# bsi.

**Standards for SMEs and Charities in the financial, energy and climate crisis**

**This document flags tools and guidance to help businesses, especially SMEs and third sector organizations, through the challenging period we are all experiencing while continuing to reduce emissions and deliver the UN's sustainable development goals.**

It is important we do not sacrifice Net Zero targets and circularity on the altar of "emergency measures".

**Energy management**

When it comes to saving energy, standards are a powerful tool for assessing and improving energy management by implementing an Energy Management System [EnMS].

**ISO 50005 and ISO 50001** are key standards to help organizations implement an EnMS and use it to better manage their energy consumption. These standards provide the tools and knowledge required to implement an EnMS and continually improve the system, giving you expert guidance to follow which will reduce your energy use and your energy bill.

Smaller organizations with limited resources should aim for ISO 50001, but can undertake the FREE phased approach provided by ISO 50005. It provides a solid foundation to then work towards ISO 50001 certification if you choose to.

**Get ISO 50005 free**. As part of the Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy's (BEIS) commitment to supporting UK SMEs, BEIS is sponsoring the giveaway of 100,000 copies of ISO 50005. https://www.bsigroup.com/en-GB/standards/bs-iso-500052021/?utm_source=website&utm_medium=pdf&utm_campaign=UK-NSB-BSF1-ENG-ISO50001-2209&utm_content=next_steps_guide

**ISO 50001**: The energy management standard ISO 50001 is a comprehensive standard outlining energy management processes and is considered to be the current best practice globally. It provides a shortlist of activities for establishing policies, processes, procedures, and specific energy-tasks to meet your organization's energy objectives.

It does not matter how much energy, or the type of energy, you currently use. If you are responsible for managing energy within your organization or are a senior leader looking to integrate better energy management into your business strategy and transform how you manage energy, the revised ISO 50001 energy management standard can help.

https://knowledge.bsigroup.com/products/energy-management-systems-requirements-with-guidance-for-use/tracked-changes?utm_source=website&utm_medium=pdf&utm_campaign=UK-NSB-BSF1-ENG-ISO50001-2209&utm_content=next_steps_guide

**The Net Zero Guidelines** - A common reference point for net zero governance and those operating within it.

To counter accusations of greenwashing and vague sustainability targets, a clear set of guidelines, was published at COP27, establishing standards for the pathway to net zero, by the International Standards Organisation.

The science is clear – we must heed the IPCC's stark warnings and the UN Secretary-General's comments at COP27 "… the world is on a highway to climate hell with our foot still on the accelerator".

Since COP26 last year, the conversation has rapidly moved from "what should we do?" to "how fast can we do it?" at what is being regarded as 'the implementation COP'.

Organizations are increasingly under pressure to demonstrate how they will achieve net zero targets. But how do organizations understand what good net zero action looks like? How can those that create guidance, such as governments and other rule-setting bodies, be confident that their guidance is aligned to a robust global approach to net zero that the world needs?

In just three months, Our 2050 World convened more than 1,200 organizations and individuals to develop the Net Zero Guidelines through the international standards system. Using the agile and consensus-led International Workshop Agreement (IWA) process on the ISO platform, major players in the climate action space, policymakers, business, civil society and others developed a single core reference text for credible net zero action.

This guidance document offers actors at every level a single document covering each stage of net zero action, from target setting, use of offsets, reporting and communication, and, crucially, embeds important and often under-represented areas of consideration.  These include areas such as fair share and equity in decision-making and considering wider impacts on nature and biodiversity. The document consolidates this existing best practice into one place and signposts users to other major initiatives for further information and methodology. **Free** copies can be downloaded here: https://www.iso.org/netzero

**PAS 1878 – Optimising SMART delivery.** PAS 1878 specifies requirements and criteria that an electrical appliance needs to meet to perform and be classified as an energy smart appliance (ESA). It defines the attributes, functionalities, and performance criteria for an ESA, and specifies how compliance can be verified.https://www.bsigroup.com/en-GB/topics/novel-coronavirus-covid-19/covid-19-guidelines/iso-pas-45005-form/

**PAS 1879:2021 Energy smart appliances. Demand side response operation.**

The development of PAS 1879 is part of BSI's Energy Smart Appliances Programme, sponsored by BEIS. This PAS sets out a common definition of demand side response services for actors operating within the consumer energy supply chain and provides recommendations to support the operation of energy smart appliances (ESA).

