



International
Lead Association

*Recycle 100
(9th International Secondary Lead & Battery
Recycling Conference)*

Tuesday 2 September 2025

Lead Battery 360° : A Responsible Production & Sourcing Program for the Lead-Battery Value Chain

Dr Steve Binks

Senior Director International Lead Association

Agenda



International
Lead Association



1. Setting the scene-lead battery sustainability overview
2. Lead Battery 360°
 - a. Who developed the program
 - b. Focus
 - c. Guiding principles
3. Support for Low-and-Middle Income Countries
4. The Lead Battery 360° assurance framework and certification
5. Why apply for Lead Battery 360° certification
6. Summary-Participate in the certification program!

Lead Battery-Overview



International
Lead Association



Lead batteries possess many sustainability attributes

- A cost effective and reliable energy storage solution to help deliver UN Sustainable Development Goal 7 “Affordable & Clean Energy”
- In many regions
 - **Best example of a battery operating in a closed-loop circular economy**
 - **High collection rates** (~100% of those available) supported by **highly regulated network of recyclers**
 - **Highly efficient recycling process delivering battery grade raw materials**
 - **Provide strategic autonomy** for raw material supply not impacted by geopolitical issues
 - Facilitate production of new batteries **with high recycled content** (>80%)
 - Have **low carbon footprint compared to alternatives** (in EU, 12V Pb manufacturing 6X lower GWP compared to LFP)



The Toxic Truth: Children's Exposure to Lead Pollution Undermines a Generation of Future Potential

Acknowledgements

This report has been jointly produced by UNICEF and Pure Earth.

		
Authors	Nicholas Rees	Richard Fuller
Overall Guidance and Direction	Gautam Narasimhan Abheet Solomon	Angela Bernhardt
Design and Visualization	Shangning Wang	
Editor		Debbie M. Price
Research and/or Review	Yoonie Choi Fiorella Polo Kam Sripada Lilydahn Stewart Amy Wickham Fengqian Xu Sarrah Yeasmin	Gordon Binkhorst Jack Caraveros Greg Ferraro Andrew McCas Elena Rahona

BUT poor recycling practices in LMIC's continue to dominate the narrative

ILA Press Statement 2020



International
Lead Association



“We all want to see an **end to informal and substandard battery recycling and manufacturing** where it exists, and this initiative aims to help countries where this is a problem improve through practical support and sharing best practice.

Through our global material stewardship program, the trade association member companies are committed to ensuring that inappropriately recycled lead does not enter our supply chains”

Tackling Informal Lead Battery Recycling, Together



Lead Battery 360° is a global program established in 2022 by four associations representing the lead and lead battery industries – the International Lead Association (ILA), Battery Council International (BCI), the Association of European Automotive and Industrial Battery Manufacturers (EUROBAT) and the Association of Battery Recyclers (ABR).



About the Lead Battery 360° Program-Organisation



International
Lead Association



Guiding Principles

Support for approved
LMIC projects

Assurance
Framework



Lead Battery 360°: The Guiding Principles

The Lead Battery 360° Certification Program is built around the **Seven Guiding Principles** adopted in early 2020 for members of **BCI, ILA, EUROBAT and ABR**

The Guiding principles are:

