



ICG Compliance

**Environmental Management
Standard**



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ICGC – EMS SCOPE

ICGC-EMS is a proprietary Standard developed by ICGC outlining the practices required to provide assurance that product has been generated with due consideration for the Environment and any possible impacts any processes could have upon the same.

ICGC-EMS offers benefits to Suppliers, Customers and other interested Parties.

The ICGC-EMS provides verification tools to indicate that an Operation has followed an appropriate industry recognised Environmental Management / Assurance Program.

Certification to the ICGC-EMS is achieved via independent third party auditing undertaken by an Environmental Auditor duly approved by ICGC.

ICGC undertakes to consult closely with Key Customer Groups and Industry Stakeholders to maintain an acceptable level of awareness of requirements, thus ensuring ongoing compliance to marketplace requirements and consumer expectations.



1 DEFINITIONS

Audit	the examination of a system to determine that methods introduced and implemented are being adhered to and to ensure that the aims are achieved
Chemical	a product applied on or around production areas and the general environment to control pests, disease, weeds etc, e.g. insecticide, acaricide, herbicide, fungicide, growth regulator, pheromone or other treatment Products used such as oil, grease, sanitisers, rodenticides, cleaning agents etc.
Contamination	the occurrence of a hazard within the environment
Continuous Improvement	process of enhancing ICGC-EMS to achieve improvements in performance in keeping with the operation's Environmental Action Plan
Customer	the party receiving end product
Environment	interrelation of the surroundings in which the operation functions inclusive of landscape, air, water, flora, fauna, humans
Environmental Action Plan (EAP)	plan to address, monitor and control environmental risks
Environmental Damage	any detrimental change to the environment, wholly or partially resulting from an operation's activities
Environmental Management Policy (EMP)	statement by the operation of intentions and principles relative to overall performance providing guidance for action and the setting of environmental goals
Fuel	any energy source
HACCP	Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point – an Internationally recognised risk management method
Hazard	a source of potential or actual environmental damage



ICGC	ICG Compliance
ICGC-EMS	ICG Compliance - Environmental Management Standard
Method	any document or record that addresses relevant clauses in this Standard
Operation	company, corporation, firm, organisation, enterprise, authority or institution
Property	the whole property used for the purpose of production
Property Activity	commercial activities undertaken within a property covered by this Standard
Resources	inclusive of, but not limited to, personnel, specialised skills, technology, financial
Record	documented information supporting a business's compliance to the ICGC-EMS.
Risk	potential or actual occurrence negatively impacting on required objectives
Risk Assessment	documented process of assessing risk to determine potential harm and the practices required to prevent, minimise or eliminate the perceived harm
Sensitive Area	target areas at high risk of adverse environmental damage
Staff	personnel working within an operation inclusive of family members or contractors
Corrective Action Request	documented record raised by any person which must be addressed to indicate compliance with ICGC-EMS
Target	an item or site to which the operational activity is directed



1.1 DEFINITIONS – PRIMARY PRODUCTION

Fertiliser and Soil Additive	products that are added to the soil to improve fertility and structure; these can include, but not limited to, inorganic and organic fertilisers, and other additives
Irrigation Strategy	irrigation practices developed with due consideration given to water availability and crop irrigation requirements
Persistent Chemical	organochlorides, organophosphates, other persistent chemicals present in soil, water and general environment
Heavy Metals	any of the heavy metals in the Periodic Table of Elements
Phytosanitary Specification	identified requirements for use of approved treatment protocols for crop pest and disease control for market access
Property	whole property/farm/operation covered by ICGC-EMS as identified in the property map
Riparian Vegetation	vegetation on the banks of waterways
Salinity	presence and level of soluble salts in water or soil
Sodicity	a proportion of sodium ions absorbed within clay particles in the soil
Soil	growing medium
Soil Acidity	the measurable acidity of soil



2 ICGC-EMS REQUIREMENTS

2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

The Operation's Management must develop, document and maintain an Environmental Policy:

- relevant to the size and environmental impacts of its activities, processes, products and/or services;
- inclusive of statement of commitment to continuous improvement;
- available within public domain

2.2 SELF ASSESSMENT

2.2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The Operation must develop and document a method to identify any significant environmental impacts of its activities, processes, products or services that it is able to control. The Operation must ensure that all factors of these significant impacts are considered in establishing its environmental objectives.

2.2.2 LEGISLATIVE and REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

The Operation must develop, document and maintain a method to identify and have access to all legislative and regulatory requirements to which the Operation must adhere.

2.2.3 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND GOALS

The Operation must develop, document and maintain a method in the form of an Environmental Action Plan outlining all environmental objectives and goals at each appropriate process within its organisation. All such objectives and goals must be part of the Environmental Management Policy and must be reviewed at least annually.

