

7 Principles of social responsibility

What does it mean for an organization to be socially responsible ?

ISO 26000, the International Standard providing guidance on social responsibility, responds to this question with seven principles outlined below.

ISO 26000 provides best practice guidelines on how to ensure social equity, healthy ecosystems and good organizational governance. The ultimate goal : sustainable development.

Accountability

An organization should be accountable for its impact on society, the economy and the environment.



Transparency

An organization should be transparent in its decisions and activities that impact society and the environment.



Ethical behaviour

An organization should behave ethically.



Respect for stakeholder interests

An organization should respect, consider and respond to the interests of its stakeholders.



Respect for the rule of law

An organization should accept that respect for the rule of law is mandatory.



Respect for international norms of behaviour

An organization should respect international norms of behaviour, while adhering to the principle of respect for the rule of law.



Respect for human rights

An organization should respect human rights and recognize both their importance and their universality.

