INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO 14065

Second edition
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Greenhouse gases — Requirements for greenhouse gas validation and verification bodies for use in accreditation or other forms of recognition

Gaz à effet de serre — Exigences pour les organismes fournissant des validations et des vérifications des gaz à effet de serre en vue de l'accréditation ou d'autres formes de reconnaissance

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ISO copyright office
Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Geneva 20
Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11
Fax + 41 22 749 09 47
E-mail copyright@iso.org
Web www.iso.org

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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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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

ISO 14065 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 207, *Environmental management*, Subcommittee SC 7, *Green house gas management and related activities*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 14065:2007), of which it constitutes a minor revision.

Introduction

Climate change has been identified as one of the greatest challenges facing nations, governments, business, and citizens for the coming decades. Climate change has implications for both human and natural systems and could lead to significant changes in resource use, production, and economic activity. In response, international, regional, national, and local initiatives are being developed and implemented to limit greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations in the Earth's atmosphere. Such GHG initiatives rely on the quantification, monitoring, reporting, and verification of GHG emissions and/or removals.

The overall aim of GHG validation or verification activities is to give confidence to all parties that rely upon a GHG assertion. The party making the GHG assertion is responsible for conformity with requirements of the relevant standard or GHG programme. The validation or verification body is responsible for completing an objective assessment and providing a validation or verification statement concerning the responsible party's GHG assertion based on evidence. This International Standard provides requirements for bodies that undertake GHG validation or verification using ISO 14064-3 or other relevant standards or specifications. It contains a number of principles that these bodies should be able to demonstrate and provides specific requirements that reflect these principles. General requirements relate to matters such as legal and contractual arrangements, responsibilities, the management of impartiality, and issues of liability and financing. Specific requirements include provisions related to structures, resource requirements and competencies, information and records management, validation and verification processes, appeals, complaints, and management systems.

This International Standard provides GHG programme administrators, regulators, and accreditors with a basis for assessing and recognizing the competence of validation and verification bodies. It can also be used in other ways, such as in peer assessment within groups of validation or of verification bodies or between such groups.

Figure 1 and Annex A show relationships between the application of this International Standard and ISO 14064-1, ISO 14064-2, ISO 14064-3, and ISO 14066.