An energy smart appliance is one able to respond automatically to price and/or other signals and, as part of that response, to modulate its electricity consumption and/or production.

This is known as demand side response, or DSR, and is aimed at creating a more flexible and resilient energy system. The move to such a flexible energy system plan is an important part of the Government's wider Smart Systems and Flexibility Plan and is a core component of Ofgem's future-facing work to enable the energy system transition.

A key objective of the plan is consumers are more directly involved in managing demand in the electricity system through smart appliances reacting to the availability of electricity on the grid in determining their operational cycle.

https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/Projects/download/2019-01575?fileName=PAS+1879+Statement+from+BSI+and+BEIS.pdf

*A 20% cut in energy costs represents the same bottom-line benefit as a 5% increase in sales in many businesses."*

The Carbon Trust

**BS 65000:2022 Organizational Resilience** – This standard has been updated as a valuable code of practice, providing users with recommendations on what constitutes organizational resilience. It can help your organization understand what organizational resilience means for you and gives guidance on how to achieve it.

https://knowledge.bsigroup.com/products/organizational-resilience-code-of-practice/tracked-changes

**BS 8632 Natural Capital Accounting for Organizations – Published July 2022.**

This British Standard provides specifications and guidance for the process of preparing natural capital accounts, including minimum requirements for defining the boundary of an account, and the material impacts, and dependencies; and documenting the data and processes used to prepare the natural capital account.

There are two key accounting outputs of natural capital accounts prescribed – each with supporting schedules:

1. a natural capital balance sheet (showing the organization's dependency on natural capital assets); NOTE 1   Scope 1 includes the natural capital assets the organization owns or has responsibility or influence over, and assets not owned by anyone. Scope 2 includes other natural capital assets. The organization's expenditure on the maintenance of natural capital assets it depends on is included in both scopes.

2.  a natural capital income statement (showing the positive and negative impacts of the organization). NOTE 2   Scope 1 includes the operations of the organization and Scope 2 includes operations throughout its value chain.

This British Standard is applicable to organizations of all types (public, third sector and listed and unlisted private) across all sectors, and of any size (such as charities, SMEs, and larger businesses) and may apply to one or more sites in which they operate.

https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/projects/9020-04869#/section

**(BNG) BS 8683** - **Biodiversity Net Gain** is an approach to development and/or land management which aims to leave nature in a measurably better state. BNG is fast gaining momentum amongst developers, landowners, and policy makers. BS 8683 *A process for designing and implementing biodiversity net gain* is a new British Standard in development and provides linear, progressive, good practice requirements, from design to 'spade in the ground' delivery. https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/projects/2018-02413#/section

**BS ISO 22458:2022 - Consumer vulnerability. Requirements and guidelines for the design and delivery of inclusive service.** Customer care has never been so important. Looking after your customers and understanding how you can support them, especially the most vulnerable, could make or break companies, SMEs, and NGOs. This is not a free standard (currently offering 50% discount for third sector organizations), but an important one. Working together and supporting each other through demanding times is good business practice. https://knowledge.bsigroup.com/products/consumer-vulnerability-requirements-and-guidelines-for-the-design-and-delivery-of-inclusive-service/standard

**PAS 808:2022 - Purpose-driven organizations** – Worldviews, principles, and behaviours for delivering sustainability.

Why purpose, why now? The global economy is made up of a wide range of interacting and interdependent organizations. These organizations are the primary means by which resources are obtained, transformed, exchanged, and allocated to meet the wellbeing of society via the satisfaction of needs underpinning that wellbeing, which is the ultimate aim of the economy.

