Governmental Use of Voluntary Standards

Case Study 10

Tuscany Region (Italy) and the SA8000 Standard for Social Accountability.

September 2008
Tuscany Region (Italy) and the SA8000 Standard for Social Accountability is part of a series of case studies developed through the ISEAL Alliance and TSPN ‘Governmental Use of Voluntary Standards’ project, presented and discussed at a high level conference held in October 2008.

These case studies are examples of collaborations between public bodies and voluntary social and environmental standards systems. They investigate why public authorities choose to work with these standards, and what are the benefits and challenges in doing so. Together, the studies represent diversity: in socio-economic and regulatory environments, in the institutional arrangements between governments and standards, in the policy objectives aimed for, and the implementation tools used.

The studies hope to contribute to a critical dialogue about the future shape of the relationship between governments and international, social and environmental, voluntary standards.
Contents

Acknowledgements 4
Contacts & Further Information 4
Acronyms & Abbreviations 5

Introduction 6

1 How the Tuscan Government Engages with Voluntary Certification 8
  1.1 The Regulatory & Institutional Framework 8
  1.2 The Voluntary Standards Framework 11
  1.3 Other Stakeholders 12

2 How the Voluntary Standard is Applied 13

3 The Government’s Motivations 14

4 Impacts 15

5 Lessons Learned 17

References 18
Acknowledgements

This case study could not have been written without the kind help and contributions of many people.

In particular, I would like to thank Fabrizia Paloscia, Head of Cabinet, Ministry for Production Activities, Regional Government of Tuscany, her colleagues Giuseppina De Lorenzo and Ylenia Brilli; and Alice Tepper Marlin, President Social Accountability International, for completing the research study questionnaire and being available to be interviewed for the project and to review earlier drafts of the case study.

My thanks also to Elizabeth Guttenstein, Policy Director, ISEAL Alliance and Lucy Glover, Communications Manager, ISEAL Alliance for their editorial support. I would also like to thank the project Steering Group members for their feedback on earlier drafts of the case study.

Although I received a great deal of help, the responsibility for any errors of fact or interpretation lies solely with the author.

The material and geographical designations in this report do not imply any opinion whatsoever on the part of the author, of the ISEAL Alliance, the TSPN or any of the project donors and partners concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Christine Carey, Geneva, September 2008

Contacts & Further Information

Christine Carey
Lead Researcher, ISEAL-TSPN Governmental Use of Voluntary Standards Project
1261 Le Vaud, Switzerland
Tel: + 41 (0)79 776 4778, christine.carey@iprolink.ch

Fabrizia Paloscia
Head of Cabinet, Ministry for Production Activities, Regional Government of Tuscany
Via Novoli, 26, Firenze 50127, Italy
Tel. + 39 055 4383080, fabrizia.paloscia@regione.toscana.it
www.regione.toscana.it / www.fabricaethica.it

Alice Tepper Marlin
President, Social Accountability International
15 West 44th Street, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10036, United States
Tel: +1 212 684 1414, info@sa-intl.org
www.sa-intl.org

Elizabeth Guttenstein
Policy Director, ISEAL Alliance
BP 10008, B 1060 St. Gilles – Stéphanie, Brussels, Belgium
Tel: + 32 (0)473 170606, Elizabeth@isealalliance.org
www.isealalliance.org
## Acronyms & Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CER</td>
<td>Comitato Etico Regionale – Regional Ethics Committee, Tuscany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTANCE</td>
<td>Confederation of National Associations of Tanners &amp; Dressers of the European Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSR</td>
<td>Corporate Social Responsibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMAS</td>
<td>Eco-Management &amp; Audit Scheme, European Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETUF-TCL</td>
<td>European Trade Union Federation of Textiles, Clothing and Leather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO</td>
<td>International Labour Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INAIL</td>
<td>National Institute for Insurance Against Work Related Accidents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRES</td>
<td>Italian Institute of Economic and Social Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISO</td>
<td>International Standardization Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAI</td>
<td>Social Accountability International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA8000</td>
<td>Social Accountability International standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMEs</td>
<td>Small &amp; Medium-Sized Enterprise(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organisation of the United Nations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction

Accidents, fatalities, work-related diseases, and human rights violations in the workplace are increasing\(^1\). This crisis of health and safety, and of freedom of association affects workplaces in both developed and developing countries.

