A. About Standard ISO 14001

- This International Standard specifies requirements for an environmental management system, to enable an organization to formulate a policy and objectives taking into account legislative requirements and information about significant environmental impacts. It applies to those environmental aspects which the organization can control and over which it can be expected to have an influence. It does not itself state specific environmental performance criteria

- All the requirements in this International Standard are intended to be incorporated into any environmental management system. The extent of the application will depend on such factors as the environmental policy of the organization, the nature of its activities and the conditions in which it operates.

1. **What Benefits will the standard bring to business**.

- Implementing and conforming to an EMS based on the ISO14001 standard not only shows that an organization is environmentally responsible, but it also brings numerous benefits within the organization such as

- Identifying cost savings with greater emphasis on resources, waste and energy management.

- Quantifying, monitoring and controlling the impact of operations on the environment, now and in the future.

- Improve environmental performance of supply chain.

- Improving management of environmental risks and emergency preparedness and response procedures.

- Improved corporate image among business partners, regulatory agencies, and community by showing that the organization is environmentally responsible.
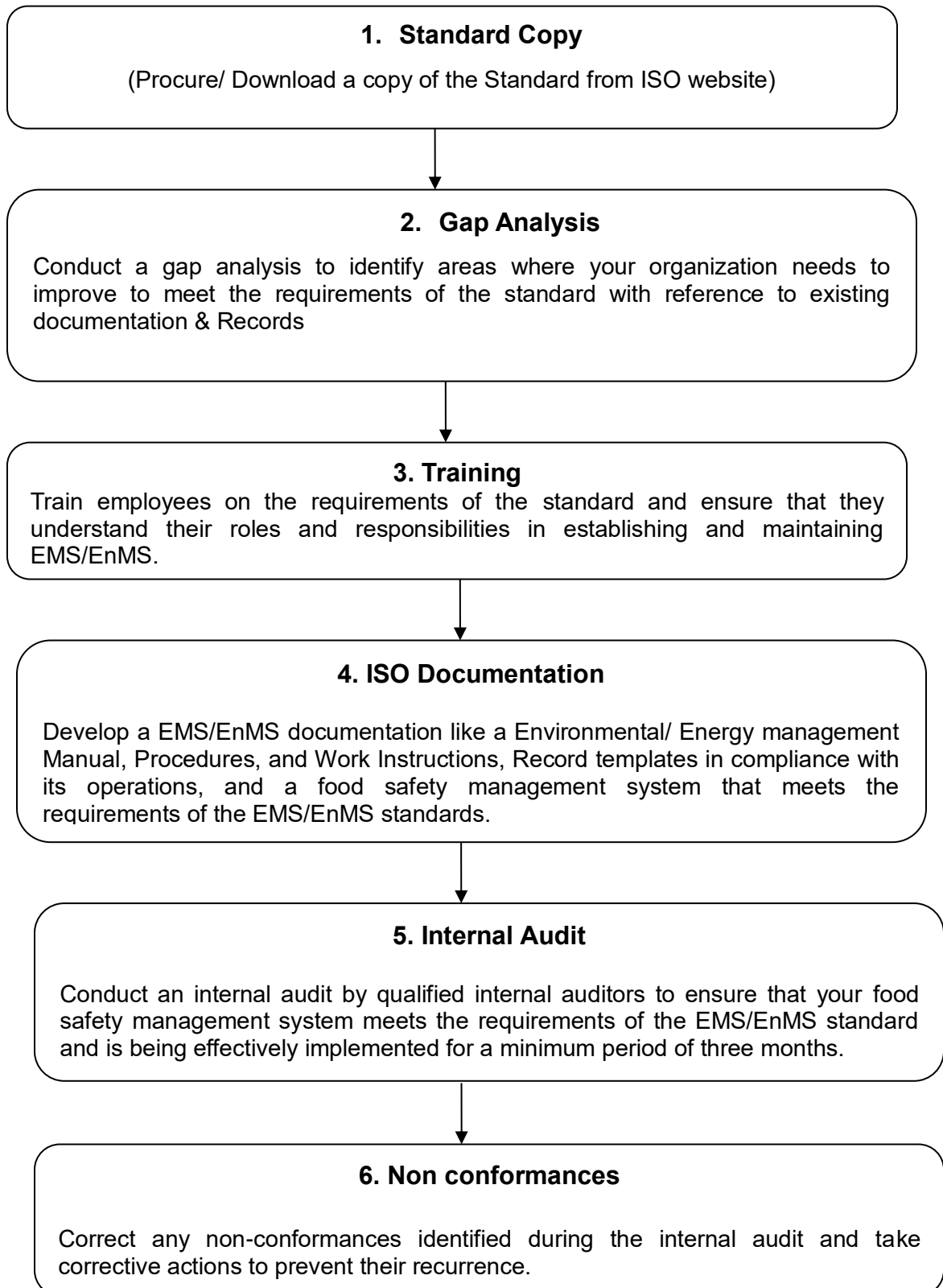
2. **Standard Applicable to**

- This International Standard is applicable to any organization that wishes toImplement, maintain and improve an environmental management system;

3. **Where can I get more information and down load the standard copy**

    You can visit www.iso.org and purchase a copy of the standard.

B. Steps involved in obtaining EMS Certification:

1. Standard Copy

(Procure/ Download a copy of the Standard from ISO website)

2. Gap Analysis

Conduct a gap analysis to identify areas where your organization needs to improve to meet the requirements of the standard with reference to existing documentation & Records

3. Training

Train employees on the requirements of the standard and ensure that they understand their roles and responsibilities in establishing and maintaining EMS/EnMS.

4. ISO Documentation

Develop a EMS/EnMS documentation like a Environmental/ Energy management Manual, Procedures, and Work Instructions, Record templates in compliance with its operations, and a food safety management system that meets the requirements of the EMS/EnMS standards.

5. Internal Audit

Conduct an internal audit by qualified internal auditors to ensure that your food safety management system meets the requirements of the EMS/EnMS standard and is being effectively implemented for a minimum period of three months.

6. Non conformances

Correct any non-conformances identified during the internal audit and take corrective actions to prevent their recurrence.

7. Select a Certification body

Submit the application form to a certification body that is accredited to issue EMS/EnMS certification after all non-conformances are closed.

8. Certification body

The certification body will conduct external audit Stage 1 and Stage 2 audits to assess your organization's compliance with EMS/EnMS. No of man-days for the audit and fees for certification depends on the number of employees, its processes, unit locations, etc

9. Certificate

On the closure of all non-conformances, if any are raised during the audit, a certificate will be issued which will be valid for three years.

10. Maintain certification

To maintain your EMS/EnMS certification, you will need to undergo periodic surveillance audits to ensure you continue to meet the requirements of the standard. Normally once in a year

<u>Refer to Our Disclaimer Policy</u>