

Programme Operator DAPconstrucción®



**GENERAL PROGRAMME INSTRUCTIONS  
PROGRAMME OPERATOR  
DAPconstrucción® ENVIRONMENTAL  
PRODUCT DECLARATIONS IN THE  
CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY**

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# 0. Acronyms and definitions

## 0.1 Acronyms

<b>LCA</b>	Life-cycle assessment
<b>CATEB</b>	<i>Col·legi de l'Arquitectura Tècnica de Barcelona</i> (Barcelona's Chartered Institute of Technical Architecture)
<b>CEN</b>	European Committee for Standardization
<b>CTE</b>	<i>Código Técnico de la Edificación</i> , the Spanish technical building code
<b>CTN</b>	<i>Comité Técnico de Normalización</i> , Spanish technical committee for standardization
<b>EPD</b>	Environmental Product Declaration (Type III environmental declaration according to ISO classification)
<b>DAPcons®</b>	EPD under the Environmental Product Declarations for Construction Products programme (Type III ecolabelling scheme for construction products)
<b>LCIA</b>	Life-cycle impact assessment
<b>ELCD</b>	European reference Life Cycle Database
<b>LCI</b>	Life-cycle inventory
<b>ISO</b>	International Standardization Organization
<b>PCR</b>	Product category rules
<b>SC</b>	Subcommittee
<b>SETAC</b>	Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry
<b>TC</b>	Technical Committee

## 0.2 Definitions

Life-cycle assessment	Collection and evaluation of the inputs, outputs and potential environmental impacts of a product system during its life cycle.
Life cycle	Consecutive and interrelated stages of a product system, from the acquisition of raw materials or their generation from natural resources to final disposal. In the case of construction products these stages include: extraction and processing of raw materials, manufacture of the product, distribution and transport to the construction site, commissioning or construction, use or operation, maintenance and management of the product once it has become waste at the end of its useful life.
Category Product	Group of products that can fulfil equivalent functions.
Type III environmental product declaration (EPD)	Environmental statement providing quantified environmental data using predetermined parameters and, where appropriate, additional environmental information.
Environmental impact	Any change in the environment, whether adverse or beneficial, as a total or partial result of the environmental aspects of an organization.
Information module	Compilation of data used as a basis for a type III environmental declaration covering a unitary process or a combination of unitary processes that form part of a product's life cycle.
Construction and civil engineering	Any type of building, rail infrastructure, road, bridge, port, or in general, any construction work.
Product category rules (PCR)	Set of specific rules, requirements, and guidelines for the development of type III environmental declarations for one or more product categories.
Product system	Collection of unitary processes with elementary and product flows, performing one or more defined functions, and which models the life cycle of a product.
Declared unit	Quantity of a product that is used as a reference unit in the type III environmental declaration to express the environmental information contained in the information modules. Examples: mass (kg), volume (m <sup>3</sup> ), etc.
Functional unit	Quantified performance of a product system for use as a reference unit.

Source: ISO 14040 and ISO 14025

# 1. General considerations

## 1.1. Introduction

The Programme Operator DAPconstrucción® is an independent entity of type III ecolabeling that registers Environmental Product Declarations specifically from Construction sector.

With this aim, the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción® brings together those companies and manufacturers of construction products who want to commit with the environmental improvement of their productive processes, communicating reliable and verified information about the environmental impacts of their products to the market in order to provide the company with environmental transparency and competitiveness.

This information is based on quantified product environmental parameters, obtained from a Life Cycle Assessment -LCA-.

Their use in the public and private purchase processes allows:

- Develop technical specifications in the projects and construction works so as to define the environmental characteristics of the products to be purchased.
- Check the fulfilment of these requirements, in the moment when they accept the Environmental Product Declaration as a means of proof that the environmental technical specifications previously defined are met.

The companies that register their Environmental Product Declarations in the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción® provide quantified environmental data of their products and, in this way, they promote the transformation of the construction productive sector towards a more sustainable construction model.

## 1.2. Scope

The Col·legi de l'Arquitectura Tècnica de Barcelona (Barcelona's Chartered Institute of Technical Architecture, CATEB) is the administrator of the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción®.

This programme is focused on the products, equipment and systems used in the construction sector, including services ("products"). Any organization, company, group of companies, manufacturers' association or body that is interested in developing product category rules

(PCR) or an *environmental product declaration* (EPD) in the construction sector, independently of the country of origin, has access to the programme operator.

The stakeholders in the development of this programme are:

- Administration (in fields related to construction and the environment).
- Users (architects, surveyors and technical architects, building engineers, industrial engineers and industrial technical engineers, technical engineers involved in public works, civil engineers, installers; professional institutes; etc.).
- Manufacturers and/or suppliers of construction products and services.
- Buyers (developers, contractors, industrials, fitters...).
- Verification bodies.
- Independent reference institutions (universities, technological institutes, others).
- Non-governmental organizations.
- Other bodies or persons related to construction.

Two mechanisms have been created to organize the participation of stakeholders: an Advisory Board (see section 3.1.3) and Sectoral Panels (see section 3.1.4). In addition, the CATEB maintains an open channel of communication with other professionals and institutions in the sector and the general public.

## **1.3. Compliance with relevant legislation**

The proposed DAPconstrucción® programme operator complies with the following international standards:

- UNE-ISO 14020 Environmental labels and declarations. General principles.
- UNE-ISO 14025 Environmental labels and declarations. Type III environmental declarations. Principles and procedures.
- UNE-EN 15804:2012+A2:2020 Sustainability of construction works - Environmental product declarations - Core rules for the product category of construction products. And the UNE-EN 15804:2012+A2:2020/AC:2021 erratum.

