



Document	List of selected projects call 2				
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1. Introduction

The Cooperation Platform for Research and Standards (COPRAS) is an FP6 Specific Support Action (SSA) project addressing projects in calls 1 and 2. It addresses Thematic Priority Area number 2: 'Information Society Technologies' and aims to serve as a platform for IST research projects seeking to upgrade their results through interfacing with standards bodies.

The project started 1st February 2004 and will run until 31st January 2007. It will bring together the research and standardization aspects of the eEurope activity and optimise the interface between FP6 IST projects and standardization. In doing so, it will speed up adoption of research results and generate feedback on their acceptance and usage.

For the purpose of identifying and selecting those projects that may benefit from cooperating with COPRAS and from developing 'Standardization Action Plans', several methodological steps have been defined and bundled together in Work Packages (WPs). The first set of these methodological steps established WP2 and encompassed the information gathering process, or the surveying of projects for standards related output. The second set establishes WP 3 and covers the analysis of the information gathering report, the definition and application of project selection criteria and the organization of the kick off meeting.

The present document establishes the report of the project selection processes addressing IST research projects in FP6 call 2 and follows the call 2 Information analysis report (D12). It describes the objectives of the project selection process as well as the methodological steps followed through the process. It also presents the list of projects that were selected to participate in the COPRAS Programme.

The results of this report are based on the outcome of the Information analysis process, reflected in COPRAS deliverable D12. The List of selected projects for call 2 describes the process of project clustering and project selection for the COPRAS Programme. It lists those projects that will be invited to the call 2 kick-off meeting in order to start the process towards implementing the next methodological steps encompassed by WP4, i.e. the development of appropriate standardization paths. The project selection process is based on the same set of transparent criteria that was already approved by the COPRAS Steering Group for the project selection process in call 1.

The report defines clusters of projects with a similar focus with respect to standardization. Based on this clustering, it proposes five thematic break-out sessions for the kick-off meeting, that marks the end of the WP3 activities for call 2, and establishes the start of the work towards developing Standardization Action Plans with the selected projects.

2. Objectives

As previous experiences have shown, the interface between standardization and research can be crucial to the success of both activities. Moreover, specifically where ICT development is concerned it is important to ensure standardization and research proceeding in parallel, enabling cross-fertilization and allowing standards bodies to receive contributions from the research community rapidly while at the same time updating research projects on those developments in standardization that could be relevant to their projects.

In view of the hundreds of organizations and industry groups active in ICT standardization worldwide, COPRAS' objective is to act as a platform for those FP6 IST projects that wish to upgrade their deliverables or otherwise touch upon standardization issues during the course of their research by providing a catalytic focal point for standardization activities. Consequently, it intends to provide research projects with a cost-effective way of meeting their contractual obligation of setting up an interface with the standards world while giving them a high control over the output of these processes as well as a means to validate their work with a wider audience.

For this purpose, the project will build a 'COPRAS' Programme, encompassing those projects that seek to cooperate with standards bodies and will benefit from a 'Standardization Action Plan' tailored to the needs of their project.

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The objective of the present report is to present the selection process and the selection criteria that have been used to establish a list of research projects in call 2 that are most likely to benefit from participating in the COPRAS Programme and consequently will be invited to an initial kick-off meeting marking the start of the cooperation between COPRAS and individual research projects in call 2. The report, together with the actual information gathered during the process, aims to serve as a basis for further activity in COPRAS and establishes the starting point for the development of appropriate standardization paths for projects in call 2, starting in June 2005.

