



New tools to improve interfacing between
research and standardization in FP7

COPRAS workshop at IST2006, Helsinki
23 November 2006, 9:00 – 10:30



THE *Open* GROUP



Workshop agenda

9:00 Welcome

John Ketchell, Chair COPRAS Steering Group

9:05 Getting standards bodies closer to ICT research: the COPRAS Generic Guidelines platform

Kiritkumar Lathia, Chair ICTSB

9:25 Towards a better research/standards interface in FP7: analysing the feedback from FP6 projects

Bart Brusse, COPRAS Project Manager

9:45 Interactive session

John Ketchell (moderator)

- what are the tools that should be available in FP7 to ease research/standards interfacing
- what can be done by standards organizations to improve their interfacing with research
- should standardization be an integral part of European funded research programmes



Towards a better research/standards interface in FP7: analyzing the feedback from FP6 projects

Presentation at COPRAS workshop:

New tools to improve interfacing between research and standardization in FP7

IST2006, 23 November 2006, Helsinki

Bart Brusse, COPRAS Project Manager



Starting points when COPRAS set out to address FP6 projects' issues

- ICT Standardization plays a key role in achieving overall longer term objectives for Europe
 - Increasing competitiveness in the industry
 - Increasing the quality of life
 - Establish a leading position for Europe in ICT development
- Standardization can bring research results to industry & society rapidly
 - Standardization should be a part of a project's dissemination strategy
 - In FP6 projects had an obligation to signal relevant output to standards organization

Many times standardization objectives are not achieved, hence the question what can be done to improve research/standards interfacing

Dual process addressing projects in Calls 1 & 2 as well as in Calls 4 & 5

Calls 1 & 2

- 271 projects addressed through questionnaires
- 147 responses (54,24%)
- Cooperation with >40 projects

Results

- Tangible standardization deliverables
- Standardization Guidelines

Calls 4 & 5

- Standardization Guidelines distributed via Commission
- Questionnaires send to 369 projects
- Feedback from >38%

Results

- Interactive standardization guidelines platform
- Recommendations for FP7

However: Call 4 projects received the Guidelines **after** they launched while Call 5 projects could use them **during** the preparatory phase

What was the relevant feedback from the projects in Calls 1 & 2

- When starting the work towards standardization
 - Overall, many ICT research projects envisage interfacing with standardization
 - Many IP projects start with 'aggressive' standards objectives
 - Many STREP projects limit themselves and require concrete support
 - Resources are mostly contained in the dissemination WP
- After working for several years on contributions
 - Resources required for standards work often underestimated
 - Established contacts to Technical Bodies often essential
 - Synchronization with a standards organization's roadmap needs considerable attention
 - Limited number of standards objectives can be completed

Main conclusions from working with projects in Calls 1 & 2

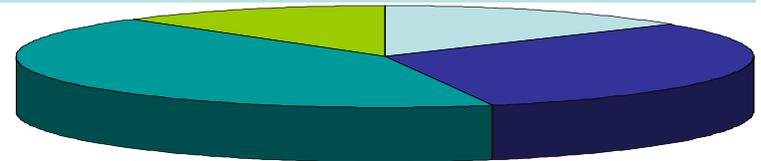
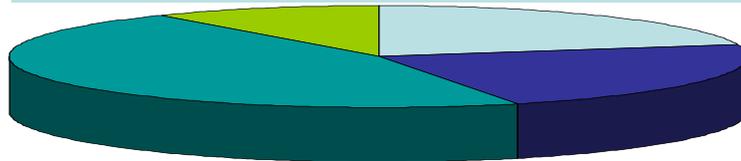
- Projects' standardization work mostly terminates once the end of its lifespan has been reached
- Limited resources allow only a (very) small part of relevant output to reach standards processes
- Standardization objectives may change over time and resources requirements may as well
- Most standardization activities require considerably more time, resources and effort than is usually anticipated in projects' work plans

Careful planning of a project's standards activity is likely to increase the chance of generating tangible results before project termination

As a first step, the Standardization Guidelines had an positive effect...

