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## D5.2 – INTERIM REPORT ON ECOSYSTEM BUILDING

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## Glossary

<b>EC</b>	European Commission
<b>SDO</b>	International Standardisation Organisation
<b>ESO</b>	European Standardisation Organisation
<b>NSB</b>	National Standardisation Body
<b>DMS</b>	Document Management System
<b>EAG</b>	External Advisory Group
<b>EPE</b>	External Pool of Evaluators
<b>IPR</b>	Intellectual Property Rights
<b>NGI</b>	Next Generation Internet
<b>PC</b>	Project Coordinator
<b>PMB</b>	Project Management Board
<b>TL</b>	Task Leader
<b>WP</b>	Work Package
<b>WPL</b>	Work Package Leader
<b>TRUST-IT</b>	Trust-IT Srl (Project Leader)
<b>DCU</b>	Dublin City University (Project Partner)
<b>AUS</b>	Australo Interinnov Marketing Lab SL (Project Partner)
<b>EUOS</b>	European Observatory for ICT Standardisation
<b>TWG</b>	Technical Working Group
<b>WG</b>	Working Group
<b>TC</b>	Technical Committee
<b>OC</b>	Open Call

## Executive summary

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**StandICT.eu 2023** is a European initiative supporting the EU engagement in international ICT standardization. The project has two objectives: firstly, it will fund 400+ European fellowships in ICT standardisation in **a series of 9 Open calls providing a total of 3M€ of funding**. Secondly, it **operates the European Observatory for ICT Standardisation (EUOS)** that is one-stop-shop for European ICT experts including an up-to-date standards repository as well as working groups sharing insights about ongoing ICT standardisation efforts across different standards bodies and related initiatives. StandICT.eu 2023 focuses on horizontal and vertical ICT fields that crucial for the European Digital Single Market and that are defined in the Rolling Plan for ICT Standardisation<sup>1</sup>.

The Consortium of Partners is coordinated by the same organisation leading the precursory initiative – **Trust-IT Srl**<sup>2</sup> (Italy), an SME with over 15 years' experience of managing complex EC-funded projects in ICT– including 2 experienced partners: **Dublin City University**<sup>3</sup> (Ireland), a major player in SDO WGs & TCs and in educating future ICT Standards experts through its ELITE-S programme, and **AUSTRALO Marketing Lab**<sup>4</sup> (Spain), a SME specialised in communication dissemination and stakeholder engagement of EC-funded projects.



**Success factor for achieving the StandICT.eu 2023 key objectives is the Ecosystem Building** helping to reach out a critical mass of target groups and engaging the European top-notch experts but also motivating new contributors in the international ICT standardization work.

During the first project half, **the project has established a stable StandICT.eu 2023 community** including a varied range of stakeholders involved in ICT standardisation, namely 17 Standardisation Organisations, and their Work Groups and Technical Committees benefitting from the contributions of the funded StandICT.eu 2023 fellowships, 20 European Experts contributing in the community via the EAG, the EPE, the Fellowship Programme or the EUOS Technical Work Groups but also 11 European PPPs and Associations, 3 SME Organizations, 19 National Standardisation Bodies, 7 large industry players and 11 Horizon2020 projects.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/rolling-plan-ict-standardisation>

<sup>2</sup> [www.trust-itservices.com](http://www.trust-itservices.com)

<sup>3</sup> [www.dcu.ie](http://www.dcu.ie)

<sup>4</sup> [www.australo.org](http://www.australo.org)

The creation of this community based on the first edition of the StandICT.eu project (2018-2020), and this basis has been amplified with **the agile stakeholder engagement methodology**, run by AUS, covering three phases of engagement: scouting stakeholders, interaction with interested third parties and learning from the established synergies. This engagement covers namely the promotion of the series of Open Calls and attracting active contributors in the EUOS platform but also setting up collaborative dissemination and communication activities, such as online workshops and webinars about the burning topics in standardisation on the dedicated ICT areas, such as AI, Cybersecurity, Smart Cities or Digital Twins.

During the second project half, the stakeholder engagement continues promoting the remaining Open Call (from OC#7 to OC#9), disseminating the impact of the funded fellowship via individual success stories shared on the dedicated Open Call Impact Reports and social media campaigns as well as joining an increasing number of relevant European and International conferences, meetings, and events to widespread the Programme results. On the EUOS, the TWGs continue producing the landscape and gap analysis reports focusing on key ICT sectors with the aim to guide the Multistakeholder Platform and other members of StandICT.eu 2023 in the future needs of ICT standardisation.

# 1 Introduction

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This report presents the ecosystem building approach that StandICT.eu 2023 has taken during the first project half from September 2020 until February 2022, covering 18 months.

## 1.1 Scope and specific goals of the deliverable

This report summarizes the activities and results of the stakeholder engagement in StandICT.eu 2023 during the first project half. The main objectives of this deliverable are therefore:

- To provide details in the ecosystem building approach, including the agile stakeholder management strategy and the definition of the different stakeholder groups.
- To give an overview of the StandICT.eu 2023 ecosystem status in February 2022, including the established synergies and the implemented engagement tactics.
- To share the lessons learnt in while creating synergies and set plan for the next steps of the StandICT.eu 2023 community management until the end of the project.

## 1.2 Structure of the document

The document is organised as follows:

- **Section 2** provides an overview of the agile stakeholder management framework and the general descriptions of the targeted stakeholder groups.
- **Section 3** draws a picture of the status of StandICT.eu 2023 community at M18, describing the engaged stakeholder groups, focusing on the results in their engagement.
- **Section 4** describes the implemented engagement tactics, and it is complementary to the report D4.2 Interim report on Communication (M18, Trust-IT).
- **Section 5** lays down the lessons learnt from the first period of stakeholder engagement activity and sets the direction for the next steps.

## 1.3 Relationship to other deliverables and project outcomes

This report is the first deliverable related to the task 5.1 Stakeholder Engagement, and the current version will be updated and submitted on M36, under the name D5.7 Final Report on Ecosystem Building and will describe the implemented actions during the second period of the project.

The stakeholder engagement activities mentioned in this report are closely related essentially to other delivered project reports, including:

- D2.1 Foresight Committee Plan (DCU, M03)
- D2.2 Workshops and Webinars reports, 1<sup>st</sup> issue (Trust-IT, M11)
- D3.1 Call monitoring report no1 (Call 1& Call 2) (Trust-IT, M07)
- D3.1 Call monitoring report no2 (Call 3 & Call 4) (Trust-IT, M13)



- D3.1 Call monitoring report no3 (Call 5 & Call 6) (Trust-IT, M17)
- D3.4 StandICT.eu Fellowship Programme Impact Report (AUS, M18)
- D4.1 Plan for communication & Stakeholder Engagement Strategy (Trust-IT, M03)
- D4.2 Interim report on communication and stakeholder engagement strategy (Trust-IT, M18)

## 2 Ecosystem Building Approach

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The objective is that the StandICT.eu 2023 Community becomes the reference point of ICT standardisation ecosystems in Europe, gathering over 3000+ engaged members. This community benefits from the StandICT.eu 2023 actions that reinforce the European voice on the international ICT standards scene, including two key pillars: the Fellowship Programme allocating 3M€ of direct funding to 400+ European experts and the EUOS offering an online repository of updated ICT standards, active work groups for experts and landscape reports on the standards in the key ICT areas. The scope of the StandICT.eu actions are in line sectors defined in the EU Rolling plan for ICT standardisation<sup>5</sup>.

Therefore, the ecosystem building activities will essentially echo the following StandICT.eu actions:

1. Raising publishing awareness **to achieve the widest reach of the Open Calls** to an appropriate audience and attract the most skilled European ICT Standards Experts.
2. Showcasing the StandICT.eu 2023's fellowship programme results, **creating awareness of the impact of the cascade funding** and ensuring they contribute to the shaping of future European ICT Policies.
3. Sharing the varied and regularly updated **EUOS resources** including, standards repository, discussion groups, educational resources via StandICT.eu 2023 Academy and "Landscape and Gap analysis" documents created by selected experts from the StandICT.eu community.

To coordinate the ecosystem building within the consortium, the StandICT.eu partners follow the agile stakeholder management framework and have defined the stakeholder target groups, and these both are described in the coming sub-sections.

