



Coordinating ICT research and standardization efforts

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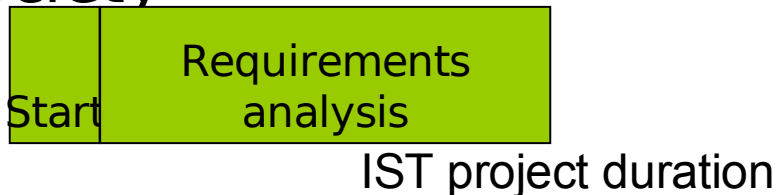


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COPRAS – background and objectives

- Interfacing with standardization is required for research projects under Framework Programmes
- Standardization activities are very often already under way on ICT research topics
- Structuring cooperation will reduce overlap and save resources on the side of research projects
- Cooperation at an early stage will make research results available earlier to industry & society



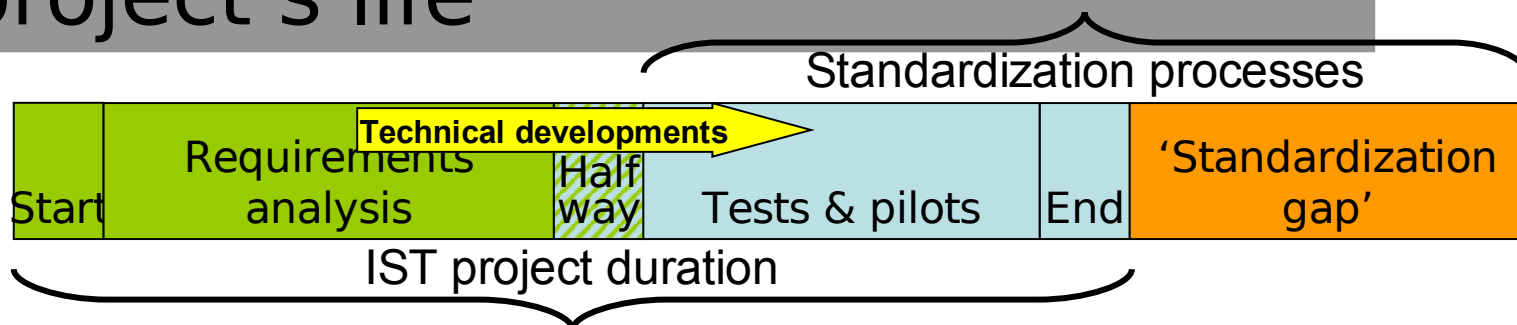
COPRAS was initiated by 5 standards bodies, and backed by the ICTSP



Principal goals

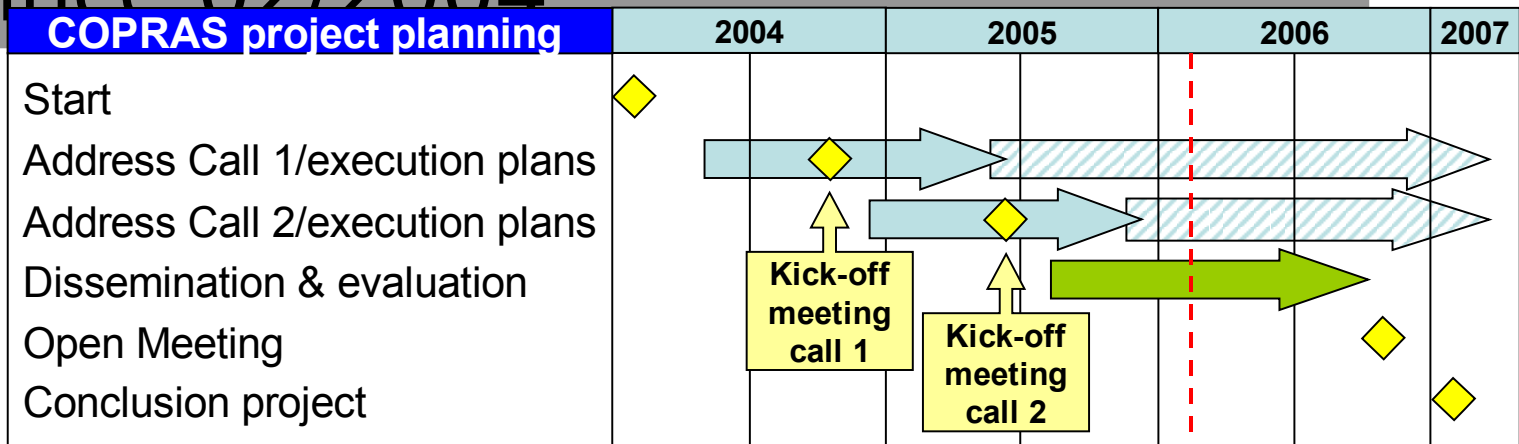
1. Support current projects seeking to upgrade deliverables by developing 'Standardization Action Plans' with selected projects
2. Support future projects by developing 'Generic Guidelines' on interfacing between IST research & standardization

