

Expert Group Profile

Description of the Expert Group

Related Committee	<i>Sustainability Committee</i>
Name of the Expert Group	<i>Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)</i>
Association Contact	<i>Stan Faldin</i>

Description / Challenge / Initial Situation:

The EU's CBAM prices carbon on imports of emission-intensive goods (cement, iron & steel, aluminum, fertilizers, electricity, hydrogen) to prevent carbon leakage. In force since 2026, it continues to evolve other countries are preparing similar schemes.

EU importers must collect verified emissions data from non-EU suppliers, covering installation details, direct and indirect CO₂ emissions, electricity sources, conformance attestations, and carbon prices already paid. Today, this process remains largely manual, fragmented, and inconsistent.

Within the CX-Next consortia, a CBAM sub-project has already developed a CBAM KIT and a CBAM data model, enabling standardized, decentralized data exchange between importers and suppliers via the Catena-X network using structured request and response notifications. The substantive development work has been completed; the topic is now being transferred to the Catena-X Association to continue the work and release a formal Catena-X standard.

Challenge:

Building on the CBAM KIT and data model already developed in the CX-Next consortia, the challenge is to:

- Transfer the existing CBAM KIT and data model into the Catena-X Association's governance and standardization process
- Develop and release a formal Catena-X standard for CBAM data exchange
- Continuously adapt the data model and KIT to evolving EU regulation (e.g. expanded goods scope, updated reporting requirements) and comparable international schemes (e.g. UK CBAM)
- Ensure interoperability of CBAM solutions within Catena-X and alignment with other relevant use cases

Goals:

- Release a **Catena-X standard** for CBAM data exchange based on the existing CBAM KIT and data model
- Maintain and evolve the CBAM **request and response data models** in line with regulatory updates
- Enable **automated, standardized data collection** of CBAM-relevant emissions data between EU importers and non-EU suppliers via the Catena-X network
- Support both **ongoing data collection** during the import year (supplier identification, forecasting, certificate purchase) and **period-closing emissions data collection** (verified actuals for annual CBAM declarations)
- Ensure **interoperability** of CBAM-certified solutions and alignment with other relevant initiatives (e.g. Manufacturing-X, UK CBAM)

Expert Group Profile

Non-Goals:

- No submission of CBAM declarations, the exchange with the official EU CBAM portal is outside scope
- No CO₂ certificate trading; purchasing, selling, or surrendering CBAM certificates is not covered
- No definition of commercial or contractual terms; bilateral agreements and legal content remain out of scope
- No OEM- or supplier-specific customization; the standard remains generic and interoperable
- No methodology definition for emissions calculation; the expert group focuses on data exchange, not on how emissions are calculated

Deliverables

- Catena-X CBAM Standard
- Update and further development of the Tractus-X KIT & Data model
- Alignment with other relevant Catena-X use-cases like PCF, DPP, Industry Core, etc.

Why should I participate?

- Co-shape industry standards by actively contributing
- Receive and share first-hand user feedback on standards and applications
- Make compliance a team effort to keep up with evolving regulations
- Keep the Catena-X ecosystem competitive through collaboration among technical and subject matter experts
- Contribute to cross-industry standards enhancing feasibility, regulatory alignment, and automation

Participation requirements:

- Minimum availability of **10 hours/month** (bi-/weekly meetings)
- Commitment to regular participation and contribution
- Experience with CBAM
- Knowledge of other Catena-X standards and IT background is a plus
- Special demand in data modelling experts, your candidate or available in your company

For more information on the responsibilities of an Expert Group, have a look at the [Working Model](#).