The life-cycle assessment studies developed directly or indirectly by organizations wishing to obtain a DAPcons® must comply with the following standards:

- UNE-ISO 14040 Environmental management. Life-cycle assessment. Principles and framework.
- UNE-ISO 14044 Environmental management. Life-cycle assessment. Requirements and guidelines.
  
- UNE-EN 15804:2012+A2:2020 Sustainability of construction works - Environmental product declarations - Core rules for the product category of construction products. And the UNE-EN 15804:2012+A2:2020/AC:2021 erratum.

The Programme Operator DAPconstrucción® is compatible with the environmental requirements established by the European Regulation of construction products or such prevailing legislation as replaces it.

European Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL of 9 March 2011, which lays down harmonized conditions for the marketing of construction products and replaces Directive 89/106/EEC of the Council, states in its basic requirement (no. 7), The sustainable use of natural resources, that construction works must be designed, built and demolished in such a way that the use of natural resources is sustainable. Article 56 of the preamble lays down that “For the assessment of the sustainable use of resources and of the impact of construction works on the environment, Environmental Product Declarations should be used when available”.

Section 2 of the *Código Técnico de la Edificación* (CTE) refers in paragraph 5.2.4 to the possibility of competent public administrations acknowledging environmental certification that consider the life-cycle assessment of products.

Order VIV/1744/2008, which regulates the general register of the CTE, stipulates in section 2.2.c.3 that environmental certification of the life-cycle assessment of products and other environmental evaluations of buildings will be entered in the register.

Finally, the programme is totally compatible with article 6.2. of Decree 21/2006 of the Generalitat de Catalunya, which regulates the adoption of environmental and eco-efficiency criteria in buildings, since the resulting DAPcons® will be type III labels, in accordance with UNE ISO 14025 (which replaces UNE 150.025/2005 IN mentioned in the Decree).

Any other legislation of the building and/or engineering sector that lays down compulsory measures in terms of the environment and life-cycle assessment of building products must be taken into account.

## 2. Objectives of the programme

The objectives of the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción® are:

- To provide a service to organizations that wish to obtain an environmental product declaration, related to a construction product that is verified by a third party.
- To encourage both demand and manufacture of more environmentally correct building products. Environmental product declarations give objective, consensual and verified information that can stimulate continuous improvement of the product, using the environmental vector as a marketing strategy. On the one hand, producers know more about their products and can design and implement actions to reduce their negative environmental impact. On the other, when purchasing a product, buyers are offered information about environmental profile and the reduction of environmental impact to which they can contribute in comparison with other products for the function in question.<sup>1</sup>
- To enhance education and training nationwide among the sector's technicians and professionals to implement the proper use of the data provided by the EPD and/or DAPcons®, promoting quantification and reduction of environmental impact of any building or construction.

With these objectives, the programme can establish agreements with other DAP/EPD programme administrators for mutual acknowledgement, both nationally and internationally.

The Programme Operator DAPconstrucción® is a founder member of the European Association ECO Platform which joins together the European Programme Operators of the construction sector, harmonizes the criteria for the free movement of the products and stimulate the international recognition of the Environmental Product Declarations.

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<sup>1</sup> Comparison is only possible in certain cases, since for this purpose DAPs have to present information about all life cycle phases under the same functional unit and conditions (see 6.4. Comparing DAPs).

## 3. Organizational structure

### 3.1. The agents involved

#### 3.1.1. Programme administrator

The principal tasks to be carried out by the administrator of the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción® are:

- To prepare and approve the programme's general instructions and the list of construction product categories that can obtain a DAPcons® within the programme.
- To keep track of changes to programme procedures and to revise procedures and documents of the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción®, if necessary, and communicate these changes to the verifiers accredited by the Programme.
- To prepare product category rules; these rules must be reviewed by Sectoral Panels (one per product category) and evaluated by the Advisory Board.
- To establish a transparent process for the review of the PCR (including the scope and details of the review and how to constitute a sectoral panel).
- Establish a procedure to protect the consistency of programme data.
- To have an up-to-date list of the members of the Advisory Board.
- To ensure compliance with the requirements of type III product declarations.
- To create, maintain and disseminate the official register of DAPcons® and PCR.
- Maintain available lists and records of PCRs of the programme operator and DAPcons®.
- Ensure that independent verifiers and competent PCR review panel members are selected.
- To accredit independent verifiers.
- To publish the names of the organizations involved as stakeholders in the development of the programme.
- To establish procedures to prevent the misuse of references to ISO 14025, the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción®, DAPcons®, and the logo.

- To promote the use of DAPcons® and EPD as tools for quantifying and improving the environmental impact of buildings among technicians and professionals in the national construction sector.
- To set the amount and manage the account of the different Program fees: registration and renewal of the declaration and registration as a member of the Program.

### **3.1.2. Organizations**

Organizations are any company, group of companies, manufacturers' association or body interested in developing product category rules (PCR) or an environmental product declaration (EPD) in the construction sector. Organizations, regardless of their country of origin, have access to the programme, to obtain and register either a company DAPcons®, or a sectoral or group of companies' DAPcons®.

The companies that manufacture the product or their authorized representatives assume the responsibility for the DAPcons® they develop. No other organization is authorized to declare the environmental performance of the construction product.

### **3.1.3. Advisory Board**

The Advisory Board is made up of experts who represent the stakeholders in the development of environmental declarations for building products:

- Administration (in fields related to construction and the environment).
- Professional institutes and professionals in the construction sector.
- Associations of manufacturers and/or suppliers of building products and services (developers, contractors, etc.).
- Independent reference institutions (universities, technological institutes, others).
- Non-governmental organizations.
- Other bodies or persons related to construction.

