



The Blue Dot Network: A Global Certification Framework for Quality Infrastructure

Infrastructure Investor Global Summit
March 22, 2023

Carol Volk, *Infrastructure Development Unit Chief,
U.S. Department of State*

Juan Garin, *Policy Advisor, Sustainable
Infrastructure, OECD*





Blue Dot Network: A global certification for quality infrastructure investments

- Provide a **trusted signal to investors and other stakeholders** that projects are environmentally and socially sustainable, resilient, open and transparent, and economically efficient.
- Developed by the **governments of Australia, Japan and the United States** with technical support provided by the OECD.
- Open to infrastructure projects **across all major infrastructure sectors in both developed and developing economies**.

10 Blue Dot Network Elements





Blue Dot Network certification: building trust



- Derived from international standards
- Evidence-based
- Independent verification



Benefits of a Blue Dot Network certification for investors

- ✓ Help identify quality investable projects
- ✓ Provide reassurance that key risks have been addressed
- ✓ Facilitate due diligence
- ✓ Compensate for weak governance and regulatory frameworks
- ✓ Assist in meeting ESG reporting requirements
- ✓ Improve standardisation and data availability



Value of a Blue Dot Network certification across stakeholders





Executive Consultation Group: Over 200 business leaders representing infrastructure investors, contractors, operators and developers





Leading global investors have guided the development of the Blue Dot Network

David Neal, CEO, *IFM Investors*

“The need for public-private investments in infrastructure projects has never been greater. Infrastructure finance is essential for economic growth, to deliver the new technologies necessary for decarbonisation, as well as retrofitting existing assets for our net zero future. Quality standards like Blue Dot Network by **increasing the confidence of investors and supporting collaboration can only help unlock capital**”.

Torben Möger Pedersen, CEO, *PensionDanmark*

“To accelerate a just green transition, PensionDanmark invests in viable and sustainable infrastructure projects that contributes towards closing the global investment gap in this area. Furthering this effort **requires sound assessment criteria to ensure accountability and incite action**. A crucial contribution to this is the Blue Dot Network that aims at providing **a framework that is commonly recognized and able to step up the sustainable infrastructure investments** that billions of people around the world need.”

Ang Eng Seng, Chief Investment Officer for Infrastructure, *GIC*

“As an investor committed to the global transition to a net-zero economy, GIC recognises that quality infrastructure projects will be needed to successfully move the needle. The Blue Dot Network’s efforts to drive robust and transparent standards for sustainable infrastructure projects will help **encourage greater investor confidence** and collaboration in this critical space.”

Yves Perrier, Chair, *Amundi*

“It is vital that **ESG considerations and quality infrastructure principles** are embedded into infrastructure investment. We welcome the Blue Dot Network as a critical tool for aligning investors, contractors and other stakeholders on the criteria that will ensure a just transition.”



Architecture of the Blue Dot Network certification

The OECD Proposal for the Blue Dot Network



A set of essential requirements

Projects can demonstrate alignment with essential requirements **derived from commonly-applied international standards.**



A scoring system

A scoring system will **recognise progressively higher levels of quality infrastructure.**