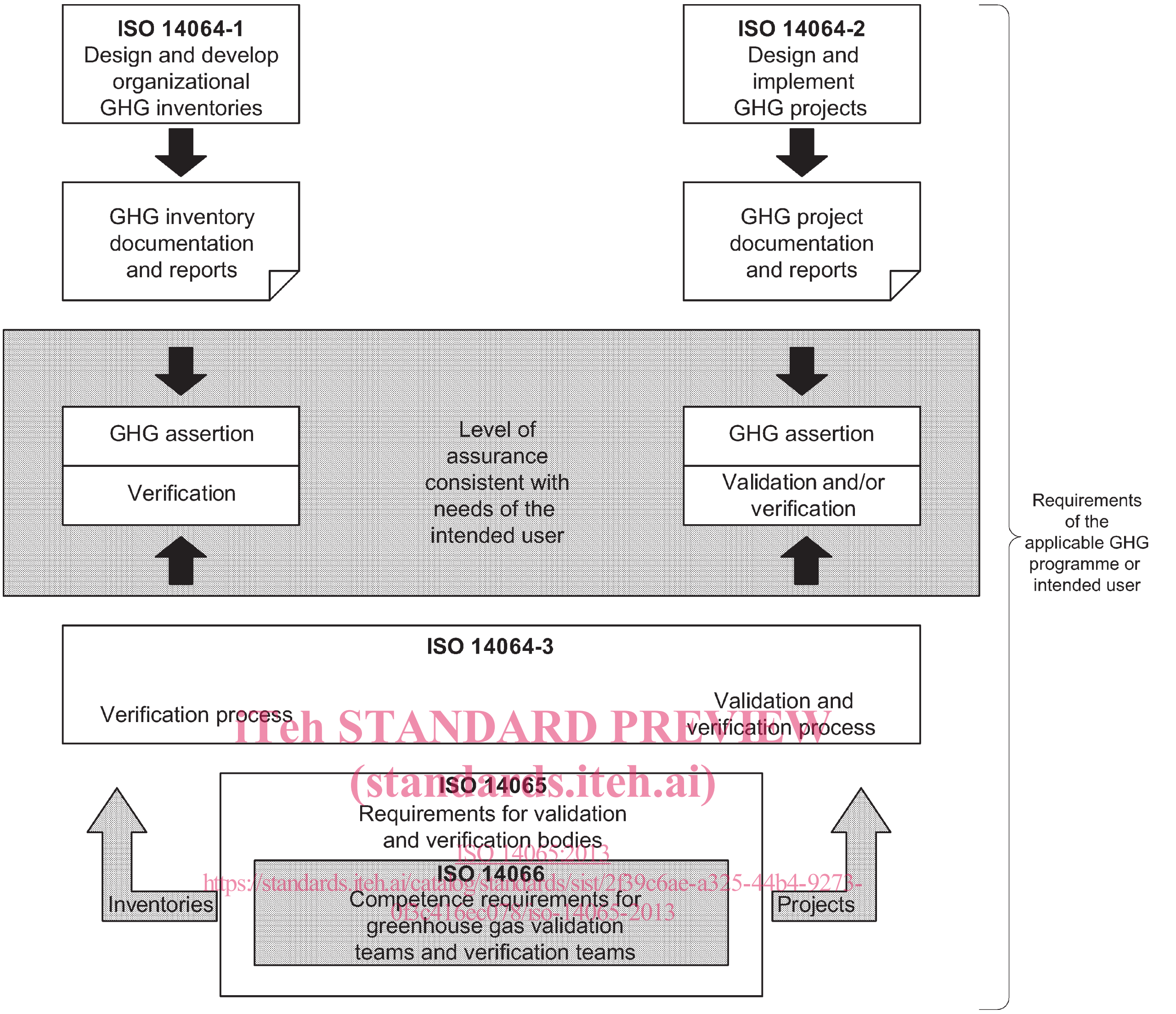

Figure 1 — Framework for using ISO 14065 with ISO 14064-1, ISO 14064-2, ISO 14064-3, and ISO 14066

Greenhouse gases — Requirements for greenhouse gas validation and verification bodies for use in accreditation or other forms of recognition

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies principles and requirements for bodies that undertake validation or verification of greenhouse gas (GHG) assertions.

It is GHG programme neutral. If a GHG programme is applicable, the requirements of that GHG programme are additional to the requirements of this International Standard.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 14064-3:2006, *Greenhouse gases — Part 3: Specification with guidance for the validation and verification of greenhouse gas assertions*

3 Terms and definitions

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

3.1 Terms related to greenhouse gases

3.1.1
GHG
gaseous constituent of the atmosphere, both natural and anthropogenic, that absorbs and emits radiation at specific wavelengths within the spectrum of infrared radiation emitted by the Earth's surface, the atmosphere, and clouds

Note 1 to entry: GHGs include carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), nitrous oxide (N_2O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulfur hexafluoride (SF_6).

[SOURCE: ISO 14064-3:2006, 2.1]

3.1.2
greenhouse gas assertion
factual and objective declaration made by the responsible party

Note 1 to entry: The GHG assertion could be presented at a point in time or could cover a period of time.

Note 2 to entry: The GHG assertion provided by the responsible party should be clearly identifiable and capable of consistent evaluation or measurement against suitable criteria by a validator or verifier.

Note 3 to entry: The GHG assertion could be provided in the form of a GHG report, GHG project plan, or per unit of product CO_2-e emission (carbon footprint of product) quantification.

[SOURCE: ISO 14064-3:2006, 2.11, modified]

3.1.3
greenhouse gas consultancy services
provision of organization-specific or project-specific GHG quantification, GHG data monitoring or recording, GHG information system or internal auditing services, or training that supports a GHG assertion

3.1.4
greenhouse gas information system
policies, processes, and procedures to establish, manage, and maintain GHG information

[SOURCE: ISO 14064-3:2006, 2.12]

3.1.5
greenhouse gas project
activity or activities that alter the conditions identified in the baseline scenario which cause GHG emission reductions or removal enhancements

[SOURCE: ISO 14064-3:2006, 2.14]

3.1.6
greenhouse gas programme
voluntary or mandatory international, national, or sub-national system or scheme that registers, accounts, or manages GHG emissions, removals, emission reductions, or removal enhancements outside the organization or GHG project

[SOURCE: ISO 14064-3:2006, 2.16]

3.2 Terms related to people and organizations

3.2.1
client
organization or person requesting validation or verification

Note 1 to entry: The client could be the responsible party, the GHG programme administrator, or other stakeholder.

