



NSAI

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

NSAI TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
NSAI/TC 45 – INNOVATION
MANAGEMENT

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1 Chair

In December 2023, Mr Sean McNulty, said his farewells as he retired from his role as Chair. Since 2008, Mr McNulty's contributions have been characterized by innovative ideas, strategic thinking and most significantly his tireless efforts to increase the credibility and visibility of the committee which in turn created a vibrant and productive committee. The resulting recognition has become an asset for the committee, and the relationships he has fostered with our partners and stakeholders will ensure that the committee will continue to prosper in the years to com

In February 2024 Dr Chantelle Kiernan, recently appointed Head of Innovation and R&D at IDA Ireland, accepted the offer by NSAI to Chair the National innovation committee. With her extensive experience in both academia and industry, Dr Kiernan brings a wealth of knowledge, strategic vision, and leadership to the committee. Her expertise will be instrumental in driving forward innovative initiatives and fostering a culture of creativity and excellence.

Eoin Flavin, a seasoned Innovation Management advisor and expert in the ISO 56000 family of standards, has been appointed Vice Chair of NSAI's committee on innovation management. Additionally, he has been named a standardisation expert for Small Business Standards (SBS), where he will represent SMEs' interests in the development of standards through direct participation in European and international technical committees.

2 Introduction

Standards on innovation management enable International and Irish organisations, particularly SMEs, to share best practices across various aspects of innovation management. This will facilitate collaboration, and also develop the capability of Irish-based companies to innovate and to bring new innovations successfully to competitive global markets.



ISO TC 279 is developing Innovation Management guidance standards

Innovation is key to global competitiveness and human and technological progress over the coming decades, particularly in the context of the required twin Green and Digital transformations.

International management system standards on innovation will help break down the existing cultural, structural and organisational obstacles within and between organisations. These ISO Innovation standards will provide best practices to support the implementation of innovation policies and best practices in SMEs, public institutions, universities, research & innovation centres and non-profit organisations.

The OECD recognises the importance of polices and processes that promote pro-innovation forms of workplace organisation for stimulating SME innovation. The OECD, in its recent report on SME and entrepreneurship, makes reference to the fact that a firm's workplace organisational model can affect its ability to stimulate ideas and facilitate the absorption of knowledge from research organisations [1].

An innovation management system guides the organisation to determine its innovation, strategy, policy and objectives, and to establish the support and processes needed to achieve the intended outcomes.

¹ OECD, "OECD SME and Entrepreneurship Papers No 17", 2019. [Online]. Available on: https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/oecd-sme-and-entrepreneurship-papers_f493861e-en [Accessed on: 10th January, 2023]

An innovation management system provides a systematic approach to integrate innovation into all the layers of the organisation in order to seize and create opportunities for the development of new solutions, systems, products and services. The first International Standard for such is ISO 56002:2019.

To achieve this goal, the work focuses on developing a management system for innovation, with supporting 'Tools & Methods'. The ISO 56000 Series of Innovation Management guidance standards address: terminology, tools and methods such as open innovation partnerships, design innovation, strategic intelligence, intellectual property management, creativity/idea management; measurement of innovation; and also the assessment of innovation management practices in all types of organisations.

ISO 56002:2019 is a type B management system standard that is not certifiable. It provides guidance based on the principles of innovation management. It schematically represents how the structure of the innovation management system should be viewed.

While ISO 56001:2024 provides requirements and guidance for establishing, implementing, maintaining, and improving an innovation management system. This standard aims to enhance an organisation's ability to innovate consistently and successfully.

The structure that is adopted also allows for an alignment with other international management system standards, such as ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015^[2], enabling a more effective integration, development, implementation, maintenance and continuous improvement of the innovation management system. The adoption of this standard, together with the innovation tools, has the potential to facilitate and boost the innovation process of any company by providing principles that allow it to structure and organise its internal innovation processes, maximise innovation efforts and harness the knowledge and creativity of its employees and those with whom it collaborates externally. It also makes possible integration with other existing management systems ^[3].