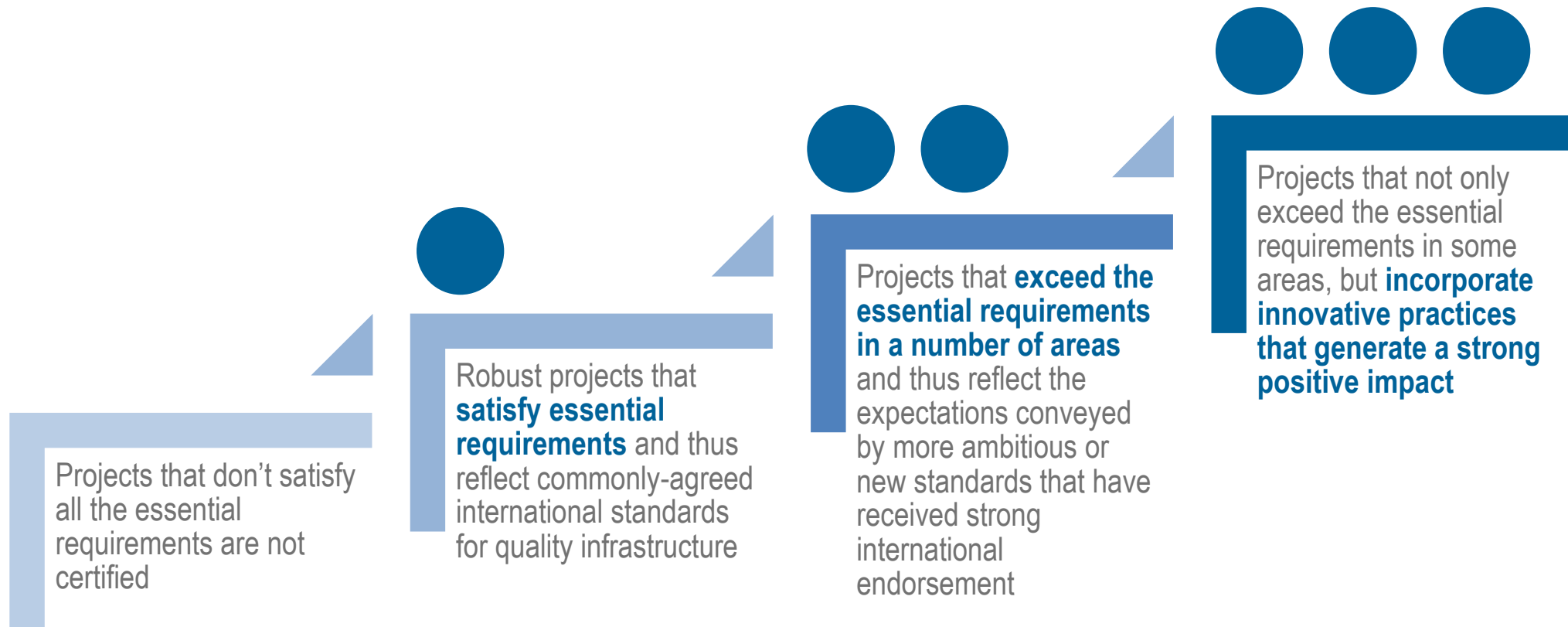
An independent review process

A self-assessment followed by **independent, efficient and efficient verification.**



Incentivising a race to the top

The Blue Dot Network will recognise progressively higher levels of quality infrastructure.





