Standards and Regulations Across Borders

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Introduction

- California-based sustainability consultant with background in energy, urban planning, and GHG mitigation on behalf of companies, agencies and nonprofit organizations.

- US TAG 207 on Environmental Management
  - Subcommittees 2 & 7 Environmental Auditing, GHG Management

- ISO Working Groups
  - WG18 Net-Zero Aligned Organizations
  - JWG 6 Verification & Validation of Environmental Information
  - CCCC TG 5 – Revision of ISO Guide 84

- Additional experience with standards, protocols, and guidance
  - ISSB – Integrated Reporting & Connectivity Council
  - ISO IWA 42 – Net Zero guidelines stakeholder
  - The Climate Registry – General Reporting & Verification Protocols, Net-Zero Portal
  - California Building Energy Efficiency Standards

Trends in Global Sustainability Reporting

- Sustainability metrics include climate-risk assessment, GHG mitigation/transition pathways, GHG emissions - direct, indirect, and lifecycle.

- Transition from voluntary reporting to mandates in many jurisdictions.

- Leveraging third-party standards to support measurement, reporting, verification/assurance.

- Consolidation of frameworks to allow for data comparison and interoperability across jurisdictions.

- Claims can be evaluated through conformity assessments that apply standards for verification and validation of data.

- Standards in development through consensus-based processes that include NSBs, industry representatives, consultants, academics, and NGOs.

Emerging Standards

- Sustainability Disclosures
  - ISSB/IFRS Sustainability Standards, S1 & S2
  - European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS)
- Net Zero
  - ISO Net Zero Guidelines conversation to Net Zero Standard 14060
  - Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) Update
- GHG Measurement
  - ISO 14064-1 Revision
  - GHG Protocol Update
- Verification/Assurance
  - IAASB International Standard on Sustainability Assurance (ISSA 5000)
  - ISO 14064-3 Specification with guidance for the verification and validation of greenhouse gas statements

Global Mandates

- Regulators adopting sustainability disclosure mandates globally.
  - Adoption of IFRS S1 & S2 by over half of global market - UK, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Brazil, Japan, Singapore, Nigeria, other countries evaluating.
  - US subnational disclosure requirements – Laws in California and proposed in other states for GHG emissions, climate-risk, and net-zero claims.
- Regulations can include references to standards for measurement, reporting, and verification/assurance.
- Requirements for indirect emissions disclosure (Scope 3) can necessitate suppliers to prepare and report data regardless of location.
- Transition and mitigation plan requirements can be supported by net-zero guidance and standards.
- Data integrity and decision usefulness supported by digital reporting and quality infrastructure.