	<b>Impartiality Policy</b>	<b>Document No: AGRI-C-007</b>
		<b>Version No 4</b>
		<b>Issue Date: 18/03/2025</b>

## 1. Purpose

Agri Canaan is committed to ensuring the impartiality, independence, and integrity of its certification processes for all management systems and products it certifies. This Impartiality Policy outlines our commitment to maintaining impartiality in our certification activities and to preventing any conflict of interest that may affect the objectivity of our decisions.

## 2. Scope

This policy applies to all Agri Canaan certification activities, including auditing, decision-making, and the issuance of certification for all operations within the certification body.

## 3. Commitment to Impartiality

- Agri Canaan is committed to providing impartial certification services that are free from any bias or undue influence, ensuring the integrity of our certification decisions.
- We recognize that impartiality is critical to the confidence our clients, stakeholders, and regulatory authorities place in the certification process.
- Agri Canaan will maintain and apply this policy by ensuring that all certification activities are conducted in a fair and objective manner.


## 4. Impartiality Committee

To support the effective management of impartiality, Agri Canaan shall establish an **Impartiality Committee** with the following roles:

- The committee shall review potential threats to impartiality and recommend actions to eliminate or mitigate any risks.
- The committee shall be independent of operational activities and include external experts who are not involved in the certification process.
- The committee shall meet at least annually to review and assess impartiality risks and report to senior management on any concerns or recommendations.
- The committee will be comprised of a balanced representation of interested parties.

## 5. Identifying and Managing Threats to Impartiality

<b>Prepared by</b>	Scheme Manager	<b>Approved by</b>	M.D
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- **Identification of Risks:** Agri Canaan shall identify any potential threats to impartiality, including conflicts of interest arising from financial, commercial, or personal relationships. These may include, but are not limited to:
  - Involvement in consulting services or previous involvement in the management systems or product development of clients.
  - Close relationships with clients or stakeholders that may unduly influence the certification decision.
  - Financial pressures or incentives that could compromise certification impartiality.
- **Risk Assessment:** Each identified threat shall be evaluated for its potential impact on impartiality, and controls will be put in place to mitigate or eliminate the risk. These may include segregating duties, implementing independent decision-making processes, and ensuring transparency in certification decisions.
- **Ongoing Monitoring:** Agri Canaan shall continuously monitor for any changes or new threats to impartiality. This includes regular reviews of audit and certification activities to ensure compliance with impartiality principles.

## 6. Conflict of Interest Management

Agri Canaan will:

- Require all personnel involved in the certification process, including auditors and decision-makers, to declare any potential or actual conflicts of interest.
- Ensure that no auditor or certification decision-maker has been involved in the design or consulting for the systems or products being certified.
- Take action to eliminate or mitigate any conflicts of interest, including reassigning personnel or establishing additional oversight.

## 7. Independence of Certification Activities

- Agri Canaan ensures that its certification decisions are based solely on objective evidence obtained during the certification process, free from external influence.
- We separate auditing from consulting services to prevent any potential bias from activities that could affect the certification decision.
- All personnel involved in certification activities shall adhere to strict confidentiality and ethical standards.

## 8. Management Responsibility and Oversight

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- The highest level of management at Agri Canaan is fully committed to ensuring impartiality within the certification process.
- Senior management shall regularly review the impartiality management system to ensure its effectiveness and make improvements as necessary.
- The Impartiality Committee shall provide an annual report to senior management regarding the status of impartiality and any issues that may require corrective actions.

#### 9. Communication of Impartiality Policy

- This Impartiality Policy shall be communicated to all personnel involved in the certification process, including auditors, decision-makers, and administrative staff.
- It shall also be communicated to clients and stakeholders to reinforce Agri Canaan’s commitment to impartiality and transparency in certification activities.

#### 10. Continuous Improvement

Agri Canaan is committed to continuously improving its impartiality management system. We will:

- Regularly review this policy to ensure it remains effective and in line with the requirements of **ISO/IEC 17021-1** and **ISO/IEC 17065**.
- Provide ongoing training and awareness programs to ensure all personnel understand the importance of impartiality in certification.
- Encourage feedback from clients and stakeholders to identify areas where impartiality could be further strengthened.


#### 11. Conclusion

Agri Canaan’s commitment to impartiality ensures that all certification activities are conducted in a fair, transparent, and objective manner, maintaining the credibility and reliability of our certification process. We pledge to take all necessary actions to prevent and manage any threats to impartiality, thereby maintaining the trust and confidence of all stakeholders.

#### 12. References

- ISO/IEC 17021-1: Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems

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- ISO/IEC 17065: Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes, and services

### 13. Review and Revision

This procedure shall be reviewed in line with Document Control Procedure or as required due to changes in standard, regulatory, accreditation, or scheme-specific requirements

### 14. Amendment History

Date	Author	Modification	Approval
18/03/2025	Scheme Manager	Revision of the whole procedure to integrate with ISO/IEC 17021-1 Requirements	M.D

Signed by the Managing Director:



Date: 18/03/2025

<b>Prepared by</b>	Scheme Manager	<b>Approved by</b>	M.D
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