



# **PRODUCT SUSTAINABILITY QUALIFICATION LABEL FOR THE EYEWEAR SECTOR**

**CSE Certified Sustainable Eyewear -**



**CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE EYEWEAR**

**Programme Regulation**

## Summary

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## 1. Subject and objectives of the programme

This Regulation regulates the Programme for the management of an environmental product qualification label for the eyewear sector, called **CSE - Certified Sustainable Eyewear**.

ANFAO (Associazione Nazionale Fabbrikanti Articoli Ottici) is an industry association that brings together Italian eyewear companies from the entire production chain.

ANFAO has developed a sustainability certification for eyewear products to valorise members' efforts to improve the environmental performance of the supply chain. The label will support the sustainability enhancement of the eyewear industry.

## 2. Purpose

The purpose of the **CSE - Certified Sustainable Eyewear** label is to "promote the demand for and supply of those products and services that cause least harm to the environment, thus helping to stimulate a market-driven process of continuous environmental improvement", using the "communication of verifiable and accurate information, which is not misleading, on the environmental aspects of products and services" (UNI EN ISO 14020, §3). The **CSE - Certified Sustainable Eyewear** label complies with UNI EN ISO 14024 and aims to "contribute to a reduction in the environmental impacts associated with products by identifying products that meet specific criteria [...] of overall environmental preference" (free translation from UNI EN ISO 14024, §4).

## 3. Scope of application

The CSE - Certified Sustainable Eyewear label applies to the following product categories:

- Raw materials
- Temples/sides
- Spectacles front
- Metal Small parts
- Plastic Small parts
- Lenses
- Complete spectacles (sunglasses or protective) or prescription frames (including any demo lenses), including packaging

The categories were developed taking into account the life cycle, in order to allow individual operators in the supply chain to adhere to the label. Specific Product Criteria (hereinafter: Criteria) are developed for each category.

### Selection of the product line to be certified

Within the product categories, Applicants applying to join the Programme and be awarded the CSE - Certified Sustainable Eyewear label, may group different models belonging to the same family as long as they meet all required criteria equally (a tolerance of  $\pm 5\%$  is allowed for quantitative criteria). In order to be grouped within the same certification, models must not differ in:

1. Shape and dimensions (technical drawing + data sheet) within the tolerance limits described above
2. Main raw materials (cellulose acetate, cellulose propionate, injected (polyamides), metal, titanium, polycarbonate, PMMA, PET, wood, other)
3. Production channel of origin (foreign, domestic, mixed,...)

4. Production process to which the product has been subjected (milling, injection moulding, welding, stamping, laser cutting, etc.).

## 4. Principles

The operation of the labelling programme is based on the following general principles:

- The Programme
  - complies with EN ISO 14020 and EN ISO 14024;
  - extends the requirements of the standards in the previous point also to social criteria
  - is voluntary;
  - is managed by a Competent Body;
  - is open to all applicants;
  - applies to the product categories listed in §3.
- Applicants apply to join the Programme and receive the **CSE - Certified Sustainable Eyewear** - label.
- The release of the label
  - provides for certification by an independent third party (Certification Body);
  - identifies preferable products from the point of view of sustainability;
  - allows the label to be used in the prescribed manner.
- Preferable products from the point of view of sustainability are identified on the basis of Sustainability Criteria. All products that meet the Criteria are deemed eligible for the label.
- The Criteria
  - are determined taking into account all stages of the life cycle, where relevant;
  - refer to scientifically and technically founded principles;
  - are quantified and measurable using standardised methods and at a sustainable cost;
  - take measurement uncertainties into account;
  - take into account the product's fitness for purpose and performance levels, through the identification of Functional Product Characteristics;
  - are reviewed every three years or whenever necessary to keep them up to date with the sectoral context.