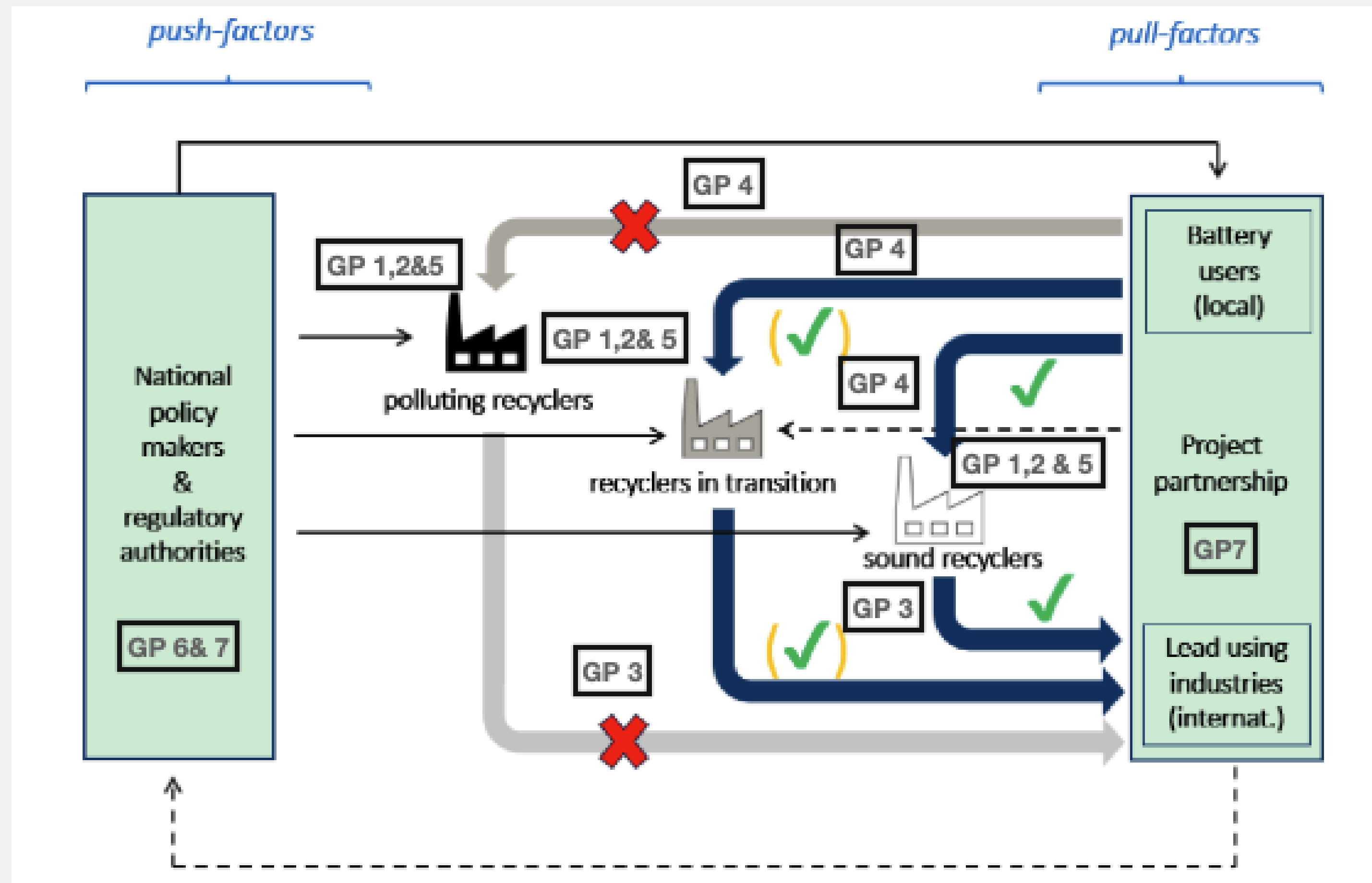
1. Support responsible battery manufacturing and recycling by **placing environmental health and safety excellence at the heart of our operations.**
2. **Promote the sound management of lead exposure and emissions** by setting continuous improvement targets and sharing best practices.
3. Adopt **responsible sourcing policies** for lead-containing materials, seek to identify risks in the supply chain, and use our influence to promote best practices for EHS performance in suppliers' operations.
4. **Minimize the environmental impact of our products** by encouraging the development of programs that ensure effective collection, transportation and environmentally sound recycling of used lead batteries.
5. Adopt business practices that **consider the communities impacted by our operations, respect the human and labour rights of our employees and work against corruption in all its forms.**
6. Proactively **engage key stakeholders** in an open and transparent manner.
7. Partner with key stakeholders and government agencies to **share our expertise and promote environmentally sound recycling of lead batteries in low and medium-income countries.**