An International Labour Organization (ILO) report estimates that each year, globally, there are some 250 million workplace accidents of which 335 thousand are fatal. In addition, there are 160 million cases of occupational diseases recorded that contribute to 1.1 million deaths per year related to poor workplace conditions\(^2\). A second ILO report, *A Future Without Child Labour*, estimated in 2002 that 246 million children aged five to seventeen are forced to work; and of these 180 million carry out tasks that are hazardous to their physical, moral and psychological health\(^3\).

Addressing these complex issues of health and safety, child labour and human rights in the workplace is a key component of the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) agenda, challenging multi-nationals, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and governments in both developing and developed countries.

Over the last ten years, a number of tools have been developed in an attempt to achieve more positive CSR outcomes. These include social and environmental reporting, ethical codes of conduct, and social and environmental certification to demonstrate compliance with voluntary standards.

The New York based human rights organisation, Social Accountability International (SAI) was established in 1997 to provide a global standard for decent workplace conditions. Its SA8000 standard provides for organisations to meet global standards and national labour law on: child labour, forced labour, health and safety, collective bargaining, discrimination, disciplinary practices, working hours, and compensation.

The SA8000 standard is based on International Labour Organization (ILO) treaties, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child, and an effective human resources management system. The associated certification system assures that certified facilities abide by SA8000, providing a mature system of industrial relations.

---

\(^1\) WHO and ILO (2005) 

\(^2\) Regione Toscana (2007) page 3

\(^3\) ILO (2002) page 1
In 2001, with the publication of the European Commission’s Green Paper *Promoting a European Framework for Corporate Social Responsibility*™ CSR began to enter the European mainstream. The Green Paper itself was a response to the 2000 Lisbon European Council’s strategic objective of “becoming the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion”™.

Although the Corporate Social Responsibility movement’s original target was the private sector, governments are also increasingly becoming involved, and beginning to incorporate CSR tools into government policy to deliver on a number of policy objectives from improving economic competitiveness to social cohesion.

One European government that has taken the lead in this area is the Italian Regional Government of Tuscany. In March 2002, acting on the policy objectives of the European Commission’s 2001 CSR Green Paper, the Government of Tuscany selected the SA8000 standard as a key CSR tool to promote and support Tuscan Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs). A direct result by April 2008 Tuscany had 242 SA8000 certified companies. This represents 32 percent of total Italian SA8000 certified companies and the highest number of SA8000 certifications in any region around the world.

> How did this come about?
> What motivated the Regional Government of Tuscany to support Social Accountability SA8000 certification?
> What has the impact been?
> And finally what can other governments and standards organisations learn from the experiences of the Tuscany Region Government?

This case study will explore these questions by examining the experience of the Tuscan Regional Government with SA8000 certification. It is based on research and interviews conducted between June and August 2008, and a survey of published and unpublished literature. It does not claim to be comprehensive but aims to provide insight into the research questions on governmental use of voluntary standards.

---


1 How the Tuscan Government Engages with Voluntary Certification

1.1 The Regulatory & Institutional Framework

In 2001, the European Commission published its first official Green Paper on Corporate Social Responsibility, defining CSR as: “a concept whereby companies integrate social and environmental concerns in their business operations and in their interactions with their stakeholders on a voluntary basis”.6

Drawing from this report, the Regional Government of Tuscany initiated a programme of research, training and education in CSR. Building on the Regional Plan for Economic Development, the President of the Regional Executive Committee established the Regional Ethical Commission (CER) in May 2003.

The CER is chaired by the Tuscan Minister for Production Activities and made up of 24 representatives from various stakeholder groups that represent business associations, trade

---

6 European Commission (2001b)
unions, NGOs, consumer associations, local public bodies, chamber of commerce and banks.

The Commission was set up to: “monitor the Tuscan economic system and promote actions devised in compliance with the various local economic realities. It represents a milestone on the Tuscan route toward the achievement of social corporate responsibility. It is a forum for debate and the exchange of best practices, where the various actors involved can put forward critical aspects, ideas and solutions by sharing their experiences, expertise and networks of local, national and international relations”.

The Production Activities Ministry

The CER appointed the Production Activities Ministry to be responsible for promoting and supporting the adoption of SA8000 certification, as well as develop industrial policy to support and promote innovation and competitiveness in Tuscan SMEs, promote regional investment, and social cohesion.