The onus is on the applicant to collect and process the necessary data to prove compliance, also in the case of contract work;

- All elements of the Programme, including the selection and review of Product Categories, Criteria and Functional Product Characteristics are organised in such a way as to allow *stakeholder involvement* and free access to information, including through public consultation.
- All measures are in place to ensure the confidentiality of industry-sensitive information (all product or process information that the company does not wish to disclose).
- This Sustainability Labelling Programme respects free market principles and is free of conflict of interest.
- Costs and fees for awarding and maintaining a label are based on the overall cost of the programme (creation and management).

## 5. Reference Standards

These Rules refer to the following international standards, in the latest version available:

- UNI EN ISO 14020:2002 - Environmental labels and declarations. General Principles

- UNI EN ISO 14024:2018 - Environmental labels and declarations - Type I environmental labelling - Principles and procedures
- UNI EN ISO 14001:2015 - Environmental management systems - Requirements and guidance for use
- UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17050-1:2010 - Conformity assessment - Declaration of conformity issued by the supplier. Part 1: General requirements

## 6. Definitions

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Aspect of sustainability          | Element of an activity or product of an organisation that interacts or may interact with the environment (free translation from UNI EN ISO 14024:2018, § 3.10) or social context.<br>A sustainability aspect can generate an impact; a significant sustainability aspect is one that generates significant impacts  |
| Temples - Sides                   | Two long, generally rectangular elements shaped in various ways and connected to the front lens in such a way as to keep it in a fixed position in front of the eyes. This results in the formation of a series of angles that influence the corrective power of the ophthalmic lens. The temples have the task of wrapping around the ear in an anatomical manner to keep the spectacle fixed. |
| Biogenic                          | Characteristic of a product or material derived from biomass.   |
| Functional Product Characteristic | Attribute or characteristic of the performance and use of a product (free translation from UNI EN ISO 14024:2018, § 3.5).   |
| Product Category                  | Group of products that have similar functions (free translation from UNI EN ISO 14024:2018, § 3.3).   |
| Certification                     | Procedure by which a Third Party provides written assurance that a product or process conforms to specified requirements (free translation from UNI EN ISO 14024:2018, § 3.12).   |
| Life Cycle                        | Consecutive and interconnected stages of a product system, from raw material acquisition or natural resource generation to final disposal (UNI EN ISO 14020:2002, § 2.2).   |
| Packaging                         | Set of elements that accompany the product for transport, storage, logistics, sale and end use.   |
| Specific Product Criteria         | Environmental and social requirements that the product must meet to obtain the sustainability label.  |
| Front                             | Front part of the frame. It generally consists of two rings within which ophthalmic lenses or sunscreens are inserted.  |
| Impact                            | Any change in the environment and social context, negative or beneficial, caused wholly or partially by the sustainability aspects of an organisation (modified from UNI EN ISO 14001:2004, § 3.7).   |
| Lens                              | Generic term for the luminous transmitting part (glass or plastic) of a protector that enables vision. This includes aphocals, corrective, prescription, <i>demo lenses</i> and sunglass lenses (generally referred to as filters).   |
| Licensee                          | Party authorised by a Competent Body to use a sustainability label (modified by UNI EN ISO 14024:2018, § 3.9).  |

