

STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT METRIC DEVELOPMENT & APPROVAL PROCESS

A formalized process for metric development and approval is essential to advance credibility and support for the U.S. Dairy Stewardship Commitment. Overseen by the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy, this process includes industry leadership as well as cross-sector, multi-stakeholder input based on the principles of ISEAL, which provides widely recognized guidance for credible sustainability reporting. Through this process, U.S. dairy will advance industry-wide adoption and obtain endorsement and advocacy from customers and third-party stakeholders.



Process Overview



**INITIAL
DEVELOPMENT &
REFINEMENT**

METRIC PROPOSAL

Innovation Center Committees propose metrics to measure and report applicable priorities

EXECUTIVE REVIEW

Innovation Center Executive Operating Committee and **U.S. Dairy Stewardship Commitment Task Force** review and provide input on proposed metrics during a 14-day consultation

REVISION

Innovation Center Committees review feedback received and choose to withdraw, modify or advance proposed metrics

BOARD REVIEW

Innovation Center Board of Directors reviews and provides input on proposed metrics during a 7-day review

REVISION

Innovation Center Committees make any adjustments before stakeholder review



**COMMENT &
REVISION**

STAKEHOLDER REVIEW

Dairy Sustainability Alliance® members and targeted experts review metrics and submit comments during a 60-day public review period

FINAL CONSIDERATION

Innovation Center Committees consider and respond to comments; submit metrics to the Executive Operating Committee and Task Force for final review/approval



IMPLEMENTATION

APPROVAL

Executive Operating Committee approves final metrics and informs the Innovation Center Board

RELEASE

Innovation Center Committees incorporate metrics into the next version of the Stewardship Commitment

The U.S. Dairy Stewardship Commitment is U.S. dairy's social responsibility pledge to consumers, customers and other stakeholders. Companies that adopt the Commitment meet defined criteria for important areas like the environment, animal care and food safety to affirm, quantify and communicate U.S. dairy's longstanding values of responsible production, nourishing communities and continuous improvement.