### 2.1 Agile Stakeholder Management Framework

To maximise the effectiveness of the community building activities, the StandICT.eu 2023 consortium requires a mechanism for managing systematically the ever-changing list of organisations, initiatives, and players with a position to influence the value streams of the project. For this reason, the programme implements an **Agile Stakeholder Engagement Framework**, designed to continue developing and strengthening relationships with significant stakeholders.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/rolling-plan-ict-standardisation>

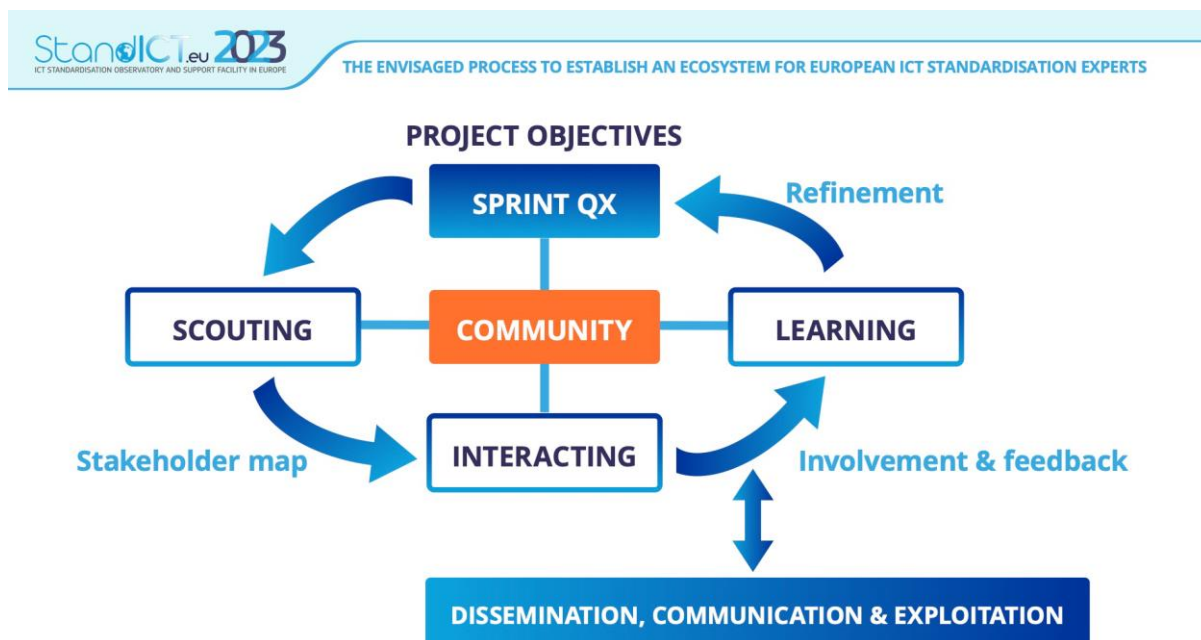


Figure 1: Agile Stakeholder Engagement

This framework for community building works in cycles (see Figure 1), which enables to align the stakeholder engagement with the running project activities and achieve results. Each community building cycle includes three phases:

- **Phase 1 - Scouting.** Considering the expected impact of the programme, this phase focuses on exploring the spectrum of target groups of relevance for the project. The key result is a version of the 'Stakeholder Map', a database to 1) identify target groups -and specific open call candidates within them-; 2) efficiently organise and correlate these stakeholders; 3) define a common terminology to use in all the project's documentation, namely EAG / EPE / TWG members, StandICT.eu Fellows, StandICT.eu Community, etc.
- **Phase 2 - Interaction.** This stage targets the actual engagement with the stakeholders so that it will be synchronised with the main activity cycles of StandICT.eu 2023.
- **Phase 3 - Learning.** From the actions performed in the life cycle, the consortium learns lessons that will support the refinement of the next Sprint. Such phase includes insights obtained from consulting stakeholders (e.g., via one-to-one meetings, email exchanges or short questionnaires), gathering valuable feedback about the project, reviewing the engagement activities performed so far and its impact.

Until the project mid-term, in February 2022, the community building has covered 11 main cycles, defined in Table 1, that correspond to important project activities and results from this period. Thanks to this continuous flow of the project activities and achieved results, the stakeholders are scouted, contacted, and informed very regularly via the different engagement tactics that are further defined in Section 0.

Table 1 - Community Building Cycles until M18

Project Activity / Result	Timing
OC#1 Promotion	02/11/2020 - 04/01/2021

OC#2 Promotion	11/01 - 11/03/2021
OC#3 Promotion	18/03 - 18/05/2021
Launch of the EUOS	March 2021
Publication of AI Standards Landscape	June 2021
OC#1 Fellowship Impact Report	June 2021
OC#4 Promotion	15/07 - 15/09/2021
OC#5 Promotion	27/09 - 29/11/2021
OC#6 Promotion	6/12/2021 - 07/02/2022
Publication of Smart Cities Standards Landscape	December 2021
OC#2 Fellowship Impact Report	December 2021

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> project half, the stakeholder scouting, contacting, and engagement will remain very frequent, as Table 2 demonstrates.

Table 2 - Community Building Cycles from M18 until M36

Project Activity / Result	Timing
OC#6 Promotion	6/12/2021 - 07/02/2022
OC#7 Promotion	March -May 2022
OC#8 Promotion	May – July 2022
OC#9 Promotion	July – September 2022
OC#10 Promotion	To be decided
Publication of 7 Fellowship Impact Reports from OC#3 until OC#9	Every two months
Publication of the EUOS new TWG reports	To be decided

## 2.2 Overview of StandICT.eu 2023 Stakeholders

The initial stakeholder landscape of the project was described in *D4.1 Plan for communication & Stakeholder Engagement Strategy (Trust-IT, M03)*, and this landscape is constantly updated to match the best the project's actual activities, needs and expectations.

The StandICT.eu 2023 stakeholders are considered in two groups: **the primary stakeholder** that benefit from the project activities and results directly by entering the Fellowship programme or using the EUOS resources, whereas **the secondary stakeholders** are indirect beneficiaries of the initiative experiencing the project impact via the primary stakeholders' activities and contributions in the global ICT standardisation.

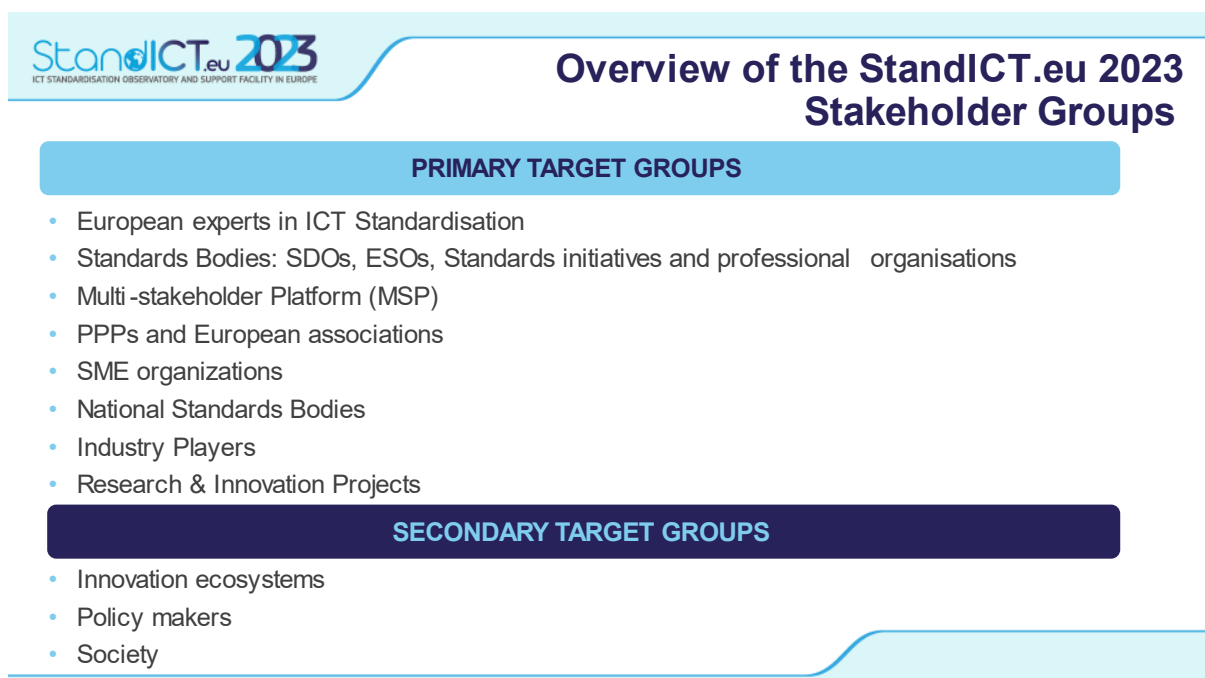


Figure 2: Overview of the StandICT.eu 2023 Target Groups

Moreover, the targeted ICT sectors cover horizontal areas, especially Cybersecurity, Cloud computing, 5G and fixed internet, and Big Data as well as multiple vertical sectors including Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence (AI), Quantum technologies, Blockchain, eHealth, Fintech, etc. The full list of eligible topic areas for fellowship activities is updated for the launch of each new open call<sup>6</sup>.

### 2.2.1 Primary Target Groups

The impact of the primary stakeholders on the StandICT.eu Community is high, and the after mentioned groups are the primary targets of the StandICT.eu activities since they actively participate in shaping ICT standards and related recommendations in Europe and beyond.

#### European experts in ICT Standardisation

The top-notch European experts can join the StandICT.eu community and efforts in different manners, including:

- **StandICT.eu 2023 Fellowship Programme** that, via a series of 10 Open Calls, offer direct funding for work across different SDOs and related WGs and TCs.
- **External Advisory Group (EAG)** that was set up for the start of the project and its main role is to guide the project in its main phases; supporting the identification of needs, challenges, and priorities in ICT standardisation, advocating the project in related events to engage more stakeholders as well as contributing in the EUOS activities.

<sup>6</sup> [www.standict.eu/standicteu-2023-5th-open-call](http://www.standict.eu/standicteu-2023-5th-open-call)

- **External Pool of Evaluators (EPE)** evaluating the fellowship applications in the open calls. This pool was elected in December 2020.
- **EUOS Technical Work Groups (TWG)** gathering experts from dedicated ICT sectors to draft landscape and gap analysis in standards on the concerned fields. These groups are created in the project run.
- **EUOS-Foresight committee** will be established during the project, and it will gather a group of key and influential leaders coming from different backgrounds (EC, SDOs, NSBs or PPPs) to provide a clear linkage between policies and regulations through Standards, to offer guidance and relevant perspectives to future EC work programmes.