Lead Battery 360°-A solution to driving responsible lead battery value chains



International
Lead Association



GP1= Health, Safety & Environment Management
GP 2= Lead exposure & emissions
GP3= Responsible sourcing
GP 4= Producer responsibility
GP5 = Community and worker relations
GP 6= Transparent communications
GP7= Best practice sharing

Our Industry's Support for Work in LMICs



International
Lead Association



Training



In-country advocacy supporting
policy and legal framework
development



Good practice guidance
documents



Trade analysis

**Health, Safety and Environmental
Performance Report on
Success Africa Ghana Ltd.
Using the Benchmarking
Assessment Tool (BAT)**

Assessment based on a facility
inspection on 29.07.2022

Site auditing

What were the objectives in developing the “Assurance Framework”?



The Lead Battery 360 ° Assurance Framework was launched in 2025 as the **leading assurance framework to promote responsible practices** across the lead battery value chain.

An important principle is that it requires **independent verification** of a site’s performance.

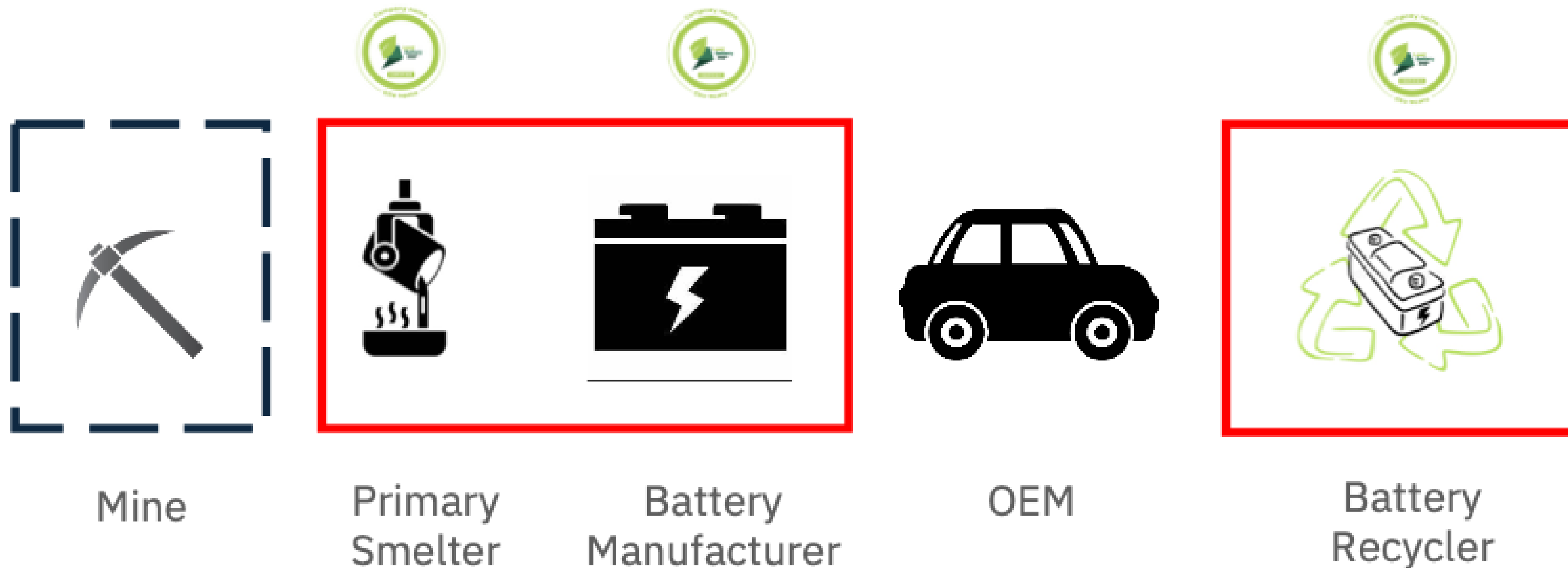
- Can play a role in **mitigating negative reputational impacts** in lead battery use caused by inappropriate sourcing, manufacturing and recycling practices (with focus on risks associated with lead exposures)
- Help **rebuild trust** in the market, in policymakers, and with civil society thereby supporting our claims that lead batteries can contribute positively to sustainable development.

