

ISO 14001:2026 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (EMS) CHECKLIST

Use this checklist to evaluate your organisation's readiness for **ISO 14001:2026 compliance**.

Tick each box once the requirement is in place.

Clause 4 – Context of the Organisation

- ☐ Have we identified external and internal issues relevant to our EMS (e.g., climate change, biodiversity, ecosystem health)?
- ☐ Have we identified stakeholders and their environmental needs/expectations?
- ☐ Is the scope of our EMS clearly defined and documented, considering lifecycle impacts?
- ☐ Is our EMS integrated into business processes and aligned with intended outcomes?

Clause 5 – Leadership

- ☐ Does top management actively demonstrate commitment to the EMS?
- ☐ Does our environmental policy address compliance, biodiversity, natural resources, & climate change?
- ☐ Are EMS roles, responsibilities, and authorities clearly defined, communicated, and understood?

Clause 6 – Planning

- ☐ Have we established processes for environmental planning?
 - ☐ Have we identified environmental aspects across the lifecycle, including emergencies?
 - ☐ Have we identified compliance obligations and documented them?
 - ☐ Have we assessed risks and opportunities relevant to the EMS?
 - ☐ Have we planned actions to address aspects, obligations, and risks?
 - ☐ Are environmental objectives measurable, monitored, and documented?
 - ☐ Do we have clear action plans to achieve these objectives (resources, responsibilities, evaluation)?
 - ☐ Are EMS changes planned, controlled, and managed effectively?
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Clause 7 – Support

- ☐ Have we allocated adequate resources for the EMS?
 - ☐ Are employees competent and trained, with documented evidence of competence?
 - ☐ Are workers aware of their roles, the EMS policy, and implications of non-conformance?
 - ☐ Do we have effective communication processes (internal & external)?
 - ☐ Is documented information controlled, updated, and accessible?
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Clause 8 – Operation

- ☐ Are operational controls in place, including for outsourced or externally provided processes?
 - ☐ Do we have tested and documented emergency preparedness and response plans?
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Clause 9 – Performance Evaluation

- ☐ Do we monitor, measure, analyse, and evaluate EMS performance and effectiveness?
 - ☐ Do we evaluate compliance with obligations and maintain evidence?
 - ☐ Do we have a structured internal audit programme with clear objectives and scope?
 - ☐ Do management reviews include EMS results, compliance status, and opportunities for improvement?
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Clause 10 – Improvement

- ☐ Do we identify and address nonconformities with root cause analysis and corrective actions?
 - ☐ Do we continuously identify opportunities for improvement and act on them?
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☒ **Tip:** Completing this checklist helps ensure your organisation is aligned with the **ISO 14001:2026 standard**, supports certification readiness, and strengthens environmental responsibility.