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Raw materials              | Materials derived from the exploitation of natural resources and semi-finished products obtained from them in a form suitable for processing to produce goods.   |
| Frames                     | It has the function of supporting in front of the eye, in a stable manner over time, an ophthalmic lens, a sun filter, technological instruments.  |
| Metal Small parts          | Set of small metal objects that can be included in the frame (includes, for example, screws, hinges, plate/ring holders, embellishments, etc.).  |
| Plastic Small parts        | Set of small plastic objects that can be included in the frame (includes, for example, plates/nozzles, embellishments).  |
| Complete spectacles        | An optical instrument consisting of a pair of lenses attached to a support (frame) that holds them steady in front of the eyes.<br>Spectacles: frame + demo lens. In this case, the purpose of the frame is to hold the lens at a precise distance, in a fixed and predetermined position in front of the eye, over time.<br>Sunglasses: frame + sun filter. In this case, the frame serves to hold the sun filter (sunglass lens) firmly in front of the eye. |
| Competent Body             | Body, including its agents, conducting a sustainability labelling programme (modified from UNI EN ISO 14024:2018, § 3.6).  |
| <i>Stakeholder</i>         | Any party affected by a sustainability labelling programme.  |
| Third-party body           | Person or body that is recognised as independent from the parties involved with regard to the subject matter in question (free translation from UNI EN ISO 14024:2018, § 3.7).   |
| Preference                 | Referred to a product, it indicates a better performance, compared to other products in the same Product Category, on the basis of the sustainability criteria defined according to the principles expressed in paragraph 4.   |
| Product                    | Any good or service (free translation from UNI EN ISO 14024:2018, § 3.2).  |
| Type I Labelling Programme | Third-party, voluntary, multi-criteria programme that awards a licence authorising the use of sustainability labels on products, indicating the overall preferability of a product within a particular product category, based on life cycle considerations (modified from UNI EN ISO 14024:2018, § 3.1).  |
| Applicant                  | He who applies to the organisation for a licence to use a sustainability label.  |
| Verification               | Confirmation, through objective evidence, of compliance with specific requirements (free translation from UNI EN ISO 14024:2018, §3.16).   |

## 7. Roles and responsibilities

### Competent body - ANFAO

- **Develop, maintain and disseminate the Programme Regulations**
- **Developing the Criteria ensuring their coherence and harmonisation**
- Managing the composition of the Technical Committee and Steering Committee to ensure their competence and independence

- Set up and maintain mutual recognition agreements between ANFAO and competent bodies of other certification programmes
- Handling complaints and returns on Criteria and other programme documents
- Keeping all programme documents up-to-date
- Managing and maintaining the programme website
- Facilitating stakeholder involvement also through public consultation
- Publishing the results of the public consultation for the General Rules and Criteria
- Verify the suitability of Certification Bodies
- **Receive label applications and decide whether to accept them on the basis of the documentation submitted**
- Assigning a registration number to labels assigned within the Programme
- Manage and maintain a record of assigned labels in digital format
- Making the list of assigned labels publicly available
- **Supervise compliance with the Programme Regulations**
- Supervise the correct use of the label

#### **Steering committee**

- Provide input to the Competent Body for the updating of the General Rules and other activities related to the review and updating of the Programme
- Assisting the Competent Body in order to promote the recognition of the Programme on the market and suggesting activities and events aimed at its dissemination
- Assisting the Competent Body to identify potential new stakeholders and applications for the label

#### **Technical committee**

- Assisting the Competent Body in the review and approval of the Criteria
- Assist and support the Competent Body in its technical tasks
- Assisting the Competent Body to carry out spot checks to ensure that audits are conducted in accordance with the Regulation.

#### **Applicant - company seeking certification**

- Apply for certification in accordance with the requirements of the Regulation

#### **Licensee - company obtaining certification**

- Comply with the rules on the use of the label laid down in the Regulation

#### **Certification body**

- Verify compliance with the Criteria in the Regulation for issuing the label

#### **Other Interested Parties - International Industry Associations**

- Participate in the public consultation when updating the Rules and Criteria

## **8. Programme Rules Management**

### **a. Drafting the general rules of the Programme**

The general rules of the Programme are drawn up by the Competent Body, in agreement with the interested parties and the *Steering committee* and *Technical committee*. They are set out in this "Regulation" and its annexes.

These Rules and its annexes are approved by ANFAO.

The Regulation and its annexes are reviewed every three years and updated as necessary. A review of the Regulation, or of one or more of its requirements, or of any point in the programme may be initiated by ANFAO at any time on its own initiative or at the suggestion of interested parties.