This is also, helpfully, the goal of sustainability; to meet the needs of the present without jeopardizing the ability of future generations to meet theirs.

A wide range of environmental and social systems constitute the ultimate means through which these ends are met, by furnishing organizations with the clean air, fresh water, natural resources, stable climate, resilient communities, and productive workforce which every organization depends on, and which create the inputs into operations. These are often termed capitals, i.e., natural, human, and social capitals, which in turn can be turned into intermediate capitals of financial and manufactured.

Some sections of today's global economies have drifted away from these realities. Widespread incentives and expectations encourage organizations to focus on intermediate means and ends of financial and manufactured capitals, detached from the longer-term

human, social and environmental dependencies, outcomes, and impacts. It is now evident organizations have not been adequately:

a) ensuring what they produce is of real wellbeing value
b) caring for social and environmental systems and associated capitals (resources) so that they are in good health and able to provide wellbeing for future generations
c) ensuring everyone in society benefits from what is produced or is at least not disadvantaged by it.

https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/projects/2021-00457

# Alongside purpose, organizations have a legal and moral responsibility for the safety and health of their employees and/or supporters.

**PD ISO 45001:2018 Handbook Occupational health and safety management systems. A practical guide for SMEs**

https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/projects/2019-02622#/section

**PD ISO/PAS 45005:2020, Occupational health and safety management** — General guidelines for safe working during the COVID-19 pandemic is now available for **free** download. https://www.bsigroup.com/en-GB/topics/novel-coronavirus-covid-19/covid-19-guidelines/iso-pas-45005-form/

**BS ISO 45003 - Psychological health and safety at work**

BS ISO 45003 gives guidelines for managing psychosocial risk within the occupational health and safety (OH&S) management system based on ISO 45001. It enables organizations to prevent work-related injury and ill health of their workers and other interested parties, and to promote well-being at work.

It is applicable to organizations of all sizes and in all sectors, for the development, implementation, maintenance, and continual improvement of healthy and safe workplaces. Looking after your workforce is not just the right thing to do, it promotes mental health, supports people with mental disorders, reduces absenteeism, increases productivity and brings organizational benefits from associated economic gains.

https://knowledge.bsigroup.com/products/occupational-health-and-safety-management-psychological-health-and-safety-at-work-guidelines-for-managing-psychosocial-risks/standard

**BS ISO 14046 – Principles, requirements, and guidelines for water footprint**

Water is essential for all life on our planet. With changing climates, supplies of clean water safe for consumption are dwindling. Water is crucial for a whole range of companies, so improving your water management is as important as energy and waste management.

BS ISO 14046 is an international standard on environmental management presenting principles, requirements, and guidelines for the proper assessment of your water footprint. It covers assessment of products, processes, and organizations based on life cycle assessment (LCA), and how to conduct and report a water footprint assessment as a stand-alone assessment, or as part of a more comprehensive environmental assessment.

https://knowledge.bsigroup.com/products/environmental-management-water-footprint-principles-requirements-and-guidelines/standard
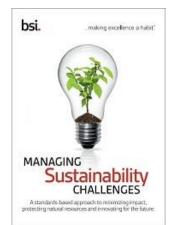
# Finally

BSI has a wealth of information to help SME's, NGO's and other organizations steer a path through the complexities of climate change. Acting not only benefits future generations, but it also often leads to financial savings too.

Whether it is supply chains, value-driven decision making, modern slavery, the qualities of drain covers or the maximum noise a wheelie bin lid makes when banged shut, we have got it covered.

Discover how else BSI can help you, visit: https://www.bsigroup.com/en-GB/topics/sustainable-resilience/standards-knowledge-and-best-practice-in-sustainability/

**Other useful resources:**

**Managing Sustainability Challenges**.

Click on the image (left) to request a **free** pdf download. This brochure details more standards to help you achieve Net Zero and the SDGs.

**BSI 20400 Sustainable Procurement Guide**

https://knowledge.bsigroup.com/products/sustainable-procurement-guidance/standard