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Environmental information — Competence requirements for teams validating and verifying environmental information

Informations environnementales — Exigences de compétence pour les équipes de validation et les équipes de vérification des informations environnemenrales

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Contents

Page

Foreword ..... **v**

Introduction ..... **vi**

1 Scope **1**

2 Normative references **1**

3 Terms and definitions **1**
3.1 Terms specific to competence 1
3.2 Terms related to environmental information 2
3.3 Terms related to people and organizations 3
3.4 Terms related to validation and verification 4
3.5 Terms related to debt instruments 7

4 Principles **7**
4.1 General 7
4.2 Integrity 8
4.3 Fair presentation 8
4.4 Due professional care 8
4.5 Professional judgement 8
4.6 Impartiality 8
4.7 Evidence-based approach 8

5 Application of principles **8**

6 Team competence **9**
6.1 General 9
6.2 Knowledge 9
6.2.1 General 9
6.2.2 Environmental information programme knowledge 9
6.2.3 Quantitative and qualitative information knowledge 9
6.2.4 Additional knowledge for organization level statements 10
6.2.5 Additional knowledge for the verification of environmental information statements related to products 10
6.2.6 Additional knowledge for the validation/verification of environmental information statements related to projects 10
6.2.7 Auditing knowledge 10
6.3 Skills 11
6.3.1 Team skills 11
6.3.2 Team leader skills 11

7 Technical expert competence **11**

8 Competence of the independent reviewer **11**

9 Demonstration and maintenance of validation and verification knowledge and skills **12**
9.1 Demonstration of knowledge and skills 12
9.2 Maintenance of knowledge and skills 12

Annex A (informative) **Evidence and the application of professional scepticism** **13**

Annex B (informative) **Methods to evaluate the competence of validation and verification teams (including technical experts) and independent reviewers** **15**

Annex C (informative) **Example of prerequisite entry level awareness for individuals starting training to participate in validation or verification** **16**

Annex D (informative) **Personal behaviour** **17**

Annex E (normative) **Additional requirements applicable to green bond validation, verification and AUP** **18**

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Annex F (normative) **Additional requirements applicable to greenhouse gas validation, verification and AUP** **19**

Bibliography **23**

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared jointly by Technical Committee ISO/TC 207, *Environmental management,* Subcommittee SC 7, *Greenhouse gas and climate change management and related activities*, in collaboration with Subcommittee SC 2, *Environmental auditing and related environmental investigations*, and ISO/CASCO, *Committee on conformity assessment*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 14066:2011), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

— the scope has been extended from greenhouse gas to environmental information claims;

— annexes providing additional competence requirements for certain types of environmental information statements have been added.

A list of all parts in the ISO 14000 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user’s national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

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Introduction

This document specifies competence requirements for validation and verification teams (including technical experts) and independent reviewers for the benefit of environmental information programme administrators, regulators, and validation and verification bodies. To achieve consistency in the international marketplace and maintain public confidence in environmental information reporting and other communications, there is a need to define competence requirements for validation and verification teams (including technical experts) and independent reviewers.

Requirements for environmental information validation and verification bodies are established in ISO 14065. ISO 14065 requires that validation and verification bodies establish and maintain a procedure to manage the competence of its personnel undertaking the various validation or verification activities within the team and independent reviewer appointed for the engagement. It is the role of the validation or verification body to ensure that validation and verification teams (including technical experts) and independent reviewers have the necessary competence to effectively complete the validation or verification process. This document includes principles for ensuring competence of validation and verification teams (including technical experts) and independent reviewers. Supporting these principles are general requirements based on the tasks that validation or verification teams (including technical experts) and independent reviewers need to be able to perform and the competence required to do so.

This document can be used in conjunction with ISO 14065 as the basis for assessing and recognizing the competence of validation and verification teams (including technical experts) and independent reviewers.

Users of this document are encouraged to refer to applicable standards for the preparation of environmental information statements (see ISO 14016, ISO 14020, ISO 14021, ISO 14024, ISO 14025, ISO 14026, ISO 14030-1, ISO 14030-2, ISO 14030-3, ISO 14040, ISO 14044, ISO 14046, ISO 14064-1, ISO 14064-2, ISO 14067 and ISO 14097).

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Environmental information — Competence requirements for teams validating and verifying environmental information

1 Scope

This document specifies competence requirements for validation and verification teams (including technical experts) and independent reviewers.

This document is applicable to all organizations that plan and conduct external or internal validations, verifications and agreed-upon procedures (AUP).

This document is not linked to any particular environmental information programme. If a particular environmental information programme is applicable, competence requirements of that environmental information programme are additional to the requirements of this document.

NOTE Management process requirements for the competence of personnel are specified in ISO 14065:2020, 7.3.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 14030-4, *Environmental performance evaluation — Green debt instruments — Part 4: Verification programme requirements*

ISO 14065:2020, *General principles and requirements for bodies validating and verifying environmental information*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/

3.1 Terms specific to competence

3.1.1
professional scepticism
attitude that includes a questioning mind and a critical assessment of evidence

[SOURCE: ISO 14050:2020, 3.4.14]

3.1.2
competence
ability to apply knowledge and skills to achieve intended results

[SOURCE: ISO 14050:2020, 3.1.10]

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