

AA1000SES v3

The Next Generation of Stakeholder Engagement

2026

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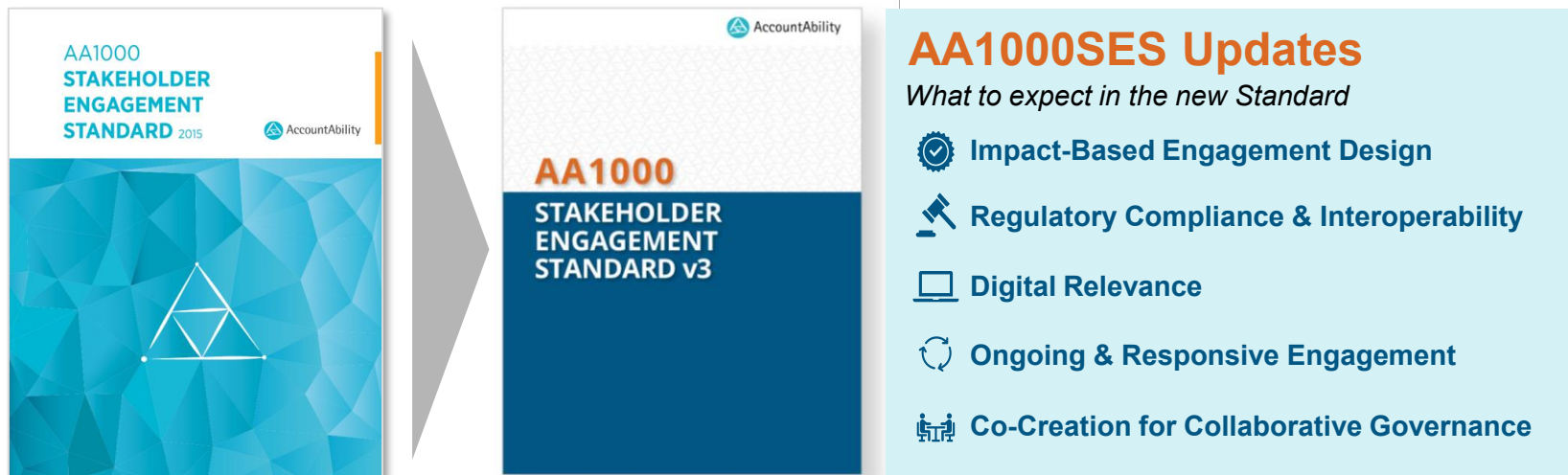
LAUNCHING 2026

**AccountAbility's "New and Improved"
AA1000 Stakeholder Engagement
Standard (AA1000SES v3)**

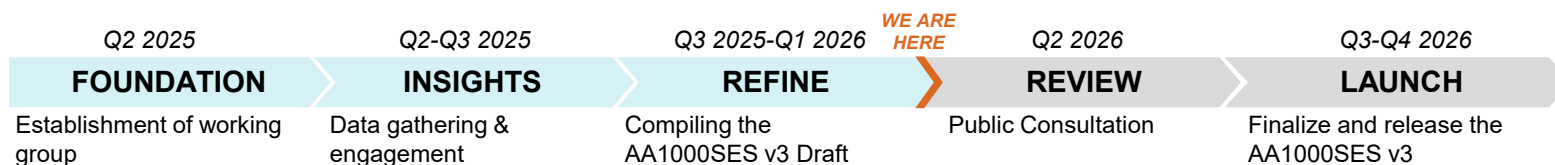
The New AA1000 Stakeholder Engagement Standard (AA1000SES v3)

Meeting Emergent Stakeholder Needs With The AA1000 Stakeholder Engagement Standard

The **AA1000 AccountAbility Stakeholder Engagement Standard v3 (2027)** has been updated to reflect **evolving stakeholder expectations, regulatory requirements, and market developments** in sustainability management.