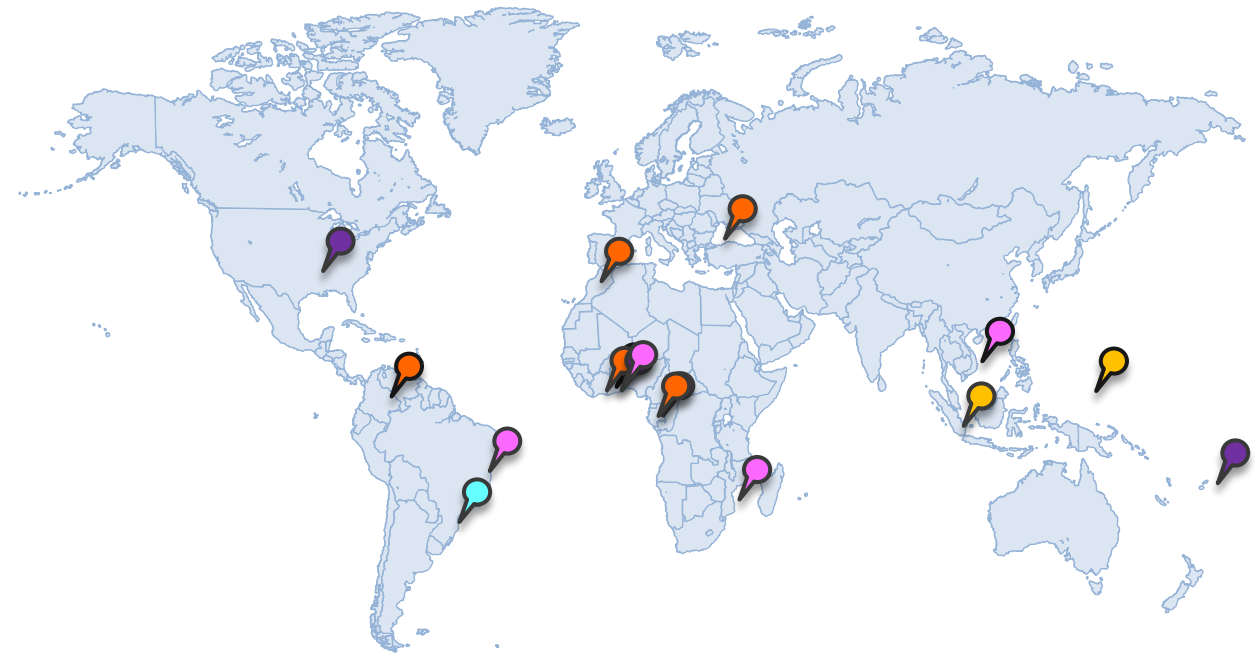
Over 20 pilot projects proposed across sectors, stages in the life-cycle and regions

Group 1 pilot projects (successfully completed in February 2023)

- **Aegea** – A major water and sanitation project in **Brazil** that will improve the well-being of millions of people and contribute to environmental restoration
- **Enel** – A huge onshore wind farm in **Brazil**, which, when completed, will be one of the largest in the world
- **Eurasia Tunnel company** – A road tunnel connecting Asia and Europe underneath the Bosphorus in Istanbul, **Türkiye**
- **Microsoft** – A state-of-the art green data centre in **Indonesia**

Group 2 pilot projects (in progress)

- Airport in **Colombia**
- Grain silos in **Morocco**
- Sub-sea fibre optic cable in **Palau**
- Offshore wind farm in **Vietnam**



 Energy  ICT  Water  Transport  Other



Benefits of participating in the pilot process

Help to shape the future of infrastructure investment as a sustainability leader.

Contribute to setting the sustainability metrics for your infrastructure sub-sector.

Align your company's sustainability practices and KPIs with international best practice.

Be among the first in line to potentially obtain a certification at no cost*

* Participation in the pilot process does not result in a certification. However, once the Blue Dot Network secretariat is launched, it is anticipated that the pilot projects will be first in line to be awarded a certification, if they satisfy the requirements.



Engaging with the Blue Dot Network

1. Join the Executive Consultation Group

2. Put forward a project

- To propose a pilot project, please fill out the [expression of interest form](#). For more information, consult the [information sheet](#).

Contacts:

Carol Volk, *Infrastructure Development Unit Chief*, U.S. Department of State (volkcj@state.gov)

