing or misrepresentation, Ogyre ensures that the application of this Protocol is subject to independent third-party verification, guaranteeing that reported data is accurate, traceable, and aligned with principles and requirements set.

The objectives of third-party verification are to:

- Ensure the accuracy and completeness of Ogyre's data records, confirming that all collected waste quantities are properly documented and traceable.
- Validate the robustness of Ogyre's data quality control processes, verifying that monitoring, reporting, and allocation procedures meet the required environmental and operational standards.
- Confirm that the issuance and allocation of **Ogyre Verified Waste Collection Credits** aligns with the actual quantities of collected and processed waste, preventing discrepancies and ensuring consistency between impact generated and impact claimed.

By implementing an independent verification process, Ogyre strengthens confidence among stakeholders, corporate partners, consumers and regulators, ensuring that **Ogyre Verified Waste Collection Credits** truly reflect real-world collection efforts.



On a mission to clean the Ocean.