# IOB - Certification for the operation of NSPs





# Content

- 1. Why to start a certification process?
- 2. What would be certified?
- 3. Organic agriculture certification a glance out of the bubble
- 4. Who would benefit?
- 5. 4 step certification process
- 6. Comparision with other certificates
- 7. Next steps





# Why to start a certification process?

# Market situation

**CERTIFICATION FOR THE OPERATION OF NSPs** 

- No uniform international definition for natural swimming pools
  - F.e.: Different chemical substances are used in "Biopools" in France
- No uniform international education for employees → Mistakes are beeing made – often unintentionally











### Situation at IOB

- Lot's of expert knowledge on how to clean water biologically
- IOB Common essentials on what is an NSP





# What would be certified?

# **Operation certification**

- → Operators of public and semi public NSPs
- → Maintanance companies for public and private NSPs
- → (Owners of private NSPs who want to expand their knowledge on the operation of their NSP)
- The certified pool is operating according to the common essentials of the IOB (Nature based solutions, exclusive use of mechanical and biological purifying processes, no run off in the pool etc.)
- 2. The operator is recieving regulary **education** about the operation of a natural pool (maintanance, operational documentation, allowed substances, limnology, guidelines etc.)
- 3. The **knowledge** of the pool staff is **tested** regularly
- 4. Optional yearly visit of an **IOB inspector** on site

# Design certification

→ Designers of NSPs

- The certified designer is using only water treatment systems and building materials (CO2 + eco balance) according to the commen essentials of the IOB
- 2. The designer is recieving regulary **education** about water treatment systems and building materials
- 3. The **knowledge** of the designer is **tested** regularly
- 4. Optional design check of an **IOB inspector**



# 200px Of the own bubble

	Organic farming	Natural pools	
Associations	Bioland Naturand	IOB	
National state institutions	USDA ORGANIC  BIOLOGIOUE  BIOLOGIOUE	?	
International institutions	****	?	



# Who would benefit?



#### **Bathers**

→ Guarantee for good biological water quality approved by an international organisation of specialists



Operators +
Maintanance
companies

- → Trust from local authorities
- Internal quality control
- → Staff education
- Advertisement for the pool



European Environment Agency



IOB

→ Implementation of IOB statues and definitions in the opration of many NSPs

# National and international regulations from authorities

→ Possible basis for national and international regulations from authorities

→ Establishing and preserving of high quality standards for NSPs



# 4 Step certification process

#### **Demands:**

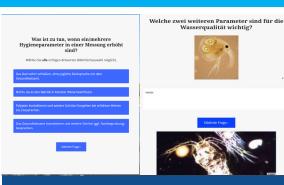
Easy to acess | Easy to adapt to different languages | Easy to implement yearly changes | Low costs



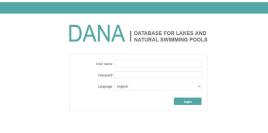




- → Online Class: NSP operation
- → Platform: f.e. EASY LMS



- 2. Testing
- → Online test for all staff members of a pool /company
- → Platform: f.e. EASY LMS



- 3. Online operation control
- → Operational control (Maintanance and water quality tests) (for exa
- → Platform: f.e. DANA 2.0



- 4. On site check
- → Check by IOB inspector

**IOB SILVER** 

**IOB GOLD** 

**IOB PLATIN** 



# Comparision with other NSP certificates

To avoid overlappings certification will start	IOB NSP operation certificate	DGfnB		
outside Germany		IQN	Certificate course	
Content	Education, Testing, self decleration and online check of qulity standards (operation, maintanance, water quality)	Assesment of physical, chemical, biological und hygenical water quality	Certificate course 'Specialist for swimming pools with biological water treatment'	
Pool Type	Public, semi public and private	Public and semi public	Public and semi public	
Offline / Online	Online	Offline	Offline	
Update frequency	Yearly	Yearly	Once – every few years	
Available Countries	All IOB countries	Mainly Germany	Germany	
Costs	Pool with 3 employees: aprox. 380€/a	> 4000€/a	?	



# Next steps

- Idea of certification came up on the last IOB congress
- Certification and a cost recover plan has been discussed with the board of the IOB since May this year: positive Feedback of the IOB board
- Your feedback to the IOB board
- Descission about / development of
  - Educational programm
  - Tests
  - Standards for online operation control
  - On site check standards
- Descission about /development of NSP design certification?
- → If you want to join this process please get in touch! (kurzreuther@polyplan-kreikenbaum.eu)



