



ISCC Monitoring & Evaluation System 1.0

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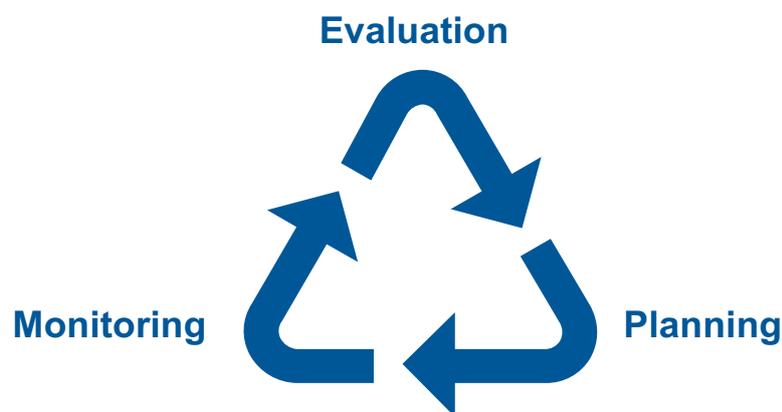
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1 About the Report

The M&E System of ISCC shall provide an overview about the activities of ISCC and the related outputs, outcomes, and impacts. The M&E system helps finding out whether activities undertaken by ISCC lead to the intended impact. Whereas the monitoring stands for the continuous process of collecting relevant data and documenting information related to the activities, outputs, and outcomes of ISCC, the evaluation is meant to then analyze the data in order to find out whether the activities of ISCC's system contribute to the desired impacts. The evaluation is used to assess the actual results of ISCC against those that were planned, with the purpose of detecting possible divergences. Based on the results of a monitoring and evaluation process, new plans for the M&E system can be introduced. The system is an ongoing cycle continuously moving from monitoring to evaluation to planning.



This is the first M&E draft published by ISCC. It covers a short overview of ISCC's standards, the scope as well as the boundaries of the M&E system and most importantly an explanation of the M&E system including elaborations on ISCC's intended impacts, a set of key indicators to measure the activities/outputs/outcomes of the ISCC system and an explanation on how data is collected to critically evaluate and monitor.

2 About ISCC and its Standards

The International Sustainability and Carbon Certification (ISCC) is an independent multi-stakeholder initiative and leading certification system supporting sustainable, fully traceable, deforestation-free and climate-friendly supply chains. ISCC's vision is a carbon-neutral world and true circular economy in which we stop producing waste in the first place and instead, create circular products and regenerate nature. ISCC's mission is to promote the transition to a circular economy and sustainable bioeconomy, support companies in reducing GHG emissions and increase transparency and traceability throughout supply chains.

ISCC's standards include different certification schemes, covering a range of market requirements. ISCC EU is recognized by the European Commission (EC) to demonstrate compliance with the legal requirements of the Renewable Energy Directive II (RED II) and by the United Kingdom under the renewable transport fuel obligation (RTFO).

ISCC PLUS is a voluntary certification scheme for non-regulated markets and covers food, feed, plastics and chemicals on a global scale, as well as biofuels for non-European markets.

ISCC CORSIA is the certification system to demonstrate compliance with the requirements for sustainable aviation fuels in the framework of the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Civil Aviation (CORSIA). For this purpose, ISCC CORSIA has been recognized by the International Aviation Organization (ICAO). Other ISCC certification schemes include ISCC Solid Biomass NL, ISCC Japan FIT, and ISCC Non-GMO Food and Feed, besides a range of add-ons.

3 Scope and Boundaries

The development of the M&E document is a long-term task that requires resources, time and dedication. However, it is a tool to monitor and review ISCC's standards and to plan its pathways to achieve the intended outcomes. M&E is not only about reporting on results, but the focus also lies within the process of learning. The M&E system shall deliver findings that helps ISCC to make strategic decisions and therewith to improve its intended impacts and achieving its sustainability mission.

The M&E system shall:

- Include an explanation on the desired sustainability outcomes and impact based on ISCC's Theory of Change and define the intended change → see chapter 4.1.

- Lead to a continuously improving system by an ongoing measurement and evaluation of ISCC's activities, outputs and outcomes with the help of a set of defined indicators → see chapter 4.2.
- Include/ consider the impact report as a tool to periodically provide a detailed analysis of ISCC's impact → [ISCC Impact Reports](#)

Next to defining the scope of the M&E system, it is also necessary to mention the boundaries it has. As this is the first draft of the M&E system of ISCC, its content needs to be further developed over time. More factors, for example external factors need to be integrated and a more detailed explanation of how monitoring and evaluation takes place (including some examples) shall be added. Additionally, the Theory of Change which already exists from ISCC's latest impact report from 2022 will be updated based on the requirements predefined by ISEAL.

