



International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management (ICE-SRM)

Criteria for ICE-SRM Designation and Terms of Reference for ICE-SRM¹

Criteria for ICE-SRM Designation

International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management (ICE-SRM) are a collaborative network of organisations focused on supporting sustainable management of the resources needed for development in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Climate Agreement. The Centres are conceived to provide – in full compliance with the adopted UNECE standards and guidelines – policy support, technical advice and consultation, education, training, dissemination, and other critical activities for stakeholders involved in sustainable development of national resource endowments.

Mission

Each Centre will promote within its activity footprint the global deployment of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC) and the United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS) to describe the resources needed for attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and support their management.

Criteria for ICE-SRM Designation

- 1. Committed to attaining the objectives of the UN to deploy UNFC and UNRMS, including research, technical advice, consultation and training thereon, education, advocacy, testing, dissemination, and definition of competence and certification.*
- 2. Committed to active engagement across the network of International Centres of Excellence, ensuring consistency in application, by sharing of experience, and reporting on progress made.*
- 3. Established as a going concern and a legal entity with strong relationships in the regional, national and local resource development community.*
- 4. Must have regional, national and local political support and visibility.*
- 5. Committed to the objectives of UNFC and UNRMS, as well as to the overall objectives of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement. In this respect, committed to an agenda relevant to regional, national and local needs based on an agreed menu of activities and projects.*

¹ Approved by the UNECE Expert Group on Resource Management at its Eleventh Session, 22-25 September 2020

6. *Committed to innovation, continuous development and excellence in all areas of resource management, including social, environmental, economic and technological aspects, and to overall integrated efficiency in providing resource-based services to populations, fully in line with UNFC and UNRMS policies and objectives.*
7. *Full transparency and full compliance with norms and requirements regarding potential conflicts of interest.*
8. *Demonstrated competence and capacity in the area of sustainable resource management in accordance with the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement.*
9. *Responsible for own resourcing (financial, human, and physical) and able to support a central UNECE resource management hub both in-kind and financially*
10. *Must have physical infrastructure (or access to it), including organizational infrastructure and a regional ecosystem that primes the Centre for success, and a demonstrated delivery mechanism.*

Terms of Reference for ICE-SRM

The mission of an ICE-SRM designated by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) is to support global dissemination of UNFC and UNRMS (and their locally adapted applications) through research, testing, consultation, education, advocacy and where appropriate, certification. The ICE-SRM (within its activity footprint) identifies opportunities, navigates barriers to adoption of UNFC and UNRMS and efficient resource management, brokers relationships, and showcases best practices and shares results with the ICE-SRM network. The ICE-SRMs directly support stakeholders within their activity footprint in achieving the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The activities and projects of an ICE-SRM will include:

Capacity-building

In full compliance with the adopted UNECE standards and guidelines and within its respective activity footprint:

1. Conduct training, including where appropriate procedures for recognition of competent persons² and certification.
2. Conduct research on efficient, integrated and sustainable resource management.
3. Conduct testing, case studies and demonstration of UNFC and UNRMS.
4. Conduct consultations in specific areas of sustainable resource management at the levels of policy formulation, government resource management, industry business process management and capital allocation.
5. Prepare training materials for universities and organisations and conduct educational courses, workshops and conferences.

Contribution to further development and maintenance of UNFC and UNRMS

² The term “Competent Person” is widely used in association with regulations addressing public corporate resource reporting in the extractive industries. These regulations are established or adopted by individual stock exchanges. Consequently, the requirement for, and definition of, a Competent Person varies between industries and jurisdictions. Equivalent comparable terms include Qualified Person, Qualified Reserve Estimator and Qualified Reserve Auditor.

In full compliance with the adopted UNECE standards and guidelines and within its respective activity footprint and as appropriate:

1. Engage in regular interactions with the network of centres of excellence and the Expert Group on Resource Management (and its Bureau) to ensure consistent development and application of UNFC and UNRMS, including at least annual reporting to the Expert Group of activities conducted in the previous period, plans for the coming period, and source and uses of funds contributed to the UNECE resource management hub.
2. Develop application of UNFC and UNRMS in line with the three axes of (a) social-environmental-economic viability, (b) technical feasibility and (c) degree of confidence.
3. Develop principles for public private partnerships emphasizing the importance of government-set framework conditions, industry adaption of capabilities and the capital market's ability to finance valid business models that the two generate.
4. Develop a technology innovation platform to address region- and nation-specific challenges in sustainable resource management.
5. Develop and implement financial reporting guidelines in collaboration with financial institutions.
6. Develop and implement quality assurance procedures including, as appropriate, a "competent person" mechanism, qualification guidelines and procedures.

Advocacy

1. Gather and disseminate knowledge directly and through partner organizations, including education and training, exhibits, case studies, research, demonstrations, and the production of industry focused print and on-line resources, including in languages other than English.
2. Catalyze industry tools and training development.
3. Identify and address potential barriers, in particular region- and nation-specific, to adoption and implementation.
4. Foster public demand and support for best practices through recognition and awards, public events, and demonstrations.
5. Support resource management improvements, including through uptake in the use and/or legislation of UNFC and UNRMS by countries, companies, regulators, financial reporting sector and other organizations.

Outreach

In full compliance with the adopted UNECE standards and guidelines and within its respective activity footprint:

1. Conduct outreach workshops.
2. Institute a dedicated website that is linked to the UNECE website.
3. Prepare and disseminate publications and documentation.
4. Present at key venues.
5. Promote and disseminate with respect to transparency and corporate reporting practices.
6. Support dialogue among international practitioners to identify challenges, share best practices and build a growing and diverse community of practice.

7. Promote global recognition of UNFC and UNRMS as brands in resource classification and management. Work with countries, companies, and other organisations to advocate their uptake.
8. Provide strategic consultancy services to governments, industry and the financial sector.

Reporting

1. An ICE-SRM reports to the Expert Group Resource Management.
2. An annual report on activities and achievements conducted in the previous period to be submitted to the Expert Group.
3. A work plan for the coming period, and source and uses of funds contributed to the UNECE resource management hub, to be submitted annually to the Expert Group.