2.2.4 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The Operation must develop, document and maintain a system for attaining objectives and goals at each appropriate process and function within its organisation.

The same must include allocation of responsibilities for achieving targets at each appropriate process and function within its organisation and the manner and timelines by which such targets are to be reached.



3 ICGC-EMS IMPLEMENTATION and MAINTENANCE

3.1 MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Roles, responsibilities and authorities within the Operation must be developed, documented and communicated to achieve effective and appropriate environmental management.

Management must commit to provision of resources required for the implementation and maintenance of the Environmental Management System and this will include the identification of a management representative who reports effectiveness of the system to management.

The effectiveness of the EMS must be monitored and the effectiveness of the EMS / EAP reported regularly to management.

3.2 MANAGEMENT and STAFF TRAINING

The Operation must develop, document and maintain a method identifying all training requirements and must cover all personnel. This must be included in the Environmental Management Policy.

The Operation must develop, document and maintain methods to ensure all personnel are aware of:

- actual, potential or perceived environmental impacts of all activities and the benefits of improved staff performance including the importance of all personnel supporting the Environmental Management program of the business.
- The possible consequence of deviation from any operational procedures.
- Emergency Response procedures.

All personnel must be appropriately trained and deemed competent.

The Operation must develop, document and maintain a method regarding:

- internal communication regarding environmental impacts within the operation;

The Operation must review processes for external communication regarding its environmental impacts and document its decision.



4 DOCUMENTATION

The Operation must develop, document and maintain a method to:

- describe all elements and requirements of the Environmental Management System inclusive of an Organisational Chart, Environmental Management Policy and Environmental Action Plan.

All documentation must be:

- legible;
- identified by revision numbers or dates;
- maintained in an orderly fashion;
- retained for a specific period.

The Operation must develop, document and maintain a method outlining responsibilities for the creation, amendment and modification of all documentation.

4.1 DOCUMENT CONTROL

The Operation must develop, document and maintain a method for the control of all documentation required by the Environmental Management System to ensure all documentation:

- can be readily located;
- is regularly reviewed, amended as required and approved by duly authorised personnel;
- is current and is readily available to all relevant personnel;

Obsolete documentation is removed from all points of issue.



5 PROCESS and OPERATIONAL CONTROL

The Operation must implement and undertake all functions to ensure they are carried out in consideration of specific conditions by:

- developing, documenting and maintaining a method to ensure that the operation complies with the Environmental Management System;
- ensuring that specific operational requirements are outlined to minimise Environmental risk;
- developing, documenting and maintaining methods regarding the control of significant environmental aspects of all processes including those of contractors.
- ensuring that contractors are aware of their responsibilities in relation to the EMS program and that they are trained in the control of the EMS risks they are concerned with.

6 EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The Operation must develop, document and maintain a method:

- outlining the response to adverse incidents, accidents and emergency situations and maintain a method for the prevention and mitigation of the environmental impacts of the above;

The operation must review, revise and amend where required but at least annually.

7 MONITORING AND CORRECTIVE ACTION

7.1 MONITORING

The operation must develop, document and maintain a method to monitor the effectiveness of its activities that may have impact on the environment. Such procedures must include the recording of data to monitor performance, operational controls and compliance with the operation's environmental action plan.

All relevant monitoring equipment must be calibrated and / or serviced at least annually.

Calibration and service records must be maintained and retained.



7.2 NON-COMPLIANCE: CORRECTIVE and PREVENTIVE ACTION

The Operation must develop, document and maintain a method for the identification of responsibilities and authorities for the investigation and handling of non-compliances.

This method must outline any effective action taken to mitigate any impacts of non-compliance.

Any corrective and preventive action must be appropriate to the status of non-compliance and relevant to the environmental impact.

8 RECORDS

The operation must develop, document and maintain a method for the maintenance of records that demonstrate compliance with the ICGC-EMS.

Records must be accessible and stored in such a fashion that they are protected against damage, deterioration or loss.

Retention periods for all records must be established and recorded.

9 INTERNAL AUDIT

The operation must develop, document and maintain a method and schedule for regular environmental management systems audits to:

- establish whether or not the environmental management system is compliant with the requirements of ICGC-EMS;
- provide data on the results of such audits to the operation's management.

The operation's audit program and schedule must reflect the environmental impact of the activity and the outcomes of any previous audits.

10 MANAGEMENT REVIEW

The operation's management must at least annually review their Environmental Management System to ensure compliance with the ICGC-EMS. The review must be documented.

The review must include the EAP, the effectiveness and the continuous improvement of the Environmental Management System.