The Ministry’s policies aim to recognise the valuable connection of SMEs to the local community, the importance of a shared regional identity and the concept of the shared brand “Made in Italy”. To achieve this, the Ministry coordinates the Fabrica Ethica programme. Funding for the initiative comes from European Structural Funds and a mix of Italian regional and national funds for economic development.

Legislative Framework

In May 2006, the Tuscan Regional Government adopted Regional Law N°17 of 8 May 2006 on Corporate Social Responsibility. Article 3, Actions in Favour of Enterprises provides for support and promotion (for example through better regulatory processes or tax reductions) of enterprises that “voluntarily adopt international, European or national standards on the introduction and development of certifiable accountability systems and corporate management systems (including integrated systems), as well as standards on product or service certification guaranteeing the transparency and credibility of socially responsible practices”.

No standards are specifically referenced in the legal text. However, it does specify that support will be provided for enterprises to adopt:

> certifiable corporate management systems (including integrated systems),

---

1 Regione Toscana (2007) page 13
2 Fabrica Ethica can be translated as Ethical Production
that aim to deliver on quality, environment, social responsibility and safety in the workplace,

as well as to adopt corporate accountability methods in line with national and international standards and regional guidelines.

Alongside the SA8000 standard Tuscany also supports a range of management systems standards, and the integration of these with SA8000, including the ISO 9001 Quality Management System Standard, the ISO 14001 Environmental Management System Standard, and the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) of the European Union.

**Financing**

Article 3 of Regional Law No. 17 also provides for financing to support the objectives outlined above. Financing can include both incentives and tax breaks to SMEs becoming SA8000 certified. For example, it provides funding to SMEs for up to 50 percent of costs related to SA8000 certification. Support is targeted at five selected priorities:

- Industry
- Handicrafts
- Tourism
- Commerce and
- SMEs with Female Participation

Additionally, SMEs certified to the SA8000 standard are entitled to a tax abatement of 0.5% on the Regional Tax on Productive Businesses (IRAP). When a SA8000 certified company can demonstrate improvements in health and safety practices in the workplace, there are potential reductions on national insurance premiums through the government agency, the National Institute for Insurance Against Work Related Accidents (INAIL).

All funding information and application forms are available to the public from the website [www.fabricaethica.it](http://www.fabricaethica.it).

Beyond the Tuscan Regional Government, other entities also support SA8000 certification. The Tuscan Regional Bilateral Body for Handicrafts (EBRET) provides funding to enterprises to obtain certification up to a maximum amount of Euro 5,164⁹. The local Chambers of Commerce also part fund, with European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) co-funding, social reporting and SA8000 certification¹⁰.

---

⁹ [www.ebret.it](http://www.ebret.it)
¹⁰ Regione Toscana (2007) page 11
This package of financial incentives and tax breaks has inspired many companies to apply for SA8000 certification. Between 2002 and 2007 some Euro 12.4 million were granted to Tuscan SMEs to obtain SA8000 and other certifications.

Although SA8000 is not explicitly referenced in the legislation, it is widely promoted in the many publications and supporting documents produced by the Production Activities Ministry and Fabrica Ethica. The continued dedication and expertise of individuals in the Ministry have been instrumental in generating the great interest in and uptake of SA8000 certification in Tuscany.

1.2 The Voluntary Standards Framework

Social Accountability International

Social Accountability International (SAI) is an international standards setting non-profit human rights organisation dedicated to the ethical treatment of workers.

In 1997, SAI launched SA8000 a voluntary management standard used by businesses, non-profit organisations and governments. The SA8000 standard is an auditable certification standard based on international workplace norms of International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. It includes requirements on:

> Child labour
> Forced labour
> Health and Safety
> Freedom of Association and Right to Collective Bargaining
> Discrimination
> Discipline
> Working Hours
> Compensation
> Management Systems

SAI's social accountability system approach is based on capacity building, transparency, credibility and verification. To deliver this, SAI focuses on four main programme areas: a) research and development on social accountability standards, b) accreditation, improvement of auditing effectiveness, c) training & technical assistance, and d) outreach and alliance building.
As of March 2008, 872,052 workers in 64 countries were employed at 1,693 factories, stores, farms, and government offices certified to SA8000.

1.3 Other Stakeholders

Unioncamere

Unioncamere is the association that represents Italian Chambers of Commerce. It is a key organisation that promotes CSR initiatives at the local level, in particular focusing on small and medium size enterprises.

