

# Five things you need to know about the ISO 14001 Draft International Standard





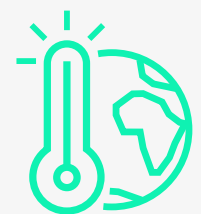
# Get prepared for the next evolution of environmental management

ISO 14001, the world's most widely adopted environmental management system (EMS) standard, is undergoing revision. The Draft International Standard (DIS) introduces important updates that reflect the growing urgency of climate change, biodiversity loss and ecosystem resilience. While the standard's core structure remains, key changes signal a shift in expectations and a chance for organisations to embed sustainability more deeply into how they operate.

**Here are five key updates from the DIS that you need to know now:**

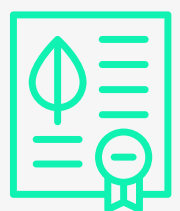
## 1. Stronger focus on environmental conditions

The revised standard introduces clearer expectations to identify and consider environmental conditions such as climate change, biodiversity and ecosystem health, both as risks and as factors your organisation may influence.



## 2. New clause for managing change

Clause 6.3 introduces a formal requirement to plan and manage changes that could affect the EMS. This is intended to ensure that changes are intentional, evaluated and aligned with your environmental objectives.





### 3. Language modernisation and clarity

Terminology has been refreshed to improve alignment with other ISO standards. For example:

- “Fulfil compliance obligations” becomes “Meet compliance obligations”
- “Maintain documented information” becomes “Available as documented information”
- “Outsourced processes” become “Externally provided processes, products or services”

These editorial updates do not introduce new requirements, but organisations will need to reflect them in their systems and documentation.



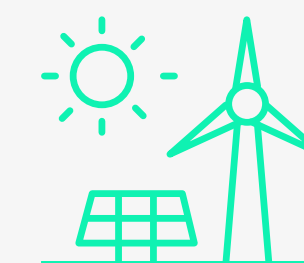
### 4. Clause 6.1 restructured for clarity

Planning requirements are now divided into clearer sections. Clause 6.1.4 focuses on identifying risks and opportunities, while Clause 6.1.5 covers the planning of related actions. Clause 10.1, which previously addressed general improvement, has been removed, with its intent integrated into other clauses.



### 5. Stronger connection to sustainability

The revised standard strengthens its alignment with broader sustainability goals. Top management is expected to play a more visible role in promoting environmental performance. The expectations of interested parties, particularly around climate and biodiversity, are given greater prominence.





## Start now

Begin aligning your EMS with the draft requirements. **The sooner you act, the more confidently you can manage the transition.**

## Next steps with LRQA

### To support your transition:

- Sign up to LRQA's [Transition Club](#) for regular updates on ISO 14001, 9001 and 45001 and access early insights, tools and practical guidance to support your EMS updates
- Explore our dedicated [ISO 14001:2026 transition training](#) to help your team understand and implement the changes
- [Speak to our team of experts](#)

About LRQA:

LRQA is the leading global assurance partner, bringing together decades of unrivalled expertise in assessment, advisory, inspection and cybersecurity services. Our solutions-based partnerships are supported by data-driven insights that help our clients solve their biggest business challenges.

Operating in more than 150 countries with a team of more than 5,000 people, LRQA’s award-winning compliance, supply chain, cybersecurity and ESG specialists help more than 61,000 clients across almost every sector to anticipate, mitigate and manage risk wherever they operate.

In everything we do, we are committed to shaping a better future for our people, our clients, our communities and our planet.

Get in touch

Visit [www.lrqa.com/sg](http://www.lrqa.com/sg) for more information or email [enquiries.sg@lrqa.com](mailto:enquiries.sg@lrqa.com)



LRQA  
460 Alexandra  
Road  
mTower #15-01 Singapore 119963

Care is taken to ensure that all information provided is accurate and up to date; however, LRQA accepts no responsibility for inaccuracies in or changes to information. For more information on LRQA, click [here](#). © LRQA Group Limited 2025.