3. Process description

The project selection process targeting FP6 IST projects in call 2 took place between March 2005 and mid June 2005. The process is part of Work Package 3 (Information analysis and project selection) and follows the methodological steps as described in section 4.1.2 of the COPRAS Quality Plan. Taking the Information analysis report as a basis, the project team selected research projects in call 2 that would benefit from participating in the COPRAS Programme. In doing so it has followed the steps as described in the Quality Plan:¹

- 1) Following the approval of the preliminary version of the Information analysis report, as a second step a set of criteria will be developed to short list those projects that will be invited to contribute standardization related output to COPRAS and develop Standardization Action Plans. These criteria cannot be predefined as they may vary from call to call, or even between Strategic Objective areas (i.e. criteria applied to select projects in the 'Broadband for all' - area may differ from criteria applied to select projects in the 'Mobile and wireless systems beyond 3G' - area). However, they can be grouped into 3 categories:
 - i) Criteria that are related to (ongoing) standardization activity (e.g. is there a clear relationship between the expected output of a research project and standardization work already in process in one of the standardization bodies?)
 - ii) Criteria that are related to the processes adopted by research projects (e.g. will output be available on time for it to be considered by the COPRAS project; is the output in the public domain; are resources available to work on standardization issues, do projects actually 'need' COPRAS' support or are they capable to arrange interfacing with standardization by themselves, etc.?)
 - iii) Criteria that are related to the substance of research projects' output (e.g. how essential are certain expected results likely to be to standardization and/or how essential can standardization be to the project's results or even beyond). During the process of selecting projects for participation in the COPRAS Programme, the Project Manager and the project team will specifically involve and consult the relevant Commission Project Officers.
- 2) Based on the selection criteria, the project team will propose a short list of projects to the CSG, thus establishing the 'COPRAS Programme'. Target is to include at least 8% of the number of projects originally contacted in the information gathering process.
- 3) Upon approval of the short list by the CSG, for each call, selected projects as well as relevant representatives from the standards community will be invited to take part in a kick off meeting, aiming to jump-start cooperation between (groups of) research projects and standardization working groups.

The following sections will describe in more detail the methodological steps followed during the project selection processes (in section 3.1), as well as the results achieved (in sections 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4). Also, in sections 3.5 and 3.6, an assessment of the processes applied and the lessons learned from it is contained.

3.1 Methodology and process steps

During the information analysis and project selection processes, the methodological steps described in the COPRAS Quality Plan were followed, albeit adjusted to the specific circumstances at certain

¹ COPRAS deliverable D03, published April 2004

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points during the course of the process. A chronological-methodological description of the process is provided in the next section.

3.1.1 Process steps

- 1) The information gathering report analysis in order to identify communalities, trends, key issues and inter-project relationships from a standardization perspective.
 - i) During the 1st COPRAS Project Team Meeting, held on 24 June 2004 at ETSI, Sophia-Antipolis, it was decided only to include those projects that actually responded to the questionnaire in the analysis, and consequently only to consider these for the list of selected projects. This approach was also followed for the information analysis process in call 2 that started second half of March 2005 and in his or her Strategic Objectives, each of the members of the project team consequently:
 - a) Analyzed the information and defined groups or clusters of projects having a similar focus with respect to standardization issues;
 - b) Defined a set of ‘first tier’ projects and a set of ‘second tier’ projects for the COPRAS Programme (taking into account there has to be an interest among standardization bodies concerned, to work on the topics addressed by the research projects).
 - ii) Selection of projects, based on the initial analysis of feedback provided was first discussed during a conference call held 28 April 2005. This led to initial discussions on projects to be invited to the kick-off meeting. Although it was agreed that a list of projects would have to be available at least 1 month in advance of the planned kick-off meeting 16 June 2005, it was decided not to exclude projects that would provide their response to the COPRAS questionnaire at a later point in time (i.e. after the closure of the information gathering process end of February 2005 but before the kick-off meeting 16 June 2005) from the information analysis and project selection process, thus effectively keeping the option open to adjust the list of selected projects until the start of the WP4 activities .
 - iii) Following initial discussions, all project team members provided a list of ‘tier 1’ and ‘tier 2’ projects in their respective Strategic Objectives, which was discussed via e-mail by the project team 1st week of May 2005 and submitted for approval to the SPORAS Steering Board 6 May 2005.
- 2) Short list of projects establishing the ‘COPRAS Programme’

Resulting from the analysis and the application of the selection criteria proposed earlier by the project team and approved by the COPRAS Steering Board, a list of ‘tier 1’ and ‘tier 2’ projects for Strategic Objectives 2.3.2.3, 2.3.2.4, 2.3.2.5, 2.3.2.6, 2.3.2.7, 2.3.2.8, 2.3.2.9 & 2.3.2.10 was proposed by the project team and agreed by the COPRAS Steering Board. As a result 31 tier 1 and tier 2 projects were selected as described in section 3.2.