In 2003 a Joint Agreement was signed between the Italian Minister of Labour and Social Affairs and the President of Unioncamere with the aim to promote CSR. The Corporate Social Responsibility – Social Commitment (CSR-SC) Project was born from this Joint Agreement\(^{11}\). CSR-SC aims at leading Italian enterprises to make a Social Statement of commitment to CSR objectives, based on pre-defined guidelines and a set of reporting indicators. A “CSR-SC information point” was set-up to support enterprises to undergo self-assessment and then develop a Social Statement. Currently about 50 Chambers of Commerce support enterprises in this process.

Unioncamere promotes the use of voluntary standards and guidelines as tools to deliver on the Social Statement, listing amongst others SA8000 and AA1000\(^{12}\). Furthermore, working in collaboration with the National Institute for Insurance against Work Accidents and the Luigi Bocconi University, Unioncamere set up in 2005 the Italian Centre for Social Responsibility (I-CSR). I-CSR is a think tank funded by the Italian Government to conduct basic and applied research into social responsibility issues that favour voluntary approaches to corporate responsibility such as certification and labelling schemes including SA8000.

\(^{11}\) [www.csr.unioncamere.it](http://www.csr.unioncamere.it)

\(^{12}\) AccountAbility’s standards, the AA1000 Series, are principles-based standards that provide the basis for improving the sustainability performance of organisations. They are applicable to organisations in any sector, including the public sector and civil society, of any size and in any region. [www.accountability21.net](http://www.accountability21.net)
2 How the Voluntary Standard is Applied

SMEs and organisations wishing to engage with SA8000 certification have two options:

1. certification to SA8000 and
2. participation in the SAI Corporate Program (CP).

**Certification to SA8000:** Certification is the process by which facilities demonstrate conformance in an independent audit against the SA8000 Standard. If a facility meets the Standard, it will earn a certificate attesting to its social accountability policies, management, and operations.

Companies that operate production facilities can seek to have individual facilities certified to SA8000 through audits by one of the accredited certification bodies. SA8000 certification is conducted by organisations accredited and overseen by Social Accountability Accreditation Services (SAAS). Both certified and accredited organisations undergo semi-annual review and revisits.

To obtain SA8000 certification, an organisation must select a SA8000 accredited certification body. SA8000 accredited certification bodies are listed on the Social Accountability Accreditation Services website [www.saasaccreditation.org/accredcertbodies.htm](http://www.saasaccreditation.org/accredcertbodies.htm). There are currently 17 organisations listed, two of which are headquartered in Italy: CISE (Centro per l'Innovazione e lo Sviluppo Economico (Flori) and RINA S.P.A (Registro Italiano Navale Group (Genova). Most others have offices in Italy, including BV, DNV and SGS-SSC (Milan).

For a facility to implement the SA8000 system, training and assistance are widely available, including from Social Accountability International (SAI). In Tuscany training and technical assistance is available from public-private partnerships organised by SAI and its partners and often supported by grants from the government.

**Participation in SAI's Corporate Programme:**

SAI's Corporate Programme helps companies to extend the principles and management systems approach unique to SA8000 throughout their supply chains. There are three possible ‘step wise’ levels of engagement with SAI’s Corporate Programme: ‘supporting’, ‘explorer’, and ‘signatory’.

The **supporting level** is intended to provide companies with an overview on issues of social compliance in the workplace and

---

**Key Messages**

> To obtain SA8000 an organisation must select a SA8000 accredited certification body. The organisation is assessed and if awarded certification will undergo annual surveillance audits. SA8000 certification will last for three years over which time there is an agreed programme of continual improvement.

> SA8000 certified organisations are eligible for training and technical assistance from a variety of providers.

> To facilitate the application of the SA8000 standard, corporations may apply to become a ‘supporter’, ‘explorer’ or ‘signatory’ in the SAI Corporate Programme.
the supply chain. It is for corporations seeking ways to compare and enhance their existing systems. Gucci the Florence-based iconic Italian design house is an SAI supporting member.

Participation in the **explorer level** offers companies a credible way to communicate progress to stakeholders benchmarked to SA8000 systems and best practices. SAI independently verifies and reports on the company’s baseline obtained from the self-assessment tool, as well as annual progress reports tracking progress within the programme.

The **signatory level** is defined by participation in SAI’s Corporate Assessment Program, which involves a full multi-stakeholder assessment of a corporation’s compliance systems throughout its supply chain, and detailed recommendations for improvements. The Corporate Assessment helps companies gauge the efficiency and effectiveness of their systems in order to maximise the impact of their compliance resources.