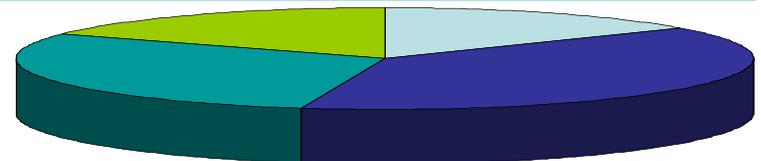
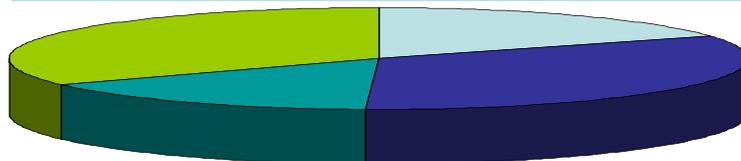
Call 4 Call 5

Will your project deliver output intended to be standards, or otherwise contribute to standardization work?



- Yes, we have specific standardization objectives planned
- Yes, but the nature of the output has not yet been defined
- Possibly, depending on the outcome of some of the project's activities
- No definitely not

Does your project have specific work packages or resources allocated to interfacing with standards organizations?



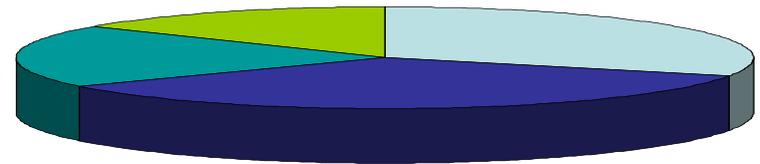
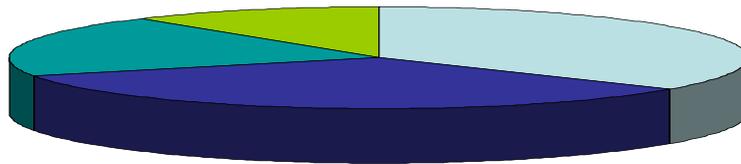
- Yes, we have (a) work package(s) dedicated to standardization
- Yes, standardization resources are contained in the dissemination work package(s)
- Yes, standardization resources are allocated to other (technical) work packages
- No, we have no work packages or resources allocated to standardization activities

...but it is clear that more steps will need to be taken

Call 4

Call 5

Could you indicate additional aspects that should be addressed to improve projects' interfacing with standards organizations?



- Projects should be able to obtain additional resources to complete standardization activities after the formal termination of their activities
- Standards organizations should provide specific mechanisms and/or facilities encouraging research projects to interface with them
- Standardization support should be structurally embedded in Framework Programmes
- Other

Standardization Guidelines are a first step towards improving interfacing but more effort is necessary to optimize cross fertilization

Additional relevant feedback from the projects in Calls 4 & 5

- Standards organizations have an interest in research as well but have even more difficulties finding & contacting projects
- Creating an understanding how standards organizations individually 'work' is necessary, as they're not identical
- There is no single point where projects can check which standards they can (or even should) apply, or even which standards organizations exist
- Membership should be made easier for projects

Main conclusions from feedback from projects in Calls 4 & 5

- Standardization Guidelines are a first step towards improved research/standards interfacing
- Mechanisms to address standards work exceeding a project's lifespan are necessary
- Little need to structurally embed standards work in research programmes
- Targeted support within 'Challenges' or Strategic Objectives remains necessary
- Additional actions necessary on the standards side to bring standards and standards organizations closer to ICT research projects

4 elements that could improve the research/standards interface in FP7

- Transforming the COPRAS Standardization Guidelines into a single entry information exchange platform with broad functionality
- Create platforms that support standardization activity within specific 'Challenges'
- Broaden facilities within research programmes stimulating research/standards interfacing issues
- Encourage standards bodies becoming active in their approach towards research projects

Improving research/standards interfacing is not only a step-by-step process, but has to be a continuous activity as well



Thank you for your attention;

Questions?

Bart Brusse, COPRAS Project Manager

info@copras.org

www.copras.org



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