

Show message in browser



Book and Claim Community November Newsletter

Dear Book and Claim Stakeholder,

Now that we're on our fifth newsletter, we've found ourselves referencing past issues in order to bring newcomers up to speed and reference past work. Approximately 40% of this Community has joined in just the last three months! So, we wish to highlight an additional page on our website where we've uploaded the last four newsletters: <https://bookandclaimcommunity.org/newsletter/>. We hope this helps you build on this work collaboratively with your colleagues and bring someone else into this Community.

In this newsletter, we cover:

- Community Response—SBTi "Call for Evidence" Survey Response Request
- Expert Convenings: *Registry Interoperability, Book and Claim Principles*
- Capacity-Building: Assurance Vocabulary 101

Questions, please email us Secretariat@BookandClaimCommunity.org.

Sincerely,
The Secretariat

Book and Claim Community Response—SBTi "Call for Evidence"

As we noted in our last newsletter, the Science Based Targets Initiative has put out a "Call for Evidence," and we are supporting the call through a community submission. We encourage you all to support as individual organizations as well.

Will you please share your experience with us?

To support our community submission, we request your response to [this ~10-minute survey](#) by **November 17**. The aggregated results will serve as critical evidence to the Book and Claim Community's submission. Your

responses will be anonymous unless you indicate that you're willing to be contacted for attribution. Thank you!

Survey

“Expert” Convenings

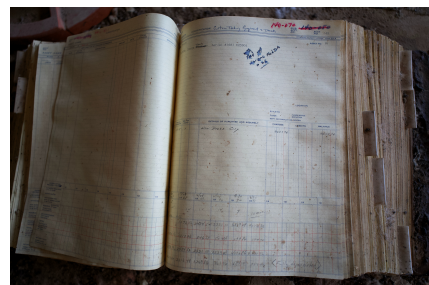
You asked, we listened! In the four ‘Work Area’ convenings earlier this summer, we asked for your input: What topics are most important for the future of book and claim? What are key areas where the Secretariat can help?

This work will return to the larger, Community forum, but over the next few weeks, we'll focus on the most-requested topics in focused ‘expert’ groups:

1. Registry Interoperability
2. Book and Claim Principles and Best Practices

Registry Interoperability

Interoperability between registries allows for alignment in the registration, tracking, and transfer of sustainability profiles of fuels. This can make registries easier to understand and use while also reducing the risks of double-counting. We plan to convene registry experts to develop baseline registry criteria and align on registry accountability and usability.



Book and Claim Principles & Practices

The gathering on book and claim principles and best practices will bring together groups who have produced public works and examples of a book and claim chain of custody approach to heavy transport decarbonization. The aim is to outline book and claim guidelines for system developers, identify areas of alignment, and develop a set of recommendations for stakeholders. We're convening a select group of experts on this topic, and will bring findings back to the Community at large.

We will continue this approach in coming months towards additional topics. Feedback? Please feel free to let us know your thoughts: Secretariat@BookandClaimCommunity.org.

COMMUNITY CAPACITY-BUILDING: Assurance Vocabulary 101



The subject of ‘certification’ is central to our work in this Community—so much that it's the name of our second work area! However, much like an anti-competitive brief at the beginning of a meeting, it's a subject that is often inaccessible for its technical jargon, seems ‘niche,’ or is subsequently misquoted or applied.

Let's start with an overarching concept: **conformity assessment**. According to ISO 17000:2020, this is the demonstration that specified requirements are fulfilled. This is determined through activities such as certification, verification and validation. Those requirements may be applied to a product, project, claim, data,

organization, or even a process, also called the **object of the conformity assessment**.

This may sound obscure and complicated, but **conformity assessment** is everywhere and supports our daily lives. Ask your contractor for home renovation, and he or she will likely be certified in one or more technical competencies, and use electrical products which are certified against technical standards, to avoid blowing up your house! **Conformity assessment activities** are performed by auditors working for third-party organizations called **conformity assessment bodies** (what a surprise!). An auditor's work is to evaluate the object of conformity assessment against the selected standard.

For those who have accompanied this community for enough time, you've likely heard a lot about fuel-related **certification** schemes such as the one developed by RSB where "the object" is fuel, the standard is RSB CORSIA, and the conformity assessment bodies are SCS or SGS Tecnos. Now let's walk through an example of verification in action:

An airline states in its annual ESG report that its total GHG emissions for that year were 50 million tons of CO₂e. This is a **claim, which is "the object" in verification**. In order for investors, partners, and other stakeholders to trust this number is true, they need **assurance**, which can be provided by a specific kind of conformity assessment body - a **verification body**. The verification body assesses the claim and produces a statement to confirm it, to a certain level of **assurance** (eg. limited or reasonable). In this case, the standard used by the auditor to assess the declared value could be ISO 14083.

This is an example of a **verification engagement**. But what about validation: is it the same thing? **Verification** and **validation** both convey **assurance** of reliability of information declared in **claims**. They are distinguished according to the timeline of the assessed claim:

Verification applies to claims that have already occurred or results that have already been obtained (confirmation of truthfulness).

Validation applies to claims regarding an intended future use or projected outcome (confirmation of plausibility).

So, if this company had also committed to zero emissions by 2050, and requested **conformity assessment** services for this claim, that would be a **validation** engagement.

And what about verification bodies such as the third party engaged by our example airline? Do they have to comply with rules for doing their assurance work? Yes, and there are several alternative rules they follow. And are they evaluated too? Yes, some of them are. We will cover this in future newsletters!

(If this topic was fun for you and you'd like to link this knowledge to GHG emission accounting, please consider joining SFC's upcoming [webinar](#)).

THANKS!

Website: www.BookandClaimCommunity.org

Email: Secretariat@BookandClaimCommunity.org