3 Scope of TC

The scope of this committee is standardisation of terminology, tools and methods, and interactions between relevant parties to enable innovation. This committee does not produce indigenous Irish Standards as the national committee is focussed on participating in the development of International Standards at an ISO and European level.

The committee mirrors the following European & international committees:

Committee Name	Committee Title
CEN/TC 389	Innovation Management
ISO/TC 279	Innovation Management
ISO/TC 279/WG 1	Innovation Management System
ISO/TC 279/WG 2	Terminology, Terms and Definitions
ISO/TC 279/WG 3	Tools and Methods
ISO/TC 279/WG 5	Competency framework for innovation management

² International Organization for Standardization, "Environmental Management Systems—Requirements with Guidance for Use "(ISO 14001:2015)",. 2021 [Online]. Available online: <https://www.iso.org/standard/60857.html> [Accessed on 10 January 2024]

³ Idris, M.C.; Durmusoglu, A. "Innovation management systems and standards: A systematic literature review and guidance for future research. Sustainability,"2021. [Online]. Available on: <https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/13/15/8151> [Accessed 24th January 2024]

4 Structure and Membership

4.1 Structure

The table below illustrates the latest official structure of the ISO TC 279 Committee, which is mapped directly by NSAI TC45

Structure	Liaisons	Meetings
Reference ↑		Title
ISO/TC 279/AG 1 ⓘ		Communication and Engagement
ISO/TC 279/CAG ⓘ		Chair's Advisory Group
ISO/TC 279/STTF ⓘ		Spanish translation task force
ISO/TC 279/WG 1 ⓘ		Innovation management system
ISO/TC 279/WG 2 ⓘ		Terminology, terms and definitions
ISO/TC 279/WG 3 ⓘ		Tools and methods
ISO/TC 279/WG 5 ⓘ		Competency framework for innovation management

4.2 Members

Four new members joined NSAI TC45 during 2024. The list below are the member organisations for the year 2024:

Organisation	Committee Role
IDA	Chair
STEPSTONE Consulting	Member
Abcon Ireland	Member
Ariadne Consultants	Member
Atlantic Technological University (ATU)	Member
Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM)	Member
Brickfield Education Labs	Member
Catalyst	Member
Centre for Excellence in Universal Design, National Disability Authority (NDA)	Member
Chronos Consulting	Member
Citi Innovation Lab Dublin (Head of Innovation Design)	Member
CeADAR – Centre for Applied Data Analysis	Member
CTO Neurent Medical	Member
DCU Business School	Member
Digital Catapult	Member
Dolmen Design & Innovation	Member
DPER Innovation Team	Member
Dromone Engineering	Observer
Enterprise Ireland	Member
Ervia	Member
Evoquent IP	Member

Hanna Moore + Curley, IP Attorneys	Member
ICT Skillnet & Technology Ireland Innovation Forum	Member
Innovate XL Innovation Consultant	Member
Innovation Consultants	Member
Innovation Consultant GBI Ltd.	Member
Innovation Delivery Ltd. Innovation Consultant	Member
IRDG - Industry Research & Development Group	Observer
J&J Depuy Synthes	Member
Maynooth University (MU)	Member
Mergon	Member
Monaghan County Council	Member
NACEC - National Association of Community Enterprise Centres	Member
NACEC - National Hub Network Manager NOTE: NACEC recently rebranded as CEAI - Community Enterprise Association Ireland	Member
National College of Ireland / NCI	Member
NSAI - Market and Regulatory Support	Member
NSAI Medical Devices (Industry Engagement)	Member
NuaWorks	Member
University of Galway	Member
Origin Chain Networks	Member
Queens University	Member
SFA (Small Firms Association, Ibec)	Member
Research Ireland	Member
Research Ireland Confirm Research Centre	Member
StratX Innovation & Marketing Management	Member
Sustainability Works (Business & Innovation Consultant)	Member
Teleflex	Member
TU Dublin	Member
NSAI	Committee Manager