### **b. Development of Product Specific Criteria**

The Competent Body, in agreement with the interested parties and with the *Steering committee* and the *Technical committee*, selects and updates the Product Categories certifiable according to these Rules and identifies the Specific Product Criteria.

The Competent Body, having heard the opinion of the *Technical committee*, selects and develops the Criteria, which are shared with interested parties prior to publication. In the definition of the Criteria, the principles defined in UNI EN ISO 14024 and UNI EN ISO 14020 and the Regulation established by the Competent Body are followed.

Criteria are identified by taking into account the entire product life cycle and selecting those stages and aspects that are significant for the assessment of the preferability of the product under consideration, taking into account environmental, social, economic and technological factors.

In selecting the Criteria, the impacts of the product at all stages of its life cycle are taken into account:

- Resource extraction;
- Production;
- Distribution;
- Usage;
- Disposal

Criteria are selective and quantified and include threshold values. There must be defined standards and procedures for verifying compliance with the thresholds.

The Criteria for each product category are differentiated to highlight different levels of sustainability. Information on the limits and thresholds for each level can be found in the *Product Specific Criteria* documents.

The Criteria are updated periodically according to technological development and market needs.

The same Competent Body, having heard the opinion of the *Technical Committee*, also defines the Functional Product Characteristics for each category, following the principles of UNI EN ISO 14024:2018.

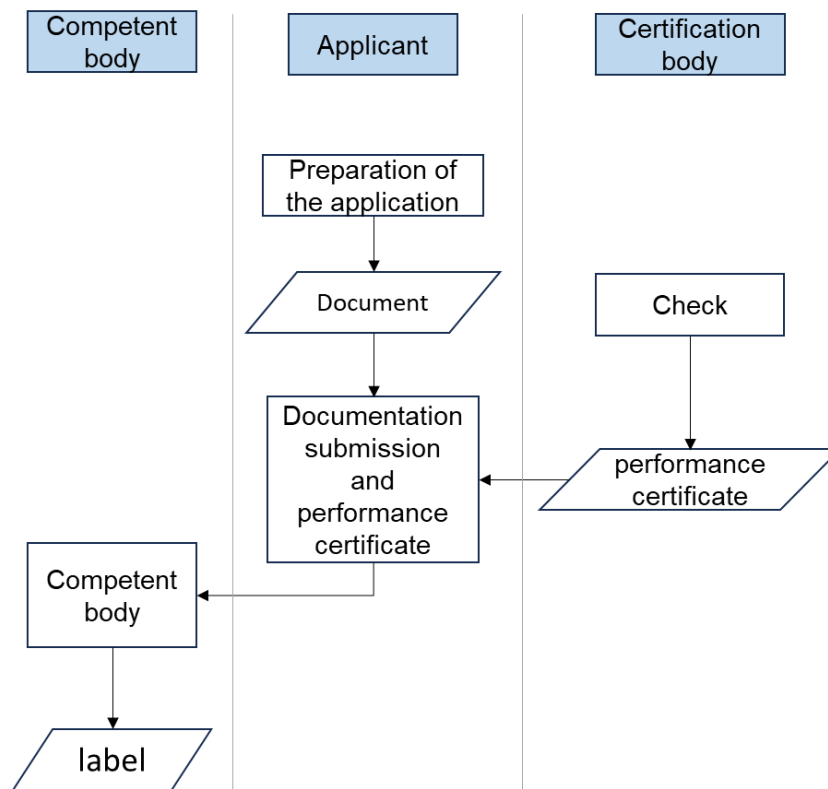
## **9. Release of the label**

The Applicant, i.e. the party intending to use the label for its product, must apply to the Competent Body, stating the description of the product and the product category to which it refers, which must be among those listed in §3 of these Regulations.

Subsequently, the Applicant shall submit the necessary documentation together with the certification certificate issued by the Certification Body. In preparing the documentation, the Applicant may, if necessary, make use of a test laboratory, if the Product Category Criteria so require. The costs associated with the laboratory will be borne by the Applicant.