### 3 The Government’s Motivations

The Regional Government of Tuscany’s key motivation in adopting a Regional Law on Corporate Social Responsibility was to improve the competitiveness of Tuscan SMEs. Its decision to support and promote SA8000 was and remains to assist Tuscan SMEs to differentiate themselves in the global market by adding value to their brand, and by so doing improve their competitiveness and gain new ethical niche markets.

Alongside this positive motivation, the Tuscan Government also recognised that many SMEs needed to improve their working conditions and labour practices. This was brought to the fore in 2001, when through a series of newspaper exposés uncovered child labour and Chinese migrants working in sweatshop-like conditions in Prato, near Florence. In research later published in 2004 by the Italian Institute of Economic and Social Research (IRES) and the CGIL Trade Union, it emerged: “that 400 thousand children of 14 years of age are exploited in the workplace [in Italy]. These are the children of immigrants and of nearly 30 – 35 thousand illegal migrants. Of these, nearly 70 thousand work four consecutive hours per day, while

---


40 thousand spend more than eight hours in the workplace rather than devoting themselves to study or leisure activities\textsuperscript{15}. 

These discoveries further reinforced the Government into adopting its CSR agenda and strengthened its commitment to voluntary audited workplace certification.

\section*{4 Impacts}

Since the Government of Tuscany’s launch of the \textit{Fabrica Ethica} programme that supports and promotes SA8000 certification there have been several positive impacts.

As a result of its support and commitment to SA8000, the Regional Government of Tuscany has been invited to give a number of high level international presentations, and received two awards which have enhanced the Government’s international reputation. In October 2006, the Regional Government of Tuscany was awarded the Best European CSR Practice by the European Commission for its \textit{Fabrica Ethica} programme\textsuperscript{16}. In 2007, the Regional Government was awarded the European Enterprise Award for Responsible Entrepreneurship, also by the European Commission. The expertise and leadership of the Tuscan Government have also led to officials being invited to join the Italian national standards body delegation to the ISO 26000 Working Group on Social Responsibility.

Tuscany’s support of CSR and SA8000 has led to the creation of a number of new jobs in a broad range of fields related to standards and certification including auditors, consultants, and ethical business managers\textsuperscript{17}.

If the above jobs have been created to service the growing demand for ethical certification, further benefits to the regional economy are thought to have been indirectly secured through the social and financial costs savings that SA8000 can deliver, for example, through reduced accidents, tax evasion, and loss of days worked\textsuperscript{18}.

The success of Tuscany’s \textit{Fabrica Ethica} programme, provides evidence of the ‘multiplier effect’ and is inspiring other public authorities, who are increasingly active in promoting and developing CSR-related practices by companies operating in the region.

\begin{footnotesize}
\begin{threeparttable}
\begin{tabular}{p{\textwidth}}
\textsuperscript{15} Regione Toscana (2007) page 7 \\
\textsuperscript{16} Regione Toscana (2007) page 31 \\
\textsuperscript{17} Personal communication: Giuseppina De Lorenzo July 2008 \\
\textsuperscript{18} Personal communication: Giuseppina De Lorenzo July 2008
\end{tabular}
\end{threeparttable}
\end{footnotesize}
within their jurisdiction. For example, nine other Italian Regional Governments have developed or are developing incentives for socially responsible businesses and SA8000 certification. These include: Umbria (Perugia), Campania (Naples), Emilia Romagna (Bologna), Lazio (Rome), Lombardy (Milan), Le Marche (Ancona, Urbino), Piemonte (Turin), Puglia (Bari, Lecce), and Veneto (Venice).

Umbria, in particular, has created a Regional Register of SA8000 certified companies under the Umbria Regional Act N°20/2002 and enacted specific provisions under Regional Act N°21/2002 for the “certification of quality, environmental, safety, and ethical systems of Umbrian companies”. It has also included public procurement in its CSR policies, and gives preference in procurement contracts to SA8000 certified enterprises. At present there are more than forty SA8000 certified facilities in Umbria.

