

GSTC Interpretation Document on GSTC Recognition Manual v5.0

Date:	20 th April 2021
To	GSTC Recognized Standard Owners and applicants for Recognition
Document(s) Referenced:	GSTC Recognition Manual v5.0 dated 28 May 2020.
Document Section(s) Referenced:	4.2. Requirements for Standards and Systems
Specific clause (s) Referenced:	4.2.2. The application for GSTC Recognized shall indicate the scope of the standard (e.g. entire businesses, individual hotels only, destinations, or specific tourist, etc.) and its geographic coverage.
Description of Ambiguity or Uncertainty	The scope of GSTC Recognition is not explicitly stated at this point, and ambiguity exists between the scope of the standard and the scope of GSTC Recognition.
GSTC Interpretation as of this date	<p>GSTC Recognition is limited to the following scopes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Accommodation facilities and tour operators (b) Destinations <p>Where a standard owner has a wider scope, including other tourism sub-sectors, the GSTC Recognition will only apply to the scopes of accommodation facilities and tour operators, and destinations.</p> <p>The scope of the standard indicated by the applicant in an application for GSTC Recognized shall not be interpreted as the scope of GSTC Recognition.</p>
Rationale:	The scope of the GSTC Criteria is currently limited to (a) accommodation facilities and tour operators and (b) destinations. GSTC Recognition can only apply to that scope of a standard which coincides with the scope of the GSTC Criteria.