4.3 Liaison Organisations (Category A and B), ISO TC 279

Acronym ↑	Title	Category
CERN	European Organization for Nuclear Research	A
EPO	European Patent Office	A
FICPI	Fédération Internationale des Conseils en Propriété Intellectuelle	A
IAF	International Accreditation Forum, Inc.	A
IIOA	Independent International Organisation for Assurance	A
ISPIM	International Society for Professional Innovation Management	A
LESI	Licensing Executives Society International	A
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, OECD	A
SBS - Small Business Standards	Small Business Standards	A
The World Bank	The World Bank Group	A
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme	B
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	A
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization	A
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization	A
WTO	World Trade Organization	A

As illustrated above, during 2024 ISO/TC 279 had active liaison relationships with key international players in innovation management, including OECD, EPO, WIPO, UNESCO, UNIDO, LESI, World Bank and others who are actively following and participating in the ISO TC/279 work programme. For example, the future revised version of the influential and highly cited OECD Oslo Manual on Innovation^[4] will be aligned with the outputs from ISO/TC 279.

Many countries (57 Participating and 21 Observing members during 2024) are heavily involved in ISO/TC 279 work programme, such that ISO believe the outputs from ISO/TC 279 could well be the basis for ‘the next ISO 9000 series’ of key international management system standards, to support the systematic management of innovation systems in organisations of all types and sizes globally.

4.4 Liaison Organisations, to ISO/TC 279

The significant work being undertaken for ISO/TC 279 is recognised by its peers, through liaisons to other ISO technical committees. These liaison committees are a key aspect of the committee's work, that ensures alignment and consistency of standards across the whole ISO portfolio. See below for a full list of liaison committees to ISO/TC 279.

⁴OECD, "Oslo Manual 2018 Guidelines for collecting , Reporting and Using data on Innovation",2018, [Online]. Available on: <https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/oslo-manual-2018-info.pdf> .[Accessed on 8th January 2024]

Reference ↑	Title	ISO/IEC
ISO/CASCO	Committee on conformity assessment	ISO
ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 7	Software and systems engineering	ISO/IEC
ISO/TC 69/SC 7	Applications of statistical and related techniques for the implementation of Six Sigma	ISO
ISO/TC 176/SC 1	Concepts and terminology	ISO
ISO/TC 176/SC 2	Quality systems	ISO
ISO/TC 176/SC 3	Supporting technologies	ISO
ISO/TC 258	Project, programme and portfolio management	ISO
ISO/TC 266	Biomimetics	ISO
ISO/TC 268	Sustainable cities and communities	ISO
ISO/TC 286	Collaborative business relationship management	ISO
ISO/TC 307	Blockchain and distributed ledger technologies	ISO
ISO/TC 312	Excellence in service	ISO
ISO/TC 323	Circular economy	ISO
ISO/TC 347	Data-driven agrifood systems	ISO

5 Summary of 2024 Activities

5.1 National

5.1.1 Meetings

Committee members attended the following national meetings as follows:

Meeting No.	Date	Minutes Reference ** optional**
1	13 th March 2024	N 545
2	22 nd May 2024	N 553
3	11 th September 2024	N 555
4	11 th December 2024	N 560

5.1.2 National Work

This Standards Committee does not draft any National Standards as it is focussed on the development of international standards. All of the ISO/TC 279 Standards adopted as European Standards will be published as Irish Standards.

5.2 International/Regional

5.2.1 Meetings

Committee members attended international meetings as follows:

Committee Name	Location	Date	No. of Attendees
ISO/TC 279 12 th Plenary	Peru	14 th -18 th October	2

5.2.2 International/Regional Work

Ireland is committed to following and inputting into the development of the ISO Standards. The National Committee reviews, comments and votes on each of the public comment drafts circulated by ISO/TC 279.

Ireland has several experts participating in the Working Groups that are drafting the Standards.

Irish experts collaborated with their colleagues in UNIDO and ISO on the publication of an ISO-UNIDO Innovation Management Handbook. This practical guide expands upon the standard ISO 56002:2019, Innovation management — Innovation management system — Guidance, and aims at providing guidance for organizations wanting to innovate. In addition to the Handbook, UNIDO and ISO presented an online course on Innovation Management that they developed, which is currently available in both English and Spanish on UNIDO's Knowledge Hub, found at the following [LINK](#).

