

**Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management**

With a goal of zero harm to people and the environment, the GISTM sets a global benchmark for responsible tailings management, by integrating social, environmental, and technical considerations.

The Standard covers the entire tailings facility lifecycle, from site selection, design, and construction, to ongoing management, monitoring, closure, and post-closure.

It enhances accountability at the highest levels, adds new requirements for independent oversight, and has clear expectations for transparency and disclosure to increase stakeholder trust and understanding.

**1 Affected Communities**

01 Human rights, meaningful engagement and remedy for harm

- ✓ Identify and address **human rights most at risk**.
- ✓ Provide opportunities for meaningful engagement of project-affected people in decisions that may have a bearing on public safety and the integrity of the tailings facility.

**2 Integrated Knowledge Base**

02 Interdisciplinary knowledge base  
03 Informed decision-making

- ✓ Document knowledge about the social, environmental and local economic context of a tailings facility.
- ✓ This will support informed decision-making throughout the tailings facility lifecycle.

**3 Design, Construction, Operation & Monitoring**

04 Plan and design to minimise risk  
05 Develop a robust design  
06 Minimise and manage risk across lifecycle  
07 Monitor across lifecycle

- ✓ Establish robust requirements to minimise risk of failure by **maintaining an informed knowledge base**.
- ✓ Evaluate performance data, use it to frequently update monitoring programmes and regularly report results.

**4 Management & Governance**

08 Policies, systems & accountabilities  
09 Engineer of record  
10 Levels of review  
11 Organisational culture  
12 Whistle-blower protections

- ✓ Assign **responsibility and accountability** for key roles.
- ✓ Support cross-functional collaboration, **promote** identification of problems and **protect** whistle-blowers.
- ✓ Establish standards for critical systems and processes essential to upholding integrity of a facility.

**5 Emergency Response & Long Term Recovery**

13 Emergency response  
14 Long-term recovery

- ✓ Establish a **community-focused** emergency preparedness and response plan.
- ✓ Have capacity to engage with communities, public sector and other agencies, to **prepare for the event of a failure**.
- ✓ Support recovery of affected communities and the environment affected by a catastrophic tailings failure.

**6 Public Disclosure & Access To Information**

15 Public disclosure

- ✓ Disclose information to support public accountability.
- ✓ Participate in initiatives for the creation of standardised, independent, industry-wide and publicly accessible information about the safety and integrity of tailings facilities.

Comprising six Topic areas, 15 Principles and 77 auditable Requirements, the Standard provides a framework for safe tailings facility management while affording Operators flexibility as to how best to achieve this goal.