

Public Consultation of Standard

For the development of the present ISES 2020 (earlier in 1995: ISES 2000) the first draft of the 11 chapters of the standard was proposed by the secretariat of IGEP in cooperation with a big stakeholder group which consisted to one third each of

- private entrepreneurs and associations,
- Non-government Organisations,
- Academia, public administration and other members of the civil society.

The same procedure was used every five years till July, 2018. One year earlier, in 2017, it was decided to follow the internationally accepted practice of comprehensive reviewing and adapting to new developments in a 4-years rhythm.

The composition which reflected the whole society had the advantage that all relevant aspects were taken into consideration. Everybody could bring up his points and get them discussed in detail. So e.g. private entrepreneurs got information about the needs and preferences of government administration in India as well as in Germany, USA, UK and some EU countries. NGOs were faced with the opinion of academia and entrepreneurs with regard to the implementation of social improvements. With more meetings and constructive partnership the whole system got a relatively high degree of transparency with pragmatic solutions.

By using the contacts of associations, chambers, embassies, etc. large groups of members could be involved. So it could be avoided to work only with small groups of members, but with all interested stakeholders. Therefore this procedure has been continued. It will also be used for the next revision and adjustment. To get as much participation as possible from India as well as from foreign countries the possibility of webinars and internet conferences will be used in a stronger way than before. During the Covid years the propensity for these consultation meetings has considerably increased.

Via our website the dates for giving and accepting proposals from all stakeholders will be published. The period of collecting statements for revision, amendments and adjustments is planned to begin on 1 Jan 2022 and will last three months. After that the consultation meetings aiming at necessary changes for a sustainable standard version will take place in the period April till end of June. Minutes of the respective meetings will be published on the website and provided to the stakeholders if they wish this.

The new version of ISES 2020 should then be finished and published in July, 2022. It is expected that - apart from social and environmental aspects - especially proposals for controlling and avoiding a dramatic climate chain will be made. This can also be said for the coverage of the whole value chain. As far as exports from India are concerned the value chain is fully controlled up to the port of shipment. If more than one country is part of the chain - e.g. blocks from India going for processing to PR China - this should be properly considered by the standard. IGEP is doing this already, but will be happy to further learn from the knowledge and experience of its stakeholders.