3.1.2 Definition of selection criteria

The criteria for selecting projects primarily aim to serve as an instrument for defining which research projects in call 1 would qualify for participating in, and benefiting from the COPRAS Programme and the development of Standardization Action Plans, as well as to define which projects are less likely requiring support from COPRAS (e.g. because they are not concerned with standardization issues).

As mentioned earlier in this chapter, selection criteria have not been predefined in the COPRAS Implementation plan as they may vary from call to call, or even between Strategic Objective areas (also because they obviously relate to the specifics of the questionnaire used during the preceding information gathering process). However, prior to the start of the information analysis and project selection process for call 1 it was recognized that COPRAS, as well as research projects and other relevant stakeholders would benefit from a higher level of transparency in the selection process, as the fact that criteria are not defined in advance might cause situations where projects that do seek interfacing with standards bodies do not know how to position themselves in order to be taken on board by the COPRAS Programme.

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Prior to the start of the project selection process for call 1 an effort was therefore made by the consortium partners to define a comprehensive, limited and transparent set of criteria that could be applied across all Strategic Objectives. The process and rationale behind the transparent set of criteria as listed hereunder is described in more detail in the List of selected projects for call 1.²

1) Primary criteria:

- i) Is the issue addressed by a project relevant to the activities of one of the consortium partners or one of the ICTSB members;
- ii) Is the issue addressed by a project relevant to the activities of a standards body outside the ICTSB;
- iii) Has the project a clear view of the standardization activities they seek to deploy;
- iv) Is the standards body a project would interface with sufficiently experienced in the particular domain and are they capable of seeing the standardization paths projects have identified for themselves.

2) Secondary criteria:

- i) Does a project have resources available for standardization activities;
- ii) Is a project's timing (in terms of its capabilities of defining a Standardization Action Plan) in line with COPRAS' timing;
- iii) Are standards bodies, a project seeks to interface with, already pre-identified or not.

As applying these criteria to projects in call 1 generated good results, both from a qualitative as from a quantitative perspective, it was decided to use them as well for projects in call 2. Consequently they have been applied for analyzing call 1 projects responding to the questionnaire, and to determine those that could be candidates for the COPRAS Programme, either in tier 1 (those benefiting most from participation) as well as those that did not seem to have any need for interfacing with standards bodies.

3.1.3 Project selection

Having analyzed the information gathering report in order to identify communalities, trends, key issues and inter-project relationships from a standardization perspective and having defined a set of criteria to short list those projects that will be invited to contribute standardization related output to COPRAS and develop Standardization Action Plans, the project team selected so called 'first tier' & 'second tier' projects for the Strategic Objectives 2.3.2.3 – 2.3.2.10. (first tier projects being those that were most evidently expected to benefit from cooperation with standards bodies, and second tier projects being those where this was a bit less evident).

The short list of projects proposed by the Project Team members:

In Strategic Objective 2.3.2.3 (*Open development platforms for software and services*), the AMIGO and SODIUM projects were proposed to be selected as tier 1 projects and the ASG project as a tier 2 project. In addition, and based on discussions with Project officers, two additional projects, INFRAWEB and SECSE were invited to the kick-off meeting as well.

In Strategic Objective 2.3.2.4 (*Cognitive systems*), only one project (Mind RACES) responded to the questionnaire, but did not plan any interfacing with standardization. The response in this Strategic Objective was overall negative and despite considerable effort in getting projects on board, there was neither a culture of cooperation nor a thinking about standardization. Therefore, there are no projects in this Strategic Objective proposed to be selected for the COPRAS Programme.