Overall the Board has:

- - General knowledge of the construction industry, its products and related environmental aspects.
- - Experience in the methodology and application of life-cycle assessment (LCA).
- - Knowledge of relevant legislation in relation to eco-labelling and LCA.

- - Knowledge about the regulatory framework for the development of PCR.
- - Knowledge of the type III ecolabelling programme.

The functions of the Advisory Board are:

- - To advise the CATEB during the drafting and revision of the general instructions and procedures of the programme for the development and verification of DAPs.
- - To advise the CATEB during the preparation of the list of product categories.
- - To review the product category rules developed for CATEB in collaboration with the relevant sectoral panels. The Board will need to ensure that the PCR developed as part of the programme comply with the requirements of the reference standards as well as the programme's general instructions.

The opinions given by the Advisory Board are not binding, and the CATEB reserves the right to act. The CATEB will respond to all comments made by board members.

#### **3.1.4. Sectoral Panels**

The Sectoral Panels are made up of representatives of companies, business associations or other bodies or experts in certain product categories (one per panel). These panels are a mechanism for consultation and participation of the stakeholders in the process of developing the product category rules (PCR).

The programme administrator must ensure diversity of viewpoints and competences of the stakeholders.

#### **3.1.5. Verifiers**

Verifiers are professionals or independent institutions accredited by the administrator of the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción®. Verifiers must determine whether the environmental product declaration (DAPcons®) developed by a company complies with:

- a) International standards
- b) The requirements of the programme
- c) The corresponding product category rules

The verifier will make an independent verification of the data of the LCA, LCI and information modules and additional environmental information, and the following at least must be confirmed:

- a) Compliance with the PCR

- b) Compliance with ISO 14020, ISO 14025 and 14040 standards
- c) Compliance with the general instructions of the programme for the type III environmental declaration
- d) The evaluation of the data must include coverage, accuracy, completeness, representativeness, consistency, reproducibility, sources and uncertainty
- e) The veracity, quality and accuracy of the data on which the LCA is based
- f) The quality and accuracy of the additional environmental information
- g) The quality and accuracy of the supporting data

The verifier will prepare a documented report of the verification process. To do this report, the Verifier may ask the Programme for the Verification Report model which includes a checklist for the compliance with the technical rule UNE EN 15804 2012+A2:2020/AC:2021.

The external verifier is an independent person or organization—that is, who has not been involved in carrying out the LCA or the draft DAPcons®, and has no conflicts of interest in connection with the company that develops it.

The verifier will inform the Programme Administrator, in a written way, when he/she detects pressure from any of the parts, aiming to influence in the approving process of the Environmental Product Declaration (DAPcons®).

The verifying staff must have a scientific or technical degree or equivalent and proof of three years' experience in related sectors.

The verifier also must demonstrate knowledge and specific experience in:

Experience	Evidence
<b>The construction sector, its products and related environmental aspects</b>	3 projects related to the construction sector
<b>Construction-related products and processes</b>	
<b>Application of LCA methodology</b>	3 life-cycle assessments
<b>Relevant legislation in relation to LCA</b>	
<b>Regulatory framework of ecolabeling and development of PCR</b>	3 projects related to ecolabeling
<b>Type III ecolabeling programme</b>	

To be accredited as a verifier, staff must comply with Annexe I and provide all the information requested therein.

The CATEB will make and keep an up-to-date list of verifiers accredited by the programme which can be consulted on the website [www.dapcons.com](http://www.dapcons.com).

