
Sustainable cities and communities — Vocabulary

Aménagement durable des villes et des collectivités — Vocabulaire

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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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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 World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

The committee responsible for this document is Technical Committee ISO/TC 268, *Sustainable cities and communities*.

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Sustainable cities and communities — Vocabulary

1 Scope

This document defines terms relating to sustainable development in communities, smart community infrastructure and related subjects.

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 <http://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1 Terms relating to sustainable development, resilience and smartness

3.1.1 sustainability

state of the global system, including environmental, social and economic aspects, in which the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs

Note 1 to entry: The environmental, social and economic aspects interact, are interdependent and are often referred to as the three dimensions of sustainability.

Note 2 to entry: Sustainability is the goal of sustainable development.

[SOURCE: ISO Guide 82:2014, 3.1]

3.1.2 sustainable development

development that meets the environmental, social and economic needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs

Note 1 to entry: Derived from the Brundtland Report.

Note 2 to entry: The Aalborg Charter provides further information on sustainable development in communities.

[SOURCE: ISO Guide 82:2014, 3.2, modified — Note 2 to entry has been added.]

3.1.3 resilience

adaptive capacity of an organization in a complex and changing environment

Note 1 to entry: The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) defines resilience as “the ability of a system and its component parts to anticipate, absorb, accommodate, or recover from the effects of a hazardous event in a timely and efficient manner, including through ensuring the preservation, restoration, or improvement of its essential basic structures and functions”.

Note 2 to entry: Resilience is the ability of an organization to resist being affected by an event or the ability to return to an acceptable level of performance in an acceptable period of time after being affected by an event.

Note 3 to entry: Resilience is the capability of a system to maintain its functions and structure in the face of internal and external change and to degrade gracefully when this is necessary.

[SOURCE: ISO Guide 73:2009, 3.8.1.7, modified — Notes 1, 2 and 3 to entry have been added.]

3.1.4

smartness

quality of contributing to sustainable development and resilience, through soundly based decision making and the adoption of a long- and short-term perspective

Note 1 to entry: Smartness is embedded in the process of sustainable development, i.e. sustainable development is the overarching process, while smartness is a characteristic. It implies a holistic approach, including good governance and adequate organization, processes and behaviours, and appropriate innovative use of techniques, technologies and natural resources.

Note 2 to entry: Smartness is addressed in terms of performance, relevant to technologically implementable solutions.

3.1.5

accountability

state of being answerable for decisions and activities to the interested parties of an organization

3.1.6

ecosystem

system of complex interactions between plants, animals, microorganisms and their environment, which functions as a unit

[SOURCE: ISO 13065:2015, 3.14, modified — The words “communities of” have been deleted before the word “plants”.]

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3.1.7

ecosystem services

benefits provided by ecosystems that contribute to the viability and quality of human life

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[SOURCE: ISO 13065:2015, 3.15, modified — Definition adapted to the context of sustainable development in communities]

3.1.8

environment

surroundings in which an organization operates, including air, water, land, natural resources, flora, fauna, humans and their interrelations

[SOURCE: ISO 13065:2015, 3.16]

3.1.9

environmental impact

change to the environment, whether adverse or beneficial, wholly or partially resulting from an organization's environmental aspects

[SOURCE: ISO 14001:2015, 3.2.4]

3.1.10

hazardous waste

waste that is potentially harmful to human beings, property or the environment

[SOURCE: ISO 18113-1:2009, 3.22, modified — Notes 1 and 2 to entry and examples have been removed.]

3.1.11

impact

positive or negative change to society, economy or the environment, wholly or partially resulting from an organization's past and present decisions and activities

[SOURCE: ISO 26000:2010, 2.9]

3.1.12 life cycle

consecutive and interlinked stages of a product (or service) system, from raw material acquisition or generation from natural resources to final disposal

Note 1 to entry: The life cycle stages include acquisition of raw materials, design, production, transportation/delivery, use, end-of-life treatment and final disposal.

[SOURCE: ISO 14001:2015, 3.3.3]

3.1.13 life cycle cost

total investment in product development, manufacturing, test, distribution, operation, support, training, and disposal

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC/IEEE 24765:2010, 3.1590]

3.1.14 natural disaster

natural event such as a flood, earthquake, or hurricane that causes great damage or loss of life

3.1.15 pro-poor growth

economic growth for the benefit of poor people (primarily in the economic sense of poverty)

Note 1 to entry: Pro-poor growth can be defined as absolute, where the benefits are from overall growth in the economy, or relative, which refers to targeted efforts to increase the growth specifically among poor people.

EXAMPLE A pace and pattern of economic growth that helps poor women and men to participate in, contribute to and benefit from that growth.

[SOURCE: OECD, Natural Resources and Pro-Poor Growth: The Economics and Politics, 2008]

3.1.16 solid waste

non-soluble, discarded solid materials, including sewage sludge, municipal garbage, industrial wastes, agricultural refuse, demolition wastes and mining residues

3.1.17 vascular plants

plants that can internally transport water and food

3.2 Terms relating to organization, city and community

3.2.1 city

urban community falling under a specific administrative boundary

Note 1 to entry: A city is sometimes referred to as a municipality or a local government.

Note 2 to entry: Cities can help to alleviate increasing pressure on the environment and natural resources caused by global urbanization through the development of holistic and integrated policies.

3.2.2 community

group of people with an arrangement of responsibilities, activities and relationships

Note 1 to entry: In many, but not all, contexts, a community has a defined geographical boundary.

Note 2 to entry: A city is a type of community.

3.2.3

organization

person or group of people that has its own functions with responsibilities, authorities and relationships to achieve its objectives

Note 1 to entry: to entry. The concept of organization includes, but is not limited to sole-trader, company, corporation, firm, enterprise, authority, partnership, charity or institution, or part or combination thereof, whether incorporated or not, public or private.

Note 2 to entry: In this document, the concept of organization refers to an entity/institution inside the community that is tasked with implementing the management system, e.g. the local government. The community identifies an organization that it entrusts with the implementation of this document.

3.2.4

buyer

person who aims to get possession of goods, services and/or rights through providing an acceptable equivalent value, usually in money, to the person providing such goods, services and/or rights

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 15944-1:2011, 3.8, modified — The words “goods”, “services” and “rights” have been made into the plural form.]

3.2.5

interested party (preferred term)

stakeholder (admitted term)

person or organization that can affect, be affected by, or perceive itself to be affected by a decision or activity

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3.2.6

provider

person or organization involved in or associated with the delivery of products and/or services

[SOURCE: ISO/TR 12773-1:2009, 2.40, modified — Definition adapted to the context of smart community infrastructures.]

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3.3 Terms relating to management

3.3.1

management system

set of interrelated or interacting elements of an organization to establish policies and objectives and processes to achieve those objectives

Note 1 to entry: A management system can address a single discipline or several disciplines.

Note 2 to entry: The system elements include an organization's structure, roles and responsibilities, planning and operation.

Note 3 to entry: The scope of a management system may include the whole organization, specific and identified functions of the organization, specific and identified sections of the organization, or one or more functions across a group of organizations.

3.3.2

top management

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

Note 1 to entry: Top management has the power to delegate authority and to provide resources within the organization.

Note 2 to entry: Top management is to be understood as the decision-making body of the organization formally or informally entrusted by the relevant community to implement the management system.

Note 3 to entry: If the scope of the management system covers only part of an organization, then top management refers to those who direct and control that part of the organization.

3.3.3**continual improvement**

recurring activity to enhance performance

3.3.4**documented information**

information required to be controlled and maintained by an organization and the medium on which it is contained

Note 1 to entry: Documented information can be in any format and media, and from any source.

Note 2 to entry: Documented information can refer to:

- the management system, including related processes;
- information created in order for the organization to operate (documentation);
- evidence of results achieved (records).

3.3.5**effectiveness**

extent to which planned activities are realized and planned results achieved

3.3.6**impact**

positive or negative change to society, economy or the environment, wholly or partially resulting from an organization's past and present decisions and activities

[SOURCE: ISO 26000:2010, 2.9] (standards.iteh.ai)

3.3.7**objective**

result to be achieved

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Note 1 to entry: An objective can be strategic, tactical, or operational.

Note 2 to entry: Objectives can relate to different disciplines (such as financial, health and safety, and environmental goals) and can apply at different levels (such as strategic, organization-wide, project, product and process).

Note 3 to entry: An objective can be expressed in other ways, e.g. as an intended outcome, a purpose, an operational criterion, as an objective of sustainable development in communities, or by the use of other words with similar meaning (e.g. aim, goal or target).

Note 4 to entry: In the context of management systems for sustainable development in communities, objectives for sustainable development in communities are set by the organization, consistent with the policy for sustainable development in communities, to achieve specific results.

3.3.8**outsource (verb)**

make an arrangement where an external organization performs part of an organization's function or process

Note 1 to entry: An external organization is outside the scope of the management system, although the outsourced function or process is within the scope.

3.3.9**policy**

intentions and direction of an organization, as formally expressed by its top management

3.3.10**process**

set of interrelated or interacting activities which transforms inputs into outputs