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D2.1 – EUOS FORESIGHT COMMITTEE PLAN

Work Package	D2.1 EUOS Foresight Committee Plan
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Glossary

EAG	External Advisory Group
DSM	Digital Single Market
PMB	Project Management Board
WP	Work Package
WPL	Work Package Leader
DCU	Dublin City University (Project Partner)
EUOS	EU Observatory on Standardization
FC	Foresight Committee
NWIP	New Work Item Proposal
NP	New Project

Executive summary

The Foresight Committee of the EU Observatory on ICT Standards has a forward-looking remit which is representative of the policy, ethos and values of the European Union. The members of the FC will monitor the adoption and deployment emerging technologies from a maturity assessment perspective for standardization. The FC will provide an early-warning-system to identify potential new work item proposals and new projects which may be of strategic importance to the European Union. The Committee will monitor those Policy initiatives that are addressed as part of the Digital Single Market (DSM) which may have timely contributions from an ICT Standardization perspective.

1   Introduction

1.1 About the EU Observatory for ICT Standards (EUOS)

The EUOS (EU Observatory for ICT Standards, aka the Standards Observatory) will steer the data acquisition phase of the new Standards Watch by co-ordinating a detailed standards landscape and ecosystem analysis for 5G, Cloud, Data Technologies, Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity and Blockchain. Further investigation of pipeline standards in areas like Cobots, 3D Printing, Quantum Computing and Digital Twin will be evaluated for maturity and possible future investment. The overall goal is to offer comprehensive coverage of all major SDOs operating globally and of all significant ICT standards. This activity will build on the experience gained in the first experiment (the "Standards Watch") conducted as part of StandICT.eu (2018-2019), which led to over 1,000 ICT standards / WGs / TCs uploaded.

The Foresight Committee will exploit the dedicated area on the EUOS, once published, regarding the gap analysis, challenges and priorities on the EUOS from a policy perspective and guarantee a consistent channel of communication with the related interfaces on the most relevant documents produced and aligned on the EUOS, one example of this is the current AI Watch activity[1], carried out by the JRC that StandICT.eu 2023 is spearheading and facilitating with contributions from the EAG to consolidate the efforts together.

Figure 1 EU Observatory for ICT Standards

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[1] https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/ai-watch_en

1.2 EUOS The Expert Advisory Group (EAG)

The EAG is composed of 17 renowned experts from all the ICT standardisation areas. The EAG presides over the most pertinent DSM perspectives covering SDOs and their developments. Figure 1 identifies the EAG members. Each EAG member works pro-bono and bound by a standard Terms of Reference (ToR) document. The members of the EAG lend both experience and influence to maintaining momentum and strengthening the impact of the Group. Members are recognised ICT standardisation specialists who regularly meet remotely to review topics of the open call. The EAG provides a pivotal link to the current status of EU priority areas for ICT standards development, coordinate a number of ICT Landscape Assessments and undertake a corresponding Standards Gap Analysis based on the resulting reports. At the time of writing the EUOS EAG are undertaking landscape assessments related to Big Data, Artificial Intelligence, Digitising European Landscape, Data Discovery and Standards Education.

Figure 2 StandICT.eu 2023 EAG

1.3 The EUOS Foresight Committee (FC)

"Foresight on Future Standardization Initiatives" – The EUOS-FC provides the perfect instrument with the authority and standing to liaise with and identify novel ICT areas which are maturing and warrant investigation as potential standardisation focal points. The FC provide an additional mechanism for the StandICT 2023 project, to be reactive and guided on the fast-moving potential new priorities for the EU to consider for leading in standardization and supporting engagement.

Creating an engaging & influential Foresight Committee (the EUOS-FC) to keep momentum in policy discussions, in-synch with the MSP. Individuals to the group may also be invited on an ad-hoc basis depending on the related policy proposal discussed at the time in question
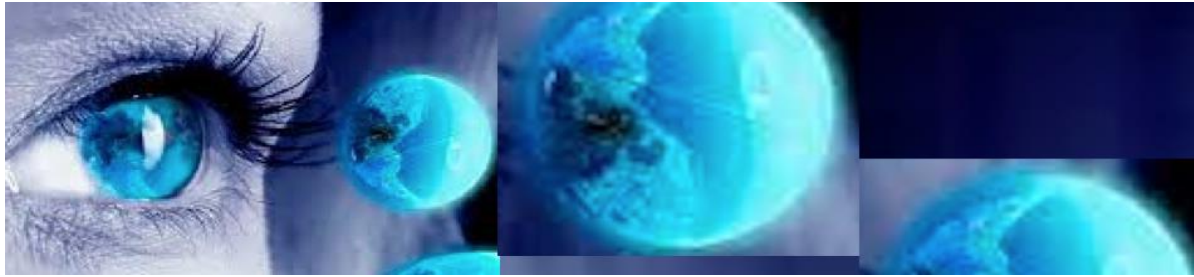
Figure 3 Foresight Committee