The project builds upon its engaged and relevant community of ICT Standardisation experts achieved under StandICT.eu [2018-2020] and the aim is to expand this community of experts coming from new horizons representing a varied range of horizontal and vertical ICT sectors.

### European and International Standards Bodies

The different **Standards Bodies, including SDOs, ESOs, varied Standards initiatives and professional organisations, are** engaged to shape the Open Call Priorities guiding the work of the selected fellows. Also, they provide support in spreading the running Open Calls and in disseminating relevant results among their members. Even more importantly, the different standards bodies benefit from the StandICT.eu fellowship programme as the funded fellows contribute to varied standardisation activities of their groups.

The StandICT.eu 2023 team engages timely and regularly with the specific bodies with whom **StandICT.eu 2023 has established a formal collaboration that taking the form of following activities:**

- Direct liaison with Chairs and Co-chairs of Working Groups and Technical Committees also by exploiting the connections of the EAG members (to embark them in virtual or physical events, to ask for support to identify important novelties, gaps, or challenges in the relative ICT field or to contribute to the provision or research of Landscape Analysis to be integrated within the EUOS).
- Look for promotional opportunities at related events and meetings.
- Research of Focus Groups on specific ICT sub-domains which may be willing in creating and supporting a dedicated discussion group within the EUOS.

### Multi-Stakeholder platform

The role of **the European Multi-Stakeholders Platform on ICT Standardisation<sup>7</sup>** for StandICT.eu 2023 is dual: First, it acts as the harbinger of the areas of ICT standardisation activities crucial to the future development and competitiveness of the European Digital Single Market, through its Rolling Plan, which highlights the key priority topics that should underpin and provide focus for the Open Calls. Second, it acts as a crucial messenger and multiplier to feed the results of the funded research on core ICT standardisation topics back to the community.

Over the course of StandICT.eu [2018-2020], a close relationship was initiated with the MSP and the Project was invited to attend its meetings on a regular basis. StandICT.eu 2023 consolidates this engagement primarily through the EUOS, where the MSP can take full

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<sup>7</sup><https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/multi-stakeholder-platform-ict-standardisation>

advantage of the services offered and contribute through the discussion forum to the iterated versions of the ICT Rolling Plan of ICT Standardisation.

MPS meets four times a year, and in meeting, TRUST-IT and DCU represent StandICT.eu 2023 sharing the main results and research of the project in a dedicated presentation, which enables to engage directly with the involved European officers and experts and to find new synergies with other related initiatives.

### **PPPs and European associations**

The **European ICT PPPs and associations** support varied research and innovation activities that, on their side, contribute to the development of standards. Therefore, it is crucial to engage with these structures, including namely **the BDVA, 5GIA, euRobotics, EFFRA and ECSO** to:

- Attract new experts in the StandICT.eu2023 community, including the EUOS, its TWGs and Foresight Committee.
- Promote the Open Calls and find new interested applicants.
- Look for opportunities of visibility at related events.

### **SME organizations**

To foster the adoption of standards by SMEs, it is crucial for SMEs needs to be properly taken into consideration when it comes to drafting and developing Standards that should be compatible with small enterprises for a more effective market uptake and fairer competition.

By strengthening relationships with the principal European SME organisations and associations, StandICT.eu 2023 ensures that the voice of the SME community is considered within SDO Working Groups and Committees. At the same time, SMEs can aim at increasing their presence in the international standardisation landscape for ICT through the financial means available with the StandICT.eu Open Calls, to overcome some of the barriers preventing access of their representatives in the decision-making process.

Establishing a collaboration with associations such as **SBS, SME United and European Digital SME Alliance**, will pave the way **for a reciprocal support to achieve beneficial and shared objectives, and more specifically:**

- To provide visibility to all outreach activities that the Partners organise around efforts on SMEs and contribution to ICT Standards through the main StandICT.eu media channels and extensive network of stakeholder communities.
- To receive insights from Partner's members on the EUOS, on the Open Calls or on the StandICT.eu initiative at large.
- To obtain a consistent support for the Open Calls promotion through the European SMEs community (as well as for any other StandICT.eu's event).
- To ensure complementary cooperation in participation at webinars or events of mutual interest.

### **National Standards Bodies**

These structures are key players in the ecosystem helping to obtain a complete mapping of the different national perspectives and steer ICT Policy development towards a more Eurocentric approach. In addition, **the formal collaboration with these structures support:**

- Spreading the Open Call and the key project results at the national levels.



- Engaging national standardisation experts in the fellowship programme and in the technical work groups.
- Accessing other related national initiatives that complement the StandICT.eu 2023 activities.

## Industry Players

**Large Technology Industries**, such as Telecom Italy, Telefonica Spain, Vodafone, HP, Atos, NEC, OPC Foundation, VDE (Verband der Elektrotechnik, Elektronik und Informationstechnik), DKE, IBM, etc., have representatives working on international standardisation so that the established standards meet their needs at the best. In the international standardisation task forces, namely in the fields of telecommunications, manufacturing, industrial automation etc.; the major companies from Asia, Canada or even USA are often very well represented. Therefore, it is crucial to support the engaged of European industries to voice their needs in these standardisation efforts. In line with this, **StandICT.eu collaboration with representatives of large EU companies to:**

- Reinforce their engagement in the SDOs, WGs and TC via the Open Calls.
- Include their experts in the StandICT.eu 2023 advisory and work groups.

## Research and Innovation Projects

The majority European **ICT research and innovation projects**, funded namely under Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe programmes, contribute actively to standards development. Inviting related EU ICT projects in the StandICT.eu 2023 community can be beneficial for both parties: on one side, the EU ICT projects have opportunities to disseminate their standardisation outcomes and recommendations to a large community of stakeholders as well as the Open Calls and the EUOS can be useful resources for their research. On the other side, **StandICT.eu 2023 has established collaboration with a varied range of Horizon 2020 projects (Horizon Europe to be scouted in 2022) to:**

- Increase the visibility of the Open Calls and to attract new applicants.
- Attract new active contributors on the EUOS platform and its technical work groups.
- Create common communication activities, such as workshops, webinars, or fact sheets about the ongoing standardisation work.

### 2.2.2 Secondary Target Groups

The impact of the secondary target groups for the StandICT.eu 2023 ecosystem is medium, as they do not directly take part in the Programme, but they benefit from the efforts in standardisation carried out by the primary target groups.

## Innovation Ecosystems

**The different digital innovation structures** operating in horizontal (cloud, IoT, 5G & fixed network, cyber security, data commons) and/ or vertical ICT fields (quantum technologies, AI, Blockchain, Industry 4.0, ITs, FinTech, eHealth, Circular Economy, Smart Grids etc.) include research institutes, business accelerators, digital innovation hubs, University Research technology Offices (RTOs), etc. The organizations support wide spreading the Fellowship Programme Open Calls attracting new candidates from the different primary target groups as



well as they find can benefit from the produced EUOS resources in their own standardisation related activities.

### Policy makers

This group covers government department, legislature, or other organizations responsible for making new rules, laws and for promoting strategies developing a roadmap at European or local scope. For StandICT.eu 2023, **the main reference is the European Commission and its different Directorates-Generals, especially DG CONNECT, DG GROW, EC Joint Research Centre (JRC), DG RTD, the Research Executive Agency**, all coordinating a varied range of digital research and innovation actions contributing to standardisation, and, to establish synergies, these are linked with the StandICT.eu 2023 activities.

Moreover, StandICT.eu 2023 benefits from the participation of two members of DG CONNECT, one member of DG GROW and one member of JRC in its External Advisory Group, ensuring a constant dialogue between the European Commission and the Project, which through its continuous interaction across national and international SDOs can pinpoint topics that require further research, and provide coordinated guidance to steer policy priorities.

In addition, **the Digital National Contacts Points of the Horizon Europe** programme support the project is promoting the Open Calls at national level in EU-27 via their local networks.

### Society

**General public and non-specialised media** are targeted in the StandICT.eu 2023 engagement encouraging a common understanding that standardisation brings to the European society and economy. Collaboration namely with ANEC representing the European consumer voice in standardisation helps to reach out the consumer groups. Moreover, the communication plan (*set out in Deliverable 4.1 Communication Plan and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and further detailed in D4.2 Interim Report on Communication*) is responsible for wider promotion of the project and its outcomes.

### 3 StandICT.eu 2023 Ecosystem at M18

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After the general overview of the different stakeholder groups in Section 2.2, this section details the members of the established StandICT.eu 2023 community from the project start until its mid-term, in February 2022. WP5 “*Engagement and Sustainability*”, and especially the task 5.1 “*Stakeholder engagement*” lead by AUS is dedicated to managing and amplifying the ecosystem with continuous support from Trust-IT and DCU that have strong connections in the European standardisation fora.

The first milestone of the WP5 M5.1 “Initial StandICT.eu 2023 stakeholder life-cycle” was completed in M6 (March 2021) when:

- The EAG and the EPE members were selected and contracted for the entire duration of the project.
- After a successful engagement campaign, 35 first fellows of the Open Call #1 kicked-off their funded fellowships and the monitoring of their process started.
- First cross-initiative collaborations were established and announced in dedicated press releases.
- The EUOS platform was launched and the first stakeholders, especially 17 experts of the EAG and the collaborative H2020 projects, started contributing on the platform.

