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Greenhouse gas management and related activities — Framework and principles for methodologies on climate actions

Gestion des gaz à effet de serre et activités associées — Cadre et principes des méthodologies applicables aux mesures en faveur du climat

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Foreword

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For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, 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.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 207, *Environmental management*, Subcommittee SC 7, *Greenhouse gas management and related activities*.

Introduction

The framework in this document provides guidance to countries and other interested parties on a consistent, comparable and transparent approach to selecting, proposing, using, revising and maintaining methodologies on climate action. These methodologies are designed to be reproducible and aim to help climate action and its ambitious goals to be achieved.

The framework supports various organizations, such as:

— government and non-state actors, including local government, industrial associations, technical institutions, and methodology developers and users;

— private and public organizations, environmental NGOs, and other organizations that use climate action methodologies;

— financial institutions that support climate actions.

In addition to methodologies, the framework can also be developed and used for policies and measures.

The developed framework can be used to identify potential and justifiable actions for both climate change mitigation and adaptation.

This document supports many objectives, such as:

— engaging on a voluntary basis in cooperative approaches that involve the use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes towards nationally determined contributions;

— promoting sustainable development and ensuring credibility and transparency, including in governance;

— increasing accountability to ensure, for example, the avoidance of double counting;

— setting goals for enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change;

— contributing to sustainable development and ensuring an adequate adaptation response in the context of the temperature goal;

— cooperating internationally on adaptation efforts, recognizing the importance of taking into account the needs of developing countries.

This document can be used to develop a framework that is compatible with relevant local, national, regional and international climate change policies, and strategies of a country or other interested parties. The framework and its methodology process support a long-term vision on the importance of fully realizing technological and non-technological innovation transfer in order to improve resilience to climate change and to reduce emissions. This document supports the “pledge and review” system with measures undertaken to collect and compile the relevant climate data and relevant information relating to the long-term vision. This document supports all countries, both developed and developing, to better understand and develop their nationally determined contributions.

It aims to increase transparency related to measurement, reporting and verification (MRV), and to reduce risks for cooperative mitigation and adaptation actions. It recognizes the importance of international cooperation on adaptation and mitigation efforts and of taking into account the needs of developing countries.

It highlights the importance of averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including extreme weather events and slow onset events, and the role of sustainable development in reducing the risk of loss and damage.

It takes into account the Cancun Adaptation Framework[20], including identifying and encouraging good practices, effective adaptation practices, adaptation needs and priorities, support provided and received for adaptation actions and efforts, challenges and gaps.

This document provides a framework to result in:

— adoption of the methodology among best practices and best available technology (BAT);

— improvements in the quality of methodologies;

— improvements in the processes for methodology development;

— improvements in transparency and clarity of climate actions.

Figure 1 illustrates the role and purpose of this document.

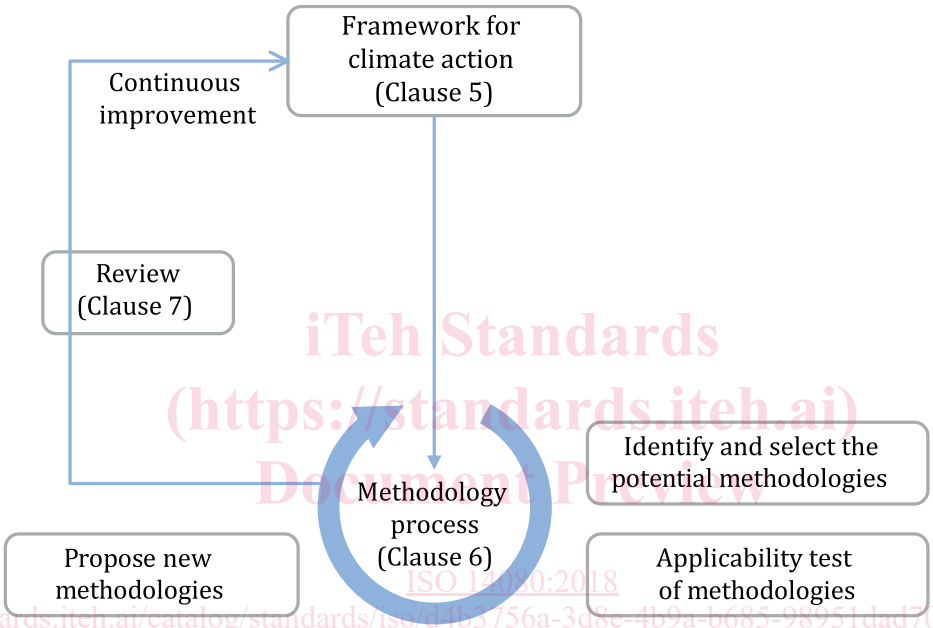

Figure 1 — This document in the context of a framework and methodologies

This document facilitates the harmonization of existing International Standards (e.g. ISO 14001, ISO 50001, ISO 14064-1 and ISO 14064-2) as well as future International Standards (e.g. related to climate adaptation) to be used to support climate action.

It also provides guidance on how to review the framework and on appropriate communication. This should reduce the risk of inconsistencies in the reporting of aggregated climate actions, by connecting various climate actions with various methodologies and communication responses and reports for disclosing climate actions, thereby saving time and resources.