Below is the flowchart of activities for the issuing of the label.





The procedures to be applied for certification are set out in §11.

The label is valid for three years from the date of issue, after which a renewal application must be submitted to the Competent Body.

The level of the assigned label is determined on the basis of the level achieved on the individual Criteria, excluding those not applicable, according to the following scheme:

- Gold level label: if Gold level is achieved on at least 80% of the Criteria
- Silver level label: if Gold or Silver level is achieved on at least 80% of the Criteria
- Bronze level label: if Gold, Silver or Bronze level is achieved on at least 80% of the Criteria

The calculation of the attainment percentage for the complete spectacles/eyeglasses is to be carried out using the scheme in Annex 1 to this document.

The achievement of a certain level for each criterion/item is demonstrated in two alternative ways:

- Comparison with the criterion threshold; or
- Use of the CSE certification level of the purchased component, in case the manufacturer of the complete spectacles uses components already certified under this scheme (in this case the final level of the component is to be considered, not the level achieved on the specific criterion).

## 10. General rules and graphic requirements

### a. Using the label

The label is represented by a graphic symbol accompanied by an assertion characterising the sustainability of the product. The characteristics of the graphic symbol and assertion are given in Annex 2.

The rules for using the label are as follows:

- The label may only be used with clear and explicit reference to the product
- The label is available both in digital (e.g. QR-Code) and physical format, but it is recommended that the former is preferred
- The label can be placed on the product and/or packaging or on product illustrative material (e.g. catalogues, brochures, data sheets, also on websites)
- The label cannot be used with reference to the entire organisation or a production site.
- Generic uses of the label, not associated with any product, are not permissible.

In the event of improper use of the label, the Competent Body will require the licensee to take action to eliminate the non-conformities by requesting evidence of their resolution. In any case the Competent Body may terminate the validity of the licence.

### b. Necessary conditions for maintenance

During the period of validity, the Licensee must implement annual checks to verify continued compliance with the thresholds set out in the Criteria. These checks shall be based on the monitoring of any changes in the information and data provided for obtaining the label.

If the thresholds are not met, the Licensee shall notify the Competent Body and the Certification Body and suspend use of the label.

The Certification Authority may carry out spot checks on the licensee's self-audit.

For the maintenance of the label the Licensee shall pay the prescribed fee annually to the Competent Body.

### c. Dispute Resolution Procedure

Any dispute concerning the implementation of these Rules shall be settled by the Court of Milan.

## 11. Certification modalities

Verification for certification must cover the following areas:

- The data underlying the documentation submitted;
- The calculation methodologies applied;
- Documentary evidence, if any, provided in support;
- Documentation proving functional characteristics

The Certifying Body develops verification procedures in line with the reference standards, in particular the provisions of §7.4.5 of UNI EN ISO 14024 "Environmental labels and declarations - Type I environmental labelling - Principles and procedures" are complied with.

The certification body must justify and document the validation methods adopted.

The Certification Body informs the Applicant of the procedures adopted to respect data confidentiality.

The Applicant is obliged to make available the data required by the Certifier, in a transparent and legible manner, and to set up procedures for checking and updating the label.

The minimum information that must be included in the Certification Certificate issued by the Certification Body is:

- a) the unique identification of the Certification Certificate;
- b) the name and address of the certifier;
- c) identification of the subject of the Certification Certificate (e.g. name, type, production date or model number of a product);
- d) the certificate of compliance;
- e) a complete and clear list of the standards or other requirements specified;
- f) the date and place of issue of the Certification Certificate;
- g) the signature (or equivalent validation mark), name and function of the authorised person(s) acting on behalf of the person making the declaration;
- h) any limitation on the validity of the certification certificate.

If a company produces a group of products of a similar type, i.e. with only minor variations between them that do not affect the criteria applied for issuing the label (typically, several colour and size variants for the same complete spectacle model), it is possible to obtain a Group Certification Certificate. This certificate will cover each individual product in the group. The applicability of group certification is judged by the certification body.

