

Do you qualify for the new

**CERTIFIED
PARTNER**

program?

[The Green Web Foundation](#) was founded in 2011, after it took over the tools from the Dutch company Cleanbits, that pioneered a model since 2006 to show internet users if a site was hosted green. Cleanbits developed a global database with signifiers connected to green hosters. With the support of the Dutch registry [SIDN](#), The Green Web Foundation built an API-service on top of this database, that can be accessed automatically through The Green Web browser addons. Currently, the database processes 300k requests per hour for a global audience. The technical parameters from over 500 green hosters from 63 countries are in the database.

In 2014 we introduced partnerships for hosting companies, in the flavors 'partner', 'dev', 'silver' and 'gold'. In 2019 we're upgrading the partnerships to include only certified partners, as we know that organizations are increasingly aware of the impact of their hosting, and want to be able to see a vetted list of companies that are guaranteed green, so a list of Certified Green Web Partners becomes a necessity.

The Certification process

When a hosting company claims it uses green energy, most of the times this claim is the result of the fact that the datacenter that runs their facilities, has acquired RECS (Renewable Energy Credits) or carbon credits to green their electricity use. If proof of that fact is provided online, this is sufficient to be listed in the Green Web Directory.

When upgrading to a Certified Partnership, an auditor from the Green Web Foundation additionally checks the paper trail from the online service back to the source, together with the applying organization. The key questions we want to answer are centered on establishing that the applicant is indeed a customer from the datacenter (and until what date) and that the certificates from the datacenter are up-to-date as well.

Normally this process takes no more than 30-60 minutes, including the time you might need to ask the supplier for any statements on their energy use and/or your relationship with that supplier.

Types of certified partnerships

The Green Web Foundation offers the following types of Certified Partnerships:

- **Certified Partner (€ 250 per year)**

Certified Partners can pass the certification process if their website, and in case of hosting companies, those of their customers, are hosted green. This type of partnership is suitable for smaller companies and organizations, up to 10 people and the certification process is repeated on a yearly basis.

- **Certified Dev Partner (starting at € 1000 per year)**

A Certified Dev Partnership is a good fit for technical organizations, that want to donate time and money to the further development of the green tools (API, Greenhouse, Carbon.txt, Carbon Budget calculator etc) that we are building out. Dev Partners will get access to our shared workspace online, where they Partners can work together with the regular team on tools that help to green the web.

For the onboarding, Certified Dev Partners need to prove the 'greenness' **of the complete IT stack**: not only the website, but basically all services connected to the website (fonts, stats, forms, chat-support etc), that comprise in total over 1% of the traffic associated with the use of the website by a random visitor. Contributions varies with the size of the partner, see overview below.

- **Certified Gold Partner (starting at € 1000 per year)**

Certified Gold Partners need to pass a similar green stack check compared to Certified Dev Partners, so not only the website, but basically all services connected to the website (fonts, stats, forms, chat-support etc), that comprise in total over 1% of the traffic associated with the use of the website by a random visitor.

Contribution varies with the size of the partner:

Organization with < 25 employees:	€ 1.000 per year
Organization with > 25 and < 100 employees:	€ 5.000 per year
Organization with > 100 and < 1000 employees:	€ 12.500 per year
Organization with > 1000 employees:	€ 25.000 per year

If a candidate is not able to pass directly, The Green Web Foundation can suggest adjustments for implementations that would make it possible to pass the certification on a second try.

Ongoing requirements

After the initial certification, TGWF will put the main domain(s) from a Certified Partner on a daily monitoring-list, to be able to detect changes in supplierships if / when they should happen. If detected, we will reach out again to find out the implications for the Certified Partnership, and if necessary start the Certification process anew.

Renewal takes place after one year, where we will again run through the list of credentials.

Contact details:

Stichting The Green Web Foundation is a not-for-profit [registered](#) in the Netherlands with Chamber of Commerce number 52191494 at the following address:

Van 't Hoffstraat 1

6706 KD Wageningen

The Netherlands

+31 62163 0364 (Chairman René Post)

partners@thegreenwebfoundation.org

Disclaimer:

This is a document in progress, as we continuously finetune the program in conversation with hosters, data centers, digital service providers, registrees, website builders and other stakeholders in the domain of green internet. Your feedback is not only welcome but will be highly appreciated!