SSP Statement for COP31

November 16th 2026

The need continues for clear standards and robust greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions measurement methodologies that support steel decarbonisation efforts, in order to help scale markets, verify product claims, and ensure transparency around the climate and environmental impacts of steel production. The Steel Standards Principles (SSP), formed by stakeholders of the global steel industry and launched at COP28, aim to pursue an inclusive, open and transparent process to achieve harmonisation of measurement methodologies, and seek to enhance the interoperability of existing GHG emissions frameworks for steelmaking, thereby accelerating the transition to near zero GHG emissions production.

The SSPs are now endorsed by 67 organisations across multiple regions and stakeholder groups. The principles represent an example of how stakeholder cooperation on standards can drive transparency and alignment, inspiring other sectors to follow a similar path.

Progress since COP30

Some specific achievements include the following:

1. **GHG reporting transparency criteria**

In December 2025, the SSPs "Agreement on Transparency in Greenhouse Gas Emissions Metrics for Steel" was issued to highlight key aspects of a methodology that should be described to provide transparency in reporting and facilitate users' understanding of the boundaries of the resulting data.

2. **Emission reporting boundaries and requirements infographic**

In May 2026, worldsteel developed and released an interactive infographic to improve understanding of system boundaries and reporting requirements for steel GHG calculation methodologies, aligned with the transparency criteria. This infographic has been used by endorsers in various communications and presentations to internal and external stakeholders. The mapping exercise developed by worldsteel is now being refined to more closely align with the infographic and to enable the next phase of its development.

3. **SSP extranet site**

A SSP-specific extranet site has been established for endorsers to provide direct access to meeting and working group materials and to have the ability to upload content for information sharing across the endorsing organizations.

4. **SSP endorser survey**

worldsteel conducted a survey of the SSP endorsers in September 2026 to understand progress within the endorsing organisations on the implementation of the common points of disclosure and qualitative accounting rules detailed in the transparency criteria. The results showed steady progress has been made with several organizations having implemented or partially implemented the "common points of disclosure": cradle-to-crude steel boundary (11 organisations), inclusion of all relevant and significant GHGs (13 organisations), data quality including percentage of primary data contributing to the result (6 organisations), and amount of ferrous scrap input by scrap type (9 organisations). For most of the nine transparency criteria, accounting rules have been implemented by between 50 and 90% of the applicable respondents. The survey also gathered case study examples, feedback on the infographic and SSP activities, and information to understand global and regional trends in harmonization and interoperability.

5. **Annual meeting Oct 6-7 Brussels**

In accordance with the overall aim of the SSP to gather key stakeholders together from to exchange on key priority topics, the SSP endorsers gathered in Brussels in October 2026 to discuss progress on implementation of the SSP principles and transparency criteria, review endorser survey results, discuss new initiatives, and align on future work.

In addition, progress was made by the endorsers through various ongoing projects and publications to advance their own initiatives in alignment with the SSP, in addition to working jointly towards interoperability and common objectives. Many standards or initiatives have revised or have plans to revise their standards to further align with the transparency criteria, including CARES, C2F, GSCC, LESS, RMI, ResponsibleSteel and worldsteel. The work on interoperability mechanisms between ResponsibleSteel, LESS, and CISA's C2F standard continues.

Also, throughout 2026, the World Steel Association (worldsteel) has maintained its comprehensive mapping exercise of more than 50 initiatives and standards across 35 criteria. This work enables an understanding of commonalities, differences, and areas where harmonization is possible. In parallel, worldsteel continues its work to harmonise the data collection methodologies and platforms for its own LCA and GHG data collection programmes to better align with SSPs and support greater comparability and utility of the resulting data across frameworks.

2027 Roadmap

Work by the SSP endorsers will continue into 2027 with focus on the following areas:

1. Refinement of the building blocks for interoperability – through progress against the SSP Transparency Criteria, including disclosure of embodied emissions against the minimum reporting boundary from "mining to crude steel". Within

this, discussions will be held to determine whether credible assurance criteria can be agreed upon and proposed.

2. Proposal for a checklist or information table to demonstrate how aspects of the transparency criteria have been incorporated in the final GHG emissions value, to ensure transparent, verified and fair comparison.
3. Scrap definition and types – a working group is established to provide clarification on the definition of scrap input and types of scrap in accordance with the newly updated ISO 14021:2026.
4. Upstream datasets – a work group is created to evaluate upstream datasets to inform worldsteel's LCI and GHG data collection efforts, other standards and reporting systems and to inform discussions by the SSP endorsers.
5. Advocate for key standards and emission factors that underpin GHG emission calculations for steel to be made publicly accessible.
6. Advocate for work related to GHG emissions accounting for iron production to follow the work of that being done on steel, rather than a proliferation of new approaches.