From the very project start, the StandICT.eu 2023 community building and management is a continuous effort closely related to T4.1 “Outreach, communication and Open Calls promotion” lead by Trust-IT. The main tools to make the established collaborations official are:

- **Contracts** that define the specific terms for the collaboration and the outlay or the granted funding of the contributed work. The contracts concern only the EPE and EAG members as well as the Funded Fellowships. These are signed between Trust-IT, the StandICT.eu 2023 coordinator and the individual in question.
- **Signature of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** (see example in the Annex 1) where the both parties engage themselves to mutually support the cross-initiative communication of the achieved results and open opportunities as well as to offer a framework for jointly created activities, such as workshops, webinars or other related material disseminating the research results. The MoUs are signed between Trust-IT, the StandICT.eu 2023 coordinator and the main contact point of the collaborative project / initiative / structure.
- **Common Agreement on the Collaboration** as some of the engaged parties prefer a more informal manner to set up the partnership. Often, this agreement is achieved after one-to-one meeting or exchange where the forms of the collaboration are mutually defined.

Moreover, this section focuses on giving a clear understanding of the wide StandICT.eu 2023 stakeholders Community that has been set up since September 2020 and it provides details of the different engaged stakeholder profiles. Then, Section 4 will detail the engagement and interaction tactics used with the community.

### 3.1 European experts in ICT Standardisation

The StandICT.eu 2023 Community gathers nearly 400 experts and this number keeps growing as more Open Calls are launched and new activities are taking place. The following sub-sections detail the different engaged expert profiles.

#### 3.1.1 StandICT.eu 2023 Fellows

The funded fellows form a core pillar of the StandICT.eu 2023 community as they directly benefit from the Fellowship Programme funding, and they are the primary engaged experts that actively contribute in the development of standards across standardisation organisations and standards bodies.

From the Open Call 1 until the Open Call 5, in total 180 fellows have been supported by the StandICT.eu Fellowship programme. In each batch, on or more fellows have withdrawn their fellowship after the contracting due to personal or professional reasons, which reduces a little the total amount of accorded and announced grants. Table 3 details the total number of granted fellows by Open Call Batch.

**Table 3: Total Number of StandICT.eu 2023 Fellows Until OC#5**

Open Call Number	Number of Contracted Fellows	Number of withdrawals after contracting	Final Total
<b>OC#1</b>	36	1	35
<b>OC#2</b>	36	2	34
<b>OC#3</b>	35	1	34
<b>OC#4</b>	38	0	38
<b>OC#5</b>	36	0	36

Moreover, as mentioned in Introduction, the set of three deliverables detail the applications submitted and funded under the different open calls:

- D3.1 Call monitoring report no1 (Call 1& Call 2) (Trust-IT, M07)
- D3.1 Call monitoring report no2 (Call 3 & Call 4) (Trust-IT, M13)
- D3.1 Call monitoring report no3 (Call 5 & Call 6) (Trust-IT, M17)

In addition, the monitoring methodology and the impact of the funded fellowships are detailed in:

- D3.4 StandICT.eu Interim Impact Report (AUS, M18)
- In a series of individual Impact Reports related to each Open Call and that share the success stories focusing on the key insights of each fellowship project within the different SDOs.

### 3.1.2 EAG Members

The EAG was set up prior to the project kick-off, thanks to the ecosystem foundations from StandICT.eu 2018-2020, and today it is composed of 20 renowned experts from several ICT standardisation areas, EC Policy officers, member of renowned SDOs and EU national Standard Bodies, representatives of SMEs organisations and professional ICT networks.

The EAG (see **Error! Reference source not found.**) meets virtually once a month and it is chaired by Ray Walshe (DCU).



Figure 3 EAG Members at M18

The EAG experts are valuable contributors not only in advising the project activities in terms of Open Calls and Fellowship Programme, but also, they play a key role in the different EUOS Technical Work Groups that draft and publish landscape and gap analysis in standards in the different ICT sectors. Table 4 details the profiles of the EAG Board.

Table 4: Full List of the EAG Members

Name	Position & Organization	Profile
<b>Sebastian Hallensleben</b>	Head of Digitalisation and AI, VDE Verband der Elektrotechnik Elektronik Informationstechnik e.V	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/node/52">www.standict.eu/node/52</a>
<b>Brian McAuliffe</b>	Director of Technology Standards, HP	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/eag/brian-mcauliffe">www.standict.eu/eag/brian-mcauliffe</a>
<b>Lindsay Frost</b>	Chief Standardization Engineer, NEC & ETSI ISG CIM	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/eag/lindsay-frost">www.standict.eu/eag/lindsay-frost</a>
<b>Jens Gayko</b>	CEN-CENELEC-ETSI SMa-CG	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/eag/jens-gayko">www.standict.eu/eag/jens-gayko</a>
<b>Karl Gruen</b>	Director, Austrian Standards	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/eag/karl-gruen">www.standict.eu/eag/karl-gruen</a>

<b>Enrico Scarrone</b>	Telecom Italia & Vice Chairman, M2M Steering Committee	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/eag/enrico-scarrone">www.standict.eu/eag/enrico-scarrone</a>
<b>Marc Taverner</b>	Executive Director, INATBA	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/eag/marc-taverner">www.standict.eu/eag/marc-taverner</a>
<b>Tom De Block</b>	Solution architect / Chairman, AIOTI	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/eag/tom-de-block">www.standict.eu/eag/tom-de-block</a>
<b>Martin Chapman</b>	Senior Director, Standards and Compliance Policy EMEA, ORACLE	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/eag/martin-chapman">www.standict.eu/eag/martin-chapman</a>
<b>Annika Linck</b>	Project Manager, Digital SME Alliance	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/eag/annika-linck">www.standict.eu/eag/annika-linck</a>
<b>Antonio Conte</b>	ICT Standardisation Policy Officer, EC DG GROW	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/eag/antonio-conte">www.standict.eu/eag/antonio-conte</a>
<b>Fergal Finn</b>	Manager Standards Innovation, Policy & Business Development, NSAI Standards	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/eag/fergal-finn">www.standict.eu/eag/fergal-finn</a>
<b>Stephan Weisgerber</b>	Head of Digital Platforms, DIN Deutsches Institut für Normung e. V.	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/eag/stephan-weisgerber">www.standict.eu/eag/stephan-weisgerber</a>
<b>Ana Garcia Robles</b>	Secretary General, BDVA - Big Data Value Association	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/eag/ana-garcia-robles">www.standict.eu/eag/ana-garcia-robles</a>
<b>Thomas Reibe</b>	Senior Officer, EC DG Connect	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/eag/thomas-reibe">www.standict.eu/eag/thomas-reibe</a>
<b>Emilio Davila Gonzalez</b>	Head of Sector ICT Standardisation, EC DG Connect	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/node/51">www.standict.eu/node/51</a>
<b>Stefano Nativi</b>	Big Data Lead Scientist, EC Joint Research Centre (JRC)	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/node/53">www.standict.eu/node/53</a>
<b>Nuria De Lama</b>	European Programs Manager, ATOS	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/eag/nuria-de-lama">www.standict.eu/eag/nuria-de-lama</a>
<b>Jochen Friedrich</b>	Member of the ETSI Board and chairs the ETSI Board strategy group on open source, IBM	
<b>Ray Walshe</b>	Assistant Professor & EAG Chair, Dublin City University (DCU)	<a href="http://www.standict.eu/eag/ray-walshe">www.standict.eu/eag/ray-walshe</a>

### 3.1.3 EPE Members

The External Pool of Evaluators (EPE) with the specific task to process and evaluate fairly and carefully each of the applications received. The experts were recruited through an Open Call that was launched on the 1st of October 2020 and closed on the 30th of November 2020. The top applicants were selected with a view to ensure an adequate conformity in terms of competence and expertise in ICT key-domains, gender balance and geographical coverage.

The EPE members are engaged via a contract with the relevant confidentiality and IPR management provisions. Furthermore, each EPE candidates were analysed and shortlisted by the PMB to cross-checked with the EAG.

During the lifetime of the project, the composition of the EPE may be adjusted to compensate for retiring members or change of open call priorities.

Today, it gathers 51 experts with a good mix of specialists from different organisation types such as SMEs, Research and Academia, IT Consultancy development and Government/Public Service. A number also have a dual role, as engaged experts, of SDOs and National Standards Bodies.

Composition of the EPE can be consulted in *D3.2 – Call Monitoring Report 2 (submitted in M12)* as well as on the *StandICT.eu 2023 website*<sup>8</sup>.

### **3.1.4 EUOS TWGs Members**

Until now, over 110 experts are actively involved in the EUOS Technical Work Groups that overview existing standards and gaps in the standardisation in the crucial digital domains in today's societies.

