

SMETA Audit

SMETA (Sedex Members Ethical Trade Audit) is the most widely used social audit in the world

SMETA is Sedex's social auditing methodology, enabling businesses to assess their sites and suppliers to understand working conditions in their supply chain.

What is social auditing?

A social audit is one of the best ways to understand the working conditions at a supplier site. An auditor physically attends the site – or workplace – of a business, enabling the auditor to assess the conditions on the ground.

Social audits enable businesses to assess their suppliers, monitor health and safety for workers, and signal zero tolerance of human rights abuses such as child and forced labour. Once an audit is complete, buyer and supplier businesses can work together to address any issues, based on a Corrective Action Plan (CAPR).

SMETA, the world's leading social Audit

SMETA (Sedex Members Ethical Trade Audit) assesses a site based on their organisation's standards of labour, health and safety, environment and business ethics. Sedex believes these are key areas for assessing an organisation's responsible business practices and meeting social compliance.

SMETA is designed to help auditors conduct high quality audits that encompass all aspects of responsible business practice. It is also designed for suppliers to share one audit with multiple customers, meeting multiple customer requirements and reducing duplication and audit fatigue. Only audit companies (and their auditors) that meet a set of criteria set out by Sedex can conduct SMETA. These are known as a Sedex Affiliate Audit Company, and are independent organisations from Sedex.