

Sustainable Catalyst Institutional Charter

Purpose, structure, stewardship, independence, and public role

DOCUMENT ID SC-FND-001	VERSION 1.0.0
STATUS Under Review	AUTHORITY Institutional
LAST REVIEWED 2026-07-16	OWNER Sustainable Catalyst, stewarded by Content Catalyst LLC
REVIEW CYCLE Annual	CANONICAL RECORD Living HTML record

Under Review. This first-edition record is complete for institutional review but does not become current authority until approved and published.

Contents

1. Purpose

2. Institutional identity

3. Stewardship and legal home

4. Public purpose

5. Institutional environments

6. Public work and advisory work
7. Independence and conflicts

8. Governance and decision rights

9. Accountability and correction

10. Institutional limits

11. Amendment and authority

1. Purpose

This Charter defines Sustainable Catalyst as an independent open knowledge institution and public-interest technology initiative. It establishes the relationship between the institution, its research and software environments, its public documentation, and the applied services conducted through Content Catalyst LLC. The Charter is the highest-level institutional record in the Foundations collection. Product documentation, methods, policies, publications, and advisory practices should be interpreted consistently with it.

2. Institutional identity

Sustainable Catalyst develops open knowledge, public research infrastructure, scientific and analytical tools, documentation systems, and decision-support environments. Its purpose is to help people examine complex questions without separating narrative, evidence, computation, systems context, uncertainty, and accountable judgment.

The institution is not a regulator, university, professional licensing body, news organization, or automated authority. Its public materials support learning, research, inspection, experimentation, and decision preparation. They do not replace qualified professional responsibility.

3. Stewardship and legal home

Content Catalyst LLC provides the legal, administrative, technical, and operational stewardship through which Sustainable Catalyst is built and maintained. The Sustainable Catalyst identity describes the public institution, knowledge environment, and platform; Content Catalyst LLC is the operating entity responsible for contracts, infrastructure, intellectual property administration, and formal engagements.

This relationship does not convert every public publication or tool into client work. Public research, open documentation, and open-source development remain distinct from a formal advisory relationship unless a separate written agreement states otherwise.

4. Public purpose

- Make methods, assumptions, evidence, limitations, and revision history visible wherever practical.
- Build reusable research and decision infrastructure rather than isolated demonstrations.
- Connect qualitative interpretation with quantitative and computational accountability.
- Support long-term institutional learning, public understanding, and responsible experimentation.
- Preserve human agency: AI and automation may assist work but do not become the accountable decision-maker.
- Create durable records that can be reviewed, corrected, cited, exported, and improved.

5. Institutional environments

The Knowledge Library preserves and organizes publications, sources, Foundation Documents, citations, collections, pathways, and historical records. Research Librarian helps people identify the right route through those materials and the wider platform.

The Sustainable Catalyst Lab supports scientific notebooks, experiments, datasets, observations, instruments, validation, and reproducible research. Site Intelligence provides public evidence, country and regional context, observatories, indicators, geospatial records, and monitored sources. Workbench supports calculation, modeling, code, engineering, graphing, hardware workflows, and validation. Decision Studio assembles evidence, scenarios, assumptions, tradeoffs, and review records into auditable decision artifacts.

Platform Core supplies shared identity, schemas, artifact contracts, provenance, APIs, security, and integration services. Feature Suggestions and the support system connect public feedback, documentation gaps, known issues, and roadmap learning to product development.

6. Public work and advisory work

Public work is governed by published methods, documentation, licenses, and correction practices. Advisory work is governed by a separate written agreement that defines scope, confidentiality, deliverables, ownership, fees, responsibilities, and professional boundaries.

Advisory revenue may support development, but no client receives authority to alter public findings, suppress corrections, misrepresent an output, or imply institutional endorsement beyond an agreed statement.

7. Independence and conflicts

- Research claims should not be changed to satisfy a preferred commercial, political, or reputational outcome.
- Material conflicts of interest should be disclosed when they could reasonably affect interpretation.
- Sponsored, commissioned, client-funded, and independently initiated work should be distinguishable.
- Public conclusions may be revised when evidence changes; revision should not be concealed.
- Partnership, endorsement, certification, and official-status claims require explicit authorization.

8. Governance and decision rights

Roadmap, release, publication, policy, licensing, security, and institutional identity decisions remain with the authorized steward unless a repository or program establishes a different governance process in writing. Open participation does not imply shared ownership of the Sustainable Catalyst name or automatic decision authority.

Major institutional records should identify an owner, status, version, effective date, review cycle, and amendment history. Significant changes to this Charter should be published as a new version and should preserve the earlier version as a historical record.

9. Accountability and correction

Sustainable Catalyst accepts that open systems can contain errors, incomplete records, inaccessible interfaces, outdated assumptions, broken integrations, and contested interpretations. Credibility depends on making correction possible, not claiming perfection.

Good-faith reports should be acknowledged, evaluated, and resolved through an appropriate pathway. Material corrections should identify what changed and why. Security reports and private-data concerns may require confidential handling before public disclosure.

10. Institutional limits

Sustainable Catalyst does not guarantee that public data are complete, that models predict outcomes, that software is fit for a particular use, or that an analytical result is professionally sufficient. Users remain responsible for verifying important findings and seeking qualified review where legal, financial, engineering, environmental, medical, humanitarian, operational, or safety consequences are material.

11. Amendment and authority

This Charter becomes authoritative only after formal approval and publication as a current record. While marked Under Review, it is a complete proposed first edition but does not supersede existing approved legal terms or controlling written agreements.

Once approved, subordinate documents should be revised when they conflict with the Charter. The maintained HTML record should govern the current statement; fixed PDF editions preserve approved snapshots.

Related Foundation Documents

- SC-FND-002
 - SC-FND-003
 - SC-FND-004
 - SC-FND-013
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Revision History

Version	Date	Status	Summary
1.0.0	2026-07-16	Under Review	Institutional Foundations First Edition draft prepared for review and publication.

Authority statement. This living HTML document is the proposed first-edition record within its defined scope. Fixed PDF editions preserve review snapshots. Earlier records remain available for historical reference.