

Environmental Management System: Framework of ISO 14001:2015

*Akshay Bajpai**

Scholar, Mansarovar Global University, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India

Abstract

ISO 14001:2015 specifies the requirements for an environmental management system that an organization can use to enhance its environmental performance. ISO 14001:2015 is intended for use by an organization seeking to manage its environmental responsibilities in a systematic manner that contributes to the environmental pillar of sustainability. ISO 14001:2015 helps an organization achieve the intended outcomes of its environmental management system, which provide value for the environment, the organization itself and interested parties. Consistent with the organization's environmental policy, the intended outcomes of an environmental management system include: (a) Enhancement of environmental performance; (b) Fulfilment of compliance obligations; (c) Achievement of environmental objectives. ISO 14001:2015 is applicable to any organization, regardless of size, type and nature, and applies to the environmental aspects of its activities, products and services that the organization determines it can either control or influence considering a life cycle perspective. ISO 14001:2015 does not state specific environmental performance.

Keywords: EMS, ISO 14001, Environmental policy, Environmental performance, Environmental compliance, Audit, objectives, achievements, Environment Management System, ISO 14001:2015, Performance evaluation.

***Author for Correspondence** E-mail: akshaybajpai8@gmail.com

IMPLEMENTATION OF ISO 14001:2015

ISO 14001:2015 can be used in whole or in part to systematically improve environmental management. Claims of conformity to ISO 14001:2015, however, are not acceptable unless all its requirements are incorporated into an organization's environmental management system and fulfilled without exclusion [1]. ISO 14001:2015 is relevant to all organizations, regardless of size, location, sector, or industry. ISO 14001:2015 should be used by any organization that wishes to set up, improve, or maintain an environmental management system to conform with its established environmental policy and requirements. The requirements of the standard can be incorporated into any environmental management system, the extent to which is determined by several factors including the organization's industry, environmental policy, products and service offerings, and location.

WHAT DOES ISO 14001 ACTUALLY RESEMBLE?

The ISO 14001 structure is part into ten sections. The initial three are basic, with the last seven as depicted in Figure 1, containing the necessities for the environmental management system [3]. Here is the thing that the seven fundamental sections are about:

Segment 4: Context of the Organization

This segment discusses prerequisites for understanding your organization so as to actualize an EMS. It incorporates the necessities for distinguishing internal and outer issues, recognizing invested individuals and their expectations, characterizing the scope of the EMS and recognizing the processes required for the EMS.

Segment 5: Leadership

The leadership prerequisites spread the requirement for top management to be instrumental in the implementation of the EMS.



Fig. 1: ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Framework [2].

Top management needs to show pledge to the EMS by guaranteeing environmental duty, characterizing and conveying the environmental arrangement and doling out jobs and duties all through the organization.

Segment 6: Planning

Top management should likewise plan for the progressing capacity of the EMS. Dangers and chances of the EMS in the organization should be surveyed, and environmental goals for development should be distinguished and plans made to achieve these targets. Furthermore, it is essential for the organization to survey all the manners by which the organizational processes interact and influence nature just as the legal and different commitments that are required for the organization.

Segment 7: Support

The support segment manages management of all resources for the EMS, and furthermore incorporates prerequisites around capability, mindfulness, correspondence and controlling documented data (the documents and records required for your processes).

Segment 8: Operation

The operation prerequisites manage all parts of the environmental controls required by the organizational processes, just as the need to recognize potential emergency situations and plan reactions with the goal that you are set up to react should an emergency happen.

Segment 9: Performance Evaluation

This segment incorporates the necessities expected to ensure that you can screen whether your EMS is working admirably. It incorporates checking and estimating your processes, evaluating environmental compliance, internal audits, and progressing management review of the EMS.

Segment 10: Improvement

This last segment incorporates the necessities expected to improve your EMS after some time. This incorporates the need to survey process nonconformity and taking restorative actions for processes. These sections depend on a Plan-Do-Check-Act cycle, as depicted in Figure 2, which utilizes these elements to actualize change inside the processes of the organization so as to drive and maintain upgrades inside the processes.

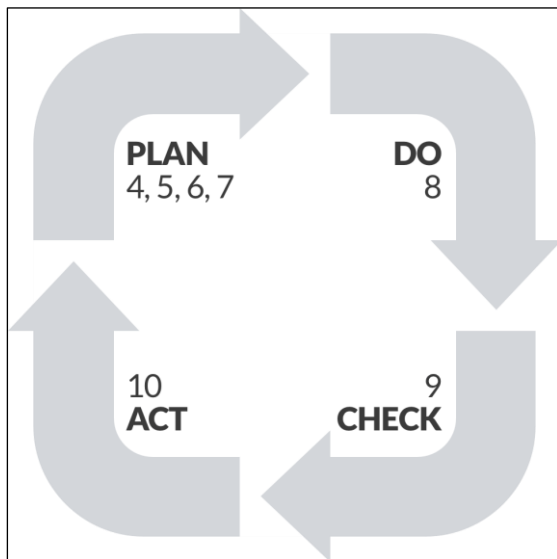


Fig. 2: Plan-Do-Check-Act cycle [4].

ASSISTANCES OF ISO 14001:2015

Utilizing ISO 14001:2015 has numerous advantages for associations with environmental management systems. Associations and organizations find that utilizing the standard causes them:

- Improve resource proficiency
- Reduce waste
- Drive down costs
- Provide confirmation that environmental effect is being estimated
- Gain upper hand in supply chain design
- Increase new business openings
- Meet legal obligations
- Increase stakeholder and customer trust
- Improve in general environmental effect
- Manage environmental obligations with consistency

14001:2004 versus 14001:2015

The 2015 revision of ISO 14001 introduces a number of changes from previous versions. A detailed explanation of the changes can be found in this ISO 14001 presentation by the ASQ Energy and Environmental Division.

As part of the effort to structure all ISO standards in the same way, the ISO 14001:2015 revisions include incorporating a required high-level structure, using mandatory

definitions, and incorporating common standards requirements and clauses.

10 major areas of impact of the 2015 revision:

- Expansion in EMS coverage and scope
- Required interactions with external parties
- New requirements for leadership engagement
- Expanded legal compliance requirements
- Need for risk-based planning and controls
- New documentation requirements
- Expanded operational control requirements
- Changes in competence and awareness requirements
- Impacts on the internal audit program
- Increased certification costs

REFERENCES

1. ISO 14001:2015, Environmental management systems – Requirements with guidance for use; Published in 03.100.70 | Management systems 13.020.10 | Environmental management, retrieved from <https://www.iso.org/standard/60857.html>
2. ISO 14001:2015 – Environmental Management Systems by ASQ – Quality Resources retrieved from <https://asq.org/quality-resources/iso-14001>
3. What is ISO 14001? by 14001 Academy, ISO 14001 Online Consultation Center published by Advisera retrieved from <https://advisera.com/14001academy/what-is-iso-14001/>
4. What is ISO 14001? by 14001 Academy, ISO 14001 Online Consultation Center published by Advisera retrieved from <https://advisera.com/14001academy/what-is-iso-14001/>

Cite this Article

Akshay Bajpai. Environmental Management System: Framework of ISO 14001:2015. *National Journal of Environmental Law*. 2020; 3(1): 21–23p.