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Human resource management — Guidelines for internal and external human capital reporting

*Management des ressources humaines — Lignes directrices sur le
bilan du capital humain interne et externe*



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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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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 260, *Human resource management*.

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

Human capital includes the cumulative knowledge, skills and abilities of an organization's people and the impact on an organization's long-term performance, as well as competitive advantage through optimizing organizational outcomes.

The measurement of human capital facilitates the ability of an organization to manage one of its most critical resources and risks, people. Research shows that organizations that do not manage their human capital may damage the ability and opportunity for the business to create long-term and sustainable value achieved through their people^[1].

This document is guided by the principles of human rights at work^[2], and coupled with the human governance standard (ISO 30408^[3]), it establishes guidelines on human capital data capture, measurement, analysis and reporting.

The benefits of a standardized approach to human capital reporting (HCR) include

- the use of standardized and agreed data, which describes organizational value in a broadly comparable sense;
- the improvement of HRM processes that support good practice in establishing and maintaining positive employment relations;
- greater understanding of the financial and non-financial returns that are generated as a result of investments in human capital;
- accessible and transparent reporting of human capital data and insights that enhances internal and external understanding and assessment of an organization's human capital and its present and future performance.

HCR is following guiding principles which are outlined in [4.2](#).