

1st February 2022

An open letter from the ISO 20400 community of practice

Since the standard was published, we have worked together to build a community of practice in sustainable procurement centred around our global knowledge sharing platform www.iso20400.org. This community has grown significantly, almost 39,000 individuals have interacted with this platform from 188 different countries, over 640 users have taken our online or offline self-assessments from 55 countries in 9 different languages. We have over 12,500 social media followers and access over 150,000 people through Facebook groups.

The standard has been formally adopted by 17 National Standards Bodies (NSBs) and a further 30 NSBs offer the standard for sale. ISO 20400 has been officially translated into 13 languages. Evidence from the countries we represent and through our activities globally confirms that the standard provides a robust strategic framework to enable any organisation of any size in any sector or geography to drive sustainability performance through their supply chains.

We recognise that much has changed since publication in 2017. There is a greater emphasis on climate change, circular economy, human rights and ethical business practices. These global trends are driving more and more organisations to place sustainability at the top of their agenda and to recognise that supply chains play a critical role. We believe the standard remains a robust framework to help to address today's challenges and those we face in the future.

The standard will be subject to formal review in 2022. National Standards Bodies around the world will have the opportunity to vote on 3 possible actions; Withdraw, Revise/Amend or Confirm. We believe that time spent amending the document will be time we could all spend implementing the recommendations of the standard as it stands and would urge you to lobby your NSB to vote Confirm. If you are unsure how to contact your NSB you can find details [here](#). Furthermore, we would ask you to use your influence to help people understand the significant benefits the standard can bring.

We thank you for your attention and wish you success on your sustainable procurement journey.

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