4 M&E System of ISCC

4.1 ISCC's desired Impact

Aiming at achieving ISCC's mission of promoting the transition to a circular economy and sustainable bioeconomy, support companies in reducing GHG emissions and increase transparency and traceability throughout supply chains, ISCC divides their intended impact into the three main axes of sustainability, which are environmental, social, and economic:

- Sustainable agriculture that protects forests, high-carbon stock lands and biodiversity, enables waste utilization and reduces GHG emissions
- Secure human, labour and traditional land rights
- Growth of circular economy and bioeconomy

4.2 Pathway to desired Impact – ISCC's Theory of Change

By developing a Theory of Change, ISCC is able to define its outputs and long-term goals, and therefore to determine the pathway to their intended impact, as well as the indicators required to measure and monitor it.

The Theory of Change delineates the organization's strategies and activities, encompassing its outputs as well as intermediate and long-term outcomes. It is a central piece of the M&E system, and it is an exercise of rethinking the standards' strategies and goals and to reflect what change the organization intends to develop. ISCC's last version of the Theory of Change

was published on the 2022 Impact Report. However, the theory is being redeveloped and thought through in an effort of more precisely designing the pathway to their intended change.



The first step on ISCC’s Theory of Change is defined as strategies/inputs/activities, they lead to the direct outputs of the organization. Following the pathway for ISCC’s desired impact, the direct outputs are heading towards the intermediate outcomes. These, refer to results that occur during a process or project, before reaching final outcomes. On the last level of ISCC’s Theory of Change, the long-term outcomes are defined as:

- Support the shift towards the circular economy and bioeconomy
- Reduced GHG emissions
- Protection of biodiversity
- Enhanced conservation of valuable landscapes
- Enhanced social (and economic) development in supply chain elements
- Increased transparency and traceability
- Continuous improvement and monitoring processes ensuring compliance with the ISCC System

4.3 M&E Indicators

ISCC has established a set of indicators to assess its performance. These indicators are evaluated critically and assist ISCC in reviewing its approach.

The Theory of Change with its components “activities, outputs and intermediate outcomes and long-term outcomes” forms the basis for the identification of indicators. By splitting up the indicators on these different levels, the progress towards achieving intended outputs, outcomes as well as the activities that lead to the expected impact shall be tracked. While some of the indicators will be tied to the requirements and application of the standards, others are focused on the effect of the standard’s implementation.

Below is a list of the indicators that are currently taken into account by ISCC’s M&E system.

ToC Topic	Indicator	Source	Frequency
Strategies/ Input & Activities Level			
ISCC Standards & Add-Ons	Number of certification schemes	ISCC Website	Annually
	Number of valid certificates under ISCC EU in total	Internal Database	Annually
	Number of valid certificates under ISCC PLUS in total	Internal Database	Annually
	Number of valid certificates under ISCC CORSIA in total	Internal Database	Annually
	Number of total registrations	Internal Database	Annually
	Number of economic operators with active registrations in total	Internal Database	Annually
	Number of countries with valid ISCC certificates in place	Internal Database	Annually
	Number of Add-Ons provided by ISCC	ISCC Website	Annually
	Number of certificates with Add-ons implemented in total	Internal Database	Annually
Logos & Claims & Licensing	Number of licensed companies in total	Internal Database	Annually
	Number of products using on-product claims/ logos in total	Internal Database	Annually
Trainings	Number of trainings annually	ISCC Website	Annually
	Number of participants annually	Internal Database	Annually
	Number of system users participating in trainings	ISCC Academy	Annually

	Number of (potential) auditors participating in trainings	ISCC Academy	Annually
Engagement of Stakeholders	Number of members of ISCC Association in total	Internal Database	Annually
	Percentage of growth of members of the ISCC Association per year	Internal Database	Annually
	Number of participants in stakeholder committee meetings and ISCC Association events	Internal Database	Annually
	Number of public consultations	ISCC Website	Annually
Integrity Programme	Number of Integrity audits within one year	Internal Database	Annually
	Number of Integrity auditors operating within one year	Internal Database	Annually
	Number certificates with lifted suspensions (NCs were solved timely) within one year	Internal Database	Annually
	Number of complaints within one year	ISCC Website	Annually
CB Cooperation & Management	Number of recognized CB's	Internal Database	Annually
	Number of participants in the CB meeting within one year	ISCC Academy	Annually
	Number of CB meetings within one year	ISCC Academy	Annually
Benchmarks & Implementation of M&E System	Number of benchmarks conducted within one year	ISCC Website	Annually
	Number of impact reports published in total	ISCC Website	Annually
Marketing & Communication	Number of newsletters released within one year	Marketing Department	Annually
	Number of system updates sent out within one year	Marketing Department	Annually