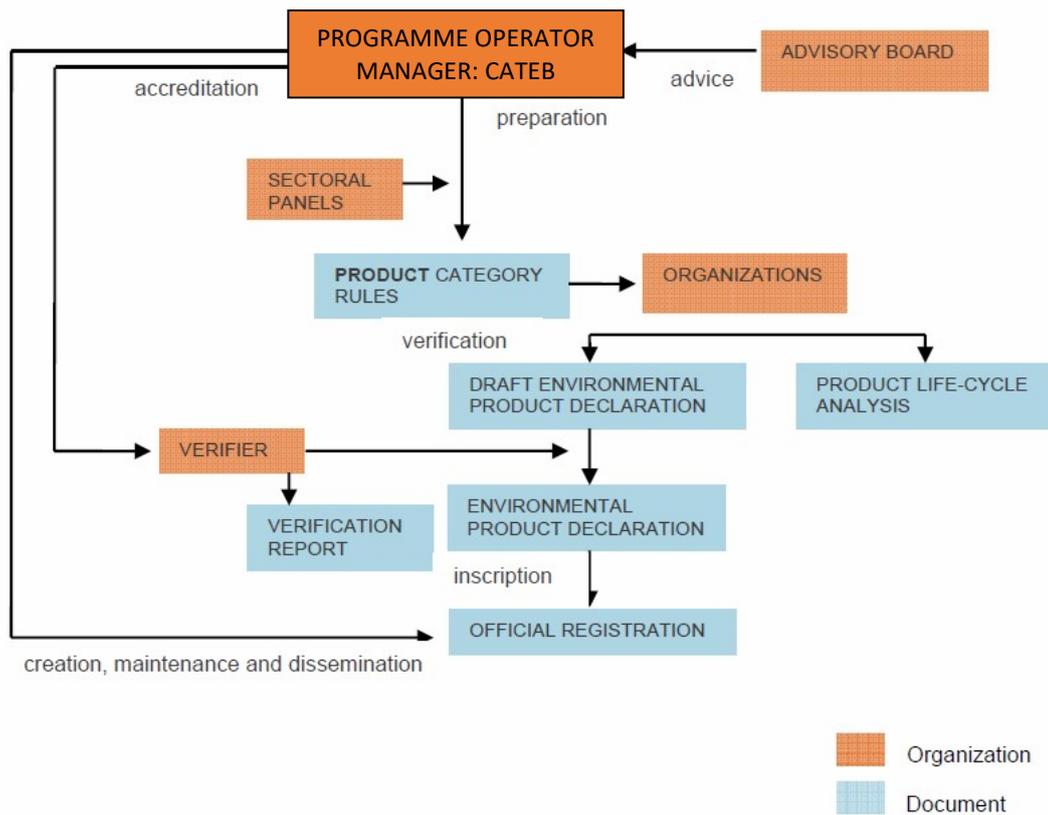


Figure 1. Diagram of the DAPconstruction's operational system Programme Operator.

## 3.2. The brand

Initially the Environmental Product Declarations registered in the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción® were registered with the DAP®c logo. For commercial reasons, this logo was changed in 2015 for the DAPcons® logo.

This is why from 2015 the Environmental Product Declaration DAPcons® registered in this Programme Operator must display the corresponding logo, as shown in the figure:



This brand represents a seal of reliability of the information contained in the environmental statement of a particular product and its type. The CATEB, independent accredited verifiers, and organizations which have been expressly granted use of these logos in dissemination and/or training undertake to make proper use of them in all communications.

The programme operator brand may be used only in the context of EPDs that have already been verified and registered and in connection with specific products for which it was obtained. Sectoral DAPcons® will in all cases be used to communicate the environmental performance of the average product of a sector, and not to communicate the environmental performance of a specific product of a single manufacturer.

Neither the brand nor the DAPcons® may be used until it is registered. The DAPcons® applicant must sign an agreement with the CATEB for the use of labelling and the brand.

On its website, the CATEB will publish:

- The updated list of companies and products which have been granted the DAPcons®,
- Registered DAPcons®, indicating their period of validity.

## 4. Product category rules

Product category rules (PCR) list the requirements and guidelines to be followed in developing the environmental product declaration (including the corresponding life-cycle assessment study).

The guidelines are specific for different product categories, since the application of the LCA may vary according to, for example, the function of the product, the incorporation of recycled material or the complexity of the production process. Therefore, a construction product, if sufficiently complex, may in itself constitute a product category; in other cases, however, different products may be grouped into a single category.

According to ISO 14025, the basis for allocating products to product categories must be the possibility of applying the same functional unit.

As a general rule, specific PCR will be developed for each product category, considering the peculiarities and needs of each category (scope, functional unit, etc.). The common methodological aspects of PCR will follow the requirements of the UNE-EN 15804:2012+A2:2020/AC:2021.

### 4.1 PCR types

The Product Category Rules (PCR) can be:

- Developed by the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción® itself.
- National, European or International technical rules.
- PCRs issued by a Programme Operator internationally recognized.

#### 1. PREVALENCE

The Programme Operator DAPconstrucción® was a pioneer in Spain having granted the first Environmental Product Declarations (DAPcons®) in the year 2010. In these moments, there were not international technical rules about Product Category Rules, so the Programme developed its own PCR in some product categories.

Over time, standardization technical rules have been appearing and it is expected that there will be more in the future. The standardization technical rules are documents issued by recognized entities than can be State or International and in which the stakeholders of that sector are represented. This means that the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción® gives prevalence to the state -UNE-, European -EN- or international -ISO- standardization technical rules, except in case that the Programme justifies the opposite.

In cases where an international standard does not exist, a PCR published in another internationally recognized Operating Program should be used.

In the cases in which it doesn't exist an international standard or a public PCR in other internationally recognized Programme, a PCR should be developed in the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción®.

## **2. DEVELOPING PCR'S IN THE PROGRAMME OPERATOR DAPconstrucción®**

For the development of this document, the CATEB undertakes:

- To involve stakeholders in the process, by organizing a sectoral panel.
- To consider the existence of PCR for similar products in other type III ecolabelling programmes. If existing and available PCR are not used, it will be necessary to justify the reasons why it is necessary to develop new PCR.
- To monitor compliance with ISO 14025 standards, and the UNE-EN 15804:2012+A2:2020/AC:2021.

The CAATEEB will produce a draft of the PCR, which will be presented and discussed by the Sectoral Panel. Once the final draft is available, the CATEB will undertake to submit it to the Advisory Board for the approval of the final PCR document. Subsequently, the CATEB will approve and publicise the final document.

The PCR shall be valid for five years, though if the CATEB and/or the Advisory Board consider it appropriate, they may be revised before the end of this period.

The programme will have some generic PCR for construction product categories. These generic PCR are based on the UNE-EN 15804:2012+ A2:2020/AC:2021 standard and cover all building products. Exceptionally, when it is not possible to develop product category rules due to the specificities of the product, an organization can use the generic category rules to develop a DAP, subject to the approval of the programme administrator.