All the EUOS TWGs involve top-notch experts in standardisation of the relevant ICT fields, and these groups have been established via the networks of the partners and upon recommendations of profiles from the EAG members, but also these groups benefit from meaningful engagement of the certain EAG members. In addition, all fellows funded in the StandICT.eu Fellowship Programme are invited to join the EUOS work groups, and the interested fellows get engaged in the TWG in their area of expertise. Until February 2022, 9 TWGs have been established and have started their work of gathering landscape and gap analysis, including:

1. **TWG AI - Artificial Intelligence:** 16 experts are engaged in this group that published their first report "**Landscape of AI Standards**"<sup>9</sup> in June 2021
2. **TWG SMART - Smart Cities:** 17 experts are engaged in this group and they published their first report "**Landscape on Smart Cities Standards**"<sup>10</sup> in December 2021
3. **TWG CYBER – Cybersecurity:** 9 experts are gathered in this group
4. **TWG BLOCK – Blockchain:** 12 experts have joined this group
5. **TWG TWIN – Digital Twins:** 15 experts have joined this group. Report "**Landscape in digital twin standards**" in pre-publishing phase
6. **TWG TRUST – Trusted Information:** 10 experts have joined this group. The group published its first report "**Landscape of Trusted Information Standards**"<sup>11</sup> in February 2021
7. **TWG DATA – Big Data & Data Interoperability:** 11 experts have joined this group
8. **TWG IoT-Edge – Internet Of Things & Edge Computing:** 10 experts have joined this group
9. **TWG ONTO – Ontology:** 18 experts have joined this group

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<sup>8</sup> [www.standict.eu/call-evaluators-closed](http://www.standict.eu/call-evaluators-closed)

<sup>9</sup> <https://zenodo.org/record/5011179#.YaYZ89DMKUK>

<sup>10</sup> <https://zenodo.org/record/5785688#.YfV72PXP1pQ>

<sup>11</sup> [https://zenodo.org/record/5926395#.YgTf\\_vjSI2x](https://zenodo.org/record/5926395#.YgTf_vjSI2x)



## 10. TWG ACADEMY – Training on ICT Standardisation: 15 experts have joined this group

More information about the TWGs is reported in *D5.1 THE EU OBSERVATORY FOR ICT STANDARDS (EUOS) INTERIM REPORT – EUOS INTERIM POSITION STATEMENTS*, submitted on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

### 3.1.5 EUOS-Foresight Committee

The EUOS Foresight Committee monitors ICT technology trends on behalf of the European Commission and provide “Foresight on Future Standards”. Today, the membership contains 11 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 5: Members of the EUOS Foresight Committee**

Full Name	Organization
<b>Ray Walshe</b>	DCU, EAG Chair and EUOS Director
<b>Emilio Davila-Gonzalez</b>	EC DG CONNECT
<b>Brian McAuliffe</b>	ISO/ IEC JTC1 & HP
<b>Thomas Reibe</b>	EC DG CONNECT
<b>Silvana Muscella</b>	Trust-IT
<b>Arnaud Taddei</b>	Broadcom
<b>Carol Cosgrove - Sacks</b>	OASIS
<b>David Boswarthick</b>	ETSI
<b>Karen McCabe</b>	IEEE SA
<b>Gilles Thonet</b>	IEC
<b>Sebastian Hallensleben</b>	VDE

As referred in Introduction, *D2.1 Foresight Committee Plan* details further the strategy and the constituency of this group.

## 3.2 Synergies with Varied Organizations

A wide range of different European and International organization, cover over 65 actors in the international Standardisation, play an important role in the StandICT.eu community, and these collaborations are established in a framework of a MoU or an agreed mutual understanding resulting from one-to-one meeting or written exchange.

In addition, the initiation of synergies, especially in the phase of scouting and contacting, takes other forms of engagement, such as:

- The StandICT.eu 2023 experts contribute actively, via their funded fellowships, in the work of varied Standards bodies, which enables to introduce them to the StandICT.eu 2023 Initiative.
- Regular one-to-one communications about the new Open Calls and the achieved results of the project towards new structures.

- Involvement and contribution in events, webinars and other meetings covering the StandICT.eu activity areas.



Figure 4: StandICT.eu Synergies and MoUs at M18

### 3.2.1 Standards Bodies

Today, **14 standards bodies**, detailed in Table 6, are actively engaged as stakeholders in the StandICT.eu 2023 Community; they all benefit from fellowships funded under the Open Calls (from OC#1 until OC#4 ) and these fellowships make advance the standardisation in the varied technical committees (TCs), Work groups (WGs) or Steering Committees (SCs) of the concerned organizations.

Table 6 Standards Bodies Engaged in StandICT.eu 2023 Community

Organization		Number of Funded Fellowships in the Organization (OC1 -OC5)	Other engagement in StandICT.eu 2023
	<b>ETSI</b> <a href="http://www.etsi.org">www.etsi.org</a>	28 Funded fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mutual promotional activities</li> <li>- Participation of their members in several “Walk &amp; Talk” webinars organized by the project</li> </ul>
	<b>CEN-CENELEC</b> <a href="http://www.cencenelec.eu">www.cencenelec.eu</a>	21 Funded fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation of StandICT.eu in a Common Session of the CEN/BT and CENELEC/BT</li> </ul>



	<b>CEN</b> <a href="http://www.cencenelec.eu/about-cen">www.cencenelec.eu/about-cen</a>	8 Funded fellowships	
	<b>OneM2M</b> <a href="http://www.onem2m.org">www.onem2m.org</a>	1 Funded fellowships	
	<b>OASIS</b> <a href="http://www.oasis-open.org">www.oasis-open.org</a>	1 Funded fellowships	EAG Membership (Martin Chapman)
	<b>IETF</b> <a href="http://www.ietf.org">www.ietf.org</a>	5 Funded fellowships	Participation of the IETF Roll Co-Chair in the 7 <sup>th</sup> Walk and Talk webinar; StandICT.eu 2023 Fellow
	<b>IEEE</b> <a href="http://www.ieee.org">www.ieee.org</a>	9 Funded fellowships	Participation of the IEEE IoT initiatives on Smart cities' chair as Moderator in the 5 <sup>th</sup> "walk and talk" webinar
	<b>IIRDS</b> <a href="https://iirds.org/">https://iirds.org/</a>	3 Funded fellowships	
	<b>HL7</b> <a href="http://www.hl7.org">www.hl7.org</a>	1 Funded fellowships	
	<b>ISO</b> <a href="http://www.iso.org">www.iso.org</a>	25 Funded fellowships	
	<b>W3C</b> <a href="http://www.w3.org">www.w3.org</a>	4 Funded fellowships	
	<b>ISO/IEC</b> <a href="http://www.iso.org/organization/70.html">www.iso.org/organization/70.html</a>	41 Funded fellowships	
	<b>ITU</b> <a href="http://www.itu.int">www.itu.int</a>	9 Funded fellowships	
	<b>3GPP</b> <a href="http://www.3gpp.org">www.3gpp.org</a>	1 Funded fellowships	
	<b>IEC</b> <a href="https://iec.ch/">https://iec.ch/</a>	8 Funded fellowships	Participation of the IEC Technical officer in the 7 <sup>th</sup> Walk and Talk Webinar

 Alliance for Internet of Things Innovation	AIOTI <a href="https://aioti.eu">https://aioti.eu</a>	1 Funded fellowships	
 ANEC	ANEC <a href="https://www.anec.eu">https://www.anec.eu</a>	1 Funded fellowships	





### 3.2.2 Multi-Stakeholder Platform

StandICT.eu 2023 has participated 6 MSP meetings gathering representatives of national authorities from EU Member States & EFTA countries, European and international ICT standardisation bodies, and stakeholder organisations that represent industry, SMEs & consumers. During these meetings, DCU and Trust-IT, that represent the project, present the key achievements and the next steps of StandICT.eu 2023 taking feedback from the expert participants guiding the future work related to the EUOS Standards repository and the technical work groups as well as the management of the next open calls and fellowships' impact.

### 3.2.3 EU PPPs, European associations and organisations

11 European PPPs, associations and organisation acting in the digital innovation and standards development are directly engaged in the ecosystem. All these organization receive regular one-to-one communication about new Open Calls and the achieved results, both benefiting their expert's community.

Table 7: Engaged EU PPPs and Associations

Organization		ICT Sector	Engagement in StandICT.eu 2023 Community
 5GIA INFRASTRUCTURE ASSOCIATION	5GIA <a href="https://5g-ppp.eu">https://5g-ppp.eu</a>	5G	- Regular participation in the monthly Pre-Standardisation WG Meetings
 ECSO EUROPEAN CYBER SECURITY ORGANISATION	ECSO <a href="http://www.ecs-org.eu">www.ecs-org.eu</a>	Cybersecurity	- Cross-initiative collaboration
 BDV BIG DATA VALUE ASSOCIATION	BDVA <a href="http://www.bdva.eu">www.bdva.eu</a>	Big Data	- EAG Membership (Ana Garcia Robles) - Presentation of AI Standards at Big Data Value Forum 2021 (DCU – 1.12.2021)
 VDE	VDE <a href="http://www.vde.com">www.vde.com</a>	Cross-domain technologies	- EAG Membership (Sebastian Hallensleben) - EUOS TWG TRUST Chair & TWG AI Member (Sebastian Hallensleben)

	<b>OASC</b> <a href="https://oascities.org">oascities.org</a>	Smart Cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signed a MoU</li> <li>- Joint Press Release (<a href="#">link</a>)</li> </ul>
	<b>EURobotics</b> <a href="https://eu-robotics.net">eu-robotics.net</a>	Robotics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chair of EUOS TWG Robotics</li> </ul>
	<b>INATBA</b> <a href="https://inatba.org/">https://inatba.org/</a>	Blockchain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signed a MoU</li> <li>- Joint Press Release (<a href="#">link</a>)</li> <li>- EAG Membership (Marc Taverener)</li> </ul>
	<b>AIOTI</b> <a href="https://aioti.eu/">https://aioti.eu/</a>	IoT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EAG Membership (Tom de Block)</li> <li>- EUOS TWG DATA membership (Tom de Block)</li> <li>- Signed a MoU</li> </ul>
	<b>ANEC</b> <a href="https://www.anec.eu">www.anec.eu</a>	Cross-domain technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EUOS TWG CYBER membership (Mathias Pocs)</li> </ul>
	<b>ENISA</b> <a href="https://www.enisa.europa.eu">www.enisa.europa.eu</a>	Cybersecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EUOS TWG CYBER membership (Slawomir Gorniak)</li> </ul>
	<b>AGORIA</b> <a href="https://www.agoria.be/en">https://www.agoria.be/en</a>	Cross-domain technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signed a MoU</li> </ul>

### 3.2.4 SME organizations

**3 SME organizations belong to the StandICT.eu 2023 Community**, and among these, The European Digital SME Alliance is represented in the EAG guiding the project activities from the perspective of the SME's needs and expectations in the global ICT standardisation.