ESG Issues Addressed by LB360 Certification
Climate change/carbon footprint
Environment, Health & Safety
Energy management
Water intensity
Materials sourcing
End of life management of products
Diversity & inclusion
Talent attraction
Human rights (working hours, child labour etc)
Fair competition and antitrust
Community engagement

Lead Battery 360° Assurance Framework Scope



International
Lead Association

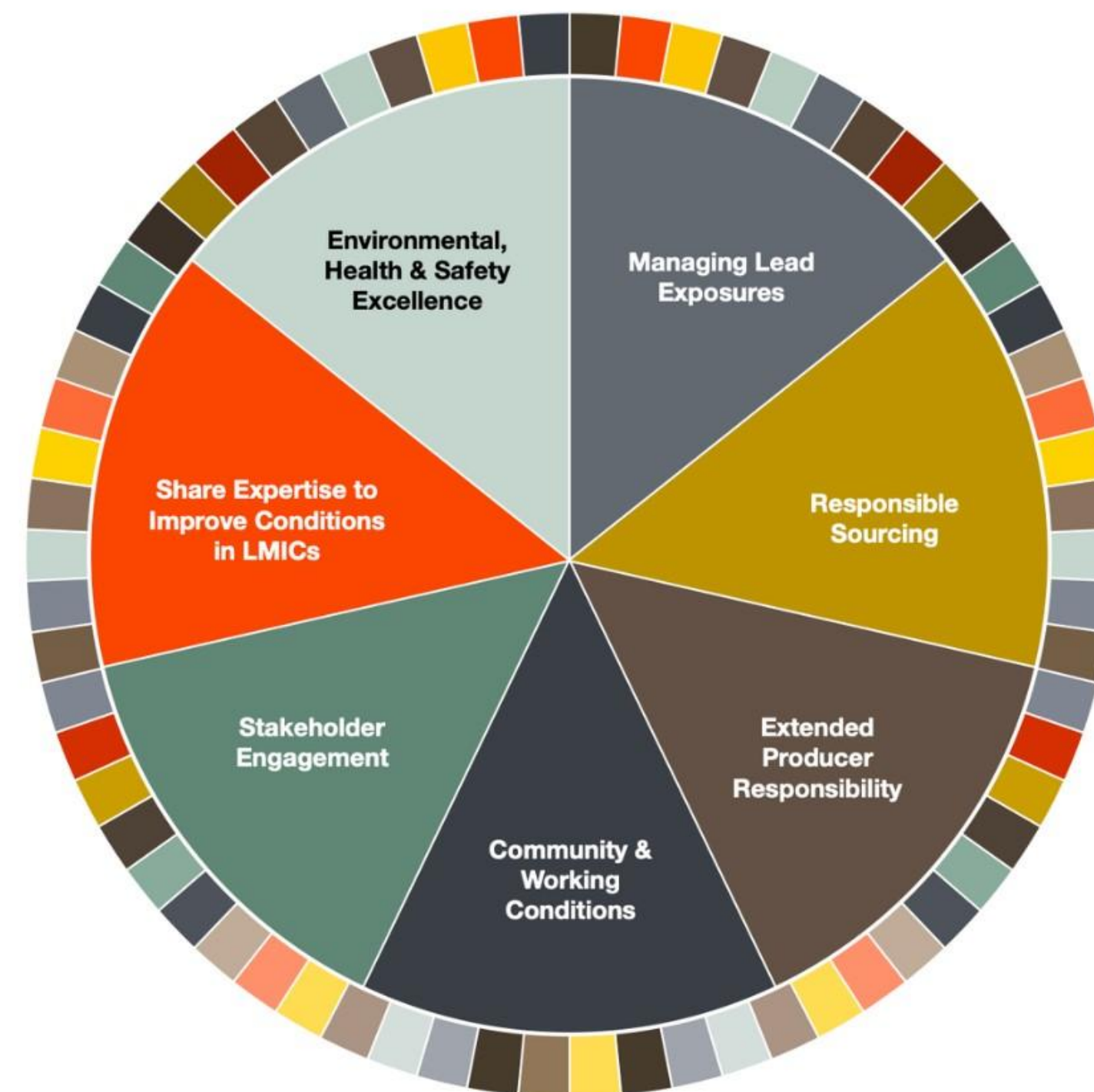


*Mines not currently in scope
as already covered by ICMM
and Joint Due Diligence
Standards*

