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Sustainability in buildings and civil engineering works — Guidelines on the application of the general principles in ISO 15392

Durabilité des bâtiments et ouvrages de génie civil — Lignes directrices sur l'application des principes généraux de l'ISO 15392



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Contents

	Page
Foreword	iv
Introduction	v
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	2
4 Elements of the framework	2
5 Methodological approach	5
6 Application guidance	8
Annex A (normative) The nine general principles taken from ISO 15392:2008, Clause 5.3	51
Bibliography	54

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.

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For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 59, *Buildings and civil engineering works*, Subcommittee SC 17, *Sustainability in buildings and civil engineering works*.

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Introduction

This Technical Specification is intended for use by stakeholders involved during the life cycle of a construction works. More and more decision makers involved in construction projects are establishing goals to improve the sustainability performance of a construction works.

Decision making typically relates to the planning, design, construction, use and operation, and end-of-life processes. The planning and design phases usually include the project inception/initiation, conception of need and feasibility, and initial and detailed design, all of which lead to the actual construction and occupancy of the building.

The objective of providing the guidance included in this Technical Specification is to demonstrate to each actor at each phase of the construction project a way to implement the nine general principles of sustainability in buildings and civil engineering works, as described in ISO 15392.

Although the following topics are currently outside the scope of this Technical Specification, these guidelines can also facilitate the different actors in

- identifying and setting performance targets,
- elaborating relevant practical tools (criteria, indicators, measurement methods) for assessing/measuring the actual performance levels, and
- formalizing a management system based on the general principles of sustainability, which can be monitored, assessed, and improved.

Application of the nine general principles to the life cycle of construction works introduces a multidimensional puzzle leading to a complex framework. [Clause 4](#) presents the different primary elements of the framework and the related facets to be considered regarding each element. [Clause 5](#) introduces the methodological approach for applying sustainability thinking to the development of the construction works and identifies six phases of the decision-making process and 10 sustainability objectives. [Clause 6](#) gives application guidance developed on the basis of these objectives and related issues of concern (see [Table 3](#)) and detailed recommendations attached to each issue (see [Table 4](#)).