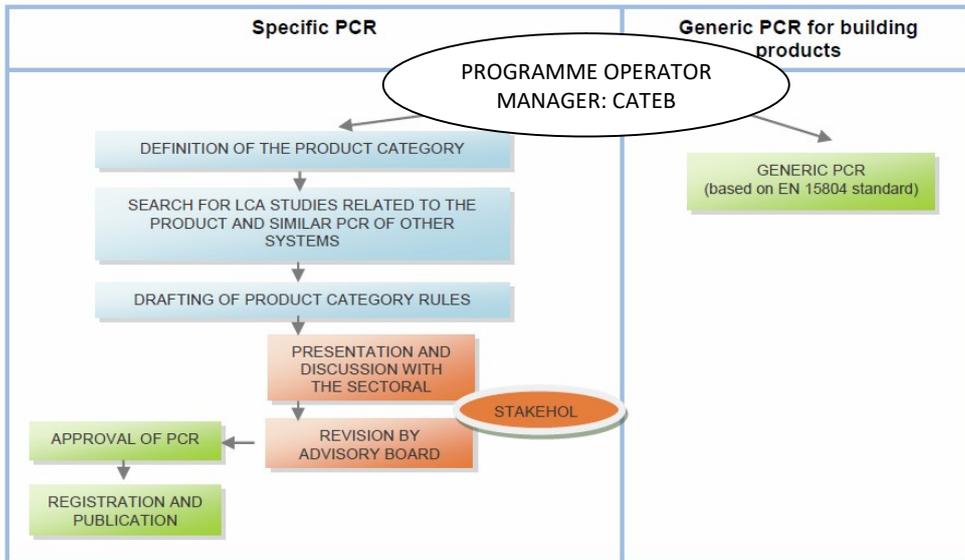


Figure 2. Process of developing the product category rules

## 4.2 Contents of the PCR

The contents of any PCR must be:

### 1. DEFINITION AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PRODUCT CATEGORY

Function, technical performance and use (including a description of the on-site installation procedure and the materials or products required in installation and maintenance).

### 2. DEFINITION OF OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE LCA

- Declared unit or functional unit.
- System boundaries (including a diagram of life-cycle phases included).
- Description of the process units, stages and sub-stages of the life cycle included in the system boundaries. The establishment of the system boundaries follows two principles (EN 15804:2012+A2:2020/AC:2021):
  - o Modularity principle: if processes influence the environmental performance of the product during its life cycle, these processes should be assigned to the life cycle module in which they occur. All environmental aspects and impacts are declared at the life cycle stage at which they occur.
  - o Polluter pays: Waste treatment processes are assigned to the product system that generates the waste until it reaches the end of waste status (or end-of-waste status). additional environmental status.

- Criteria for the inclusion of inputs and outputs. For material flows, the maximum percentage excluded, in mass, energy or environmental relevance, may not exceed 5%. This rate may be lower in some product categories (as specified in the corresponding PCR). Cut-off rules do not apply in the case of toxic or hazardous materials and substances.
- Requirements for data quality including uncertainty, completeness, representativeness, consistency, reproducibility and sources.
- Units.
- Environmental impact categories to consider and substances to inventory in them.

### **3. INVENTORY ANALYSIS**

- Data collection procedure.
- Calculation procedures.
- Allocation procedure of flows and emissions of materials and energy.
- Data validation and verification procedure.

### **4. OTHER CONTENTS**

- Selection of impact categories and calculation rules.
- Predetermined parameters for reporting LCA data (inventory data categories and impact category indicators) (see section 6.2.2).
- Requirements (including methodological) as to additional environmental information.
- Materials and substances to be declared.
- Instructions about how to produce the data required to develop the declaration (LCA, LCI, information modules and additional environmental information), with special attention to possible gaps in information.
- Instructions about the content and format of the DAP.
- Information about which phases are not considered.
- Period of validity.
- Technical information required for the implementation of the DAP in the analysis of building or civil engineering (reference service life, conditions of transport, construction, use, maintenance and replacement, etc.).

- Rules and requirements for creating scenarios to compare the product category at the level of the building or civil engineering work.

## 5. REFERENCES

Bibliographical references of LCA studies or other reports used in the definition of the PCR.

Note: Contents defined in accordance with ISO 14025.

# 5 The Environmental Product Declaration

The Environmental Product Declarations give quantified environmental data using predetermined parameters and, when applicable, additional environmental information.

The Environmental Product Declarations of the construction registered in the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción® hold the DAPcons® brand or logo (see chapter 3.2).

## 5.1 Content

The organization which want to develop an Environmental Product Declaration (DAPcons®) must ask for a model of the document to the administrator of the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción®, which must use as a draft for its presentation.

The Environmental Product Declaration (DAPcons®) must have the following information:

- Name and address of the manufacturer/s
- Description of the use of the construction product and the functional or declared unit of the construction product to which the data refers.
- The identification of the construction product by its name (including any product code) and a simple visual representation of the construction product to which the data refers (images, commercial references, etc.).
- A description of the main components and/or materials of the product.
- The name and the address of the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción®.
- The date of issue of the declaration and the validity period.

- Information indicating the steps not considered, if the declaration isn't based on a LCA that covers all stages of the life cycle.
- A note indicating that the EPD (DAPcons®) may not be comparable if they do not comply with UNE EN 15804:2012+A2:2020/AC:2021.
- If an EPD (DAPcons®) is declared as an average of different products, it should be indicated in the declaration, with a description of the variability of the results from LCIA, if it is significant.
- The place, manufacturer or group of manufacturers or they representatives for whom the EPD (DAPcons®) is significant.
- The declaration of the material contained in the product must list, as a minimum, the substances contained in the product that are described in the candidate list of the worrying substances subject to authorization when its content exceeds the register limits of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA).
- Information about where can the explanatory material be found.
- The environmental parameters derived from the LCA and the scenarios and additional technical information indicated by the applicable PCRs.