Fabrica Ethica is also inspiring large companies to follow the lead of SMEs in strengthening their brand through SA8000 certification. The luxury goods design and manufacturing company Gucci has decided to implement SA8000 in its tanneries across Italy as a result of participating in training on the SA8000 standard and developing codes of conduct. The training was co-organised by the European Trade Union Federation of Textiles, Clothing and Leather (ETUF-TCL), the Confederation of National Associations of Tanners and Dressers of the European Community (COTANCE), SAI and the Tuscan government. Since, the project has been replicated in the shoe sector in partnership with the European Footwear Manufacturers Confederation (CEC).

Looking to the future, and to embedding CSR in the mentality and lifestyle of future generations of Tuscans, the Regional Government has launched a programme aimed at increasing awareness of CSR issues, globalisation and human rights in the workplace through training materials for teachers and students. Currently, this is being used in eight Tuscan high schools, primarily those located in areas traditionally associated with leather goods manufacturing.

---

19 Personal communication: Alice Tepper Marlin PowerPoint presentation 2007
5 Lessons Learned

Since the Government of Tuscany’s launch of its regional legislation on CSR a number of key lessons have been observed:

High level political will and support

From its introduction in 2002, corporate social responsibility has received high level political support from the Regional Government of Tuscany and in particular from Regional Minister of Production Activities, Ambrogio Brenna. Support has been in the form of a clear and comprehensive legislative framework, funding, provision of training and the establishment of the Fabrica Ethica programme with dedicated staff who report directly to the Regional Minister of Production Activities.

A winning combination

The decision of the Tuscan government to launch an awareness raising CSR campaign and provide a package of grants, financial incentives, and tax breaks contributed to the significant uptake of SA8000 certifications. Financial incentives are particularly important to SMEs because they operate with higher relative overhead costs and have fewer staff particularly in management, than larger companies. The combination of information and incentives inspired SMEs to become certified. As more SMEs sought certification and experienced the benefits (e.g., audits that lead to improvements in supply systems, improved employee retention, etc) more SMEs followed creating the viral spread of certification that continues today.

The CER Embodies “Solidarity Based Economy”

The Regional Ethical Commission remains an invaluable mechanism to support the adoption of SA8000. Its multi-stakeholder approach that includes among others trade unions, employers associations, the Tuscan Branch of the Association of Italian Municipalities, consumers and NGOs represent the region’s “solidarity based economy”. According to Simone Sorbi, Head of the CER’s Social Responsibility Department: “this is an opportunity for dialogue between circles that do not often come into contact. Although it is chaired by a locally elected representative, it lies outside the institutional framework and its members can discuss real problems”.

---

20 Regione Toscana (2007)
References


ILO (2008) Number of Work Related Accidents and Illnesses Continues to Increase. www.ilo.org


Project Partners and Donors

ISEAL Alliance
The ISEAL Alliance and its members represent a holistic movement that is changing the way the world does business through voluntary social and environmental standards.
www.isealalliance.org

Trade Standards Practitioners Network
The TSPN is an informal network of organisations whose work covers trade-related standards associated with agriculture and other rural industries.
www.tradestandards.org

Entwined Research Programme
Entwined is an international research consortium aimed at improving the science and policy basis for environmental governance through trade.
www.entwined.se

SECO - State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, Switzerland
The SECO is the federal government of Switzerland's centre of expertise for all core issues relating to economic policy.
www.seco-cooperation.admin.ch

The World Bank
The World Bank is a multilateral organisation, whose work focuses on achievement of the Millennium Development Goals that call for the elimination of poverty and sustained development.
www.worldbank.org
Additional Titles in this Series

This document is part of a series developed through the ISEAL Alliance and TSPN ‘Governmental Use of Voluntary Standards’ project, presented and discussed at a high level conference held in October 2008. The series includes a summary report and ten case studies.

1. Belgium’s Fair Trade Centre, and the Fair Trade Movement
2. Bolivia and Forest Stewardship Council Standards
3. Groningen Province (the Netherlands) and Fairtrade (FLO) Standards
4. The Guatemalan Maya Biosphere Reserve and Forest Stewardship Council Standards
5. Israel and Marine Aquarium Council Standards
7. Rwanda and the East Africa Organic Products Standard
8. South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and the Marine Stewardship Council Standard
9. Tunisia’s Organic Standard
10. Tuscany Region (Italy) and the SA8000 Standard for Social Accountability.

Governmental Use of Voluntary Standards

A project of the ISEAL Alliance & the Trade Standards Practitioners’ Network:
www.isealalliance.org
www.tradestandards.org

In collaboration with Entwined
www.entwined.se

With the financial support of: