
Sustainable cities and communities — Vocabulary

Aménagement durable des villes et des collectivités — Vocabulaire

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Foreword

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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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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”.]

3.1.7

ecosystem services

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

[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]