

ISBN 978-0-626-34118-3

**SANS 14046:2016**

Edition 1

**ISO 14046:2014**

Edition 1

## **SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL STANDARD**

# **Environmental management — Water footprint — Principles, requirements and guidelines**

This national standard is the identical implementation of ISO 14046:2014, and is adopted with the permission of the International Organization for Standardization.

### **WARNING**

**This document references other documents normatively.**

---

Published by SABS Standards Division  
1 Dr Lategan Road Groenkloof ☒ Private Bag X191 Pretoria 0001  
Tel: +27 12 428 7911 Fax: +27 12 344 1568

[www.sabs.co.za](http://www.sabs.co.za)

© SABS

**SABS**

---

**SANS 14046:2016**

Edition 1

**ISO 14046:2014**

Edition 1

**Table of changes**

Change No.	Date	Scope

**National foreword**

This South African standard was approved by National Committee SABS/TC 207, *Environmental management*, in accordance with procedures of the SABS Standards Division, in compliance with annex 3 of the WTO/TBT agreement.

This SANS document was approved for publication in December 2016.

**Compliance with this document cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.**

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

**ISO**  
**14046**

First edition  
2014-08-01

---

---

## **Environmental management — Water footprint — Principles, requirements and guidelines**

*Management environnemental — Empreinte eau — Principes,  
exigences et lignes directrices*



Reference number  
ISO 14046:2014(E)

© ISO 2014

**ISO 14046:2014(E)**



**COPYRIGHT PROTECTED DOCUMENT**

© ISO 2014

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized otherwise in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, or posting on the internet or an intranet, without prior written permission. Permission can be requested from either ISO at the address below or ISO's member body in the country of the requester.

ISO copyright office  
Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Geneva 20  
Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11  
Fax + 41 22 749 09 47  
E-mail [copyright@iso.org](mailto:copyright@iso.org)  
Web [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org)

Published in Switzerland

# Contents

Page

<b>Foreword</b> .....	<b>iv</b>
<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>v</b>
<b>1 Scope</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Normative references</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions</b> .....	<b>1</b>
3.1 Terms relating to types and classifications of water.....	1
3.2 Terms relating to water.....	3
3.3 Terms relating to life cycle assessment and water footprint assessment.....	3
3.4 Terms relating to interpretation and reporting of water footprint results.....	5
3.5 Terms relating to products, product systems, processes and organizations.....	6
3.6 Terms relating to data and data quality.....	8
<b>4 Principles</b> .....	<b>8</b>
4.1 General.....	8
4.2 Life cycle perspective.....	8
4.3 Environmental focus.....	9
4.4 Relative approach and functional unit.....	9
4.5 Iterative approach.....	9
4.6 Transparency.....	9
4.7 Relevance.....	9
4.8 Completeness.....	9
4.9 Consistency.....	9
4.10 Accuracy.....	9
4.11 Priority of scientific approach.....	9
4.12 Geographical relevance.....	9
4.13 Comprehensiveness.....	10
<b>5 Methodological framework</b> .....	<b>10</b>
5.1 General requirements.....	10
5.2 Goal and scope definition.....	11
5.3 Water footprint inventory analysis.....	15
5.4 Water footprint impact assessment.....	20
5.5 Interpretation of the results.....	24
5.6 Limitations of water footprint.....	25
<b>6 Reporting</b> .....	<b>25</b>
6.1 General.....	25
6.2 Additional requirements and guidance for third-party reports.....	26
6.3 Comparative assertion and comparative studies.....	29
<b>7 Critical review</b> .....	<b>29</b>
7.1 General.....	29
7.2 Need for critical review.....	30
7.3 Critical review by internal or external expert.....	30
7.4 Critical review by panel of interested parties.....	30
<b>Annex A (normative) Additional requirements and guidelines for organizations</b> .....	<b>31</b>
<b>Bibliography</b> .....	<b>33</b>