



nqa

# ISO 14068-1:2023

CLIMATE CHANGE MANAGEMENT -  
TRANSITION TO NET ZERO:  
CARBON NEUTRALITY

# SUSTAINABILITY. SIMPLIFIED.

## WHAT IS ISO 14068-1

**To address the impacts of climate change, more organisations are being required to share their carbon position and take action towards net zero.**

This is often seen in supply chain expectations, tenders, and regulatory requirements. Many organisations will also seek to enhance their brand reputation and reduce costs through voluntarily taking action to progress towards net zero. ISO 14068-1 serves as a recognised and trusted solution in meeting such demands. No matter the industry you operate in, or the size of your organisation, ISO 14068-1 facilitates the long-term sustainability of your organisation and the planet.

At the end of 2023, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) released the first standard in a series focused on 'Climate Change Management – Transition to Net Zero'. Part 1 of this series replaces the existing specification PAS 2060, which is due to be withdrawn in December 2025, and provides a framework for demonstrating and achieving carbon neutrality.

The standard has been developed for application by a chosen entity; this may include organisations, products, events and more. ISO 14068-1 guides users, with requirements, in quantifying direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions, prioritising actions to improve performance, and clearly documenting robust and credible carbon neutrality claims.

# THE JOURNEY TO VERIFICATION

With targets set globally to address global warming and climate change, ISO 14068-1 focuses on a hierarchy approach in tackling carbon emissions in the following order:



**Identify and quantify your carbon emission sources**



**Reduce your carbon emissions**



**Remove your carbon emissions as far as is practicable**



**Source credible and recognised carbon credits to offset your residual emissions**

NQA provides independent third-party Verification which gives your organisation more credibility, helping you build public trust and ensuring you are recognised for the carbon-reduction policies you implement. It can also help you use resources more efficiently and reduce energy spending for greater profit margins.

## VERIFICATION HELPS WITH:

- Associated cost-saving opportunities through identified reductions in material, energy, and labour
- Managing risks and the avoidance of greenwashing
- Recognition for environmental efforts and commitment
- Competitive advantage through an enhanced brand image and reputation
- Meeting tender, supply chain, and stakeholder expectations
- Comply with current and future regulations and legislation

### PREPARING FOR VERIFICATION:

#### PREPARE

It is important to firstly understand the ISO 14068-1 standard and familiarise yourself with the requirements.

#### DETERMINE

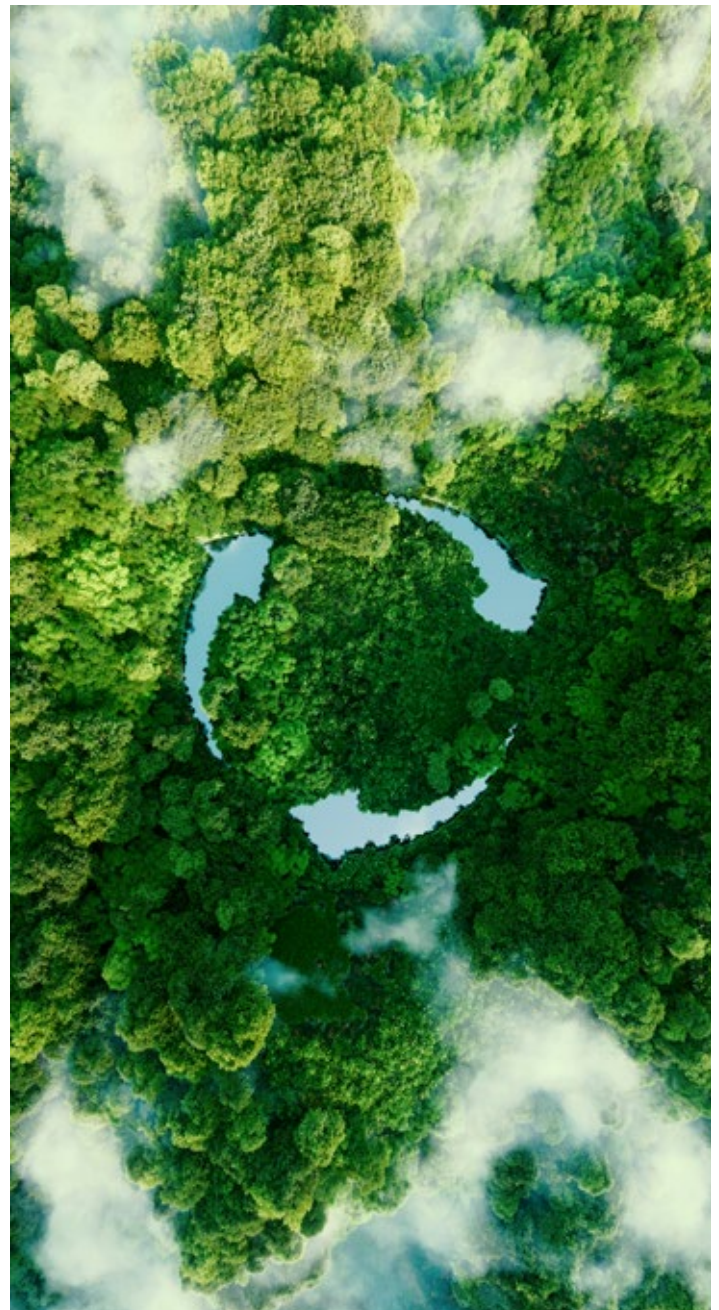
Next you will need to establish a plan for implementing the standard, along with designated roles and responsibilities.

#### REPORT

To conform to ISO 14068-1 there are a number of clauses which require you to 'document' or 'report' on your implementation and progress.

#### VERIFY

NQA provide independent third-party Verification, this is the most credible and robust conformity route your business can opt for.



# STEPS TO VERIFICATION

Upon choosing to partner with NQA, you will be subject to a three-stage Verification process:



## Pre-Verification



## Verification



## Post-Verification

This is what you can expect at each stage:

### PRE-VERIFICATION

The purpose of this assessment is to confirm that the client is ready for the full Verification and for the most part this stage will be a documentation review. This will include:

- Client site visit (if required)
- Confirm the scope of Verification and boundaries of the GHG inventory
- Review the methodology for data capture and reporting (infrastructure for GHG inventory)
- Identify focus points
- Create the Verification Risk Assessment
- Create the Sampling Plan
- Create the Verification Plan
- Review the Carbon Neutrality Report and discuss evidence for the hierarchy approach and carbon neutrality pathway

### VERIFICATION

The purpose of this assessment is to carry out the full review on your claim or statement. This will include:

- Client site visit (if required)
- Detailed Verification of data sets, calculations, assumptions, and reporting methods
- Review customer documentation and reports
- Drafting of Verification reports
- Clarifications requested, misstatements and non-conformities raised
- Verify the client's Carbon Neutrality Management Plan and Carbon Neutrality Report including reduction achievements, the hierarchy approach and the carbon neutrality pathway

### POST-VERIFICATION

The purpose of this assessment is to conduct a secondary, independent review on the evidence from all parties at the Verification stage, and to provide further assurance and integrity. This will include:

- Independent Review by an independent Lead Verifier
- Finalisation of the Verification Opinion Statement (VOS)
- Issuance of the VOS
- Guidelines on the use of claims and logos
- Client promotion and the opportunity to undertake a case study to promote your success



### WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

NQA will contact you annually to renew your Verification and to continue your claims and statements. We will ask you to fill out a Re-Verification Checklist to clarify the details behind your Verification in order to confirm your Verification duration.

Should you wish to discuss your verification requirements with a member of our team please get in contact.



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