Lead Battery 360° Assurance Framework Criteria-Performance Expectations

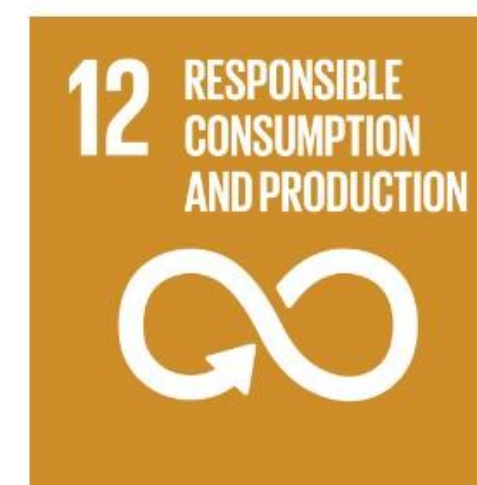


International
Lead Association



7 CATEGORIES

66 PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS



Lead Battery 360°- Certification



- **“Critical” Performance Expectations** (mainly related to EHS, management of lead emissions and Responsible Sourcing) will require to be rated **“Meets”** for the LB 360 certification to be awarded to the site.
 - If any of the “critical” PEs are either rated “Partially Meets” or “Does Not Meet”, the certification will not be awarded- independently of performance determination outcomes of other non-critical PEs.
- For **“non-critical” Performance Expectations** which are rated as **“Partially Meets”**, the site will need to agree to a **Performance Improvement Plan (PiP)** after which LB 360 certification will be awarded.
 - The timeframe to address “Partially Meets” gaps will be determined on a case-by case basis by the assessor, however, should be completed by next review cycle.