[SOURCE: ISO 14064-3:2006, 2.27]

3.2.2
intended user
individual or organization identified by those reporting GHG-related information as being the one who relies on that information to make decisions

Note 1 to entry: The intended user could be the client, the responsible party, GHG programme administrators, regulators, the financial community, or other affected stakeholders, such as local communities, government departments, non-governmental organizations, or programme operators.

[SOURCE: ISO 14064-3:2006, 2.26]

3.2.3
organization
company, corporation, firm, enterprise, authority, or institution, or part or combination thereof, whether incorporated or not, public or private, that has its own functions and administration

[SOURCE: ISO 14064-3:2006, 2.23]

3.2.4
personnel
persons working with or on behalf of the validation or verification body

3.2.5
responsible party
person or persons responsible for the provision of the GHG assertion and the supporting GHG information

Note 1 to entry: The responsible party can be either individuals or representatives of an organization or project and can be the party who engages the validator or verifier. The validator or verifier may be engaged by the client or by other parties, such as the GHG programme administrator.

[SOURCE: ISO 14064-3:2006, 2.24]

3.2.6
technical expert
person who provides specific knowledge or expertise to the validation or verification team

Note 1 to entry: Specific knowledge or expertise is that which relates to the organization or project to be validated or verified, or relevant language or culture.

Note 2 to entry: A technical expert does not act as a validator or verifier in the validation or verification team.

[SOURCE: ISO 19011:2011, 3.10, modified]

3.2.7
top management
person or group of people who directs and controls an organization at the highest level

[SOURCE: ISO 9000:2005, 3.2.7]

3.3 Terms related to validation and verification

3.3.1
validation
systematic, independent, and documented process for the evaluation of a *greenhouse gas assertion* (3.1.2) in a GHG project plan against agreed criteria to determine if the project plan conforms to the agreed criteria, and its implementation can be expected to result in the proposed GHG emission reductions and removal enhancements as described in the project plan

Note 1 to entry: In some cases, such as in first-party validations, independence can be demonstrated by the freedom from responsibility for the development of GHG data and information.

Note 2 to entry: The content of a GHG project plan is described in ISO 14064-2:2006, 5.2.

[SOURCE: ISO 14064-3:2006, 2.32, modified]

3.3.2
validator
competent and independent person or persons with responsibility for performing and reporting on the results of a validation

Note 1 to entry: In the interests of clarity, it is not advisable to use the term "validator" to designate a *validation body* (3.3.3).

[SOURCE: ISO 14064-3:2006, 2.35, modified]

3.3.3
validation body
body that performs validations of GHG assertions in accordance with ISO 14064-3 and this International Standard

3.3.4
validation statement
formal written declaration attesting to the *intended user* (3.2.2) that the project plan's implementation of the planned GHG project will result in the GHG emission reductions and/or removal enhancements within the defined level of assurance and materiality

Note 1 to entry: Validation can result in an adverse validation statement offering no assurance.

3.3.5
validation team
one or more validators conducting a validation, supported if needed by technical experts

Note 1 to entry: The validation team may include validators-in-training.

[SOURCE: ISO 9000:2005, 3.9.10, modified]

3.3.6
verification
systematic, independent, and documented process for the evaluation of a GHG assertion against agreed verification criteria

Note 1 to entry: In some cases, such as in first-party verifications, independence can be demonstrated by the freedom from responsibility for the development of GHG data and information.

[SOURCE: ISO 14064-3:2006, 2.36, modified]

3.3.7
verification body
body that performs verifications of GHG assertions in accordance with ISO 14064-3 and this International Standard

3.3.8
verification statement
formal written declaration to the *intended user* (3.2.2) that provides assurance that the responsible party's *greenhouse gas assertion* (3.1.2) is stated within the defined level of assurance and materiality in accordance with the applicable verification criteria

Note 1 to entry: Verification can result in an adverse verification statement offering no assurance.

3.3.9
verification team
one or more verifiers conducting a verification, supported if needed by technical experts

Note 1 to entry: The verification team may include verifiers-in-training.

[SOURCE: ISO 9000:2005, 3.9.10, modified]

3.3.10
verifier
competent and independent person or persons with responsibility for performing and reporting on the verification process

Note 1 to entry: In the interests of clarity, it is not advisable to use the term "verifier" to designate a *verification body* (3.3.7).

[SOURCE: ISO 14064-3:2006, 2.37, modified]