

Environmental labels and declarations - Principles, requirements and guidelines for communication of footprint information (ISO 14026:2017)

## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

## NATIONAL FOREWORD

See Eesti standard EVS-EN ISO 14026:2018 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN ISO 14026:2018 ingliskeelset teksti.	This Estonian standard EVS-EN ISO 14026:2018 consists of the English text of the European standard EN ISO 14026:2018.
Standard on jõustunud sellekohase teate avaldamisega EVS Teatajas	This standard has been endorsed with a notification published in the official bulletin of the Estonian Centre for Standardisation.
Euroopa standardimisorganisatsioonid on teinud Euroopa standardi rahvuslikele liikmetele kättesaadavaks 10.10.2018.	Date of Availability of the European standard is 10.10.2018.
Standard on kättesaadav Eesti Standardikeskusest.	The standard is available from the Estonian Centre for Standardisation.

Tagasisidet standardi sisu kohta on võimalik edastada, kasutades EVS-i veebilehel asuvat tagasiside vormi või saates e-kirja meiliaadressile [standardiosakond@evs.ee](mailto:standardiosakond@evs.ee).

ICS 13.020.50

Standardite reprodutseerimise ja levitamise õigus kuulub Eesti Standardikeskusele

Andmete paljundamine, taastekitamine, kopeerimine, salvestamine elektroonsesse süsteemi või edastamine ükskõik millises vormis või millisel teel ilma Eesti Standardikeskuse kirjaliku loata on keelatud.

Kui Teil on küsimusi standardite autorikaitse kohta, võtke palun ühendust Eesti Standardikeskusega:  
Koduleht [www.evs.ee](http://www.evs.ee); telefon 605 5050; e-post [info@evs.ee](mailto:info@evs.ee)

The right to reproduce and distribute standards belongs to the Estonian Centre for Standardisation

No part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without a written permission from the Estonian Centre for Standardisation.

If you have any questions about copyright, please contact Estonian Centre for Standardisation:

Homepage [www.evs.ee](http://www.evs.ee); phone +372 605 5050; e-mail [info@evs.ee](mailto:info@evs.ee)

English Version

Environmental labels and declarations - Principles,  
requirements and guidelines for communication of  
footprint information (ISO 14026:2017)

Déclarations et étiquettes environnementales -  
Principes, exigences et lignes directrices pour la  
communication des informations d'empreinte (ISO  
14026:2017)

Umweltkennzeichnungen und -deklarationen -  
Grundsätze, Anforderungen und Richtlinien für die  
Kommunikation von Fußabdruckinformationen (ISO  
14026:2017)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 6 August 2018.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels

## European foreword

The text of ISO 14026:2017 has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 207 "Environmental management" of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and has been taken over as EN ISO 14026:2018 by Technical Committee CEN/SS S26 "Environmental management" the secretariat of which is held by CCMC.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by April 2019, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by April 2019.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

## Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 14026:2017 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 14026:2018 without any modification.

# Contents

Page

<b>Foreword</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>vi</b>
<b>1 Scope</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Normative references</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions</b>	<b>1</b>
3.1 Terms relating to footprint communication	2
3.2 Terms relating to life cycle assessment and data	2
3.3 Terms relating to organizations and products	4
3.4 Terms relating to data quality and verification	4
<b>4 Objectives</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>5 Principles</b>	<b>5</b>
5.1 Credibility and reliability	5
5.2 Life cycle perspective	6
5.3 Comparability	6
5.4 Transparency	6
5.5 Regionality	6
<b>6 Communication requirements</b>	<b>6</b>
6.1 Relationship with ISO 14020	6
6.2 General requirements	6
6.3 Intended audience	7
6.4 Identification of area of concern	7
6.5 Information to be provided	7
6.5.1 General	7
6.5.2 Supporting information	8
6.5.3 Use of explanatory statements	9
6.6 Footprint graphics	9
6.7 Communication of more than one footprint	9
6.7.1 General	9
6.7.2 Graphics	9
6.8 Access to information	10
6.9 Comparative footprint communications	10
6.9.1 Types of comparative footprint communications	10
6.9.2 Requirements for all comparative footprint communications	10
6.9.3 Comparisons with the products of other organizations	10
6.9.4 Footprint communications suggesting overall superiority	11
6.9.5 Performance tracking	11
<b>7 Requirements for the use of data to support the communication</b>	<b>11</b>
7.1 Acceptable footprint results	11
7.2 Assurance of data quality	12
7.3 Rules for data confidentiality	12
7.4 Data used in comparative footprint communications	12
7.4.1 General	12
7.4.2 PCR for comparative footprint communications	12
<b>8 Footprint communication programme requirements</b>	<b>13</b>
8.1 Scope of the programme	13
8.2 Use of PCR	13
8.3 Footprint communication programme rules	13
8.3.1 Programme instructions	13
8.3.2 Declarations of conformity	13
8.3.3 Monitoring the footprint communication	13
8.4 Communication responsibilities of the footprint communication programme operator	14

8.5	Establishing data quality requirements .....	14
<b>9</b>	<b>Verification requirements .....</b>	<b>14</b>
9.1	Verification of footprint communication .....	14
9.2	Competence of footprint communication verifiers .....	14
9.3	Independence of verifiers .....	15
<b>Annex A (informative) Responsibilities of the footprint communication programme operator .....</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Bibliography .....</b>		<b>17</b>

## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 207, *Environmental management*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Environmental labelling*.

## Introduction

This document belongs to a suite of standards dealing with environmental labels and declarations for products. It provides requirements and guidelines for how environmental aspects and potential environmental impacts of a product related to a specific area of concern can be communicated. The aim of this document is to ensure that only valid, science-based and comparable purchasing information is provided without any “greenwashing”.

Footprint communication is intended solely to promote the dissemination of credible product information that is not misleading.

Footprint communications take into consideration the local or regional context relevant to the area where the potential environmental impacts might occur, including the production, use and end-of-life stages.

This document is intended to ensure that all footprint communications, regardless of the quantification methodology, follow the same principles and procedures.

This document provides principles, requirements and guidelines for an organization wishing to make a product footprint communication.



# Environmental labels and declarations — Principles, requirements and guidelines for communication of footprint information

## 1 Scope

This document provides principles, requirements and guidelines for footprint communications for products addressing areas of concern relating to the environment.

This document also provides requirements and guidelines for footprint communication programmes, as well as requirements for verification procedures.

This document does not address the quantification of a footprint, nor does it address the communication of footprints that are not related to the environment, e.g. footprints addressing social or economic issues. In particular, footprint communications relating to the economic and social dimensions of sustainable development are outside the scope of this document. Footprint communications relating to organizations are also outside the scope of this document.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 14020, *Environmental labels and declarations — General principles*

ISO 14025:2006, *Environmental labels and declarations — Type III environmental declarations — Principles and procedures*

ISO/TS 14027, *Environmental labels and declarations — Development of product category rules*

ISO 14044:2006, *Environmental management — Life cycle assessment — Requirements and guidelines*

ISO 14046, *Environmental management — Water footprint — Principles, requirements and guidelines*

ISO/TS 14067, *Greenhouse gases — Carbon footprint of products — Requirements and guidelines for quantification and communication*

ISO/TS 14071, *Environmental management — Life cycle assessment — Critical review processes and reviewer competencies: Additional requirements and guidelines to ISO 14044:2006*

ISO/IEC 17050-1, *Conformity assessment — Supplier's declaration of conformity — Part 1: General requirements*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>