In 2024 an Irish Committee member, Mr Charlie Tuxworth spearheaded the development of a potential new standard on a competency framework for innovation management, that would supplement the ISO 56000 series. A framework like this will be essential for organisations aiming to develop innovation skills, assess innovation performance, and foster a culture of innovation within their teams. He was invited by ISO to serve as the convenor of a new working group, tasked with developing this new standard through a consensus-based approach.

In 2024 ISO/TC 279 successfully published ISO 56001:2024, the long-anticipated type A management system standard, that is set to revolutionise innovation management by making it more predictable and systematic. This standard introduces structured principles and guidelines to transform innovation from a process often seen as reliant on good fortune into a well-defined, auditable function within organisations⁵. Aiming to improve its innovation processes regardless of size, sector, or the nature of its products and services.

5.2.3 International/Regional Standards Reviewed

FprEN ISO 56000, *Innovation management - Fundamentals and vocabulary (ISO/FDIS 56000:2024) (ISO/FDIS 56000:2024)*

FprEN ISO 56001, *Innovation management system - Requirements (ISO/FDIS 56001:2024)*

FprEN ISO 56008, *Innovation management - Tools and methods for innovation operation measurements - Guidance (ISO/FDIS 56008:2024)*

ISO 56002 Revision, *Innovation management — Innovation management system — Guidance*

ISO 56003:2019, *Innovation management — Tools and methods for innovation partnership — Guidance*

ISO/FDIS 56000 (Ed 2), *Innovation management — Fundamentals and vocabulary*

ISO/FDIS 56001, *Innovation management system — Requirements*

ISO/FDIS 56008, *Innovation management — Tools and methods for innovation operation measurements — Guidance*

ISO/NP 25032, *Competency Framework for Innovation Management*

⁵ L. Melik, "Three Steps to Professionalize Innovation with ISO 56001 Certification Standard," Forbes, Feb. 27, 2023. [Online]. Available: <https://www.forbes.com/councils/forbestechcouncil/2023/02/27/three-steps-to-professionalize-innovation-with-iso-56001-certification-standard/>. [Accessed: Jan. 30, 2025].

5.2.4 International/Regional Voting Results

The committee voted on twenty out of the twenty-seven international votes in 2024.

5.3 Policy /Update

On the 18th May 2022 the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, Simon Harris, launched *Impact 2030: Irelands Research and Innovation Strategy*. The core purpose of the new national strategy is to ensure that Ireland's investment in research and innovation makes as big a difference as possible to as many people as possible [6].

Minister Harris said:

"The Irish research and innovation system is a strategic national asset that – through the whole-of-government approach taken by Impact 2030 – will deliver solutions and will create opportunities to address these grand challenges, building on and continuing its very successful role in Ireland's economic performance and resilience to date [7]."

This national strategy which focuses on delivering system-wide impact that will facilitate and add value to the activities of national R&I performers and funders, across five pillars, recognises standards development as an integral part of a competitive national enterprise R&I ecosystem. Indeed, the strategy makes reference to the ISO 56000 series supporting innovation management, especially in SMEs in Ireland.

Under pillar 3.6 "Wider Business Environment" which aims to deliver a competitive wider business ecosystem in standards, intellectual property, finance and tax measures, NSAI is committed to supporting its government department, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment (DETE).

NSAI will deliver strategic objectives aligned to its own Strategic Plan for 2022 -2026 "Innovating to shape a safer, better, and sustainable future [8]". These flagship initiatives will enhance enterprise engagement on standards development and use for innovation, and grow the number of firms with Innovation Management Certification.

NSAI will continue the work to grow the NSAI Innovation committee and actively contribute to the development of the international standard for Innovation Management system – requirements and enhance the knowledge valorisation of the ISO 56000 series.

