Sustainable Catalyst
Ethical Code of Conduct

Purpose

This Code of Conduct defines the standards governing research, publications, product development, and advisory work across the Sustainable Catalyst platform. Its objective is operational discipline — ensuring outputs remain transparent, accountable, and aligned with long-term sustainability.

1. Integrity of Claims

- All claims must be grounded in verifiable evidence or clearly labeled as interpretation.
- Quantitative outputs must be reproducible or accompanied by documented assumptions.
- Uncertainty must be acknowledged explicitly.
- Forecasts must distinguish scenario modeling from prediction.

2. Transparency of Method

- Disclose data sources when presenting metrics.
- Document transformations, assumptions, and analytical constraints.
- Separate empirical findings from normative judgment.
- Avoid presenting incomplete data as definitive.

3. Narrative Responsibility

- Avoid manipulative framing or selective omission.
- Identify distributional effects where relevant.
- Clarify trade-offs rather than obscuring them.
- Distinguish descriptive analysis from advocacy.

4. Governance & Accountability

- Maintain traceability between problem framing, evidence, and conclusions.
- Disclose conflicts of interest where applicable.

- Do not distort findings to align with preferred outcomes.
- Ensure licensing clarity for open-source tools.

5. Respect for Human & Ecological Systems

- Consider long-term social and environmental impacts.
- Avoid endorsing development pathways that externalize irreversible harm.
- Recognize planetary boundaries as real economic constraints.

6. Use of AI & Automation

- AI systems are assistive tools, not authorities.
- Automated outputs must remain reviewable by humans.
- Do not present machine-generated content as verified fact without review.
- Maintain transparency regarding AI-assisted workflows.

7. Intellectual Property & Attribution

- Respect intellectual property rights.
- Attribute sources and frameworks appropriately.
- Avoid derivative work presented as original.

8. Continuous Revision

- This Code is subject to periodic review and revision as tools, governance models, and sustainability science evolve.

Closing Principle

If an output cannot withstand methodological, ethical, or institutional scrutiny, it should not be published.