

4th e-Infrastructures Concertation Meeting
Sophia-Antipolis, 5-6 December 2007

The role of Standards in the development and deployment of e-Infrastructures

- Meeting objectives and expected output -

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Context and background



Why Concertation

- Broaden scope of activities; define/reach common or complementary goals (e.g. create new standard, deploy in a project a technology that has been developed in another one, etc)
- Enrich capabilities (knowledge, skills...)
- Learn from each other's experiences
- Create critical mass focused upon issues of strategic importance, increase impact

The collective value of a programme is multiple times the sum of the values of its individual parts (projects) when appropriate synergistic mechanisms are developed among these parts

Conclusion reached in all previous Research Framework Programme reviews

Why emphasis on Standards

- Standards ensure interoperability of products and services
 - Benefit for industry & research: level playing field, lower risk that innovation may be heading to technological “dead ends”
 - Benefit for consumers: better products & services, lower investment risks
- Work on standardisation: an essential element of European strategy to simplify regulation at EU / national level so as to ease burden on business
- Standardisation particularly important in ICT (ICT de facto a global market, technological convergence)

Thanks to ETSI for co-organising this meeting!



The landscape in Europe today

- *Standards and ICT-Research*

- ICT projects contribute to standards through:
 - “Pre-normative” contributions: standards not yet established, bringing research results into standardisation process
 - Validation of existing standards in novel application scenarios
- Categories of Standard bodies:
 - Formal: ETSI, CEN/CENELEC, MPEG, IEEE, ITU
 - Industry consensus frameworks: OGF, IETF, W3C, DVB, DAVIC, etc



The landscape in Europe today

- *Policy for ICT Standardisation*

- Priority action under the i2010 strategy
- Establishment of ICT Standardisation Work Programme (2006 and updates afterwards)
- Study (launched in July 2006 as part of the i2010 strategy) to analyse present state of European ICT standardisation policy and bring forward recommendations for future development
 - *study results available on: www.ictstandardisation.eu -*



The landscape in Europe today

- *Some important Study recommendations*

- Rec-3,4: Promote high level strategy dialogue between EU Member States, technology providers, public interest organisations, SDOs, and specification providers.
- Rec-5: To respond rapidly to standardisation needs, build upon synergies provided by a better integration of European Standardisation Organisations (ESO) and relevant consortia and fora activities in the domain.
- Rec-6: Respond to growing “user” impact on the effective implementation of standards. In this respect, more emphasis should be given to the specific needs of each user category and differentiation should be made in general between:
 - *Industrial users of ICT solutions*
 - *Other indirect users of ICT solutions and standards such as consumers and SMEs*

The landscape in Europe today

- *Some important Study recommendations*

- Rec-7: Include a clear vision on desired impact of EU ICT standardisation efforts on global level.
- Rec-8: To promote implementation of European standards and to increase interoperability of applications and services, the EC the EU Member States and all public organisations should refer to European standards in the procurement of ICT products, services and applications.
- Rec-9: Reinforce relation between R&D and standardisation.



The landscape in Europe today

- *Some important Study recommendations*

- Rec-10: Include in new policy, tools that promote the use and implementation of European standards, such as:
 - Coherent and harmonised (free) availability policy for standards/specs established by all standards/specs producing organisations within the European standardisation system
 - Thorough study on relationship between IPRs and standards. Launch, in addition, a global discussion on this.
 - Coherent, transparent accessibility and participation policy for all standards/specification providing organisations within the European standardisation system.
 - Evaluate effect of partition of systems via the standardisation definition to make them more accessible to SMEs
 - Specific measures for increase trust and stability prior to implementation of standards such as conformance testing, certification aspects, interoperability testing, mandatory implementation prior to final acceptance etc

***Impact of e-Infrastructure
fragmented and limited when
insufficient emphasis is put on
standards***



Meeting objectives, agenda and expected output



Objectives

- Address role of standards in the context of the development and deployment of e-Infrastructure (Cyberinfrastructure, i-Infrastructure etc)
- Address specific role of the researcher in this context
- Identify priority areas of standardisation in relation to current status and evolution path of e-Infrastructure [\(Questionnaire\)](#)
- Provide input to broader European policies on standards
- Stimulate and facilitate creation of synergies among e-Infrastructure (and of other areas) projects with emphasis on standards development and impact
- Address international cooperation aspects emphasising on infrastructure interoperability and role of standards



Agenda - Overview

Today:

- Short presentations from new e-Infrastructure projects (expected to be launched by end/2007 – beg/2008). Areas covered:
 - *Scientific digital repositories*
 - *New user communities*
 - *New research infrastructures (supercomputing)*
 - *Design studies*
- **Parallel tracks (Data, Middleware, Networking)**
 - *Analyse questionnaire results, hold in-depth discussion on topics of broader interest in the area (focus on standards, synergies, policy), work on a standards (under development / desired) vs projects matrix*

Tomorrow:

- Plenary session - reports from parallel tracks
- ETSI track (practical experiences, demos)
- Conclusions and future actions

Agenda – Data track

- **Meeting Room IRIS 6**
- **Chair : Krystyna Marek**, Project Officer, European Commission
- **Rapporteur: Wolfram Horstmann**, Goettigen University
- **Projects:** IMPACT, NMDB, DRIVER, DRIVER II, METAFOR, EuroVO-DCA, EuroVO-AIDA, GENESI-DR, D4Science, DILIGENT, DIESIS



Agenda – Middleware track

- **Meeting Room HERMES**
- **Chair: Enric Mitjana**, Project Officer, European Commission
- **Rapporteur: Alistair Dunlop**, University of Southampton
- **Projects:** Chemomentum, DEGREE, EC-GIN, GridCC, KnowARC, QosCosGrid, SIMDAT, BalticGrid, BELIEF, BIOINFOGRID, CYCLOPS, DEISA, eDEISA, EELA, EGEE-II, e-IRGSP, ETICS, EUChinaGRID, EU-IndiaGRID, EUMEDGRID, EuroVO-DCA, ICEAGE, int.eu.grid, ISSeG, ITHANET, OMII-Europe, RINGrid, SEE-Grid-2, DIESIS, DORII, EDGeS, EGI_DS, e-NMR, ETSF, EUFORIA, neuGRID, PRACE, SEE-GRID-SCI



Agenda – Networking track

- **Meeting Room Iris 2/3**
- **Chair: Jean-Luc Dorel**, Project Officer, European Commission
- **Rapporteur: Martin Potts**, MARTEL
- **Projects:** 6DISS, EuroLabs, PHOSPHORUS, AUGERACCESS, EXPReS, GN2, Go4it, SEEREN2, Federica, EVALSO, OCCASION, ORIENT, MUPBED, PORTA OPTICA, SEEFIRE, ALICE, TEIN2, EUMEDCONNECT, WEIRD, LOBSTER



Expected output

- Concrete synergistic actions between projects (joint technical developments, horizontal working groups on topics of common interest, common deliverables/papers, collective dissemination actions and material, sharing of training material, etc) - *projects to report on above activities in their next progress-reports*
- Mechanism of identification of standards of broad interest; increased input to and interaction with standardisation fora
- Framework on regular reporting by projects on standardisation aspects (following a common paper/web format to facilitate synergy with other projects?)
- Input to EU standardisation policies

Concertation meeting report (*BELIEF*)

Effort should continue!



The building of human networks increases the overall intelligence of an organisation and this is what eventually distinguishes the organisation from its competition

