



**International
Standard**

ISO 56000

**Innovation management —
Fundamentals and vocabulary**

*Management de l'innovation — Principes essentiels et
vocabulaire*

**Second edition
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ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

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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 document 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).

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For an explanation of 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 www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 279, *Innovation management*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 389, *Innovation Management*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 56000:2020), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- new definitions have been added;
- Annex A has been deleted, and Annex B has been renamed as [Annex A](#);
- alignment with ISO 56001.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

0.1 General

The ability of organizations to innovate is recognized as a critical factor for their viability, competitiveness, resilience and renewal, and for the sustainable development of society.

The innovation capabilities of an organization include the ability to understand and respond to changing conditions of its context, to pursue new opportunities and to leverage the knowledge and creativity of people within the organization and in collaboration with external interested parties.

This document is intended to help the user by establishing a coherent, consistent and common framework to:

- a) understand the main terms, definitions, concepts and principles of innovation management;
- b) support an organization to establish, implement, maintain and continually improve an innovation management system;
- c) support an organization to utilize other innovation management standards;
- d) facilitate communication and create awareness of innovation activities internally and across organizations.

It can be used by:

- organizations establishing and using an innovation management system or performing innovation management assessments;
- organizations that need to improve their ability to effectively manage innovation activities;
- users, customers and other relevant interested parties seeking confidence in the innovation capabilities of an organization;
- organizations and interested parties seeking to improve communication through a common understanding of the vocabulary used in innovation management;
- providers of education and training in the assessment of or consultancy for innovation management and innovation management systems;
- developers of innovation management and related standards.

[Clause 3](#) specifies the terms and definitions that are necessary to understand innovation management and an innovation management system.

[Clause 4](#) provides the fundamental concepts and innovation management principles, describing why organizations should engage in innovation activities, the main concepts regarding innovation and the principles that an organization should consider as the basis for the effective management of innovation activities as well as the foundation of the innovation management system.

[Annex A](#) presents the relationship between the definitions within this document and those provided by other policy-setting organizations.

0.2 Relationships with other standards on innovation management

This document relates to standards on innovation management developed by ISO/TC 279, as follows:

- a) ISO 56001 provides requirements for organizations to establish, implement, maintain and continually improve an innovation management system.
- b) ISO 56002 gives guidance on how to establish, implement, maintain and continually improve an innovation management system with a focus on established organizations.

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- c) ISO 56003 gives guidance on how to plan, prepare and engage for external innovation partnerships at the level of a project, programme or initiative.
- d) ISO/TR 56004 gives guidance on how to choose, prepare, conduct, measure and improve an innovation management assessment. It does not directly apply to the management system approach in this document.
- e) ISO 56005 gives guidance on how to manage intellectual property throughout the innovation processes and the development of an innovation initiative.
- f) ISO 56006 gives guidance on how to set up and support the strategic intelligence activities of continuous monitoring, intelligence dissemination and document control.
- g) ISO 56007 gives guidance on how to systematically manage opportunities and ideas to realize value from innovation activities and arrive at decisions for development.
- h) ISO 56008 gives guidance on how to develop, define, implement, evaluate and improve the measurements needed to effectively manage individual innovation initiatives.
- i) ISO/TS 56010 provides an understanding of the most essential concepts in innovation management. It is intended to be used as an introduction to the standards on innovation management developed by ISO/TC 279.

Innovation management — Fundamentals and vocabulary

1 Scope

This document defines terms for and establishes the fundamental concepts and principles of innovation management.

This document is applicable to:

- a) all types of organizations, regardless of type, sector, maturity-level or size;
- b) all types of innovations (e.g. product, service, process, model, method);
- c) all forms of innovation (e.g. incremental to radical, disruptive);
- d) all types of approaches (e.g. internal and open innovation, user-, market-, design- and technology-driven innovation activities).

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

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

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

3.1 Terms related to innovation

3.1.1 innovation

new or changed *entity* (3.2.11), realizing or redistributing *value* (3.7.7)

Note 1 to entry: Novelty and value are relative to, and determined by, the perception of the *organization* (3.2.2) and relevant *interested parties* (3.2.6).

Note 2 to entry: An innovation can be a product, service, *process* (3.1.5), model, method, etc.

Note 3 to entry: Innovation is an outcome. The word “innovation” sometimes refers to activities or processes resulting in, or aiming for, innovation. When “innovation” is used in this sense, it should always be used with some form of qualifier, e.g. “innovation activities”.

Note 4 to entry: For the purpose of statistical measurement, refer to the Oslo Manual by OECD/Eurostat.^[12] See [Clause A.2](#) for a comparison between the definitions of innovation in this document and OECD/Eurostat.

[SOURCE: ISO 9000:2015, 3.6.15, modified — “entity” replaced “object”. Notes 1 and 2 to entry replaced by new Notes 1 to 4 to entry.]