

COGSBP33

Manage Adaptation to Environmental Change in Support of Sustainable Business Practice



Overview

This standard is about adapting to environmental change in support of sustainable business practice. It is important that organisations consider predictions regarding environmental change and take action to adapt and therefore minimise the impact of the change on their activities. In other words, helping to ensure the continuing sustainability of business practice.

The standard requires the ability to complete research, collect data and analyse data to predict how environmental change may impact on the organisation. It then requires identified risks to be quantified and actions to be specified that will limit their potential impact on the organisation. The standard also requires the development and implementation of an adaptation strategy for the organisation.

The ability to communicate with different types of people to both gain approval and support for the adaptation strategy is essential.

Target Group

This standard is for those responsible for supporting the development of sustainable business practice. It is likely to apply to senior environmental managers within large organisations and owner/managers within SMEs.

COGSBP33

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Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 investigate the likely impacts of environmental change on organisational activities
 - P2 quantify the **risk** posed by environmental change projections to determine organisational vulnerability
 - P3 quantify the potential impact of the **drivers and barriers** to organisational adaptation
 - P4 identify potential **adaptation opportunities** for the organisation
 - P5 evaluate and prioritise potential **adaptation opportunities**
 - P6 develop a strategy for the organisation to deliver **adaptation opportunities** in support of organisational **sustainability objectives**
 - P7 consult with decision makers to ensure the adaptation strategy is appropriate to the nature and scale of the organisation
 - P8 gain approval and support for the adaptation strategy from decision makers
 - P9 identify and obtain the **resources** required to support planned innovation
 - P10 maintain a risk register in support of adaptation
 - P11 apply contingency plans to correct variations from planned adaptation
 - P12 support the implementation of planned **adaptation opportunities**
 - P13 monitor and report on the implementation of the adaptation strategy
 - P14 communicate the benefits of adaptation strategy to **stakeholders**

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the principles of adaptation
- K2 the legislation, industry standards, and voluntary codes that support climate change adaptation
- K3 how the economic, social and environmental principles of sustainable development supports the need for adaptation to environmental change
- K4 environmental change projections linked to climate change
- K5 how to quantify the risks associated with climate change to determine organisational vulnerability
- K6 how organisational adaptation can limit the impact of climate change
- K7 the drivers and barriers for organisational adaptation
- K8 the sources of environmental change advice and support
- K9 how to develop an adaptation strategy
- K10 the adaptation opportunities that are available to the organisation
- K11 how to evaluate and prioritise adaptation opportunities
- K12 how to integrate adaptation into routine organisational activities
- K13 how to monitor and report on an organisation's adaptation strategy
- K14 how to communicate the need for adaptation
- K15 how to engage with the different stakeholders

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Additional Information

Scope/range related to performance criteria

Risk to include those:

- 1 internal to the organisation
- 2 external to the organisation

Drivers and barriers to include:

- 1 legislation
- 2 compliance
- 3 government policy
- 4 organisational governance
- 5 good practice
- 6 economic commitment
- 7 human well-being

Adaptation opportunities relating to:

- 1 product offering
- 2 business processes and operations
- 3 business services

Sustainability objectives including:

- 1 economic
- 2 social and ethical
- 3 environmental

Resources to include:

- 1 people
- 2 finance
- 3 technology
- 4 knowledge

Stakeholders to include:

- 1 decision makers
- 2 organisational colleagues
- 3 customers
- 4 suppliers

COGSBP33

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