Table 8: Engaged SME Organizations

Organization	Engagement in StandICT.eu 2023 Community
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	<b>Digital SME Alliance</b> <a href="http://www.digitalsme.eu">www.digitalsme.eu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EAG Membership (Annika Linck)</li> <li>- Support during the promotion of Open calls, mutual collaboration on promotional activities</li> </ul>
	<b>Small Business Standards</b> <a href="http://www.sbs-sme.eu">www.sbs-sme.eu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signed a MoU</li> <li>- Joint Press Release (<a href="#">link</a>)</li> </ul>
	<b>SMEUnited</b> <a href="http://www.smeunited.eu">www.smeunited.eu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Letter of Support</li> <li>- Support during the promotion of Open calls, mutual collaboration on promotional activities</li> </ul>


In addition, between Open Call 1 to Open Call 5, **71 funded fellowships support experts working in European SMES**, which contributes to engage an increasing number of European digital SMEs in the StandICT.eu 2023 Community.

### 3.2.5 National Standards Bodies

**19 National Standards Bodies** are actively reached out to promote the project results and offer opportunities to the national experts, namely under the released Open Calls. In addition, **4 NSBs have established a framework for continuous collaboration** with StandICT.eu 2023, as described in Table 9.

Table 9: Engaged National Standardisation Bodies






Organization		Engagement in StandICT.eu 2023 Community
	<b>Austrian Standards</b> <a href="http://austrian-standards.at">austrian-standards.at</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EAG Membership (Karl Grün)</li> <li>- Membership in EUOS TWG TWIN (Olga Radchuk), TWG AI &amp; TWG Trust (Karl Grün)</li> </ul>
	<b>DIN Germany</b> <a href="http://www.din.de">www.din.de</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EAG Membership (Stefan Weisgerber)</li> <li>- Membership in EUOS TWG TWIN (Anja Seeliger)</li> </ul>
	<b>NSAI Ireland</b> <a href="http://www.nsai.ie">www.nsai.ie</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EAG Membership (Fergal Finn)</li> <li>- Membership in EUOS TWG AI (Fergal Finn)</li> <li>- Membership in EUOS TWG CITIES (Noleen Campbell)</li> <li>- Membership in EUOS TWG TRUSTI (Barry Smith)</li> <li>- Membership in EUOS TWG TWIN (Barry Cox)</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Membership in EUOS TWG BLOCK (Paul Kileen)</li> <li>- Membership in EUOS TWG DATAI (Aditya Mohan)</li> <li>- Membership in EUOS TWG IOT-EDGE (Noleen Campbell)</li> <li>- Membership in EUOS TWG IOT-EDGE (Barry Cox)</li> <li>- Membership in EUOS TWG IOT-ONTO (Aditya Mohan)</li> <li>- Membership in EUOS ACADEMY (Paul Kileen)</li> </ul>
	<b>BSI United Kingdom</b> <a href="http://www.bsigroup.com/en-GB">www.bsigroup.com/en-GB</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 3 Funded fellowships</li> <li>- Participation of the BSI Expert lead Jacqui Taylor at the 7<sup>th</sup> Walk and talk webinar</li> </ul>

### 3.2.6 Industry Players

**7 International industry players** are engaged in the StandICT.eu 2023 all contributing in the EAG or the EUOS TWG, which supports the project to follow the insights in ICT standardisations policies of the large companies. Table 10 lists these stakeholders and their specific engagement.

Table 10: Engaged Industry Players

Organization		ICT Sector	Engagement in StandICT.eu 2023 Community
	<b>HP</b> <a href="http://www.hp.com">www.hp.com</a>	ICT Technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EAG Membership</li> <li>- EUOS TWG Academy Chair (Brian McAuliffe)</li> </ul>
	<b>ORACLE</b> <a href="http://www.oracle.com">www.oracle.com</a>	Big Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EAG Membership (Martin Chapman)</li> </ul>
	<b>NEC</b> <a href="http://www.neclab.eu">www.neclab.eu</a>	AI, IoT, blockchain & 5G	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EUOS TWG AI Chair</li> <li>- TWG SMARTCITIES Membership (Lindsay Frost)</li> </ul>
	<b>ATOS</b> <a href="https://atos.net">https://atos.net</a>	Cloud, Big Data, Cybersecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EAG Membership</li> <li>- EUOS TWG AI membership (Nuria de Lama)</li> </ul>
	<b>OPC Foundation</b> <a href="http://opcfoundation.org">opcfoundation.org</a>	Industrial Interoperability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signed a MoU</li> <li>- Joint Press Release (<a href="#">link</a>)</li> </ul>






	<b>Google</b> <a href="http://www.google.com">www.google.com</a>	Internet	- EUOS TWG BLOCK, CYBER & SMART CITIES (Peter Dickman)
	<b>Microsoft</b> <a href="http://www.microsoft.com">www.microsoft.com</a>	Cloud, Internet & Exploitation Systems	- EUOS TWG CYBER (Terry Landers)



In addition, from Open Call 1 to Open Call 5, 6 funded fellowships support experts coming from large industry companies.

### 3.3 Horizon2020 Projects

**StandICT.eu 2023 has engaged directly with 11 Horizon2020 projects** that join the project community. These research and innovation projects cover varied ICT fields that are in the scope of StandICT.eu 2023 actions, and they are listed in Table 11.

Table 11: Engaged H2020 Projects

Organization	ICT Sector	Engagement in StandICT.eu 2023 Community
 <b>ELITE-S</b> <a href="https://elite-fellowship.eu/">https://elite-fellowship.eu/</a>	Cross-domain ICT	- Signed a MoU
 <b>M-SEC</b> <a href="http://www.msecproject.eu">www.msecproject.eu</a>	Blockchain	- Cross-project collaboration
 <b>B-HUB</b> <a href="https://b-hub.eu">https://b-hub.eu</a>	Blockchain	- Cross-project collaboration
 <b>ASHVIN</b> <a href="http://www.ashvin.eu/">www.ashvin.eu/</a>	Digital Twins	- Signed a MoU - Joint Press Release ( <a href="#">link</a> ) - Membership in EUOS TWG TWIN (via Austrian Standards)
 <b>BIMProve</b> <a href="http://www.bimprove-h2020.eu">www.bimprove-h2020.eu</a>	Digital Twins	- Signed a MoU - Joint Press Release ( <a href="#">link</a> ) - Membership in EUOS TWG TWIN (via DIN)

	<b>COGITO</b> <a href="http://cogito-project.eu">cogito-project.eu</a>	Digital Twins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signed a MoU</li> <li>- Joint Press Release (<a href="#">link</a>)</li> </ul>
	<b>SOTER</b> <a href="http://soterproject.eu">soterproject.eu</a>	Cybersecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signed a MoU</li> <li>- Joint Press Release (<a href="#">link</a>)</li> <li>- Joint Workshop on Standards for Cybersecurity in Finances (Q1 2022)</li> </ul>
	<b>CUREX</b> <a href="http://curex-project.eu">curex-project.eu</a>	Cybersecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signed a MoU</li> <li>- Joint Press Release (<a href="#">link</a>)</li> </ul>
	<b>Cybersecurity4 Europe</b> <a href="http://cybersec4europe.eu">cybersec4europe.eu</a>	Cybersecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cross-project collaboration</li> </ul>
	<b>SPATIAL</b> <a href="http://spatial-h2020.eu">spatial-h2020.eu</a>	AI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signed a MoU</li> <li>- Joint Press Release (<a href="#">link</a>)</li> </ul>
	<b>INFINITECH</b>	Digital Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signed a MoU</li> </ul>

All the collaborative projects are informed about the StandICT.eu 2023 updates and invited to join efforts related to their research areas, namely within the EUOS TWGs or in related webinars. They can also use the EUOS platform to disseminate their standardisation outcomes, to find information about standards or get connected with new experts and, therefore, extend their own networks.

New Horizon2020, and in 2022 Horizon Europe, projects are scouted regularly from the relevant ICT sectors, and they are contacted to inform about the Open Calls and about the published results that could be valuable for their research, such as the launch of the EUOS or the sector-specific landscape reports.

### 3.4 Policy Makers

The project engages often and regularly with the two project officers from the EC, namely Thomas Reibe (Senior Officer DG Connect) and Emilio Davila Gonzalez (Head of Sector ICT Standardisation at DG Connect). Both are members in the EAG monitoring the project process and achievements in monthly meetings with the partner members board. In addition, Mr. Davila Gonzalez is a member of the EUOS TWG AI.



As further explained in Section 3.2.2, StandICT.eu 2023 is always represented at the Multi Stakeholder Platform meetings taking place three times a year and hosted by the European Commission.

