WORKING MATERIAL 2.1 · CHAPTER 2 — THE OPERATIONAL PERSPECTIVE · SETTING: BOHINJ, SLOVENIA

Determining the Context on a Single Page

Source: Francesco Dore, The Helm and the Lens, Volume 9a — The Small Property, subchapter 2.1 (book page 211)

GUIDING QUESTION

What will come at your house from outside in the next few years, and what inside it will change whether you want it or not? Do both fit on one page, and does something follow from every line?

1 · Verification Pact: market claims against the standard

Copied from the book. The last column is for your property: what holds here, and how you know it.

What is claimed	Binding?	What actually holds	In our property
The context must be a SWOT analysis	No	No method is prescribed (4.1)	
The context must be documented in writing	No	4.1 requires the issues to be determined; the scope must be documented (4.3)	
Climate change only concerns industry	No	Since the 2024 amendments, the standards require determining whether it is relevant	
Climate change must be declared relevant	Only partially true	Required is the determination; the house gives the answer and its reasons	
The longer the list, the better	No	Relevant to the purpose and acting on the intended results (4.1)	
The context must be rewritten every year	Only partially true	Changes are a review input (9.3); the house sets the rhythm	
Clients and authorities do not belong in the context	Only partially true	They may appear as issues; their requirements are handled under 4.2 (2.2)	

2 · Common mistakes — a self-check

Tick each mistake you recognise in your own property, and note where it shows.

☐ Filling a template instead of deciding: the result fits every house on the lake.

☐ Writing down everything that comes to mind, so the important lines are lost.

☐ Leaving out the uncomfortable internal issues that move the house most.

☐ Treating climate change as an opinion rather than as the house’s own winters and storms.

☐ Answering the climate question without a reason.

☐ Columns without consequences: a picture of the house decides nothing.

☐ Writing the sheet in May and never reading it again.

☐ Leaving out those who do not sit at the desk: the cellar and the barn see different things.

3 · A Checklist for the Context Sheet

The book's checklist, with a column for your own answer.

Question	Why it matters	Our answer
Did everyone who carries the house contribute to the sheet?	Each knows only a part of the context	
Are the lines facts of our house rather than general words?	General words fit every house and help none	
Have we determined, with reasons, whether climate change is relevant?	The standards require the determination, not a given answer	
Have we struck out what acts on none of our aims?	The important lines get lost among the rest	
Does every line lead to a decision, an observation or a hand-over?	A picture of the house decides nothing	
Have we fixed when, and on which triggers, the sheet is reread?	A May context describes a different house by November	

4 · What would show this is working

Questions drawn from the subchapter's reading of the standards and its practical application. Clause numbers in brackets point to the harmonized structure or the standard the subchapter names; where the evidence lives, and the sheets named, are this book's method, not a requirement of any standard.

Question	Where the evidence lives	Seen?
Are the external and internal issues on one sheet, in two columns, written as facts of the house (4.1)?	The context sheet in the folder	☐
Was each line tested against the house's aims and struck if it acted on none?	The context sheet, with struck lines left visible	☐
Has the climate question been answered with the house's own events and a reason (4.1)?	The climate line of the context sheet	☐
Does every line carry a consequence — decide, observe or pass on — with a name where someone must act (6.1)?	The "what follows" column; the risk list	☐
Is the scope at the foot of the sheet, with the date and the triggers for rereading (4.3)?	The foot of the context sheet	☐
Does the sheet come to the table at the management review (9.3)?	The review record	☐

> *What this sheet is not: no management-system standard prescribes this form, and filling it shows conformity with nothing. It is a working aid drawn from the book; the standards' own texts govern the real case, and legal duties are established with competent local expertise. Independent material; not affiliated with or endorsed by ISO or any certification, accreditation or scheme-owning body. The standards' own texts prevail; legal duties must be confirmed locally.*