WSC workshop “Accessibility and the contribution of International Standards”

Standard-related actions on eInclusion and eAccessibility
Break-out Group 3

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Unit H3 - ICT for Inclusion

**Mission**: Improve the quality of life of people, including persons with disabilities and the elderly, supporting their full participation in society by means of ICT

**Objectives:**
- Promote the role of ICT for social inclusion and participation through policy and awareness raising actions
- Support R&D of inclusive ICT
  - based on the design-for-all approach;
  - intelligent assistive systems enhancing functional capabilities or compensating for impairments,
  - intelligent systems for independent living
Priorities on e-inclusion; implemented through various instruments

**Axis 1 - Enabling conditions** (e.g.)
- **Broadband**: European support to regions
- **e-Accessibility**: regulation, standards, CIP, research, stakeholder co-operation
- **Competences**

**Axis 2 - Accelerating participation** (e.g.)
- **Public services**: inclusive e-Government, e-participation
- **Ageing**: AP on ageing well in the information society, AAL research programme
- **Marginalised youth and migrants**: emerging topics on the agenda

**Axis 3 - Integrating actions** (e.g.)
- **Mainstreaming and co-ordination**: review i2010, social policy
- **Understanding and comparing**: “Riga dashboard”, studies
- **Awareness**: *e-Inclusion: be part of it!* campaign

**Supporting instruments** (e.g.)
- **Policy**: Communication, Declaration, events, coord. groups, benchmarking, study
- **Funding**: structural funds, RTD (EU FP, AAL), direct support (CIP)
- **Law**: telecoms, equality, standards, public procurement
Mandates

A policy-driven initiative
St M - the EC requests ESO to undertake specific actions

**M/376 - Standardisation mandate** to CEN, CENELEC, and ETSI in support of European accessibility requirements for public procurement of products and services in the ICT domain

**Phase I (closed) - Inventory**

- an analysis on testing and conformity schemes of products and services meeting accessibility requirements
- inventory of ICT products and services, list of existing functional accessibility requirements and of existing national, European and international standards and technical specifications

**Phase II - Standards**

>> European standard (EN) Accessibility requirements for ICT domain, to be used as technical specifications

- functional accessibility requirements applicable to ICT products and services together with a full description of the test procedures and evaluation methodology guidelines …

a future reference to policies and interventions
Mandates

**M/283 - Standardisation mandate** to the European Standards Bodies for a guidance document in the field of safety and usability of products by people with special needs (e.g. elderly and disabled)

CEN/CENELEC GUIDE 6
Guidelines for standards developers to address the need of older persons and persons with disabilities, and ensure greater accessibility of products and services

**M/273 - Standardisation mandate** to the European Standards Bodies for Standardization in the field of information and communications technologies (ICT) for disabled and elderly people
(Standards for disabled and elderly peoples’ access to information and communications technologies (ICT) products and services including “design for all”)
Funded RTD

Funding Programmes – FP7 - ICT

Relevant Objectives in call for project proposals specify in “Target outcomes” and “Expected impact”:

- “[…] substantial reduction in costs through standardisation […]
- “[…] strengthening development of standards and […]”
- “[…] contribution to standards is encouraged […]”
- “[…] it is essential that the work builds on and actively contributes to standards […]”
- “[…] should take account of existing standards and aim at their further development […]”

Prototypal stage of research results sometime incipient for significant contributions

Nevertheless,
Funded RTD

Funding Programmes – FP7 - ICT

* Project cluster “Virtual User Model and Simulation Cluster” (VUMS)
  Four R&D projects working on improving the accessibility of various products and application areas, taking into account users’ impairments – it includes a Standardisation Task Force for concerted actions
  http://www.veritas-project.eu/vums/?page_id=56

* Project Open architecture for Accessible Services Integration and Standardisation (OASIS)
  Consortium composed of 33 Partners from 11 countries, representing Large Industries, SMEs, Universities, Research Centres, Non-Profit Organizations, Public Organizations and Healthcare Centres
  An architecture and (open, modular, standards abiding) platform, which will enable interoperability, seamless connectivity and sharing of content between services and ontologies in application domains relevant to the elderly
  http://www.oasis-project.eu/
* Project **Intuitive interaction for everyone with home appliances based on industry standards** *(I2HOME)*

make devices and appliances at home more accessible to persons with mild cognitive disabilities and older persons, using the new mainstream user interface standard – the Universal Remote Console (URC)

http://www.i2home.org/
Funded RTD

Funding Programmes – FP6 - ICT

Specific Supporting Action

**COPRAS - Co-operation platform for research and standards**

by the European Standards Organizations (CEN, CENELEC and ETSI), The Open Group, and W3C

Objective: “to survey FP6 IST projects for standards-related output and provide appropriate ones with information on standardization to help progress their outputs through standards bodies.”

http://www.w3.org/2004/copras/

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2010-11-03
Funded RTD

Funding Programmes – FP6 - ICT

“Specific Supporting Action”

USEM - USer EMpowerment in standardisation

Objectives:
• facilitate participation of user organisations in standardisation;
• qualify users (who represent user organisations) with disabilities and elderly people for participation in European standardisation;
• improve European exchange of experiences by networking;
• increase the level of interaction with user societies between the EU countries and the European Disability Forum;
• disseminate information about standardisation.

http://www.usem-net.eu/
Other Policies

Digital Agenda for Europe - DAE

Action Area: 2.2 Interoperability and standards
“Improving ICT standard-setting”

“[…] Reflecting the rise and growing importance of ICT standards developed by certain global fora and consortia, one important aim is to allow their use in legislation and public procurement. […]”

“The Commission will:

Key Action 5: As part of the review of EU standardisation policy, propose legal measures on ICT interoperability by 2010 to reform the rules on implementation of ICT standards in Europe to allow use of certain ICT fora and consortia standards; […]”

Design for All and Assistive Technologies Standardization Co-ordination Group (DATSCG), ICTSB

http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/digital-agenda/index_en.htm
http://www.ictsb.org/Working_Groups/DATSCG/DATSCG_introduction.htm

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2010-11-03

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Other Policies

**eSAP - The eEurope Standardisation Action Plan**

Goal: To support the standardisation work in domains of public interest, such as security, **e-inclusion**, e-learning, e-government, etc. within the eEurope initiative through integrated actions of the ESOs and other ICTSB members.

Objectives:
- streamline EU ICT standardisation towards eEurope topics and accelerate consensus building
- promote participation of all relevant stakeholders to ensure transparency and inclusiveness
- disseminate the results as widely as possible, free availability of deliverables
- encourage the use of standards

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**2010-2013 ICT Standardisation Work Programme**

EU policy area: e-Inclusion (1) for people with disabilities (2) for Ageing

### Further Information

#### Web Resources
- AAL Programme [http://www.aal-europe.eu](http://www.aal-europe.eu)

#### Liaising
- e-Practice thematic network [http://epractice.eu/](http://epractice.eu/)

#### General Contacts
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