In late 2020 and early 2021, the European Commission organized a **series of Roundtable of blockchain standardisation** hosted by Rapolas Lakavicius from DG CONNECT and addressed to H2020 ICT projects as well as to EC representatives. StandICT.eu 2023 was present in all **7 meetings** where Trust-IT and DCU **presented the StandICT.eu 2023 to the 72 Horizon2020 projects** that participated in one of the following sessions:

- Fintech, Digital Assets and Smart Grids (11 Nov 2020)
- Digital Society, Identity and Privacy (25 Nov 2020)
- Digital Economy, SME's, Industry and Supply chains (9 Dec 2020)
- Cybersecurity (13 Jan 2021)
- IoT (27 Jan 2021)
- eHealth (10 Feb 2021)
- Future Internet, Media, and Big Data (24 Feb 2021)

These meetings enabled **to build synergies notably with the 4 H2020 projects** (B-Hub, CUREX, M-SEC and Cybersecurity4Europe, see Section 3.3).

In addition, from the perspective of local policy making, Open Call 1 to Open Call 4, 3 funded fellowships support experts coming from the public sector of the European member states supporting their contribution in the international standardisation.

### 3.5 Women Experts in ICT Standardisation

One of the challenges met during the first project half is to reinforce the participation of Women Experts in the Fellowship Programme. Indeed, 23% of the funded experts are female among all experts funded until the 4th Open call. Therefore, one of the focuses for the second project half is to attract more women experts in the programme, which is done through:

- Scouting and contacting European structures promoting women's engagement in standards, in ICT and scientific research. Up to this date, 20 structures have been engaged via one-to-one mailing campaigns that are done at the launch of each new Open Call.
- Direct collaboration with ETSI and CEN-CENELEC, ITU-T to identify and reach out to the active female experts.
- Organisation of a dedicated webinar #WomeninICTStandards (7th "Walk & Talk" Webinar - Women in ICT Standards ) on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 11:00 to 12:30 CET<sup>12</sup>.
- Using social media (LinkedIn & Twitter) to share targeted messages for potential female applicants.

### 3.6 Stakeholder Engagement Mirrored with ICT Standards Rolling Plan

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.standict.eu/events/7th-walk-talk-webinar-women-ict-standards>



## 2020

The Rolling Plan for ICT Standardisation 2020 considers the ICT sectors in four key areas including:

- Key Enablers and Security
- Societal Challenges
- Innovation for Digital Single Market
- Sustainable Growth

Therefore, it is interesting to observe the built StandICT.eu 2023 communities in these four areas helping to oversee the project's contribution to the ICT rolling plan.

### 3.6.1 *Key Enablers and Security*

The first EU policy area supported by standardisation covers: **5G, Cloud Computing, Open and Big Data, IoT, Cybersecurity, e-Privacy, e-Infrastructure, Accessibility of ICT, AI, and European Global Navigation Satellite Systems.**

In this area, StandICT.eu 2023 has funded **100 fellows** from OC1 to OC5.

### 3.6.2 *Societal Challenges*

This second EU policy area covering Societal Challenges that are supported by standardisation covers: **eHealth, eSkills & eLearning, Emergency Communication, eGovernment and eCall.**

In this area, StandICT.eu 2023 has funded **14 fellows** from OC1 to OC5.

### 3.6.3 *Innovation for Digital Single Market*

This third EU policy area focusing on Innovation for Digital Single Market that is supported by standardisation covers: **eProcurement, e-Invoicing, Preservation of Digital Cinema, FinTech and RegTech Standardisation, Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technologies.**

In this area, StandICT.eu 2023 has funded **38 fellows** from OC1 to OC5.

### 3.6.4 *Sustainable Growth*

This fourth EU policy area targets Sustainable Growth with: **Smart Grids, Smart Cities, Intelligent Transport Systems, Advanced manufacturing, Robotics, Construction (BIM), Water management digitalisation, single European Skye, Common information sharing environment (CISE) for the EU Maritime Domain.**

In this area, StandICT.eu 2023 has funded **21 fellows** from OC1 to OC5.

## 4 Engagement Tactics

The communication and engagement with the StandICT.eu 2023 stakeholders is done in close collaboration with the WP4 “Communications, Standards Education, and Open Calls promotion”, and especially with the task T4.1 “Outreach & Communication”. Therefore, this section will give an overview of the different engagement tactics deployed in the StandICT.eu 2023, and the D4.2 “Interim Report on Communication” (Trust-IT, February 2022) will provide more detailed information related to engaged communications.

### 4.1 Website and TRUST-GRANTS™ Platform

The present version of the project website ([www.standict.eu](http://www.standict.eu)) was launched in September 2020, and it is based on the previous version of the project edition 2018-2020. It informs stakeholders about:

- Project objectives and teams
- The 10 subsequent open calls and related selection process and criteria
- The engaged experts in the EAG and EPE
- News related to achieved results and organized events

Furthermore, via the project website, the stakeholders can access:

- The EUOS platform accessing the standards online repository, the Technical Work groups restricted for members and the open discussion groups.
- The TRUST-GRANTS™ Platform to submit applications in the Open Calls and to manage their fellowships, namely, to submit monitoring reports for the funded fellowships.

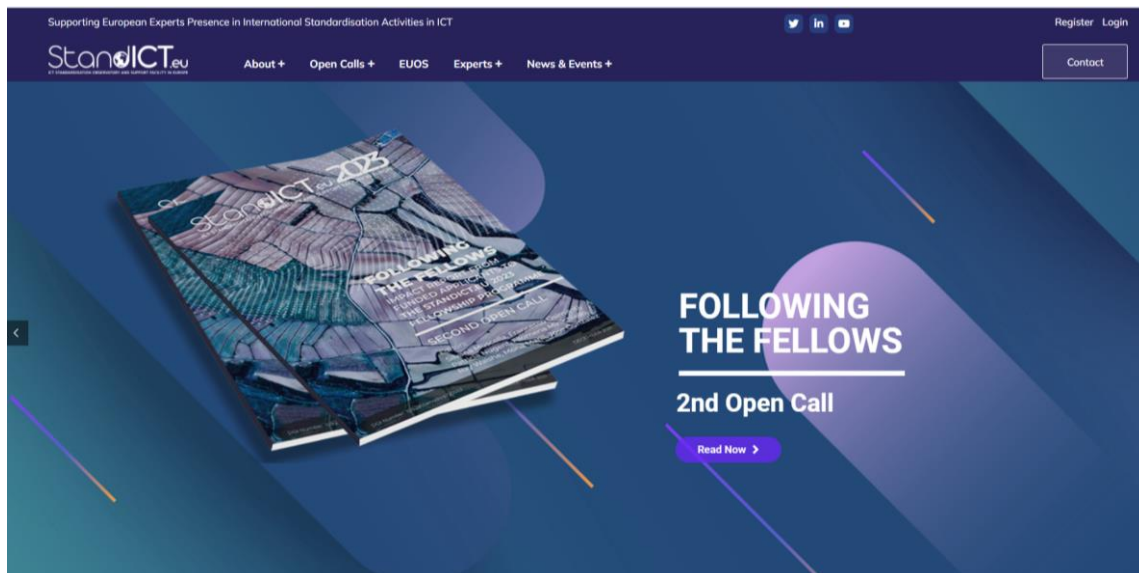


Figure 5: StandICT.eu Website

TRUST-GRANTS™ platform (<https://grants.standict.eu>) (see Figure 6) is created and managed by Trust-IT and all project partner members dispose personal credentials to manage the stakeholders via the platform. AUS oversees continuous monitoring of the funded

fellowships, for more information on the fellowship programme monitoring methodology and impact, see *D3.2 Interim Impact Report* (M18).

**Figure 6: Stakeholders' Dashboard on TRUST-GRANTS™**

## 4.2 Webinars

By end of February 2022, **7 Talk & Walk Webinar sessions** have been organized proposing an interactive discussion with expert panellists on the different ICT standardisation sectors. Also, 2 joint webinars with Horizon2020 projects (SOTER & CyberSecurity4All) were hosted. As demonstrated on Table 12, in **total 595 stakeholders have participated in these sessions**.

These webinars are essentially addressed to:

- ICT Specialists and Professionals under the main Digital Single Market domains
- Standards Developing Organisations representatives
- Members of Research Institutes working in ICT Standard Development
- Representative of National Standards Associations
- Women involved in ICT Standardisation activities

The aim of these sessions is to raise the public awareness of the targeted stakeholders about the StandICT.eu 2023 Open Calls and actions as well as to share insights from ICT standardisation experts about the landscape and ongoing work on the dedicated technology areas. For more information about the organization of the webinars, see *D2.2 Webinars & Workshops Reports – 1<sup>st</sup> Issue* (Trust-IT, M11).

**Table 12: StandICT.eu 2023 Webinars & Workshops**

Date	Title	Total Participants
24.11.2020	#1 “Walk & Talk Webinar” – StandICT.eu 2023	88
22.12.2020	#2 “Walk & Talk Webinar” - AI Standards	98

29.01.2021	"Cybersecurity and Standards" – Joint Webinar with CyberSec4All	42
11.05.2021	#3 "Walk & Talk" Webinar – Trusted Information in the Digital Age	48
15.06.2021	StandICT.eu 2023 & ELITE-S: opportunities for ICT Standards experts – Joint Workshop	25
06.07.2021	#4 "Walk & Talk" Webinar – EUOS Standards Academy	48
27.10.2021	#5 "Walk & Talk" Webinar – Smart Cities: Global Perspectives on Digital Transformation	71
16.12.2021	#6 "Walk & Talk" Webinar – Digital Twins: Evolving Global Standards	74
20.01.2022	SOTER & StandICT: Standardisation for Cybersecurity in Finances – Joint Workshop	39
25.01.2022	#7 "Walk & Talk" Webinar – #WomeninICTStandards	62

### 4.3 Social Media

StandICT.eu 2023 uses social media to engage with ICT experts and professionals contributing to ICT standardization but also with general public and related research and innovation initiatives. **Via these channels, the project reaches out directly to 1600+ stakeholders** sharing with the regular project updates as well as posting daily related news and events.

