NAMS 56000:2026
Second Edition 31 July 2026
ISO 56000:2025
Second Edition 2025-01

NAMIBIAN STANDARD

NAMS 56000:2026 – Innovation management — Fundamentals and vocabulary

This Namibian standard is the identical implementation of ISO 56000:2025 and is adopted with the permission of the International Organization for Standardization

Published by the Namibian Standards Institution (NSI)
Established by section 2 of the Standards Act, 2005 (Act No 18 of 2005)
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Second Edition 31 July 2026
ISO 56000:2025
Second Edition 2025-01

National Foreword

This NAMS 56000:2026 is identical with (*the first edition of* ISO 56000:2025 — Innovation management — Fundamentals and vocabulary. The Namibian Standards Institution Technical Committee responsible for the adoption of this International Standard is Technical Committee 2 on Quality Management and Quality Assurance.

No amendments, omission and additions have been made to the original ISO International Standard.

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 279, *Innovation management*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee

CEN/TC 389, *Innovation Management,* in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 56000:2020), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

— new definitions have been added;
— Annex A has been deleted, and Annex B has been renamed as Annex A;
— alignment with ISO 56001.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

International Standard

ISO 56000

Innovation management — Fundamentals and vocabulary

Management de l'innovation — Principes essentiels et vocabulaire

Second edition
2025-01

Reference number
ISO 56000:2025(en)

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Published in Switzerland

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Introduction

0.1 General

The ability of organizations to innovate is recognized as a critical factor for their viability, competitiveness, resilience and renewal, and for the sustainable development of society.

The innovation capabilities of an organization include the ability to understand and respond to changing conditions of its context, to pursue new opportunities and to leverage the knowledge and creativity of people within the organization and in collaboration with external interested parties.

This document is intended to help the user by establishing a coherent, consistent and common framework to:

a) understand the main terms, definitions, concepts and principles of innovation management;

b) support an organization to establish, implement, maintain and continually improve an innovation management system;

c) support an organization to utilize other innovation management standards;

d) facilitate communication and create awareness of innovation activities internally and across organizations.

It can be used by:

— organizations establishing and using an innovation management system or performing innovation management assessments;

— organizations that need to improve their ability to effectively manage innovation activities;

— users, customers and other relevant interested parties seeking confidence in the innovation capabilities of an organization;

— organizations and interested parties seeking to improve communication through a common understanding of the vocabulary used in innovation management;

— providers of education and training in the assessment of or consultancy for innovation management and innovation management systems;

— developers of innovation management and related standards.

Clause 3 specifies the terms and definitions that are necessary to understand innovation management and an innovation management system.

Clause 4 provides the fundamental concepts and innovation management principles, describing why organizations should engage in innovation activities, the main concepts regarding innovation and the principles that an organization should consider as the basis for the effective management of innovation activities as well as the foundation of the innovation management system.

Annex A presents the relationship between the definitions within this document and those provided by other policy-setting organizations.

0.2 Relationships with other standards on innovation management

This document relates to standards on innovation management developed by ISO/TC 279, as follows:

a) ISO 56001 provides requirements for organizations to establish, implement, maintain and continually improve an innovation management system.

b) ISO 56002 gives guidance on how to establish, implement, maintain and continually improve an innovation management system with a focus on established organizations.

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c) ISO 56003 gives guidance on how to plan, prepare and engage for external innovation partnerships at the level of a project, programme or initiative.

d) ISO/TR 56004 gives guidance on how to choose, prepare, conduct, measure and improve an innovation management assessment. It does not directly apply to the management system approach in this document.

e) ISO 56005 gives guidance on how to manage intellectual property throughout the innovation processes and the development of an innovation initiative.

f) ISO 56006 gives guidance on how to set up and support the strategic intelligence activities of continuous monitoring, intelligence dissemination and document control.

g) ISO 56007 gives guidance on how to systematically manage opportunities and ideas to realize value from innovation activities and arrive at decisions for development.

h) ISO 56008 gives guidance on how to develop, define, implement, evaluate and improve the measurements needed to effectively manage individual innovation initiatives.

i) ISO/TS 56010 provides an understanding of the most essential concepts in innovation management. It is intended to be used as an introduction to the standards on innovation management developed by ISO/TC 279.

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Innovation management — Fundamentals and vocabulary

1 Scope

This document defines terms for and establishes the fundamental concepts and principles of innovation management.

This document is applicable to:

a) all types of organizations, regardless of type, sector, maturity-level or size;

b) all types of innovations (e.g. product, service, process, model, method);

c) all forms of innovation (e.g. incremental to radical, disruptive);

d) all types of approaches (e.g. internal and open innovation, user-, market-, design- and technology-driven innovation activities).

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/

3.1 Terms related to innovation

3.1.1
innovation
new or changed *entity* (3.2.11), realizing or redistributing *value* (3.7.7)

Note 1 to entry: Novelty and value are relative to, and determined by, the perception of the *organization* (3.2.2) and relevant *interested parties* (3.2.6).

Note 2 to entry: An innovation can be a product, service, *process* (3.1.5), model, method, etc.

Note 3 to entry: Innovation is an outcome. The word "innovation" sometimes refers to activities or processes resulting in, or aiming for, innovation. When "innovation" is used in this sense, it should always be used with some form of qualifier, e.g. "innovation activities".

Note 4 to entry: For the purpose of statistical measurement, refer to the Oslo Manual by OECD/Eurostat.[12] See Clause A.2 for a comparison between the definitions of innovation in this document and OECD/Eurostat.

[SOURCE: ISO 9000:2015, 3.6.15, modified — "entity" replaced "object". Notes 1 and 2 to entry replaced by new Notes 1 to 4 to entry.]

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