Environmental Management Systems

Purpose and benefits of an EMS

John Stans

UNESCO-IHE, Delft, The Netherlands
Content

- Purpose and benefits of an EMS
- Basic concepts of ISO 14001
- ISO 14001: EMS requirements
- Policy exercise
- The initial environmental review
- Case study
Contents

• Purpose and benefits of an EMS
• Basic concepts of ISO 14001
• ISO 14001: EMS requirements
• Policy exercise
• The initial environmental review
• Case study
Visualising an EMS

- Materials resources
- Storage Processing Manufacturing
- Environmental Measures
- Products
- Waste and Emissions
- Employees
- Organisational and Administrative Measures

• Purpose and benefits of an EMS
• Basic concepts of ISO 14001
• ISO 14001: EMS requirements
• Policy exercise
• The initial environmental review
• Case study
Objectives of an EMS

- Structured approach to deal with environmental responsibilities
- Control of significant environmental aspects
- Compliance with legislation
- Improvement of environmental performance
- Fulfil environmental expectations of interested parties
Why environmental management?-1

- Legislation and enforcement
  - Compliance
  - Liability
  - Investments
  - Clean up costs
Why environmental management?-2

• Pressure from interested parties
  – Financial institutions:
    • Banks, insurance companies
  – Shareholders, employees
  – Local community
  – Environmental interest groups, consumers, general public
Why environmental management? - 3

- **Awareness, image, reputation**
  - **Corporate image:**
    - Publicise performance progress
  - **Prevent impact on business:**
    - Liability, cost,
    - business interruption,
    - negative publicity,
    - damage to image
Why environmental management?-4

• Competitiveness
  – Environmental cost
  – Meeting customers’ expectations
  – Compliance with national and international performance and system standards
Why environmental management?

- **Finance**
  - Cost savings
  - Reducing taxes / levies
  - Controlling liabilities
    - (acceptance criterion from banks and insurance companies)
Risks / Opportunities

**Risks:**

1. **Loss of access to markets**
2. **Loss of competitive position**
3. **Loss of reputation**
4. **Government penalties and controls**

**Opportunities:**

1. **Commercial**
2. **Cost savings**
3. **Company image**