## 5.2 DAPcons® types

The Environmental Product Declarations (DAPcons®) can be product-specific for a particular product from one manufacturer, or generic, representing the average performance of a product or several products from the same manufacturer or from different manufacturers. EPDs referring to an average product must use representative average data and the technological, geographical and temporal representativeness must be justified.

It is considered a sectoral *DAPcons*® when a DAP has been requested by a group/association/cluster of manufacturers and communicates the average performance of a product of different manufacturers belonging to the same sector that represents at least 60% of the market in the geographical area in question. The sectoral DAP must declare the geographical area, percentage of representativeness of the average product that is declared in relation to the overall market in that area, and the participant manufacturers and production centres covered in the DAP.

The EPD (*DAPcons*®) are based on the results of an LCA study of the product in question. The scope of the programme can cover all life cycle phases ("cradle to grave"), though only analysis of the development of environmental impacts of the production phase ("cradle to gate") but only the development of environmental impact analyses of the production stage (A1-A3), end-of-life (C1-C4) and of the benefits and burdens beyond the system boundary (D) ("A1-A3, C1-C4 and D") is mandatory. Only products or materials that meet the following 3 conditions are exempted from this requirement and can declare only the production stage ("cradle to gate"):

- It is physically integrated with other products during its installation in such a way that it cannot be physically separated from them at the end of its life cycle, and.
- Is not identifiable at end-of-life as a result of a physical or chemical transformation process, and
- Does not contain biogenic carbon.

It should be noted that the boundaries of each life cycle stage analysed should be clearly defined in accordance with the relevant PCRs.

## 5.3 To develop a DAPcons®

Organizations wishing to obtain a DAPcons® must:

1. Contact the CAATEEB (programme administrator) to obtain the process for developing an EPD (DAPcons®) and the Product Category Rules (PCR) applicable to their product. If the PCR document has not yet been developed for the product, it will be necessary to start the process for creating it or use generic PCR, subject to the approval of the programme administrator.
2. Develop a life-cycle study assessment (LCA) study according to the corresponding product category rules (PCR).<sup>2</sup> The LCA report will follow the format determined by the PCR.
3. Create a draft of the EPD (DAPcons®) based on the LCA study, following the guidelines of the procedure and the corresponding PCR.
4. Conduct data verification with an accredited independent verifier. The verifier is an independent entity, who has the accreditation of the Programme Operator for this. Finally, the Environmental Product Declarations (DAPcons®), once verified, can be used in the communication business to business. It is possible that, moreover, the additional requirements necessary for the communication business to consumer are incorporated in the future<sup>3</sup>.
5. Once verification has been carried out, and if the result is positive, the organization must submit all the necessary documentation to the CATEB in accordance with the established models: Environmental Product Declaration DAPcons®, verification report and LCA report (for third parties).

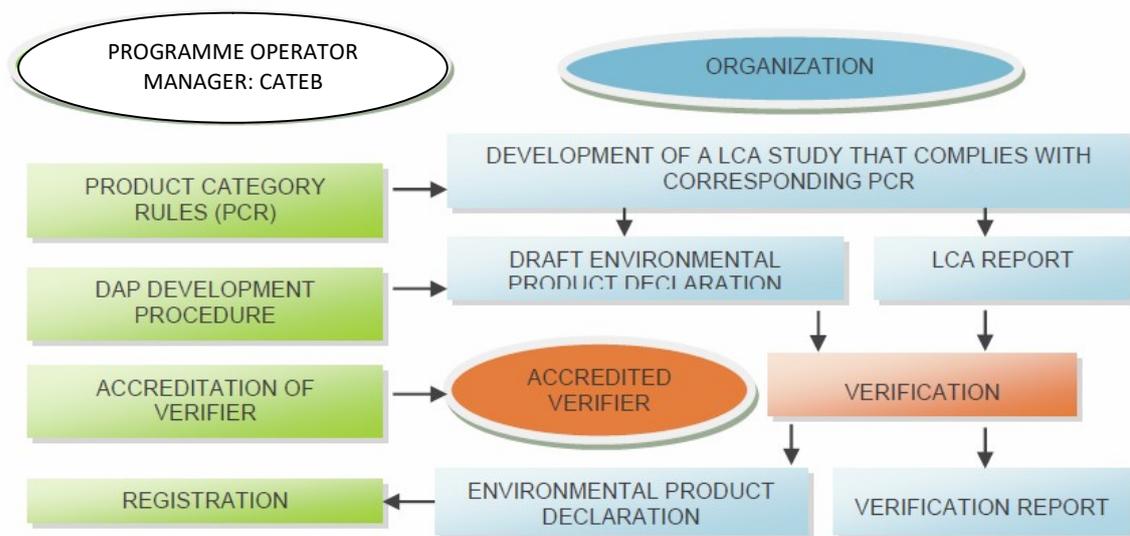
To develop the DAPcons® it is necessary to register on the digital platform and follow the process indicated at [www.dapcons.com](http://www.dapcons.com).

Finally, the CATEB will register the DAPcons® in the official programme register, once the company has paid the corresponding fee.

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<sup>2</sup> The study can be carried out internally by the company itself or be commissioned to an external professional.

<sup>3</sup> The additional requirements are described in the chapter 9 of the ISO 14025 and they make reference to the scope of the EPD, its availability to the point of sale, to the edition of additional explanatory material and to the inclusion of consumer representatives in the group of stakeholders. A requirement that fulfils with the current Programme is the EPD verification (mandatory in the communication business to business and optional in the communication business to consumer).