In Strategic Objective 2.3.2.5 (*Embedded systems*), 3 out of 5 projects that responded to the questionnaire indicated they expected their project results would influence existing or emerging standards for embedded systems. Two projects (HIJA and ICODES) have been proposed to be selected as tier 1 projects and one project (DECOS) as a tier 2 project. Upon suggestion from the responsible Project Officer however all other IP, NoE and STREP projects in this Strategic Objective were invited to the kick-off meeting as well.

² COPRAS Deliverable D07, published October 2004

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In Strategic Objective 2.3.2.6 (Applications and services for the mobile user and worker), two out of nine projects that responded to the questionnaire (MOSQUITO, SNOW) were proposed to be selected as tier 1 projects) and one project (wearIT@WORK) as a tier 2 project.

In Strategic Objective 2.3.2.7 (Cross-media content for leisure and entertainment), out of 9 projects that responded to the questionnaire, only one (GameTools) indicated not to be delivering output that could be relevant for standards bodies. Having applied the criteria to the remaining 8 projects, two of them (IPerG and POLYMNIA) are proposed to be selected as tier 1 projects and one (INCCOM) as a tier 2 project.

In Strategic Objective 2.3.2.8 (GRID-based systems for solving complex problems), 10 out of 12 projects responded plan to address standards related issues in one way or another. Reason for this is the strong collaboration between projects through the Grid Standards Co-ordination Group which aims to coordinate standardization between FP6 IST Grids Unit Projects. Nevertheless, since the GGF is not a standards body itself and seeks coordination with W3C, OASIS and IETF, all ten projects were proposed to be selected and invited to the kick-off meeting, together with the two remaining non-responding projects in this Strategic Objective.

In Strategic Objective 2.3.2.9 (Improving risk management), only one out of two projects that responded to the questionnaire (EUROPCOM) identified potential standardization targets. Even though in terms of resources, EUROPCOM has only one small work package allocated to regulation and standardisation (2 man months), it was decided to select the project and invite it to the kick-off meeting.

In Strategic Objective 2.3.2.10 (eInclusion), the response rate was relatively high (9 out of 13 projects addressed - something more than 69%). Having applied the selection criteria, the project team decided to select and invite three of them (ASK-IT, EIAO, Support-EAM) as tier 1 projects and one (MAPPED) as a tier 2 project.

3.2 COPRAS Programme selected projects

Based on the analysis of information gathered and selection criteria applied, the following projects establish the COPRAS Programme **Tier 1 projects** for call 2:

Strategic Objective		Projects selected
2.3.2.3	Open development platforms for software and services	AMIGO, SODIUM
2.3.2.4	Cognitive systems	-
2.3.2.5	Embedded systems	HIJA, ICODES
2.3.2.6	Applications for the mobile user and worker	MOSQUITO, SNOW
2.3.2.7	Cross-media content for leisure and entertainment	IPerG, POLYMNIA
2.3.2.8	GRID-based systems for solving complex problems	AKOGRIMO, CoreGrid, DataMiningGrid, HPC4U, inteliGRID, NextGRID, OntoGrid, PROVENANCE, SIMDAT, UniGridS
2.3.2.9	Improving risk management	EUROPCOM
2.3.2.10	eInclusion	ASK-IT, EIAO, Support-EAM
Total		26

The following projects establish the COPRAS Programme **Tier 2 projects** for call 2:

Strategic Objective		Projects selected
2.3.2.3	Open development platforms for software and services	ASG
2.3.2.4	Cognitive systems	-
2.3.2.5	Embedded systems	DECOS
2.3.2.6	Applications for the mobile user and worker	wearIT@WORK
2.3.2.7	Cross-media content for leisure and entertainment	INCCOM
2.3.2.8	GRID-based systems for solving	-

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	complex problems	
2.3.2.9	Improving risk management	-
2.3.2.10	eInclusion	MAPPED
Total		5

3.3 CA, SSA and PLAM projects

Similar to call 1, it was evaluated whether it could be beneficial to some CA, SSA or PLAM projects as well to participate in the kick-off meeting, as these projects sometimes are concerned with over-arching dissemination or standardization activities between projects in a single Strategic Objective. As this is only to a very limited extend the case in call 2, only the following projects (that were already included as tier 1 or tier 2 projects) were identified for closer cooperation with COPRAS:

