

To all accredited certification bodies

To the associations of conformity assessment bodies

OBJECT **Certification and Inspection Department**

Information Circular DC N° 36/2021
Approval of the "GIF (Get It Fair) ESG Rating scheme" for
purposes of accreditation – Collective labeling program in
accordance with UNI/PdR 102:2021 – Ethical claims of
responsibility for sustainable development – Application guide
to UNI ISO/TS 17033:2020

Foreword

ACCREDIA has positively evaluated for the purposes of accreditation the **GIF (Get It Fair) ESG Rating scheme** program which is the validation scheme for ethical claims of responsibility for sustainable development "**GIF Responsible Organization**" issued to an organization following a rigorous process of Due Diligence and a quantitative measurement scale for the assessment of non-financial risks or ESG with a future prospective (*looking forward*).

The program responds to the needs to provide stakeholders with credible and reliable information on the level of exposure to risks of an organization with regard to matters of governance, Social (Human Rights and Labour Conditions), Safety, Environment and Business Ethics (Fair Business Practices and Consumer issues) which may have negative impact on the organization and on its stakeholders.

The program, developed with the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders, including (Unioncamere), Associazioni (Assocamerestero, AICE – Associazione Italiana Commercio Estero, Federazionemoda, Associazione Blockchain Italia, APQI), Universities and academies (Accademia Costume Moda, Milano Fashion Institute), no profit associations (AFLIN, Dress the Change), is promoted worldwide with the collaboration of both Italian and foreign chambers of commerce who have the role of GIF Ambassador.

The non-financial risk assessment takes place with respect to the GIF Framework, a model referring to the OCSE Guidelines in matters of Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business

Conduct and Due Diligence Guidance for responsible supply chains, as well as the standard ISO 26000 and other standards and international guidelines and a quantitative measurement scale.

The process of Due Diligence, in conformity with EN ISO/IEC 17029:2019” and with UNI/Pdr 102:2021, provides for the verification of materiality analysis and an assessment conducted partly in remote mode and partly at the premises of the organization, concerning all applicable aspects of the GIF Framework (Governance and Management system, Social, Safety, Environment, Business Ethics). At the end of the process of Due Diligence a final evaluation report is prepared and given to the organization which includes a quantitative evaluation – “looking forward” – based on a confirmation of the plausibility of the assumptions which permit a reasonable estimate of the level of confidence of the overall level of exposure to non-financial risks with a partial breakdown of each risk related to non-financial aspects.

In case of a positive result of the Due Diligence, organizations may receive, as well as user rights of the validated ethical claim “GIF Responsible Organization”, an ethical label, in conformity with ISO 17033 and a non-financial report in conformity with Directive 2014/95 and subsequent amendments. This report constitutes a certification of conformity of corporate information of sustainability issued on the basis of the final evaluation report.

The information relating to the program is publicly available on the website www.getit-fair.com.

1) Standards and rules for verification and validation

Please refer to the regulation GIF DOC 100 *ESG Rating Scheme for “GIF Responsible Organization” validated claim* in the current version.

2) Accreditation process

Validation bodies which are interested may apply for accreditation to:

- UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17029;
- UNI ISO/TS 17033;
- UNI/PdR 102:2021
- GIF (Get IT Fair) ESG Rating Scheme for “GIF Responsible Organization” validated claim

There is no change in the requirements for the granting of accreditation and of extension in accordance with regulation RG-01 and any other applicable ACCREDIA regulation.

For CBs already accredited to ISO/IEC 17029, it is not necessary for them to have issued previous certificates in this scheme to be able to apply for extension of accreditation.

If the CB already holds accreditation issued by another AB it is necessary to perform case-by-case assessments in accordance with the applicable EA/IAF MLA agreements.

a) Evaluation of the program

The program has already successfully passed the assessment of evaluation of accreditation in accordance with EA-1/22 A-AB: 2020 "EA Procedure and Criteria for the Evaluation of Conformity Assessment Schemes by EA Accreditation Body Members".

b) Accreditation assessments

A	CB not yet accredited to any accreditation standard	Document review of 1 day (to be done, at least partially, in remote mode). Assessment at the CB's site of 4 days. At least 1 witness assessment
B	CB not yet accredited to UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17029 but accredited to other accreditation standards	Document review of 1 day (to be done, at least partially, in remote mode). Assessment at the CB's site of 2 days. At least 1 witness assessment
C	CB not yet accredited to UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17029 but accredited to ISO 14065	Document review of 1 day (to be done, at least partially, in remote mode). Assessment at the CB's site of 1 day. At least 1 witness assessment
D	CB accredited to UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17029 Extension to ISO/TS 17033, UNI/PdR 102:2021 and Extension to GIF ESG Rating scheme	Document review of 1 day (to be done, at least partially, in remote mode). Assessment at the CB's site of 0.5 day. At least 1 witness assessment
E	CB accredited to UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17029, UNI ISO/TS 17033 and UNI/PdR 102:2021 Extension to the GIF ESG Rating scheme	Document review of 1 day. At least 1 witness assessment

For the application for accreditation/extension and the relative document review, as well as the requirements of the applicable modules of the Application for Accreditation, it is necessary to present to ACCREDIA as follows:

- a) Qualification criteria of staff engaged in all phases of the process of verification/validation;
- b) CVs and evidence of assignments of the qualifications of staff engaged for all the phases of the process of verification/validation;
- c) Documents/check-lists/reports prepared and made available by the CB for recording the phases of the process of verification/validation;
- d) Instructions/procedures/regulations prepared and made available by the CB specifically describing the phases of the process of verification/validation;
- e) Fax of contractual documents with the organization which prepares the claim;
- f) Fax of the validation and verification statement issued by the CB;
- g) List of the statements of validation and verification already issued and of the upcoming validation and verification activities (necessary data for planning the witness assessments).

For the witness assessments, ACCREDIA reserves the right to assess on a case-by-case basis the suitability of the organizations and of the audit teams proposed for the accreditation and the subsequent surveillance activities.

1) Maintenance of accreditation

An annual assessment is performed at the CB's premises, the duration of which is set according to the number of verified/validated claims during the previous year.

ACCREDIA reserves the right to assess the sampling on a case-by-case basis by means of a witness assessment during the cycle of accreditation of all the programs for which the CB is accredited.

If, owing to the typology of the verified/validated claim, it is not possible to plan the witness assessments, sampling will be carried out of the programs only, at the Body's premises.

Best regards.

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Director Department
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