ISO 26000 use by determining the effectiveness per issue

Since ISO 26000 is not for certification or verification by any party external to the organization, this tool may help self-determine the <u>degree</u> to which the organization may (at all) exert an effective influence on society.
Reference: ISO 26000 CD Guidance on Social Responsibility; Committee Draft 1 as of 2008-12.

How to apply the matrix?
The logic of the matrix is: questions 1 to 5 build on each other, i.e.:
- e.g. if an answer in column 1 is not positive, the line is done, no further action;
- e.g. if an answer in column 1 is positive (the core subject is seen relevant) but column 2 is not positive (the organization's effectiveness on this particular issue is too little to justify actions and investment), the line is done
- Logically, the need for stakeholder involvement, question 5, would occur only if the answers to questions 1, 2, 3 and 4 were positive.

Short description of the organization (type, size, location): *We are a 70 employee trade association (company), that represents the interests of machine tools building companies that are either U.S.-based or with operations in the U.S. We are headquartered near Washington D.C. and also have office/staff in Mexico, Brazil, E.Europe, India and China. Currently, we have 423 Member companies, all of which are considered small or medium organizations (although it should be noted that a few Members who have their primary operations outside the U.S. would be considered "large" organizations). Our association is best known for sponsoring one of the largest trade shows in the world, a biennial show on manufacturing technology.*

Summary of analysis:
*Our stakeholders are our Members and our employees. The ISO 26000 can be helpful as a checklist but it turns out that most issues are **not relevant** for us because they are covered by law and regulation or not applicable because they relate to trans-border business or activities performed in developing countries.*

SR Core subjects and issues	1 Is the core subject or issue seen as relevant to the organization?	2 What degree of effectiveness could the organization have on this issue?	3 What kind of activities could the organization undertake?	4 What effect/impact would the activities have on the organization's social responsibility?	5 Which stakeholders to involve are seen as useful?
6.2 Core subject Organizational Governance					
Accountability, transparency, ethical behavior, respect for stakeholder interests, and respect for the rule of law	These organizational governance principles are plain common business and economic sense.	These principles are 'enforced' in the United States through the Sherman Antitrust Act, a congressional act which prescribes ethical and operational behavior for trade associations and its Members.	No actions	N/A	N/A
6.3 Core subject Human rights					
Due diligence	Not relevant as we are in no position to monitor human rights conditions of/for our Members.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Human rights risk situations	Not relevant to our employees and we are in no position to assess human rights risks of/for our Members.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Avoidance of complicity	Not relevant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Resolving	We have a well	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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grievances	developed policy to resolve internal grievances; external grievances would be handled through the U.S. judicial system and/or antitrust regulations.				
Discrimination and vulnerable groups	Covered by U.S. laws and regulations	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Civil and political rights	Covered by U.S. laws and regulations	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Economic, social and cultural rights	Covered by U.S. laws and regulations	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fundamental rights at work	Well regulated through extensive laws and regulations in the U.S.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6.4 Core subject Labour practices					
Employment and employment relationships	Employment is "at-will" and we otherwise comply with related and applicable law.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Conditions of work and social protection	We respect and comply with all related and applicable laws and regulations.	Too small to be emulated as a model realistically (and quite presumptuous as well)	N/A	N/A	N/A

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Social dialogue	Not relevant; freedom of association and collective bargaining are not applicable	Completely outside of our role or mission as a trade association; at best, we may have very infrequent opportunity to address minimally and peripherally.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health and safety at work	Not particularly relevant; all operations are low risk minimal hazard typical office workplaces	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Human development and training in the workplace	Yes, but to no more or less a degree than a typical professional office.	Effective; we sponsor training and development (including vocational development through Skills USA) for Members.	Limited or none beyond how we are already engaged	N/A	N/A
6.5 Core subject The environment					
Prevention of pollution	Yes	Little, limited to typical office waste and energy consumption	Minimal beyond those measures already taken.	Minimal	N/A
Sustainable resource use	Yes	Little ; the general awareness of responsible use of scarce resources is already quite high	Remind/encourage employees to carefully use all resources	The effect of additional measures would be rather modest.	N/A
Climate change mitigation and adaptation	Not appreciably relevant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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Protection and restoration of the natural environment	Not relevant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6.6 Core subject Fair operating practices					
Anti–corruption	Very relevant	This is fundamental to our business conduct and Member engagement	None beyond measures already undertaken	N/A	Members, employees
Responsible political involvement	Very relevant; involvement and engagement is according to federal law	Minimal; percentage of GDP represented is miniscule	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fair competition	Very relevant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Promoting social responsibility in the sphere of influence	Relevant	Minimal	Promote awareness and implementation through existing Member outreach	Enhance our good image	Members
Respect for property rights	Very relevant	None; all regulated	N/A	N/A	N/A
6.7 Core subject Consumer issues					
Fair marketing, factual and unbiased information and	Not relevant	Though we compile and publish marketing information, verification of same is beyond our	N/A	N/A	N/A

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fair contractual practices		capacity (or role/mission for that matter)			
Protecting consumers' health and safety	Not relevant; Members do not produce consumer goods.	VERY active in development of ANSI, CEN, & ISO standards on machinery safety (risk reduction through design)	Already engaged maximally	N/A	N/A
Sustainable consumption	Relevant	Engagement in the EU Energy Using Products (EuP) Directives	N/A	N/A	N/A
Consumer service, support, and dispute resolution	Not relevant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Consumer data protection and privacy	Not relevant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Access to essential services	Not relevant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Education and awareness	Not relevant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6.8 Core subject Community involvement and development					
Community involvement	Not relevant or even appropriate for this commercial zoning	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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Education and culture	Partly relevant	Already described above (voc. ed. etc.)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Employment creation and skills development	Not relevant	Some: a) employment creation in regard of own staff and b) skills development for our staff and in schools	N/A	N/A	N/A
Technology development and access	Slightly relevant	We do not develop technology but we are significantly and substantially involved and engaged in the promotion and facilitation of the development of same	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wealth and income creation	Not relevant beyond the employment we create	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health	Not relevant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Social investment	Not relevant	We are much too small to engage	N/A	N/A	N/A