

SGS ISO 26000 GAP ANALYSIS

ISSUED – APRIL 2013

SGS helps customers to operate in a more sustainable way by providing services that benefit local and global organisations, and their customers.

COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABILITY

As well as delivering services linked to sustainability, SGS is committed to managing a long-term profitable business that takes into account all the positive and negative environmental, social and economic effects it has on society.

HOLDING OURSELVES ACCOUNTABLE

SGS delivers ISO 26000 gap analysis services to companies worldwide. In a first step to ensure SGS is performing in line with sustainability best practices it decided to undertake an in-house ISO 26000 gap analysis. This service was provided internally by the SGS global team responsible for ISO 26000 services to the SGS Corporate Sustainability Department. The ISO 26000 gap analysis of social responsibility activities, included evaluation of:

- Social Responsibility Principles
- Social Responsibility Fundamental Practices
- Social Responsibility Core Subjects
- Provision of an Internal Management Report based on the findings, highlighting strengths and weaknesses identified during the gap analysis

WHY ISO 26000?

SGS has been inspired by the guidance on social responsibility offered in ISO 26000 and as a result undertook this project as a robust self-assessment utilising the same methodology offered to external clients.

The objectives of the ISO 26000 gap analysis were to evaluate SGS' current policies and systems and determine potential social responsibility performance level. The gap analysis also evaluated SGS' adherence to social responsibility principles and fundamental practices.

An overall aim for SGS is to progress to a full assessment of social responsibility performance within its next sustainability reporting cycle.

"Undertaking a gap analysis demonstrates to all our stakeholders that SGS wishes to be at the forefront in terms of sustainability performance and that the organisation is willing to be evaluated in the same way as its customers."

*Daniel Rüfenacht,
Corporate Sustainability Vice President*

SIGNIFICANT BENEFITS

From experience SGS knows an ISO 26000 gap analysis can help to:

- Identify areas of focus regarding social responsibility practices
- Identify areas to underpin efforts towards sustainable development
- Ensure the most significant issues are being addressed

The gap analysis identified the key strengths in systems currently in place to ensure social responsibility practices are aligned to the guidance provided by ISO 26000. In addition the gap analysis provided an overview of the specific elements of ISO 26000 where SGS's performance could potentially be improved. Improved social responsibility performance clearly demonstrates the positive actions taken by SGS to contribute towards sustainable development.

A FIRST STEP

SGS' gap analysis, while a first step in long term vision for improvement, showed that it already has a well established Sustainability Management System.

SGS reports on progress regularly through the publication of an annual Sustainability Report and utilises the latest guidance available in ISO 26000 to better understand its sustainability activities and ensure it is taking a leading approach to ensuring excellent sustainability performance.

SGS' APPROACH TO ISO 26000

SGS has developed a system that defines and measures an organisation's performance and improvements in the area of socially responsible behaviour. The SGS Performance ISO 26000 Assessment considers three areas and rates the organisation against each one:

- Principles of Social Responsibility (ISO 26000 clause 4)
- Recognising Social Responsibility and Engaging Stakeholders (ISO 26000 clause 5)
- Social Responsibility Core Subjects (ISO 26000 clause 6)

This approach to ISO 26000 gives SGS a way to determine an overall organisational performance grading. In total there are five levels within the SGS performance scheme which relate to increasing degrees of performance found during a full assessment

WHY SGS?

SGS is the world's leading inspection, verification, testing and certification company. SGS is recognised as the global benchmark for quality and integrity. With more than 75 000 employees, SGS operates a network of over 1 500 offices and laboratories around the world.



Enhancing processes, systems and skills is fundamental to your ongoing success and sustained growth. We enable you to continuously improve, transforming your services and value chain by increasing performance, managing risks, better meeting stakeholder requirements, and managing sustainability.

With a global presence, we have a history of successfully executing large-scale, complex international projects. Our people speak the language, understand the culture of the local market and operate globally in a consistent, reliable and effective manner.

TO LEARN HOW SGS CAN PROVIDE ISO 26000 SERVICES FOR YOUR ORGANISATION VISIT WWW.SGS.COM OR CONTACT CSR@SGS.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.



HOW CAN YOU MANAGE TODAY'S ISSUES WHILE KEEPING AN EYE ON TOMORROW'S?

WHEN YOU NEED TO BE SURE

SGS