

Overview of Major Eco-labelling Schemes

Countries	Year established	Type of Scheme (ISO type)	No. of Product Categories	No. of products labelled	Institutional (Government/private)	Legislative	Financial (HK\$)
Australia	1991 (closed in 1994)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada	1988	Seal of Approval ISO Type I	-	about 1500	Government	Use of the Environmental Choice label is protected under Canadian civil laws including the Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act, and the Competition Act. Completion of guidelines are notified under authority of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act.	Until 1995, costs are \$17.1M per year. About 15% comes from revenue generated from license fees. Thus 85% of the fees is subsidy from Government
European Union	1992	Seal of Approval ISO Type I	8	13	Government	Locally and globally registered with the World Intellectual Property Organisation	Because of its decentralised operation with Competent Bodies, it is not possible to assess the involved costs.
Nordic Council	1989	Seal of Approval ISO Type I	26	287	Government	-	Norway: subsidy \$ 0.71 M in 1989 and \$ 4.72M in 1990. Sweden: \$ 6.44M provided as a loan.
France	1992	Seal of Approval ISO Type I	6	>100 (1993)	Government	Law on competition Rules of Civil laws	Operating costs estimated: \$ 4.5-6M per year. Ministry of Environment contributed \$ 1.2 M in the first year.
Germany	1977	Seal of Approval ISO Type I	73	3800	Government	-	UBA's operating and administration costs are supported by Government. RAL recovers its costs from revenues generated from license fees. It is not exactly known how much has been invested by the Government.
Japan	1989	Seal of Approval ISO Type I	69	2000	Government	NA	The costs are difficult to assess due to "variable experts costs."
Netherlands	1992	Seal of Approval ISO Type I	15	NA	Government	Registered at Benelux Label Bureau	NA
China	1994	Seal of Approval ISO Type I	9 (1995)	26 (1995)	Government	NA	Ministry of Finance provides funds for supporting the initial work of a two year term, total amount about \$ 0.4 M.
Singapore	1992	Seal of Approval ISO Type I	21	544	Government	NA	The scheme is part of the Ministry of Environment subsidised by the Government. Total subsidy is not exactly known.
Sweden	1990	Seal of Approval ISO Type I	12 (1993)	NA	Private (Retailer)	Retailer policed	NA
ROC (Taiwan)	1992	Seal of Approval ISO Type I	36(1997)	417(1997)	Government	NA	The ROC EPA put in HK\$33 M in 1996 to support the scheme. It is expected to rise to 7M by 1997.
United States (SCS)	-	Claims Report Card ISO Type II	-	> 500 9 (1993)	Private	NA	NA
United States Green Seal	1993	Claims Report Card ISO Type II	30	>300	Private	N/A	N/A