



Environmental Diagnosis

COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TO IMPROVE SUSTAINABILITY

KEY WORDS

ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT,
SUSTAINABILITY,
ISO 14001

CONTACT US

magosto@unrn.edu.ar
jarribas@unrn.edu.ar

[Universidad Nacional
del Río Negro](http://Universidad Nacional del Río Negro)

DESCRIPTION

Environmental Diagnosis (ED) is an environmental management tool that allows organizations to determine their environmental performance, a fundamental requirement for designing a comprehensive environmental management system. ED is applicable to all organizations, regardless of type, size, or geographic location, that wish to improve their environmental management. It allows organizations to identify aspects, requirements, management practices, and describe how they operate. This process supports informed decision-making aimed at contributing to the organization's sustainability.

AVAILABLE TECHNIQUES AND/OR EQUIPMENT

- To conduct the environmental assessment, a series of activities are carried out to guide data collection and gather the information necessary to comply with the guidelines of ISO 14001 (ISO 14001:2015). The analysis considers environmental, legal, cultural, and social dimensions, as well as internal organizational issues, and political, financial, technological, economic, and competitive factors relative to other organizations. Visits are made to the study area, interviews are conducted with the responsible individuals within the organization, and talks/interviews are held with the workers. The methodology employs a semi-quantitative approach, and the data obtained are useful for understanding and characterizing the organization's environmental performance. A qualitative methodology for identifying and assessing environmental impacts is also used (such as the Leopold matrix or the importance matrix). It is worth noting that one of the distinctive features of this approach is that the data is obtained through the researcher's experience and direct observation.

APPLICATIONS

- Environmental assessment of organizations according to ISO 14001 standard
- International Standard for Environmental Management Systems (EMS)
- Applicability in environmental, legal, cultural, social dimensions and internal organizational issues