ISO/IEC Guide 17: 2016 Guide for writing standards taking into account the needs of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises

Although ISO standards are written for all types and sizes of organizations, many do focus on SME needs

ISO Handbooks for SMEs

ISO Communication

Collaboration with UNIDO, SBS, etc.
This Guide provides guidance and recommendations to writers of standards on the needs of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in order to avoid their exclusion from the market and the distortion of fair competition.

This Guide contains:

a) considerations for the development of standards that are best adapted to SMEs’ needs;
b) techniques for identifying and assessing provisions in standards that may especially impact SMEs;
c) ways to reduce negative impacts on SMEs resulting from some provisions in standards;
d) guidelines for writing SME-friendly standards;
e) a checklist;
f) information on the impact that new standards can have on micro-enterprises.
Examples of focus on SMEs

ISO 44003:2021 Collaborative business relationship management — Guidelines for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises on the implementation of the fundamental principles

ISO 44004:2021 Collaborative business relationship management — Guidelines for large organizations seeking collaboration with micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs)

ISO 14053:2021 Environmental management — Material flow cost accounting — Guidance for phased implementation in organizations

ISO 14005:2019 Environmental management systems — Guidelines for a flexible approach to phased implementation

ISO 50005:2021 Energy management systems — Guidelines for a phased implementation

ISO 28004-3:2014 Security management systems for the supply chain — Guidelines for the implementation of ISO 28000 — Part 3: Additional specific guidance for adopting ISO 28000 for use by medium and small businesses (other than marine ports)

ISO Handbooks

ISO 14001:2015 - Environmental management systems - A practical guide for SMEs
This handbook has been updated to take into account the latest edition of the standard, published in 2015. It aims to help small businesses understand the requirements of an environmental management system and to help them implement ISO 14001 successfully.

ISO 9001:2015 for Small Enterprises - What to do?
This handbook provides small and medium enterprises (SMEs) with guidance on developing and implementing an effective quality management system based on ISO 9001:2015 - Quality management systems - Requirements. While the requirements mentioned in the ISO 9001:2015 are meant for...

ISO 21101 - Adventure tourism - Safety management systems - A practical guide for SMEs
This handbook offers step-by-step guidance and examples to help small and medium-sized adventure tourism operators develop, implement and continually improve a safety management system following the requirements of ISO 21101:2014. (PDF only)
SME in ISO communications
Collaboration

• ISO engages with close to 800 organizations in technical committees via the Liaison mechanism

• UNIDO has specific focus on SMEs and supports ISO’s handbooks for them

• SBS - Small Business Standards (represented in 31 committees)
Questions?
Thank you!