Publication Timeline



CSEP Training

A brand-new Stakeholder Engagement Certificate Program for practitioners



Transition from ad hoc, reactive engagement efforts to **structured, credible, and practical engagement strategies** through:

- Interactive training sessions
- Real-world case studies and examples
- Practical tools and engagement frameworks
- Certification as a **Certified Stakeholder Engagement Practitioner (CSEP)**
- Public recognition on AccountAbility's website

The New AA1000 Stakeholder Engagement Standard (AA1000SES v3)

A Modern Approach to Meet Emergent Stakeholder Needs

The **AA1000 AccountAbility Stakeholder Engagement Standard v3 (2027)** has been updated to reflect **evolving stakeholder expectations, regulatory requirements, and market developments** in sustainability management.



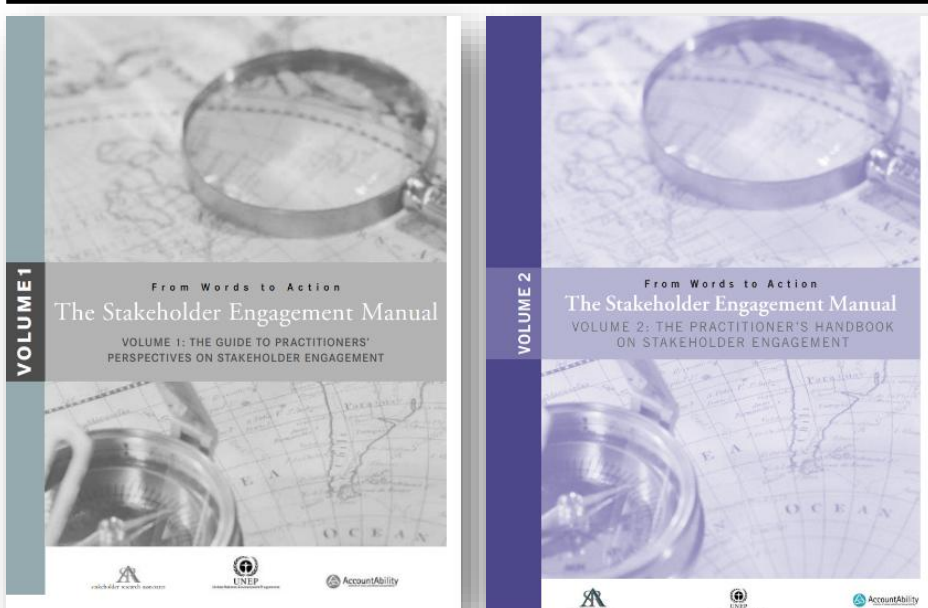
The AA1000SES v3 makes stakeholder engagement more *relevant, adaptable, and impact-driven*:

- ▶ **Prioritization framework** guides users to **identify the purpose and scope of engagement alongside the stakeholders engaged, supporting more systematic decision-making.**
- ▶ **Clearer governance requirements** for greater accountability in **corporate strategy, decision-making, operations, and communications.**
- ▶ **Enhanced integration** with assurance processes.
- ▶ Updated to reflect the latest version of the **AA1000 AccountAbility Principles (2018)** including **Impact**, in addition to **Materiality, Inclusivity, and Responsiveness.**
- ▶ Enables organizations to develop an **enterprise-wide stakeholder engagement strategy** to inform their individual engagements.
- ▶ Prioritizes **interoperability with other emerging disclosure frameworks**, enabling organizations to better **meet their reporting requirements.**

The Evolution of the AA1000 Stakeholder Engagement Standard

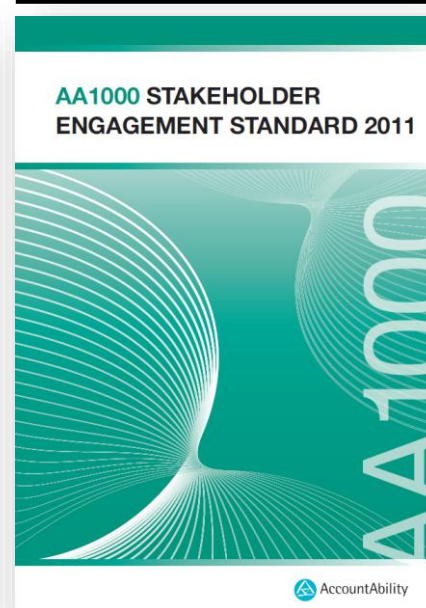
The Most Widely Used Stakeholder Engagement Standard Worldwide

2005



Guided organizations in structured stakeholder engagement as a **collaborative approach to governance**, based on the AccountAbility Principles of **Inclusivity**, **Materiality**, and **Responsiveness**.