Furthermore, in 2024 NSAI initiatives regarding SME engagement continued to be examined and improved as part of the NSAI Strategic Plan, as new standards are currently under development to help strengthen and enable SMEs in their innovation management journey.

5.4 Publications

National Standards are not produced by this committee as International Standards developed in this area will be published as European Standards and adopted as Irish Standards.

⁶ Government of Ireland, "Impact 2030 – Ireland's Research and Innovation Strategy", 2022.[Online]. <https://assets.gov.ie/224616/5f34f71e-e13e-404b-8685-4113428b3390.pdf> [Accessed on: 26th January,2024]

⁷ Government of Ireland, " Minister Harris launches Impact 2030: Ireland's Research and Innovation Strategy", 2022.[Online]. <https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/18f45-minister-harris-launches-impact-2030-irelands-new-research-and-innovation-strategy/> [Accessed on: 26th January,2024]

⁸ NSAI, " NSAI Strategic Plan 2022-2026 [Online]. https://www.n sai.ie/images/uploads/general/NSAI-Strategic_Plan_2022-2026.pdf/ [Accessed on: 26th January,2024]

6 Work programme for 2025 onwards

6.1 ISO/TC 279 – Innovation Management

ISO/AWI 56002, *Innovation management — Innovation management system — Guidance*

ISO/WD TR 56009, *Innovation management — Example implementations of Innovation Operation Measurements*

ISO/AWI 56011 Competency framework for innovation management

6.2 CEN/TC 389 – Innovation Management

prEN ISO 56000 rev, *Innovation management - Fundamentals and vocabulary (ISO/DIS 56000:2024)*

(WI=00389018), *Innovation Management Professionals: knowledge, skill, autonomy and responsibility requirements*

7 Additional Information

ISO 56001-- Innovation management — Innovation management system — Requirements

NSAI ran a social media campaign highlighting ISO/DIS 56001, the upcoming requirements standard for innovation management, that was out for public comment through "Your Standards Your Say".

ISO 56001 is contributing to driving delivery of the vision and goals of National and European Innovation Policy, thereby helping to advance Ireland's national competitive advantage through the development, adoption and strategic use of this standard. As it has the potential to revolutionise the way innovation is managed.

Comments were received from members of the public as part of this campaign, that were reviewed by the committee and feed into the comments submitted by Ireland to ISO as part of its National Positioning Ballot.

Enterprise Ireland Innovation Scorecard based on ISO 56000 Series

NSAI Innovation Committee member Mr David Keeley, a Senior Executive with Enterprise Ireland (EI), the government organisation responsible for the development and growth and competitiveness of Irish enterprises in world markets, has been instrumental in ensuring that ISO 56000 is used to assist SMEs.

Mr Keeley advised EI on the use of ISO 56000 Innovation Management Series as its framework for improving the innovation capabilities and performance of all Irish and multinational companies in Ireland. To this end, EI also uses this same framework to promote innovation excellence throughout Europe.

Irish businesses are supported through an online innovation scorecard that is currently utilised as an innovation tool for SMEs, MNCs and public sector organisations. The scorecard is based on the new ISO 56002 Innovation Management System guidance standard.

Based on answers to a questionnaire, the tool automatically generates a rich PDF report that includes a very intuitive heatmap which helps users to quickly understand their overall innovation position and identify key areas of strength and weakness. Users can also identify relevant development supports and understand the most effective next steps to improve their innovation management capability and performance.

The data generated by the toolset can help policy makers better address the innovation development needs of the SME, MNC and public service sectors in Ireland and across Europe.

Due to the success of the innovation scorecard, Enterprise Ireland has expanded its programme to provide SMEs with an Innovation Diagnostic Tool service, to help identify weaknesses in their innovation management capacity. The innovation diagnostic is a facilitated collaborative group exercise. It is a more comprehensive and in-depth assessment than the innovation scorecard resulting in a more detailed and insightful analysis of where there are opportunities to develop organisation innovation capability.