The Applicant shall inform the Certification Body of any significant changes that may affect conformity with the Criteria and product features during the period of validity of the certification.

## 12. Recognised certification bodies

The Competent Body establishes the following requirements for the recognition of Certification Bodies that may operate within the Labelling Programme:

- Being a notified body authorised by the Ministry of Economic Development and the Ministry of Labour and Social Security;
- Being an entity notified by the European Commission;
- Be authorised to issue EU type examination certificates under Regulation (EU) 2016/425 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE);
- To be a testing laboratory conducting tests for the conformity assessment of Class I Medical Devices (MD) with regard to vision;
- Notified body conforming to the requirements of UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17065:2012 - Conformity assessment - Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services;
- Possess at least ten years of experience in issuing conformity certificates for the CE certification of optical products.

Certification Bodies must apply to the Competent Body, documenting that they meet the requirements for recognition.

The recognised certification bodies are listed in a register published on [www.cse-eyewear.com](http://www.cse-eyewear.com).

## Bibliography

1. UNI EN ISO 7998:2006 Ophthalmic optics - Spectacle frames - Lists of equivalent terms and vocabulary;
2. UNI EN ISO 12870:2018 Ophthalmic optics - Spectacle frames - Requirements and test methods;
3. Practical Handbook of Mountings, S&V Study Centre (2015);
4. ISO 4007:2018 Personal protective equipment - Eye and face protection - Vocabulary.
5. UNI EN ISO 14020:2002 - Environmental labels and declarations. General Principles
6. UNI EN ISO 14024:2018 - Environmental labels and declarations - Type I environmental labelling - Principles and procedures
7. UNI EN ISO 14001:2015 - Environmental management systems - Requirements and guidance for use
8. UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17050-1:2010 - Conformity assessment - Declaration of conformity issued by the supplier. Part 1: General requirements

## Annex 1 - Criteria diagram for complete spectacles/eyeglasses

| Criterion No.                 | Component   | Description  | Gold level | Silver level | Bronze level |
|-------------------------------|---|--|------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>1. Resource extraction</b> |   |  |            |              |              |
| Criterion 1                   | Temples   | FSC/PEFC certification for glasses   |            |              |              |
|                               | Front   |  |            |              |              |
| Criterion 2A                  | Temples   | Percentage of recycled material in the glasses   |            |              |              |
| Criterion 2B                  | Temples   | Percentage of material of biogenic origin in the glasses                                   |            |              |              |
| Criterion 2C                  | Temples   | Percentage of recycled and biogenic material in the glasses                                |            |              |              |
| Criterion 2A                  | Front   | Percentage of recycled material in the glasses   |            |              |              |
| Criterion 2B                  | Front   | Percentage of material of biogenic origin in spectacles                                    |            |              |              |
| Criterion 2C                  | Front   | Percentage of recycled and biogenic material in the glasses                                |            |              |              |
| Criterion 3A                  | Plastic small parts (see Criterion 1 for plastic small parts) | Percentage of recycled material in the product   |            |              |              |
| Criterion 3B                  | Plastic small parts (see Criterion 2 for plastic small parts) | Percentage of material of biogenic origin in the product                                   |            |              |              |
| Criterion 3C                  | Plastic small parts (see Criterion 3 for plastic small parts) | Percentage of recycled and biogenic material in the product                                |            |              |              |
| Criterion 4                   | Lens (see Criterion 1 for the lens)                           | Percentage of material of biogenic origin in the prevailing material (lens)                |            |              |              |
| <b>2. Production</b>          |   |  |            |              |              |
| Criterion 5                   | Temples   | Percentage of scrap produced   |            |              |              |
|                               | Front   |  |            |              |              |
| Criterion 6                   | Lens (see Criterion 2 for the lens)                           | Percentage of scrap produced (lens)  |            |              |              |
| Criterion 7                   | Temples   | Percentage of offcuts that are a by-product and/or sent to a specialised recycling company |            |              |              |