**Figure 3. Diagram to develop a DAPcons®**

## 1. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE EPD CONTENT

Programme Operator DAPconstrucción® is not responsible for the information contained in the Environmental Product Declaration (DAPcons®), since these are supplied by the manufacturer, being the holder of the DAPcons® the only responsible of the declared content, having to preserve all the documentation and the necessary evidence to justify its content during the validity period.

## 2. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The additional information incorporated in the DAPcons® must be verified and comply with the following aspects:

- Be presented in a way that clearly indicates that it is not part of the data from LCA, LCI or from the information modules,
- be specific, detailed, relevant and should not be misleading,
- be related to environmental and/or functional aspects,
- not make comparisons,
- not make reference to the absence of substances or characteristics which are not associated with a product category,
- in case of using symbols, they must comply with the requirements of the ISO 14021.

## 5.4 DAPcons® validity

Both PCR and DAPcons® have a period of validity defined in accordance with the reality of the sector.

The validity period of the Product Category Rules (PCR) and the Environmental Product Declarations (DAPcons®) is five years.

However, if during the period of validity there are changes in technology that could lead to a variation of the environmental impact in the range of 5-10% of the product covered by the Environmental Product Declaration DAPcons®, the organization must inform the CAATEEB and carry out a revision, even if the 5 year period is not over.

## 6 Programme funding

The DAPconstrucción® program operator aims to be self-financing, though it may be completed with government grants. The main part of funding, however, will come from the fees paid by companies applying for type III ecolabelling.

- **Environmental Product Declaration DAPcons® registration fee:** intended to cover the costs associated with processing type III environmental product declaration (document dispatch and control, record tracking, troubleshooting, publication of approved ecolabelling on the website, etc.). Payment of the fee entitles the DAP to be entered in the programme's official public register for 5 years. When the 5 year period is at an end, the company must update the DAP and register it again if desired.
- **Environmental Product Declaration DAPcons® renewal fee:** once the 5 year period since the approval of type III eco-labelling is over, the applicant company must renew it, if desired. Otherwise, the label will be withdrawn from the environmental product declaration register.
- **Fee to register as a programme affiliated:** payment of this fee provides companies with a space for dissemination and communication of their initiatives and achievements in terms of their environmental and sustainability policies. In addition, it provides access to a series of personalised services and advice exclusively for members of the Programme. In 2022, the digitalisation platform [www.dapcons.com](http://www.dapcons.com) has been developed. This service is free for companies affiliated to the DAPConstrucción® Operator Programme and does not involve any additional cost to the company, allowing products to be automatically incorporated into the national and European reference bases so that any construction

professional or prescriber can establish selection criteria based on environmental impact parameters. This platform provides multiple advantages, including: being informed at all times of the status of the EPD during the development process, access to data and consultation of the EPDs in force, access to the product database by professionals in the sector or specification manager.

- **Verifiers accreditation fee:** paid directly by an applicant to the CATEB, with a duration of 5 years.
- **Verifiers accreditation renewal fee:** directly paid by an applicant to the CATEB. This fee is determined by the accreditation procedure.

Furthermore, the different product category rules (PCR) are developed according to the interest of building product suppliers in obtaining an EPD. These companies therefore pay a substantial portion of the costs associated with developing PCR.

## 7 Document and data management

### 7.1 Consultations

The CATEB has created an official programme register that contains the following documents:

- General programme instructions.
- List of product categories.
- Published product category rules.
- Register of verifiers accredited by the programme.
- Registered environmental product declarations.
- Verification reports of registered DAPs.

This information is updated regularly and can be consulted by anyone who wishes to through the contact section of the web page [www.dapcons.com](http://www.dapcons.com) and in the address e-mail [sostenible@apabcn.cat](mailto:sostenible@apabcn.cat).

## 7.2 Comments and claims

Any person or organization can make comments or present a comment or a claim about the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción® documentation or about its functioning, using the same media that is used to make consultations to the Programme.

To obtain a response from the Programme it is necessary that the applicant provides the following information:

1. Full name and, when necessary, organization name.
2. Contact data in which he/she wants the response: e-mail, address, or telephone.
3. Comment or claim in a clearly and concrete way of what the applicant wants to be informed.

The Programme Operator will provide an answer in the shortest possible time. In case that it is necessary to move the comment or claim to the members of the board that can be affected: advisory committee, sectoral panel, verifiers, LCA practitioner, affiliated organization... etc.

## 7.3 Exclusive consultant service for the DAPconstrucción's members Programme Operator

The members of the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción® have access to an exclusive consultant service.

In case that it is necessary, the Programme Operator will move the comment or claim to the members of the board that can be affected: advisory committee, sectoral panel and verifiers.

If the members have any query, a FAQ section of the programme's website is available and can be consulted in the [www.dapcons.com](http://www.dapcons.com) website. There is also, a digital platform which has a restricted access and exclusive service for the members of the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción®.

## 7.4 Data confidentiality

The environmental declaration only contains aggregated data covering different phases of the product's life cycle. Data identified as confidential by the producer is treated confidentially throughout the procedure (including verification).

## **8 Periodic revision of the General Instructions of the programme**

The General Instructions of the programme are kept up to date and periodically revised. The revision task is coordinated by the CATEB, in collaboration with the Advisory Board.

The main things to check are:

- Compliance with new legislation passed in relation to environmental product declarations and building products (ISO, CEN and UNE).
- Reviews and suggestions received from the participating stakeholders (Advisory Board, companies, verifiers, other stakeholders, etc.).
- Suitability of registration, renewal and verification fees.