2011



Introduced **rigor and organizational accountability** for engagement process and outcomes

2015



Repositioned engagement as a **strategic imperative**, integrating it with **corporate governance** for **long-term value creation**.

WE ARE HERE

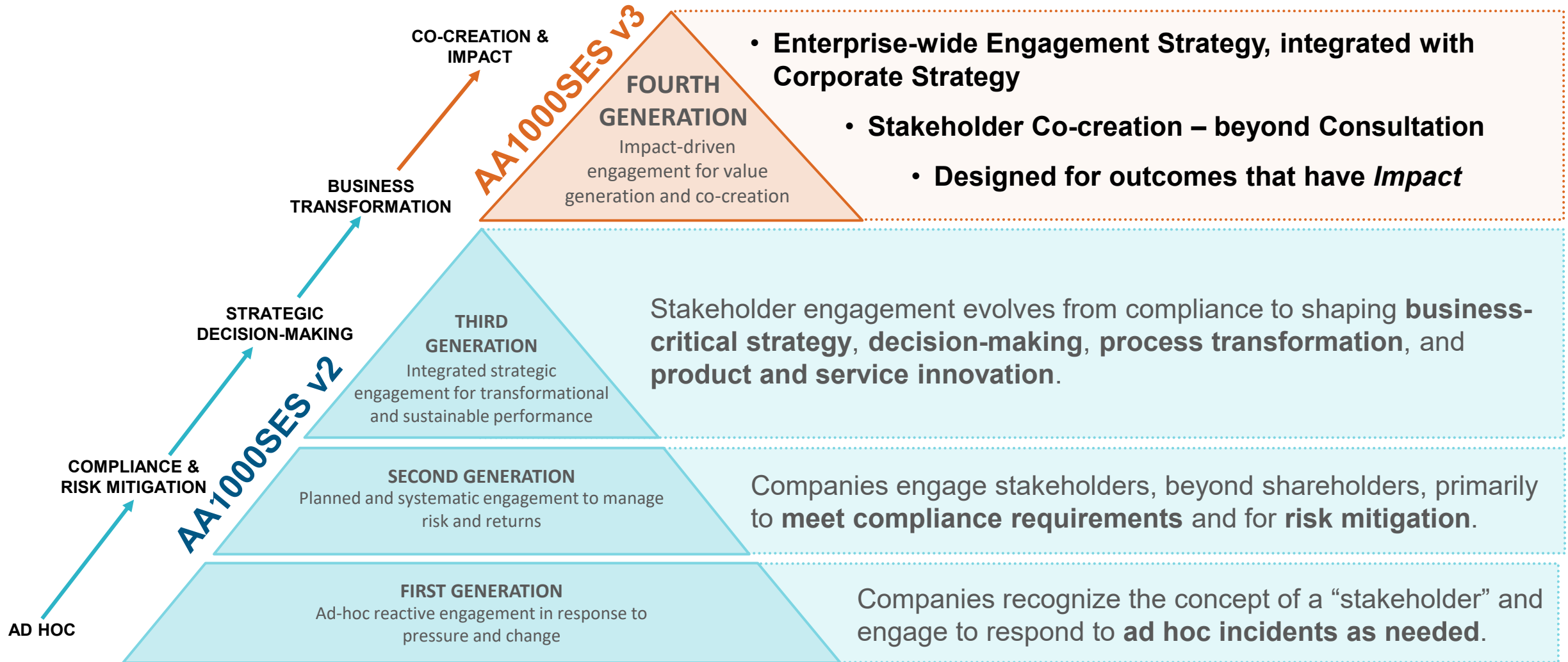
2026



Modernized for **emerging engagement complexities**, anchored in **co-creation** and the additional Principle of **Impact**.

