

Certification Fee Regulation – Valid from 15 August 2023

1 Purpose

Establish and document the fees charged to customers for certification services.

2 Scope

The following rules apply for fees charged by SRS. SRS does not charge any fees based on product sales. Fees are only based on the cost of our service related to certification.

3 Certification Charge

We charge fees for the following tasks:

- Service to applicants including operation description review/company registration (with standard owner);
- Inspection (including additional unannounced inspection);
- Decision making;
- Certification (including issuing certificates);
- Special services, e.g. residue investigations, complaint handling, additional announced inspections, issuing additional/amended certificates, transaction certificates, training to clients.

Expenses have to be reimbursed according to actual costs. They cover:

- Travel by inspectors incl. meals and accommodation;
- Possible fees by standard owners.

Type of Fee	Costs / Rate	Additional Standard ¹	Additional Scope ²	Frequency
For organic standard(s): Application and Review of Organic Project Description (OPD) / Registration (for exceptions please see attachment below)	1000 €	200 €	200 €	Annually
For GLOBALG.A.P. standards: Review of application documents	500 €	100 €	100 €	Annually
GLOBALG.A.P. Fees	Depend on scope & size of farm – please see document ‘S6-Pol2.1 GG Certification Fee Regulation’			Annually
Inspection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspection preparation • Travel time • On-site inspection • Report writing 	Please see attachment below <i>Number of days depends on the complexity and activities of your operation, number and distance of production site, sub-contracted activities, completeness of documentation, types of crop or collected species, number of cropping seasons, number of housings and open air areas for livestock, types of processing activities, etc.</i>			Annually
Certification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision making • Assessment of corrective actions • Certification 	600 €/day	<i>Number of days depends on the complexity and the performance of your operation, i.e. preciseness of operation description and records, etc.</i>		Annually

¹ Standards are SRS Organic (equivalent EU Reg. 834/2008), Organic JAS, USDA-NOP; GLOBALG.A.P. Integrated Farm Assurance (IFA) crops

² Scopes are organic cropping, livestock, wild collection, processing, handling, re-packing, trading/export; GLOBALG.A.P. fruit & vegetables (FV), combinable crops (CC), plant propagation material (PPM), tea, flowers & ornamentals (FO), GRASP (GLOBALG.A.P. Risk Assessment on Social Practice)

Additional inspections	800 € 500 € in case of inspections related to new organic projects before seeding <i>1. Announced additional inspections are charged separately; 2. For high-risk crops, additional inspections fee will be included in the initial offer.</i>	If applicable
Travel expenses	Actual travel expenses incurred for on-site inspection are reimbursed according to actual cost, includes accommodation fee, meal and traveling expenses.	Actual expenses
Testing fee, incl. sample handling	No fees are charged for sample taking, handling of samples or testing. In some cases we however do request reimbursement of sampling and testing expenses: <i>1. Testing of products covered by the EU additional control measures; 2. Testing in the case of investigations; 3. When dealing with non-compliances.</i>	If applicable
Training	50 €/hour - e.g. JAS training	If applicable
Transaction certificates, import certificates and Cols	50 € (<i>domestic and export</i>) per transaction or import certificate or Certificate of Inspection (Col) <i>- Courier fees are forwarded when sending transaction document in other way than standard post.</i>	If applicable
Investigation / Complaint handling	300 € for each case	If applicable
Certificate modification, additional certificates or copies	150 € <i>1. This fee is charged for modification after certificate issuing; 2. When amending certificates during the year, e.g. adding products; 3. When asking for additional confirmations, certificates or copies.</i>	If applicable

4 Rules for Cost Estimates, Invoicing, Payment and Non-refundable Fees

SRS will provide each applicant an offer based on the submitted data in the application. When signing the contract, the operator agrees to the offer and will receive an invoice of 100% of the estimated costs to be paid within 14 days. If the OPD or registration document review reveals that the operation cannot be certified as presented, and no inspection can be assigned, SRS will reimburse the paid amount, except application and initial review fees. When an applicant/client withdraws from certification / renewal during or shortly after inspection, certification fee will be refunded. If withdrawal is turned in after the notice was sent out, no fees will be refunded.

For additional inspections and additional testing, the client will receive a notice with the invoice which must be paid within 4 weeks. Additional inspections which follow major non-compliances, complaints or investigations are invoiced before the additional inspection and shall be paid at once. Randomly selected unannounced additional inspections are free of charge.

If fees are changed or when changes occur on the operator's side, a cost estimate for the annual renewal of certification will be sent to the operator. If no fee changes occur, payment orders will be sent out. The due time for payment will be indicated and enforced.

Attachment – Fees that Differ for Certain Countries / Group of Countries

Country / Country Group	Daily Rate for Inspection
Albania	250 €
CEMAC countries: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Republic of the Congo OPD review: 400 € - additional standard / scope: 90 €	200 €
West African and East African countries	250 € Trader: 500 €
India OPD review: 800 €, additional standard / scope: 50 €	Small / large estate (<= 10 ha / > 10 ha): 200 € / 300 € Producer group: 250 € Small / large processor (<= 15 / > 15 products): 350 € / 500 € Trader: 500 €
China, Taiwan	350 €
EU countries, Switzerland	400 €