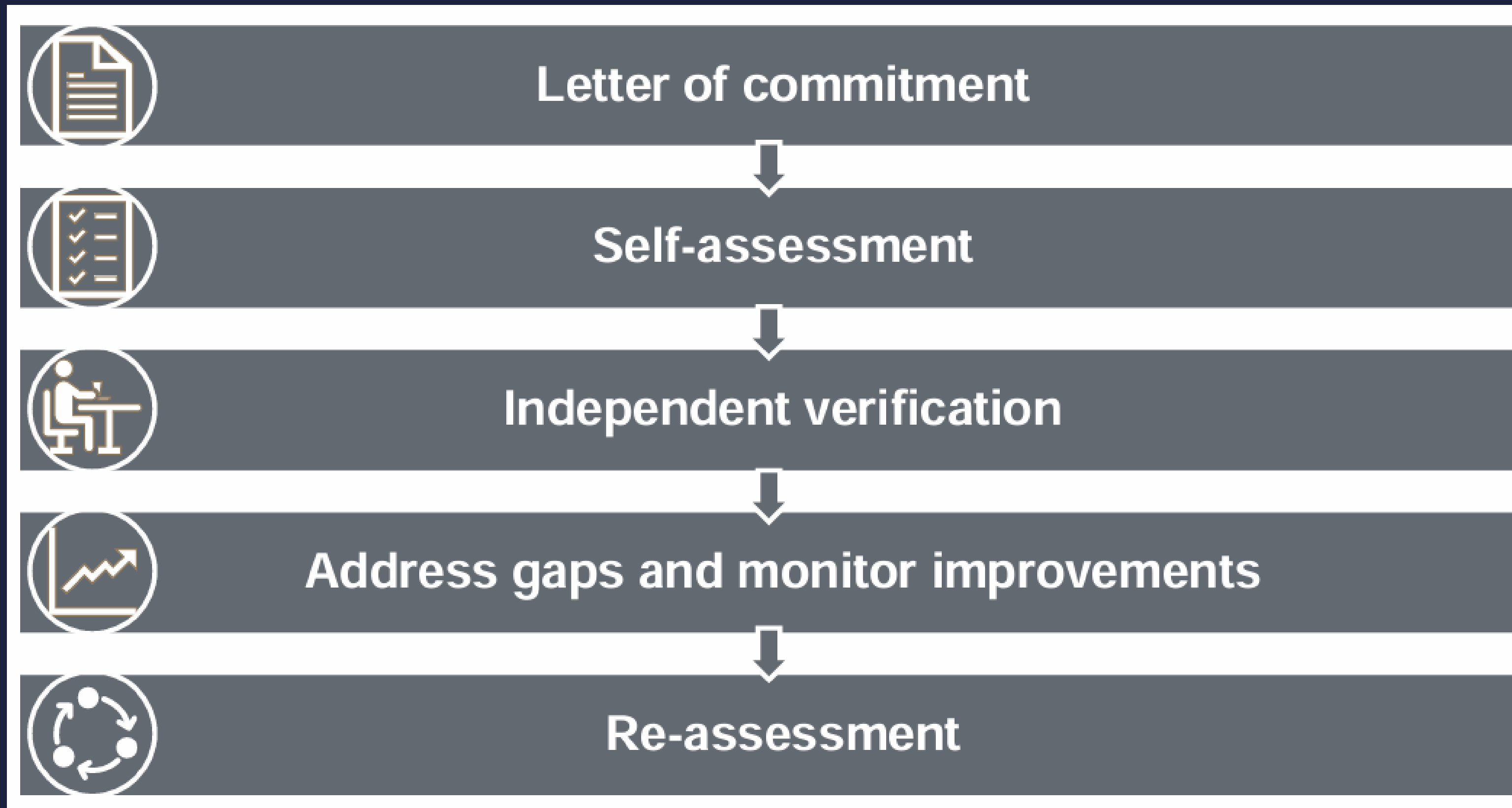
		Critical PEs		
		Meet	Partially meet	Does not meet
Non- critical PEs	Meet	Certification No PIP required	No certification Re-assessment required	
	Partially meet	Certification PIP required		
	Does not meet	No certification PIP required(*) Re-assessment required		

(*) PIP required to address the 'does not meet' PE(s).

Steps in applying for certification



International
Lead Association



- **Full cycle** should be completed withing **12 months** of signing the Letter of Commitment
- **Re-assessment** to be done every **3 years**.
- Where sites are already certified under **other standards** these **will be recognised** were cover same requirements.

Why Apply for LB360° Certification?



International
Lead Association



- **Only ESG standard that specifically addresses risks of lead exposures and secondary raw material sourcing** in the lead battery value chain
- Allows **independent verification that your site is operating responsibly**, by managing lead exposures, addressing responsible sourcing challenges, considering communities impacted by their operations and respecting human and labour rights of employees,
- Provides **re-assurance to your customers and other stakeholders** that that lead (or lead batteries) sourced from your site have been independently verified as being responsibly produced
- Helps companies demonstrate meeting new **Corporate Sustainability & Due Diligence legislation**
- **Low cost** compared to comparable ESG certification schemes (results of existing schemes will be recognised if cover same requirements)
- Wide participation of Industry participants helps support on going Association advocacy to facilitate continued lead battery adoption in new markets such as EES and **reduces risk of regulatory interventions**.



As of August 2025, **eight sites** (4 recyclers, 4 battery manufacturing) have sent “letters of commitment” and started their certification journey

Sign up to Participate in LB360 Certification



International
Lead Association



Lead Battery 360° Assurance Framework is unique and **the only ESG Certification Scheme that addresses issues material to the lead battery value chain**

- The certification scheme is now **open for membership!**
- Further details can be found at:
<https://www.leadbattery360.org/assurance-2/>





International
Lead Association



Thank you