Strategic Objective		Projects selected
2.3.2.7	Cross-mediacontent for leisure and entertainment	INCCOM
2.3.2.10	eInclusion	Support-EAM
Total		2

3.5 Project clusters

The objective of clustering is to define groups of projects that have a similar focus with respect to standardization, although they are not necessarily operating within the same Strategic Objective. After some discussions among the project team members it was decided it would be preferable – also in view of the organizational aspects of kick off meeting – to aim for 4 to 5 larger clusters rather than aiming for a multitude of smaller ones.

Despite the fact that in call 2 overall projects' areas of standardization activity were more spread out than in call 1 (for which reason it was less obvious to define coherent clusters) the same approach (i.e. to cluster projects around a standardization area rather than around Strategic Objectives) was taken for the call 2 kick-off meeting, as this has proven to be effective for initiating cooperation between projects during and after the call 1 kick-off meeting. Consequently, the following break-out sessions were defined for the kick-off meeting, expectedly leading to one or more clustered approaches towards Standardization Action Plans:

1. *GRID-based systems* (all GRID projects & ASG)
2. *Content, applications, communication & security* (EUROPCOM, MOSQUITO, IPerG, INCCOM & POLYMNIA)
3. *Embedded Systems* (HIJA, DECOS, ICODES and other IP, NoE & STREP projects in Embedded systems)
4. *eInclusion* (MAPPED, EIAO, ASK-IT & Support-EAM)
5. *Software, services & languages* (SODIUM, SECSE, SNOW, INFRAWEBBS, wearIT@work & AMIGO)

3.6 Quality review project analysis and selection processes

During the call 2 project analysis and selection phases, in total 55 projects were analyzed. 26 projects were selected for tier 1 and 5 projects for tier 2. This means, at this phase of the project, more than 29% of the 107 projects in call 2 establishing the 'operational target' for the information gathering process (i.e. those projects that received an information package and questionnaire from COPRAS) have been selected for the kick-off meeting. This is 5% more than call 1, where 40 out of 164 projects (i.e. 24%) were invited.

According to the Quality Plan, the target is to include at least 8% of the number of projects originally contacted in the information gathering process into the COPRAS Programme for the purpose of developing Standardization Action Plans. The amount of selected projects for call 2 establishes a solid starting point for reaching this target, also as experience from call 1 teaches that the 24% selected projects eventually generated Standardization action Plans for almost 10%.

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Tasks in Work Package 3 cover the analysis of the information gathering report, the definition and application of project selection criteria, the organization of the kick off meeting and the reverse mapping of current activity in standards bodies with the objective of the research projects. In order to ensure the quality of COPRAS' output it is important that input from a variety of standardization areas to this phase of the process is secured. In this respect it is important to state that input from all consortium partners, as well as from third party industry groups have been taken into account. It is however premature to evaluate the interest of all standards bodies in the issues identified by the projects and validated by the COPRAS Project team, since this procedure requires longer time. The results are foreseen to be discussed and evaluated by the project team early September 2005.

As the initial list of call 2 projects for the COPRAS Programme is quite long in view of the project's resources, further selection may be necessary during, or after the call 1 kick-off meeting. In case the list cannot be shortened based on the results of the kick-off meeting, the Project Manager, in cooperation with the lead contractor for WP3 will apply the procedures indicated in the Quality Plan, i.e. :

- i. Evaluate whether re-allocation of resources or the improvement of the project's efficiency may allow COPRAS to address a larger-than-expected number of selected projects;
- ii. Evaluate whether certain projects could be included in currently ongoing activity for projects in call 1;
- iii. Evaluate – if necessary – whether additional resources can be made available by the consortium partners or other relevant industry groups in view of the relevance of the standardization issues addressed by the research projects;
- iv. Scrutinize the analysis as well as the selection criteria for the purpose of drawing up a more suitable list of potential participants, whilst ensuring that non-selected projects are given advice on how to interface with standardization.