Innovation Diagnostic tools are utilised, as part of the process, to diagnose gaps within their innovation capacity and provides tools to help SMEs overcome them. This service avails of the international best practices on innovation management activities, set out in the ISO 56000 Series of guidance standards on Innovation Management.

Enterprise Ireland's Innovation Diagnostic tools focus on five of the key groups of innovation management elements aligned with the ISO 56000 standard series:

- Leadership & Planning; Organisation Context; Operation; Supports; Evaluation & Improvement.

These elements and their interactions are needed for an organisation to establish its innovation capabilities for the purpose of effectively and sustainably achieving innovations. This exercise and output report allows business leaders to take a holistic view of the areas in their organisations. Leaders can understand where the opportunities are for improvement in developing their innovation capabilities based on the 5 key element groups. For more information you can download the information on the Innovation Diagnostic tool for SMEs, click on the following [LINK](#).

IDA has also developed an Innovation Scorecard based on the ISO 56000 series; it is designed to assess the innovation maturity of client companies. It provides a quick, 15-minute online self-assessment that helps organisations identify their current innovation capabilities and areas for improvement. By completing the scorecard, companies receive a detailed report highlighting their strengths and weaknesses, along with recommendations for next steps and available support resources. This tool is part of IDA Ireland's efforts to support client companies in enhancing their innovation processes and achieving sustainable growth.

Government Policy: Impact 2030 and SME & Entrepreneurship Growth Plan

A particular focus of the NSAI TC45 team during 2025 will be continued inputs into the development of the ISO draft standards listed above, and related national roll-out and promotion of these and other published ISO 56000 series standards. Such a broad and ongoing national roll-out will support and enable NSAI actions under Impact 2030 (Ireland's Research and Innovation Strategy) and the national vision therein of positioning Ireland as a 'Global Innovation Leader'.

The widespread introduction of systematic - versus ad-hoc - innovation management practices as outlined in the ISO 56000 series will also help indigenous Irish SMEs to deliver much needed improvements in productivity and international competitiveness and exports – as outlined in the

OECD report on SME Productivity in Ireland published in 2019 [⁹], and the directly related and current national SME & Entrepreneurship Growth Plan being led by the Department of Enterprise, Trade & Employment (DETE).

The SME Taskforce's Growth Plan [¹⁰] sets out a wide range of recommendations with long-term strategic relevance for SMEs and entrepreneurs, including measures to assist companies to start up, scale up, enhance their digital capabilities, and increase export activity. These recommendations are being currently taken forward by a Ministerial-led SME and Entrepreneurship Implementation Group.

NSAI was assigned the following action under recommendation 2.4 - support and recognise a broader understanding of innovation to incentivise increased investment in innovation:

Action 2.4.2: Promote the use of the ISO 56000 Innovation Management Standards by SMEs through awareness building and education to encourage a wider view and understanding of innovation and grow innovation capability and culture within SMEs

These actions supporting recommendations are being taken forward by the taskforce. In December 2022, the government noted the significant progress made on the ten priorities, the intention to continue the work of the Taskforce into 2024, and the intention to publish a progress report on the priority areas [¹¹]. This progress report is available at SME and Entrepreneurship Taskforce 2023: Priority Actions Progress Report.

NSAI TC45 will continue to work closely with our international community of experts & colleagues within ISO TC/279 to support and enable the above strategy and actions.

When can Companies start getting certified to ISO 56001?

It is important that companies who wish to obtain globally recognised certification to ISO 56001:2024, use an IQNet (International Certification Network) certification body.

Companies can start to attain certification to ISO 56001:2024, once certification bodies are accredited to offer this accreditation. This process will take some time as the following steps need to take place.

1. **Accreditation:** Certification bodies must be accredited by a recognized accreditation body to certify organizations to ISO 56001. This ensures they meet the necessary competence and impartiality requirements. The ISO committee on conformity assessment, CASCO, has developed the ISO 17000 series which provides a comprehensive framework for conformity assessment, including definitions, principles, and guidelines. This framework ensures that certification bodies operate consistently and reliably when assessing organisations for certification. Preparation of a new work item to enable certification to ISO 56001, ISO 17021-X framework for auditors is in development.
2. **Training and Competence:** Auditors and staff within certification bodies need to be trained and demonstrate competence in the requirements of ISO 56001.