**ANNEXE I**

**NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION**
**A. GENERAL INFORMATION**
**INFORMATION ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION**

Name		Tax ID number	
Address of registered office		Town/City	Postcode
E-mail address	Telephone		Fax

*Include documentation about the legal entity of the organization (memorandum and articles of association or legislation governing it).*

**DELEGATIONS**

Availability of delegations  Yes  No

Name of the delegation:		
Address:		
Municipality:	Postcode:	
Telephone:	Fax:	E-mail address:
Person in charge:	Post:	

*Add a table for each delegation.*

**REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ORGANIZATION**

Legal representative of the organization

Full name	Tax ID number	Post	E-mail address	Telephone

Contact person

Full name	Tax ID number	Post	E-mail address	Telephone

*Include authorization of the organization, duly entered in the public registry, tax ID number of the company and national ID of its representative/s.*

**ORGANIZATION, RELATED BODIES AND OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Name of the company group/overall organization		Tax ID number	
Address of registered office		Municipality	Postcode
E-mail address	Telephone		Fax

Do any public bodies have stakes in the organization?  Yes  No

\* All the information given will be threatened as confidential.  
If it is considered necessary, the CATEB can ask for additional information

Do any professional institutes, professional associations and/or industrial/business associations have stakes?  Yes  No

Does it have related organizations/companies?  Yes  No

Does the body and/or organization to which it belongs carry out activities other than those accredited?  Yes  No

*Include an organization chart and, if part of a larger organization, relations of dependency between the organization and the parent body.*

*Include activity report of the organization.*

### BREAKDOWN OF THE PARTNERS IN THE ORGANIZATION

Partner (natural or legal person)	Tax ID number	Percentage share (%)

### CIVIL LIABILITY INSURANCE POLICY

Does the organization, or the body to which it belongs, have a professional liability insurance policy that covers risks associated with the activities carried out by the organization?  Yes  No

Name of insurance company:

Policy number:

Coverage:

*Include documentation supporting the financial capacity of the organization and a copy of professional liability insurance policies.*

### ACCREDITATIONS OF THE ORGANIZATION

Does the organization, or the body to which it belongs, have any accreditations?  Yes  No

<input type="checkbox"/>	Environmental control body	[EN ISO/IEC 17020 and Decree 170/1999]
<input type="checkbox"/>	Greenhouse gas verifier	[EA-6/03]
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inspection body	[EN ISO/IEC 17020]
<input type="checkbox"/>	Certifier of environmental management systems	[EN ISO/IEC 17021]
<input type="checkbox"/>	Testing and/or calibration laboratories	[EN ISO/IEC 17025]
<input type="checkbox"/>	Product certification body	[EN 45011]
<input type="checkbox"/>	EMAS environmental verifier	[Regulation EC 761/2001]
<input type="checkbox"/>	Others (please specify):	

*Include copy of accreditation certificate and annexes*

**B. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

**EXPERIENCE**

**ORGANIZATION**

**Related projects**

Name	Description	Year

**STAFF**

**Technical director or technical expert in charge for DAPcons® verification**

Full name:	Tax number:	ID	Email:	Telephone:

**Technicians**

Full name of the technician:
Qualification:
Specialized training:
Years of experience in the construction sector:
Years of experience in the environmental sector:
Relation to the organization: <input type="checkbox"/> staff <input type="checkbox"/> external

Add a table for each technician

Include the curriculum of all staff.

**WORKING METHODOLOGY**

Include a copy of the procedures implemented to carry out the tasks of verifying DAPcons®.

**CURRENT FEES**

**C. DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE AND IMPARTIALITY**

Full name of the undersigned:
Tax ID number:
On behalf of the organization:
Post:

To ensure the independence, impartiality and integrity required for the verification of DAPcons®.

The undersigned, on behalf of the body, declares that:

- The various organizational units of the body have the necessary technical autonomy.
- None of the organizational units are related to any party or element involved in the design, manufacture, supply, installation, purchase, ownership, use and/or maintenance of installations, products or services subject to the proceedings as a DAPcons® verifier.
- Each collaborator (in-house staff and, in the same capacity, hired external staff) involved in DAPcons® verification activities has signed an agreement to the effect that s/he has no interests/is not involved in activities related to the design, manufacture, supply, installation, purchase, ownership, use and/or maintenance of installations, products or services subject to verification.
- The policy of remuneration of collaborating staff is independent of the number of verifications carried out per unit of time and their results.
- In order to demonstrate compliance with the criteria of independence, impartiality and integrity, the directors of the organization undertake to continuously ensure that there is no conflict of interest between related companies, group companies, financial interests, etc.
- This statement will be updated every time a change occurs or a new activity is incorporated into the organization which could compromise the necessary independence, impartiality and integrity of the body.

The body and related organisms:

- Do not offer consulting services related to matters that may be subject to their intervention as DAPcons® verifiers.
- Do not offer technical assistance related to matters that may be subject to their intervention as DAPcons® verifiers.
- Do not intervene as DAPcons® verifiers for clients in the event of financial dependence that could compromise their impartiality in other consulting services or technical assistance.

*Signature*

*Place, date*

## D. DECLARATION OF UNDERTAKING

Full name of the undersigned:

Tax ID number:

On behalf of the organization:

Post:

Declares:

- That the information contained in this form and the attached documentation is true and valid;
- That the documentation contained is up-to-date;
- That s/he is familiar with the Programme Operator DAPconstrucción® and the rights and responsibilities of accredited organizations.

Undertakes to:

- Comply with the accreditation requirements of verified organizations;
- Respect the accreditation procedures established by the CAATEEB and facilitate access to all the information and/or documentation required for evaluation of the organization;
- Pay the fee for the accreditation process, whether or not it is granted.

Signature

Company stamp