

A 'step by step' approach to implement ISO 26000

Misunderstandings can arise within the organisation when it starts to implement ISO 26000. Therefore it is essential to appoint responsible people and communicate to everyone about their role and the approach that will be followed. This chapter covers the simple steps that can be followed to implement ISO 26000. The steps¹⁴ are:

1. Identify which of the seven core subjects are relevant to the organisation
2. Identify the stakeholders, find out their interests and what they expect from the organisation
3. Establish a stakeholder panel
4. Find out what is relevant and significant for the organisation
5. Set an implementation plan for the significant SR issues
6. Review and monitor activities
7. Report the progress to the stakeholder panel and communicate regularly to receive feedback
8. Repeat the steps of self-assessment, level of influence, relevance and significance, improvement of the plan if necessary, and keep communicating

Senior management will need to step forward and take the initiative in implementing ISO 26000, guiding and encouraging their employees to practice SR. The first thing Managers will need to do is to read the ISO 26000 guidance in order to gain an overview of SR. It is also recommended that

¹⁴ The steps are developed based on ISO 26000 in Practice - A User Guide prepared by Michelle S. Bernhart and Francis J. 'Sonny' Maher