Standardization Action Plans address the gap at the end of a project's life



- Identify standards related output among projects earlier & focus their standards related activities
- Arrange broader exposure of projects' output among standards bodies & disseminate the outcome
- Address possible complications (e.g. IPR, confidentiality, organization membership, etc.)

271 Information Society Technology projects targeted since 02/2004



FP6 IST Call 1

- 164 projects addressed
- 92 projects responding to questionnaire (55,09%)
- 40 projects pre-selected

FP6 IST Call 2

- 107 projects addressed
- 55 projects responding to questionnaire (51,40%)
- 42 projects pre-selected

Cooperation target: 9-

Main issues addressed in Standardization Action Plans

- Define cooperation possibilities between projects
- Focus projects' standardization efforts on targets actually achievable
- Help selecting standards bodies at an early point in time and prepare contacts with them
- Structure preparatory process (e.g. creating industry awareness) for making submissions
- Define concrete action steps for
 - Building a constituency
 - Preparing technical specifications
 - Disseminate results

First experience & initial conclusions from the COPRAS process

- Interest from projects is very high
- Projects across almost all Strategic Objectives have standardization requirements
- Very few projects actually start their standards activity early
- Many projects foreseeing standardization work allocate no (or insufficient) resources
- Financial implications (funding standardization processes) are sometimes not foreseen
- Continuation of standardization work beyond a project's lifespan is often (financially) complicated

➔ Standardization support is an issue for more projects than anticipated, but is poorly prepared

A deeper look into projects' standardization potential (1)

- The nature of some Strategic Objectives for R&D complicates the standards interface
- Strategic Objectives have different “relative distances” to the market
 - Different standardization requirements
 - Different levels of industrial support
- Differences between ICT areas
 - Levels of awareness of ongoing standardization activity
 - Maturity or availability of standards organizations
 - Conflicting approaches & organizations

➔ Industry circumstances may block the path to use standardization for dissemination

A deeper look into projects' standardization potential (2)

- Projects focus on too many standards bodies
 - Time and resources required per organization underestimated
 - Misjudgement standards generating potential of their project
 - Standardization processes are “running trains”
 - Synchronization problems due to projects' short lifespan...
 - ...but waiting too long means loss of momentum
 - Industry may not be waiting for projects'
- ➔ Market dynamics are essential when determining projects' output standardization potential
- Insufficient market requirement hence little industrial

Many issues beyond projects' scope should be addressed as well

- How to find the right standards organization to interface with
- Help to find standards in a maze of standards bodies & industry consortia
- Different commercial, confidentiality & IPR arrangements in different standards bodies
- Different arrangements for getting access to standards bodies & standardization processes
- How to complete standardization processes beyond a project's lifespan

Generic Guidelines addressing future projects' interface to standardization

1. July 2005: "Generic Guidelines for IST projects interfacing with ICT standards organizations":

- What are the benefits from interfacing with standardization
- How to determine whether your project should plan to interface with standardization
- How to build standardization efforts into your work plan
- Most common processes & deliverables in standardization
- Criteria to apply for selecting standards bodies

Guidelines: www.w3.org/2004/copras/docu/generic-guidelines.pdf

Guidelines brochure: www.w3.org/2004/copras/docu/D20.pdf

3. Interactive platform Q4 2006 on

In conclusion

- It's important to develop and improve the standards/research interface
- In Framework 7, we must develop a more systematic approach
- We need to involve standards bodies in (eg) technology platforms
- COPRAS may provide a (partial) model, but these projects can be resource-intensive
- In addition, it's important to educate projects concerning the standards environment



Thank you for your attention!

Questions?

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