|                        |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
|                        | Front  |  |  |  |  |
| Criterion 8            | Metal Small parts<br>(see Criterion 1 for Metal Small parts) | Percentage of scrap sent for recycling or reused as by-product   |  |  |  |
| Criterion 9            | Glasses  | Percentage of scrap produced when cutting lenses   |  |  |  |
| Criterion 10           | Glasses  | Presence of a procedure for the recovery of materials through reuse, put back into production                  |  |  |  |
| Criterion 11           | Glasses  | Send defective products for recycling by homogeneous fractions   |  |  |  |
| Criterion 12           | Glasses  | Average water consumption (l) per spectacle produced   |  |  |  |
| Criterion 13           | Lens (see Criterion 4 for the lens)                          | Average water consumption (l) per lens produced  |  |  |  |
| Criterion 14           | Glasses  | Average energy consumption (kWh) per spectacle produced  |  |  |  |
| Criterion 15           | Glasses  | Use of electricity from renewable sources for production   |  |  |  |
| Criterion 16           | Temples  | Sustainability of coating processes  |  |  |  |
|                        | Front  |  |  |  |  |
| Criterion 17           | Temples  | Sustainability of painting processes   |  |  |  |
|                        | Front  |  |  |  |  |
| Criterion 18           | Glasses  | Distance travelled by direct suppliers   |  |  |  |
| Criterion 19           | Glasses  | Compliance with conventions and commitments to respect human rights and the environment along the supply chain |  |  |  |
| <b>3. Distribution</b> |  |  |  |  |  |
| Criterion 20           | Glasses  | Responsibility in the use of demo lenses   |  |  |  |
| Criterion 21           | Glasses  | Percentage of FSC/PEFC or recycled material in cartons   |  |  |  |
| Criterion 22           | Glasses  | Volume occupied by ten cases   |  |  |  |
| Criterion 23           | Glasses  | Recyclability of cases   |  |  |  |
| Criterion 24           | Glasses  | Percentage of FSC/PEFC or recycled material in packaging   |  |  |  |
| Criterion 25           | Glasses  | Recyclability of packaging   |  |  |  |
| <b>4. Use</b>          |  |  |  |  |  |
| Criterion 26           | Glasses  | Possibility of disassembling the glasses into their individual components                                      |  |  |  |
| Criterion 27           | Glasses  | Provision of spare parts   |  |  |  |

|                    |         |   |  |  |  |
|--------------------|---------|---|--|--|--|
| Criterion 28       | Glasses | Responsible use of potentially hazardous substances                               |  |  |  |
| <b>5. Disposal</b> |         |   |  |  |  |
| Criterion 29       | Glasses | Recyclability of disassemblable spectacle components                              |  |  |  |
| Criterion 30       | Glasses | Take-back of used or unsold glasses for reuse or recovery in alternative circuits |  |  |  |



## Annex 2 - Programme mark

After obtaining a licence from the Competent Body, the Licensee has the right to use the CSE mark.

The certified product is recognisable by the CSE logo and the licence number and links to the Competent Body's website for communication of the full label via a text link or associated with a QR code.



**CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE EYEWEAR**

**Lic. Nr. 123456 [www.cse-eyewear.com](http://www.cse-eyewear.com)**

The colour of the mark is black. The font to be used for the textual part is Aristotelian Pro. The mark may be placed on a coloured background as long as both the logo and the textual part and the link are clearly visible.

The Licensee may modify the dimensions of the Label in compliance with the proportions and with the care to make all the information contained clearly legible. The Label shall always be used with reference to the specific product for which it has been awarded and in accordance with the Licence granted by the Competent Body. The CSE label and related graphics are the exclusive property of the Competent Body. Any incorrect and improper use will be prosecuted in accordance with the law.