2 The EUOS Foresight Committee (FC)

2.1 Role of the EUOS FC

The EUOS Foresight Committee is to monitor ICT technology trends on behalf of the European Commission and provide "Foresight on Future Standards". The EUOS-FC provides the perfect liaison necessary with Standards Policy and Strategy and have the authority and standing to help identifying novel ICT areas which are maturing to warrant investigation as potential standardisation focal points and shaping the right industrial and digital policies.

2.2 Membership of the EUOS FC

The membership of the EUOS Foresight Committee will contain representatives from the StandICT2023 Leadership, the European Commission and Senior Standards experts with insights into future ICT Standards Development Policies and Strategies, Study Groups and Advisory Groups looking at technology maturity for standards and representing the interests and values of the European Commission.

Table 1 Membership of EU Observatory Foresight Committee

Constituency	Member
StandICT EUOS	Ray Walshe (Convenor)
DG CONNECT	Thomas Reibe / Emilio Davila Gonzalez
ISO/IEC JTC1	Brian McAuliffe (Liaison to EC)
CEN	Deborah Wautier (Project Manager - Policy & Stakeholders Engagement)
ITU	Jaroslaw Ponder (ITU Representative for Europe)
IEEE SA	Karen McCabe. (Senior Director)
IEC	Gilles Thonet (Standardization &Industry Strategy)
OASIS	Pim van der Eijk (Senior Advisor on Standards & European Engagement)

Legend: Availability OK | To Be Confirmed

2.3 Outputs from the EUOS FC

The Foresight Committee meetings will have agendas set by StandICT.eu leadership and minutes will be recorded for internal use.

The action items and the resulting outcomes of action items recommended by the FC will form an advisory report which will be submitted to the European Commission. Recommendations for Policy and Strategy changes or re-prioritisation from the EUOS FC (once approved by the EC Policy Officer) can be presented at the proposed annual Standards Assembly meetings of the European standards ecosystem.

2.4 Deviations from the StandICT.eu GA on the FC

The focus of the EUOS FC was initially proposed to be driven by European National Standards Bodies members providing experts to the committee. After consultation with the StandICT.eu policy officer Thomas Reibe, it was agreed to broaden the geographic and international reach of the EUOS FC to include representation from bodies like ISO/IEC JTC 1 and IEEE Standards Association.
The remit of the EUOS FC was also extended to include the monitoring and assessment of policy and strategy issues around European ICT Standardization e.g. the rise of China's influence and US Corporates influence in international standardization.

2.5 Meeting Schedule of the EUOS FC

The first meeting will be held in December 2020. Thereafter the EUOS FC will meet every 3 Months for the duration of the StandICT.eu 2023 Project. The membership of EUOS FC will be fluid to ensure expertise is engaged to react to European and International standardization issues as and when they arise. Due to COVID19, the first and second meetings of the FC will be held virtually via Online Collaboration and Conferencing Tools. The remaining FC meetings will primarily online but an annual face to face meeting will be discussed when circumstances permit.

Table 2 Meetings of EU Observatory on ICT Standards Foresight Committee

Meetings for 2020-2021	Proposed Date	Mechanism
1st Meeting EUOS FC	December 2020	Virtual/Online
2nd Meeting EUOS FC	March 2021	Virtual/Online
3rd Meeting EUOS FC	June 2021	TBC
4th Meeting EUOS FC	September 2021	TBC

3 Conclusions

The establishment of the EUOS FC with another group of internationally recognized experts withing the ICT Standardization Ecosystem further strengthens the EU Observatory on ICT Standards. The leadership of StandICT.eu recognises that this committee can provide a crucial service to the project, to the EC and to the European Union by helping identify key strategic priorities where the European Commission can support European Experts in undertaking leadership roles in creating key New Work Item Proposals and Projects for the advancement of European objectives in standards and ensuring European values are represented throughout the global standards development ecosystem.