The “4th Generation” of Stakeholder Engagement

The Evolution of Stakeholder Engagement



Key Updates to the AA1000SES v3

A Standard Designed for Long-term *Relevance, Resilience, and Impact*



Ongoing & Responsive Engagement

A greater focus on **continual stakeholder engagement** for more **meaningful and dynamic relationships** and **ongoing insight into emerging risks and opportunities**.



Two-Way Dialogue

An increased emphasis on **two-way dialogue** which enables organizations to **co-create solutions, better evaluate effectiveness, and calibrate responsiveness to stakeholder expectations**.



Digital Relevance

New guidance provided on the **use of digital platforms and AI** as tools to **map stakeholders, manage engagement, and analyze insights for more efficient and scalable engagement processes**.



Regulatory Compliance & Interoperability

Updates to ensure **interoperability with current and emerging regulatory frameworks and disclosure requirements** which foster more **credible, transparent, and auditable stakeholder engagement practices**.



Principles-Based Approach

The **inclusion of the 2018 AccountAbility Principle of “Impact”** alongside *Inclusivity, Materiality, and Responsiveness*, **emphasizes the importance of outcomes and value creation** for more meaningful engagement.

What's New?

How the New & Improved AA1000SES Delivers Strategic Value

1

Clarifying the Purpose of Stakeholder Engagement

A structured self-assessment helps organizations define why they engage stakeholders and how engagement supports strategic priorities.

2

Ensuring Strategy Remains at the Core of Engagement Design

Stakeholder engagement is aligned with organizational strategy, transformation priorities, and key decision points.

3

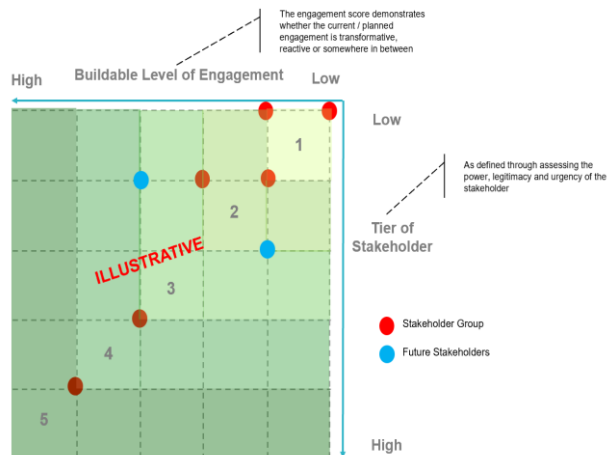
Practical Requirements Illustrated through Principles-Based Testing

Baseline requirements and principles-based testing help organizations demonstrate credible, accountable engagement practices.

4

Impact-Focused Assessment

Enhanced methodologies support organizations in evaluating the risks, opportunities, and outcomes of stakeholder engagement.



Principles-Based Testing

[AA1000AP: Materiality](#)

- Is there a documented process showing how and why stakeholders were included or excluded?

[AA1000AP: Responsiveness](#)

- Is there a defined process for determining the timeframe of each engagement, aligned with the nature of the subject matter?

Likelihood rating	Consequence rating	
	Insignificant	Minimal
Almost certain	Minor	Medium
Likely	Minor	Medium
Possible	Low	Minor
Unlikely	Low	Minor
Rare	Low	Low

Coming Soon – Supporting Resources

Practical Guidance, Case Studies, and Tools to Help Organizations with Implementation



Practitioner's Guide to the AA1000SES v3

Provides **practical guidance and real-world examples** to help organizations apply the standard across industries, organizational sizes, and contexts.



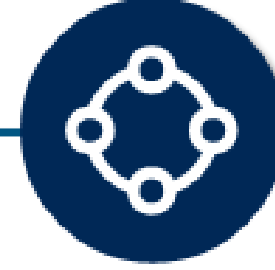
Materiality Assessment & Stakeholder Engagement Guidance

Supports organizations in **integrating stakeholder engagement into materiality assessments** based on the latest industry guidance.