Direct Output Level			
Environmental focus			
Certification standards for sustainable practices on the ground (farm/ plantation/ forest sourcing area)	Number of farms and plantation covered under ISCC	Internal Database	Annually
Certification standards for GHG calculations throughout global supply chains	Number of certificates that apply GHG calculations (EU, PLUS GHG Add-on, etc)	ISCC Academy	Annually
Certification standard for carbon offsetting and reduction in the aviation sector	Number of participants in the CORSIA training within one year	ISCC Academy	Annually
Social focus			
Certification standards for human and labour rights	Number of updates on system documents and add-ons related to human and labour rights	ISCC Website	Every 5 years
Smallholder integration and capacity building	Number of smallholders participating in trainings	Internal Database	Annually
Economic focus			
Certification standards for traceable global supply chains	Number of valid certificates using physical segregation & number of valid certificates using mass balance & number of valid certificates using controlled blending (only for PLUS)	ISCC Website	Every 5 years
Logos and Claims for on- and off-product use	Number of products using on-product claims/ logos in total	Licensing	Annually
Environmental & economic focus			
Certification standards for waste and residue-based supply chains	Number of certificates handling waste & residues	Internal Database	Annually
Environmental, social & economic focus			

Trained auditors and system users	Number of auditors who passed the ISCC auditor test in total	ISCC Academy	Annually
Recognition / acceptance from national/ regional gov. Authorities & industrial platforms	Number of recognitions by governmental authorities and industrial platforms per countries and per scheme	ISCC Website	Annually
Recognition/ acceptance from organisation and research institutes	Number of recognised benchmarks within one year	ISCC Website	Annually
Use of tools/ mechanisms to verify compliance with the ISCC System	Number of tools/mechanisms to verify compliance with the ISCC System*	Integrity Team	Every 5 years
Gathering feedback from stakeholders towards monitoring and improvement of ISCC System	Number of Board meetings and General Assemblies per year	ISCC Academy	Annually
Intermediate Outcome Level			
Environmental focus			
No land use change after a cut-off date	Number of land use change cases in relation to hectares of certified land (only for LUC cases that are not accepted under ISCC EU)	Internal Database	Annually
Increased GHG awareness and knowledge about reduction measures across industries	Number of participants in GHG trainings within one year	ISCC Academy	Annually
Improved sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems	Hectares of sustainably produced crops under ISCC within one year	Internal Database	Annually
	Amount of sustainably handled raw materials under ISCC within one year	Internal Database	Annually
Social focus			
Improved working and living conditions for employees	Number of system user with improved living conditions and labour rights for employees within one year	Audit Procedure System	Annually

Sustainable and efficient small-scale productions (farm/plantation/forest sourcing area level)	Number of smallholders certified within one year	Internal Database	Annually
Economic focus			
Increased transparency and traceability of sustainable material throughout the supply chain	Number of system users with improved chain of custody/mass balance handling within one year	Audit Procedure System	Annually
Supporting Companies to make verified and credible claims and thereby helping consumer to identify sustainable production feedstocks	Number of products using on-product claims/ logos in total	Internal Database	Annually
Environmental & economic focus			
Enhanced use of circular materials and products	Certified amounts of waste and residue materials within one year	Internal Database	Annually
Environmental, social & economic focus			
Updates within the ISCC System based on feedback gathered	Number of updated system documents	ISCC Website	Every 5 years
Effective risk and quality management	Number of integrity audits within one year	Internal Database	Annually
	Number of closed integrity assessments in total		
Legitimacy from organisations / Gov. Authorities	Number of recognitions in total (governmental authorities, organisations etc.)	ISCC Website	Annually
Long-term Outcome Level			
Environmental focus			
Reduced GHG emissions	Amount of certified material meeting the GHG target under ISCC EU	Internal Database	Annually

Protection of biodiversity	Number of ecosystems protected under ISCC	Audit Procedure System	Every 5 years
Enhanced conservation of valuable landscapes	Amount of certified land under ISCC EU	Audit Procedure System	Annually
Social focus			
Enhanced social (and economic) development in supply chain elements	Number of system users with enhanced social and economic development in supply chain elements	Audit Procedure System	Annually
Economic focus			
Increased transparency and traceability	Number of system users with enhanced traceability in sustainability documentation throughout supply chain within one year	Audit Procedure System	Annually
Environmental & economic focus			
Support of the shift towards circular economy and bioeconomy	Amount of certified processing units producing bio-circular and circular materials	Internal Database	Annually
Environmental, social & economic focus			
Continuous improvement and monitoring process and ensuring compliance with the ISCC system	% of improvements implemented based on the improvement plan (in total)	Improvement plan	Annually

*an example of such a tool would be the remote sensing

4.4 Data Collection

Data gathering, analysis, and reporting are crucial elements of ISCC's M&E system. Through the execution of projects, CB Feedback Meetings as well as stakeholder meetings, a significant number of audits carried out in many countries and surveys, ISCC is able to collect and analyzes a variety of qualitative and quantitative data. For the M&E system, including the indicators and the Theory of Change, an internal data base collects data from all certificate holders and certified units related to the certification process. This data base allows to look at activities, outputs, and intermediate outcomes. Further data sources such as the website are shown in the table above.