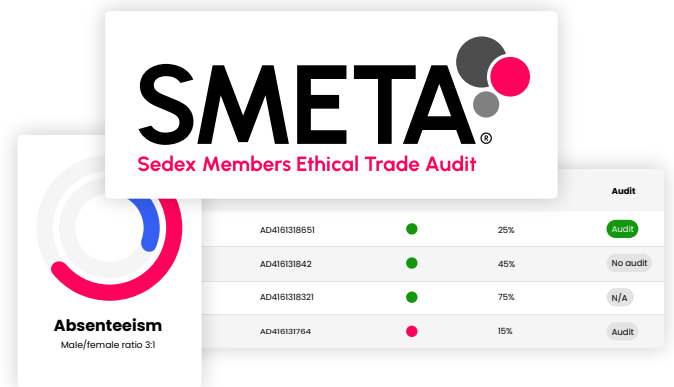


SMETA Audit

Assess and improve ethical business practices

SMETA is the world’s most widely used social audit. Businesses use SMETA to understand and improve working conditions and environmental performance in their operations and supply chain.



SMETA assesses against both local law and the ETI Base Code, ensuring the highest protections for workers are recognized. The same standard is applied to all businesses, creating a comparable dataset globally. This ensures a fair assessment of all sites and enables suppliers to share one audit with multiple customers.

Instead of imposing a pass/fail model, Sedex encourages using the audit findings to drive continuous improvement, helping businesses identify next steps to enhance their impact on workers and the environment.

Benefits

Systematic and comprehensive: SMETA ensures a thorough and consistent analysis of labour, health and safety, environmental, and business ethics practices at site level.

Aligned to global standards: Based on internationally recognised standards, including the ETI Base Code, International Labour Organisation Conventions (ILO), and national labour laws.

Continuous Improvement: SMETA audits provide a foundation for continuous improvement in supply chain sustainability, allowing businesses to track progress and drive positive change over time.

Transparency and accountability: Paired with the Sedex platform, SMETA increases supply chain transparency and supports businesses in meeting their responsible sourcing commitments.

Contact our team to understand how **SMETA** can help you improve responsible sourcing practices, safeguard workers’ rights, and maintain high ethical standards across your supply chain.

SMETA Pillars

Sedex members can choose between two options: a 2-pillar Audit or a 4-pillar Audit.



Labour Standards

Assesses adherence to human rights and labour standards such as modern slavery risks and forced labour prevention, which cannot be accurately assessed via desk audit.



Health & Safety

Evaluates working conditions and adherence to health & safety policies. Can include a review of prior inspection reports, if available.



Environment

Assesses the site's management of environmental-related areas, such as waste management and resource efficiency. Reviews environmental policy and processes on-site (e.g., disposal of waste).



Business Ethics

Reviews management controls and policy implementation on the ground, assessing for evidence of corruption and bribery and reviewing policies to manage these risks.

2 Pillar | Illustrative time to conduct | **2 days**

4 Pillar | Illustrative time to conduct | **3 days**

Audit Types

Sedex members can request one of three types of audit scheduling.

PILLAR	DESCRIPTION
Announced	When an audit date is agreed with, or disclosed to, the audited site.
Semi-announced	When an audit date falls within an agreed 'window' of three weeks minimum, specified by the buying company or the audit body
Unannounced	When no prior notice of the audit date is given to the site.