AA1000SES v3 Assurance Matrix (AI Enabled)

Helps **assurance providers evaluate alignment** with the standard to enhance the **credibility of stakeholder engagement practices**.



Interoperability Guidance Document

Outlines how AA1000SES v3 aligns with **other leading sustainability and ESG frameworks**, to **streamline reporting** with engagement processes.

Developing Certified Leaders in Stakeholder Engagement

Certified Stakeholder Engagement Practitioner (CSEP) Training



Build Organizational Capacity in Strategic Stakeholder Engagement

Based on AccountAbility's latest AA1000SES v3 Stakeholder Engagement Standard, the **CSEP program** will provide individuals and organizations with the tools, skills, and knowledge necessary to make the **transition from ad hoc, reactive engagement efforts to structured, credible, and practical engagement strategies.**



Who This Training Is For

Executives, manager, practitioners, and teams that engage internal and/or external stakeholders regularly:

- Customer Success
- Sustainability & ESG
- Strategy & Transformation
- Governance, Risk, and Compliance
- Investor Relations
- Communications
- Procurement & Supplier Management
- Corporate Affairs
- Public Affairs
- Government Affairs
- Human Resources
- Consultants and advisors



What Participants Will Learn

- Design effective stakeholder engagement strategies
- Facilitate credible two-way stakeholder dialogue
- Apply AA1000SES principles and requirements in practice
- Integrate stakeholder insights into corporate strategy and decision-making
- Demonstrate credible and auditable engagement practices



Value For Organizations

- Build internal capacity to strengthen organizational engagement practices and outcomes
- Address ESG, sustainability, and regulatory expectations
- Enhance public credibility, trust, transparency
- Improve stakeholder-informed decision-making
- Demonstrate alignment with the AA1000SES global benchmark

Customizable Training Elements

The CSEP program enhances team capabilities and confidence in engaging key stakeholders and can be tailored to the company's context and stakeholder network

Case Studies



- Develop an in-depth understanding of stakeholder engagement, relevant and applicable to the organization's priority stakeholders
- Create shared reference points, based on best practices, that teams can reflect on and apply to the organization's context
- Learn effective, tried-and-tested engagement methods

Discussions



- Improve alignment on organisational approach to different elements of engagement
- Create a shared understanding between different teams of what works well, and doesn't work well, when engaging key stakeholders
- Learn practical language and frameworks to use when navigating difficult stakeholder dynamics

Practical Activities



- Gain insights into personal strength and development areas, providing clear path forward following the training
- Build confidence to improve stakeholder engagement approach in the workplace
- Enhance engagement skills through applicable scenarios

CSEP Training Overview

Equipping professionals to **design, implement, and demonstrate** credible stakeholder engagement aligned with AA1000SES v3



- Interactive training sessions
- Real-world case studies and examples
- Practical tools and engagement frameworks
- Certification as **Certified Stakeholder Engagement Practitioner (CSEP)**
- Public recognition on AccountAbility's website

Module A

🕒 4 hours

Foundations of Stakeholder Engagement

Understanding the AA1000 Standards and their role in corporate governance.

Learn:

- The AA1000 Series of Standards and their purpose
- The scope and value of AA1000SES
- How stakeholder engagement supports organizational governance, strategy, and management

Module B

🕒 4 hours

Principles and Sustainability Context

Applying the AA1000 AccountAbility Principles in practice.

Understand:

- The AA1000 AccountAbility Principles (*Inclusivity, Materiality, Responsiveness, Impact*)
- The role of stakeholder engagement in sustainability reporting and ESG frameworks
- Real-world examples and case studies

Module C

🕒 8 hours

Stakeholder Engagement Skills Application

Designing and implementing stakeholder engagement processes.

Practice:

- Define the scope and objectives of engagement
- Identify and map stakeholders
- Develop and implement engagement plans
- Monitor, assess, and report engagement outcomes

THANK YOU

AccountAbility is providing this information overview for discussion purposes.

Information in these materials related to our approach, methodologies, or experiences is confidential and proprietary to AccountAbility and may not be disclosed to third parties without our prior written consent.

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