BSI Standards Publication

Environmental management — Vocabulary

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National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN ISO 14050:2020. It is identical to ISO 14050:2020. It supersedes BS EN ISO 14050:2010, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee SES/1, Environmental management.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its committee manager.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

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English Version

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Management environnemental - Vocabulaire (ISO 14050:2020)

Umweltmanagement - Begriffe (ISO 14050:2020)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 17 July 2020.

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This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

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EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

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European foreword

This document (EN ISO 14050:2020) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 207 "Environmental management" in collaboration with CCMC.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by February 2021, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by February 2021.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN ISO 14050:2010.

This document has been prepared under a mandate given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 14050:2020 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 14050:2020 without any modification.

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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 documents 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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Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

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 by Technical Committee ISO/TC 207, *Environmental management*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/SS S26, *Environmental management*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO 14050:2009), which has been technically revised. The fourth edition is structured differently from the third edition. It presents a more generic vocabulary of environmental management terminology.

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.

Introduction

Communication is important in the implementation and operation of environmental management systems. This communication will be most effective if there is a common understanding of the terms used.

To simplify the harmonization of terms and definitions in the field of environmental management, each terminological entry in this document contains a generic term and its definition. Notes to entry and examples have been included only in a few cases to provide additional information or clarification.

The terminology is arranged in subclauses, each representing a specific sub-domain. The sequence of the term entries corresponds to the concept diagrams in Annex A.

This document has been developed in close cooperation with the committees and working groups involved in the development and revision of the ISO 14000 family of standards. A list of published documents in the ISO 14000 family of standards is presented in the Bibliography.

Environmental management — Vocabulary

1   Scope

This document defines terms used in documents in the fields of environmental management systems and tools in support of sustainable development. These include management systems, auditing and other types of assessment, communications, footprinting studies, greenhouse gas mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

2   Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3   Terms and definitions

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

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

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

3.1   General terms relating to management systems

3.1.1
organization
person or group of people that has its own functions with responsibilities, authorities and relationships to achieve its *objectives* (3.1.6)

3.1.2
interested party
stakeholder
person or *organization* (3.1.1) that can affect, be affected by, or perceive itself to be affected by a decision or activity

3.1.3
top management
person or group of people who directs and controls an *organization* (3.1.1) at the highest level

3.1.4
management system
set of interrelated or interacting elements of an *organization* (3.1.1) to establish *policies* (3.1.5) and *objectives* (3.1.6), as well as *processes* (3.1.9) to achieve those objectives

3.1.5
policy
intentions and direction of an *organization* (3.1.1), as formally expressed by its *top management* (3.1.3)

3.1.6
objective
result to be achieved

3.1.7
risk
effect of uncertainty