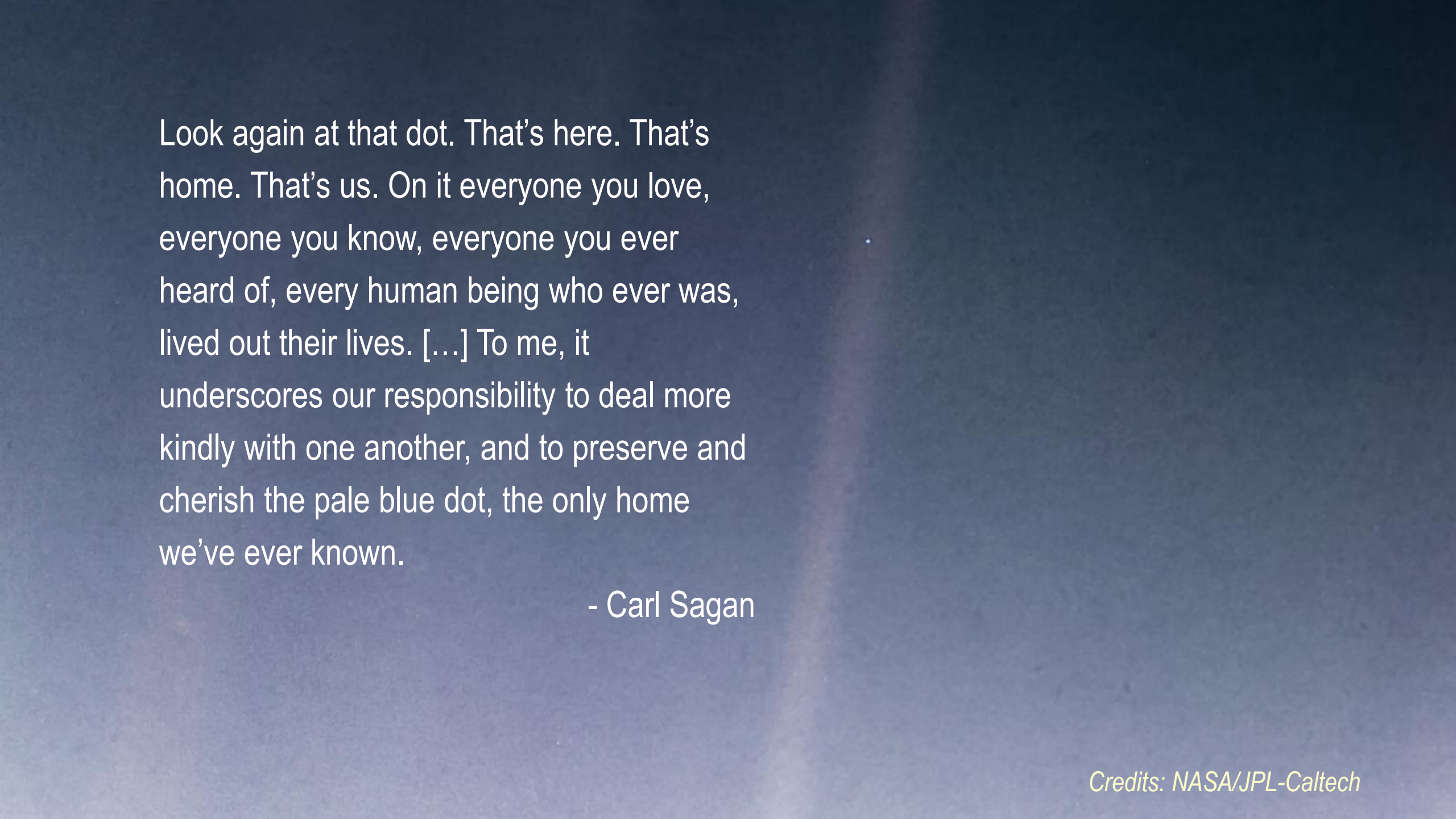
Isabel Cane, *Head of the Trust in Business Unit*, OECD (isabel.cane@oecd.org)

Juan Garin, *Policy Advisor on Sustainable Finance and Infrastructure*, OECD (juan.garin@oecd.org)

More information:

U.S. Department of State: <https://www.state.gov/blue-dot-network/>

OECD: <https://www.oecd.org/corporate/oecd-and-the-blue-dot-network.htm>



Look again at that dot. That's here. That's home. That's us. On it everyone you love, everyone you know, everyone you ever heard of, every human being who ever was, lived out their lives. [...] To me, it underscores our responsibility to deal more kindly with one another, and to preserve and cherish the pale blue dot, the only home we've ever known.

- Carl Sagan



THANK YOU & QUESTIONS