⁹ OECD, "OECD SME and Entrepreneurship Papers No 17", 2019. [Online]. Available on: https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/oecd-sme-and-entrepreneurship-papers_f493861e-en [Accessed on: 10th January,2023]

¹⁰ DETE, " Report of the SME Taskforce: National SME and Entrepreneurship Growth Plan", 2021. [Online]. Available on: <https://assets.gov.ie/120136/27ff2549-d338-4507-bf16-1305a7f8c692.pdf> [Accessed on: 30th January,2023]

¹¹ DETE, " SME and Entrepreneurship Taskforce 2023: Priority Actions Progress Report", 2023. [Online]. Available on: <https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/publications/publication-files/sme-and-entrepreneurship-taskforce-2023-priority-actions-progress-report.pdf> [Accessed on: 27th February,2024]

- 3. Development of Certification Processes:** Certification bodies must develop and implement processes for auditing and certifying organizations to ISO 56001. This includes creating audit checklists, procedures, and certification documentation.

Promotion of ISO 56001

The committee participated in a social media campaign to promote the publication and adoption of ISO 56001:2024 in the last quarter of 2024. Mr Sean McNulty, former Chair of this committee, wrote an article published by NSAI about the benefits of ISO 56001 and how it can revolutionise innovation management. In his article, he explains that ISO 56001 provides a credible and internationally agreed-upon framework for managing innovation efforts across various departments and locations within an organisation. This standard helps organisations enhance their innovation capabilities, ensuring they can effectively drive and manage innovation activities using a systems based approach. The article is available for review at [Improve your organisation's capabilities to identify and realise new value | NSAI](#).

As part of Public Service Transformation Week 2024, organised by the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform (DPENDR). NSAI's Mr Barry Cox, Standards Development Manager, and Mr Eoin Flavin, Vice Chair of NSAI's National Innovation Management Committee, participated in a webinar. They discussed the critical importance of innovation in today's market and provided insights on tools and standards to help companies develop practical strategies for embracing and mastering innovative practices. The presentation was part of a broader effort to highlight advancements in innovation and large-scale transformation within Ireland's public services. The webinar is available at this [Link](#).

NSAI was invited to present at last years Research & Innovation Ireland Conference, that took place on November 7th, 2024. This event brought together leaders from various industries, government bodies and research institutions to discuss and advance Ireland's position as a global innovation hub. As part of the event NSAI committee members held a panel discussion on the importance of ISO 56000 series of standards.

NSAI Innovation awards 2024 Winners

Young Researcher Award | Divyanshu Sood, is a researcher from UCD whose research focuses on refining standards related to building energy efficiency and retrofitting by considering realistic occupancy behaviour and the strong relationship between energy & indoor environmental quality (IEQ).

Winner of Individual Researcher/Innovator Award | HTL Technologies is pioneering the use of 3D printing in house construction, focusing on compliance with industry standards to ensure quality and safety. They utilize the I.S. EN ISO/ASTM 52939:2023 standard, which governs additive construction, to build homes efficiently and sustainably. This approach has enabled them to achieve significant milestones, including the first certified 3D-printed housing project in Ireland.

European Innovation Scoreboard 2024

Ireland's innovation performance on the 2024 European Innovation Scoreboard remains solid, securing its position as a "Strong Innovator" within the EU. Ranking 10th with a performance at 113.2% of the EU average, Ireland continues to demonstrate its commitment to innovation. The adoption of ISO 56001:2024 is expected to further enhance Ireland's innovation capabilities, potentially boosting its ranking in the coming years¹².

¹² European Commission, "European Innovation Scoreboard 2024: Country Profile Ireland," Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, Brussels, Belgium, 2024. [Online]. Available: https://ec.europa.eu/assets/rtd/eis/2024/ec_rtd_eis-country-profile-ie.pdf. [Accessed: Jan. 30, 2025]