



IES EXPOSURE DRAFT: RESPONSE TEMPLATE

RESPONSE TEMPLATE FOR THE ED OF THE PROPOSED REVISIONS TO IES 2, 3, AND 4 – SUSTAINABILITY

Guide for Respondents

Comments are requested by **July 24, 2024**.

This template is for providing comments on the Exposure Draft (ED) of proposed revisions to International Education Standards 2, 3, and 4 -- Sustainability, in response to the questions set out in the Explanatory Memorandum (EM) to the ED. It also allows for respondent details, demographics and other comments to be provided. Use of the template will facilitate IFAC's automated collation of the responses.

You may respond to all questions or only selected questions.

To assist our consideration of your comments, please:

- For each question, start by indicating your overall response using the drop-down menu under each question. Then below that include any detailed comments, as indicated.
- When providing comments:
 - Respond directly to the questions.
 - Provide the rationale for your answers. If you disagree with the proposals in the ED, please provide specific reasons for your disagreement and specific suggestions for changes that may be needed to the requirements, application material or appendices. If you agree with the proposals, it will be helpful for IFAC to be made aware of this view.
 - Identify the specific aspects of the ED that your response relates to, for example, by reference to sections, headings or specific paragraphs in the ED.
 - Avoid inserting tables or text boxes in the template when providing your responses to the questions because this will complicate the automated collation of the responses.
- Submit your comments, using the response template only, without a covering letter or any summary of your key issues, instead identify any key issues, as far as possible, in your responses to the questions.

The response template provides the opportunity to provide details about your organization and, should you choose to do so, any other matters not raised in specific questions that you wish to place on the public record. All responses will be considered a matter of public record and will ultimately be posted on the IFAC website.

Use the [“Submit Comment”](#) button on the ED web page to upload the completed template.

Responses to IFAC’s Request for Comments in the EM for the ED, Proposed Revisions to IES 2, 3, and 4 – Sustainability

PART A: Respondent Details and Demographic information

Your organization’s name (or your name if you are making a submission in your personal capacity)	Society of Certified Accountants and Auditors of Kosovo (SCAAK)
Name(s) of person(s) responsible for this submission (or leave blank if the same as above)	-
Name(s) of contact(s) for this submission (or leave blank if the same as above)	Enkela Gjata Edona Perjuci
E-mail address(es) of contact(s)	enkela.gjata@scaak.org edona.perjuci@scaak.org
Geographical profile that best represents your situation (i.e., from which geographical perspective are you providing feedback on the ED). Select the most appropriate option.	Europe
	If “Other”, please clarify
The stakeholder group to which you belong (i.e., from which perspective are you providing feedback on the ED). Select the most appropriate option.	Member body and other professional organization
	If “Other”, please specify
Should you choose to do so, you may include information about your organization (or yourself, as applicable).	-

Should you choose to do so, you may provide overall views or additional background to your submission. **Please note that this is optional.** IFAC’s preference is that you incorporate all your views in your comments to the questions (also, the last question in Part C allows for raising any other matters in relation to the ED).

Information, if any, not already included in responding to the questions in Parts B and C:

PART B: Responses to Specific Questions in the EM for the ED

For each question, please start with your overall response by selecting one of the items in the drop-down list under the question. Provide your detailed comments, if any, below as indicated.

1. Do you support the proposed revisions to IES 2, 3, and 4 for sustainability? If not, please explain your reasons and indicate what changes you would suggest.

Overall response: [Agree \(with no further comments\)](#)

Detailed comments (if any):

2. Are the sustainability learning outcomes sufficient and appropriate expectations for aspiring professional accountants? If not, please explain your reasons and indicate what changes you would support.

Overall response: [Agree \(with no further comments\)](#)

Detailed comments (if any):

3A. Do you support the proposal to create a new competence area for assurance? If not, please explain your reason and indicate what changes you would suggest.

Overall response: [Agree, with comments below](#)

Detailed comments (if any): We support separation of auditing and other assurance services skill set. Our organization does provide specializes skills training/education separately for auditors on assurance related services, hence this separation is welcomed for us.

3B. Is the level of the proposed assurance competence area and learning outcomes at foundation level appropriate for aspiring for professional accountants? If not, please explain your reason and indicate what changes you would suggest.

Overall response: [Agree \(with no further comments\)](#)

Detailed comments (if any):

4. Are there any terms within the new and revised learning outcomes of IES 2, 3, and 4 which require further clarification? If so, please explain which terms and how they could be better explained or revised.

Overall response: Agree (with no further comments)

Detailed comments (if any):

5. Do you believe the adoption and implementation of the proposed revised IES 2, 3, and 4, including will present any challenges to your organization? If yes, what challenges do you foresee?

Overall response: Agree, with comments below

Detailed comments (if any): The challenges we foresee include: (I) Training Costs: Implementing these revised standards will require significant investment in training programs to ensure that our staff are up to date with the new requirements. (II) Redesigning Programs: Our existing educational and professional development programs will need to be redesigned to incorporate the new competencies and learning outcomes specified in IES 2 (Technical Competence), IES 3 (Professional Skills), and IES 4 (Professional Values, Ethics, and Attitudes).

It will be essential to maintain alignment between initial professional development and continuing professional education.

Part C: Request for General Comments

IFAC is also seeking comments on the matters set out below:

6. General comments are welcomed on all matters addressed in the proposed IES 2, 3, and 4 (See Appendices A to E). Where relevant, when making general comments, it is helpful to refer to specific paragraphs, include the reason for the comments and, where appropriate, make specific suggestions for any proposed changes to wording to fully appreciate the respondent's position. Where a respondent agrees with proposals in the exposure draft (especially those calling for a change in current practice), it is helpful to note the reason you agree.

Overall response: [See comments below](#)

Detailed comments (if any): We agree with the proposals in the revised IES 2, 3, and 4 as they aim to enhance the quality and consistency of professional accountancy education, which has impact in SCAAK. The focus on technical competence, professional skills, and professional values, ethics, and attitudes is critical for maintaining high standards in the profession. We appreciate the comprehensive approach taken in these revisions by IFAC and the effort to align educational standards globally.