3.7 Lessons learned from call 1 and 2 project selection processes

Experience, also in call 2, teaches that sometimes from a standardization perspective it is more logical to define a number of thematic groups or clusters of projects around a single or related standardization themes, rather than keeping the projects within the boundaries of their Strategic Objectives. Therefore, the selected projects for call 2 were again grouped into 5 clusters (i.e. GRID-based systems, Content, applications, communication & security, Embedded Systems, eInclusion and Software, services & languages).

Although this may generate relatively large clusters that have relatively few issues in common and – while in the same cluster – still address different standardization bodies or working groups, it was recognized COPRAS most likely does not have the resources to organize a series of separate kick off meetings accommodating a variety of relatively small but detailed clusters.

Nevertheless, experience from call 1 also teaches that pre-meetings, focusing specifically on the standardization requirement of a single project can sometimes help getting a better understanding what the exact contributions of projects to standardization could be and whether there is sufficient level of communality between issues addressed by certain projects (e.g. so they could interface with the same standardization working group). Also, and specifically for call 2 for which the kick-off meeting was organized in middle of a month (June) crowded with other events, these pre-meetings could function as a replacement for the kick-off meeting to those projects that could not participate.

As the main challenge for COPRAS will be to ensure the cooperation from the research projects rather than from the standardization working groups and as some of the projects indicated in the early stage they will not be able to participate in the kick-off meeting due to other arrangements already scheduled, the individual pre-meetings may contribute considerably in determining these projects capabilities and requirements with respect to their cooperation with COPRAS and their interest in developing Standardization Action Plans.

When following the process as described above the clustering of projects will be better focused on what is actually required from the COPRAS perspective (i.e. smaller, focused clusters), and migration from WP3 to WP4 will be more gradually.

4. Conclusions & recommendations

In total, the project selection process for call 2 can be considered as fairly successful. From a quantitative perspective COPRAS has managed to achieve better results than it originally targeted. The initial list of projects selected to be included into the COPRAS Programme appears to be overall satisfactory as a basis for subsequent methodological steps.

At this phase of the project, more than 29% of the 107 projects in call 2 establishing the 'operational target' for the information gathering process and receiving an information package and questionnaire from COPRAS have been selected and will be invited for the kick-off meeting. In view of the large number of projects, focus will primarily be on tier 1 projects. If there is a problem either from a project side, or the COPRAS side (e.g., the standardization body identified for co-operating with a project will not confirm its interest), tier 2 project(s) will be taken into account.

When reviewing the steps in the process, the methods applied, appear to have been adequate to achieve the intended results. Based on the lessons learned from the information analysis for call 1 projects, it was decided not to use pre-defined areas of standardization anymore, and consequently not to work with Strategic Objective specific questionnaires for call 2. Instead, projects were asked the questions that focused on the nature of the projects' inputs to standardization, the nature of the deliverables foreseen with respect to standardization and the timeframe scheduled for this kind of activities. The projects were also invited to indicate for each of the areas, issues or deliverables they identified, whether it concerned key issues, important issues, or only minor issues. Even though the project team had realized that confronting project coordinators with these 4 relatively open questions could negatively influence the response rate, the quality of the answers and, more specifically, their usefulness during the next steps in WP3, the process of selecting and clustering projects has actually improved from other approach taken and the higher quality of the response compensated for the slightly lower response rate in comparison with call 1 results.

Both the selection criteria and the clustering policy adopted by the project team have identified a sufficiently large number of projects that could benefit from interfacing with standards bodies. Specifically with respect to the project selection processes for call 2 it should however be mentioned that a large amount of work had to be done within a relatively short period during May 2005 in order to be able to organize the kick-off meeting before the start of the holiday season. The shortness of this period as well as the limited opportunities for addressing projects' tight schedules during the weeks ramping up to the holiday period, may eventually cause the need to approach more projects on an individual basis rather than through a single kick-off meeting..

Despite this, overall results of the project selection process can be considered as a good basis for the subsequent methodological steps building the COPRAS Programme for call 2.