The project uses especially two dedicated social media channels:

- **LinkedIn** ([www.linkedin.com/company/standict-eu](https://www.linkedin.com/company/standict-eu)) counting a total of 1028 followers
- **Twitter** ([@StandICT](https://twitter.com/StandICT)): counting a total of **727** followers

In addition, the project team asks the StandICT.eu 2023 community members and the funded fellows to re-share the Open Call and event announcements via their social media channels, which helps to amplify the number of reached stakeholders for the most important posts.

In LinkedIn, this cross-project and stakeholder referencing **has resulted in over 150 other posts about the StandICT.eu Open Calls** (from OC#1 to OC#5) **and events** (until the end of November 2021) (see example from Figure 7). The project team monitors weekly the project referencing in social media and records the results on a dedicated database.

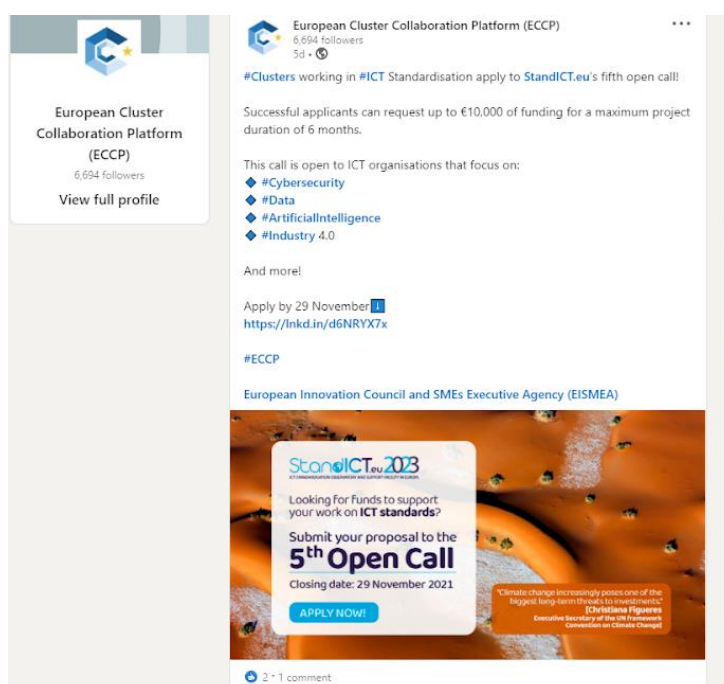


Figure 7 Example of the Open Calls' cross-referencing in LinkedIn by Stakeholders

## 4.4 One-to-One Message Campaigns

One-to-one messages via e-mail are a powerful way to attract the target stakeholders' attention to the key project milestones, including the Open Call launches, report publications as well as events. This activity supports the publication of regular project newsletters, as the message campaign can be created and send out on a timely manner in line with the updates to be shared. As a leader of stakeholder engagement, AUS leads the one-to-one message campaigns to external third parties, and Trust-IT manages the direct messaging to the EAG and TWG members.

The one-to-one message campaigns are an important part of the agile stakeholder's framework guiding the regular scouting and contacting of new stakeholders to be introduced into the StandICT.eu 2023 community. AUS manages **a dedicated stakeholders database** (in line with the GDPR regulation on personal data protection) listing all contacted stakeholders throughout the different open calls and monitoring all established collaborations. These personalized messages also encourage bi-lateral exchanges via email or in dedicated meetings helping to make the relation sustainable in time.

As shown in Table 13, in total, **1000+ direct e-mail messages have been addressed to the StandICT.eu stakeholders**, including European associations and PPPs, sister H2020 projects, SDO WGs, NSBs, National Contact Points (NCP) of Digital Horizon Europe Programme and the funded experts.

Table 13: One-to-One Message Campaigns for Open Calls

Open Call ID	Number of send One-to-One Messages
OC#1	168
OC#2	150

<b>OC#3</b>	33
<b>OC#4</b>	190
<b>OC#5</b>	256

## 4.5 Newsletters

**StandICT.eu 2023 has published 13 newsletters**, available on the project website<sup>13</sup>. The newsletter reaches **in total 600 subscribers**.

These monthly inform stakeholders about the project's activities and status of the Open Calls, to engage them, and to share events, published reports and other relevant results. To make newsletters more visually appealing, and to strengthen the StandICT.eu 2023 brand, these newsletters mirror the graphic style of each ongoing Open Call. The issue can be increased in conjunction with specific and important events (like Webinars, Workshops or conferences) to increase the enrolment of new participants or to communicate follow-up messages.

## 4.6 Press Releases

Upon each important project milestone, a press release is issued to inform the community about it, and until today **18 Press Releases have been written and shared via the project website**, social media, and the partners' communication channels. These PRs inform essentially about:

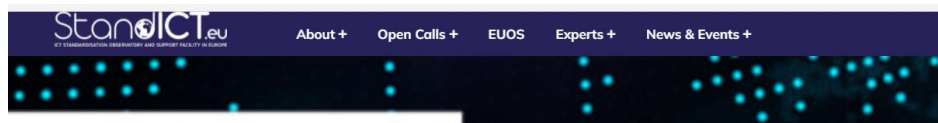
- Established MoUs with other organisations and research projects
- Published public reports (ie., standardisation landscape reports, Fellowship Programme Impact Reports etc.)
- Achieved project milestones, such as launch of the EUOS platform or the EUOS Academy resources.

All published PRs can be consulted on the project website under the news-page<sup>14</sup>.

<sup>13</sup> [www.standict.eu/standict-newsletters](http://www.standict.eu/standict-newsletters)

<sup>14</sup> [www.standict.eu/news](http://www.standict.eu/news)





Two European Initiatives Join Forces to Foster  
Standards for AI in Cybersecurity  
Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed  
between SPATIAL & StandICT.eu 2023



PISA – Italy, 23.11. 2021 - StandICT.eu 2023 & SPATIAL kick-off their collaboration to reinforce standardisation procedures for AI in cybersecurity.

Figure 8: Example of a Published Press Release

## 4.7 Publications and Reports

The StandICT.eu 2023 team aims at sharing results and showcasing the project impact on the European standardisation landscape regularly and widely. Therefore, the team is widely engaged in producing regular quality and public reports on the treated thematic, including namely:

- **ICT Standardisation Landscape reports** drafted by the EUOS TWGs on the dedicated ICT domains and providing an overview of the existing crucial standards and recommendations for the needs in future standardisation.
  - o **The AI standards landscape report** was published in June 2021, and it has been downloaded, via Zenodo<sup>15</sup>, over **1900 times**.
  - o **The Smart Cities landscape report** was published in December 2021, and it has downloaded, via Zenodo<sup>16</sup>, over **570 times**.
- **Fellowship Programme Impact** Reports form a series of nine impact reports related to the funded fellowships of each Open Call (from 1 until 9). These offer tangible results of the funded fellowship projects run within the different Standardisation Organisations' Work groups or Technical Committees in the form of individual success stories.
  - o **Following the Fellows – First Open Call** was published in August 2021, and it has been downloaded 500+ times via Zenodo<sup>17</sup>.
  - o **Following the Fellows – Second Open call** was published in November 2021, and it has been downloaded 300+ times via Zenodo<sup>18</sup>
  - o **The Third Open Call report** is planned for March 2021.

<sup>15</sup> <https://zenodo.org/record/5011179>

<sup>16</sup> <https://zenodo.org/record/5785688#.YhYKdS1Q2L0>

<sup>17</sup> <https://zenodo.org/record/5179890#.YRUZ84gzY2y>

<sup>18</sup> <https://zenodo.org/record/5720553>

## 4.8 Events and Meetings

Up to this date, **StandICT.eu 2023 has been presented in stakeholder 31 events**. Positioning the project inside the wide standardisation ecosystems requires constant effort and engagement actions with the relevant stakeholders, namely SDOs, WGs and other standards bodies but also the engaged research initiatives, and the participation to third party events will play a major role in the achievement of this goal.

The identification of key events is a well-established process inherited from the pilot project StandICT.eu [2018-2020] and the selection of potentially fitting events are regularly discussed during the monthly PMB meetings of the Consortium. The key objectives of the stakeholders' event participation are to:

- Facilitate dialogue on the motivations behind priority ICT standardisation.
- Foster multi-stakeholder perspectives to help create synergies and build consensus on the chosen topics.
- Identify the standards organisations with on-going or planned standardisation work on the priority topics.
- Find effective ways of lowering the entry barriers for participation and contributions, thus helping to transfer research results to the standardisation process, encouraging newcomers to participate and contribute, and building innovation capability across the EU.

Selection criteria for third-party events are ICT standardisation topic coverage, stakeholder coverage, opportunities to establish synergies with standards organisations/groups within them and/or like-minded initiatives.

As part of the agile stakeholder management framework including scouting and contacting the relevant target groups, the StandICT.eu 2023 team proposes **one-to-one meetings** to promote the project activities and to present the possibility of creating synergies among the contacted stakeholders. In total, **20+ meetings have been held** with related research initiatives, and AUS monitors the results of these engagements to set up MoUs or cross-project collaborations as often as possible.

## 4.9 The EUOS Platform, Work Groups and Standards Repository

The EUOS platform<sup>19</sup> is an interactive tool for the entire StandICT.eu 2023 Community to gather information about ICT standards and to get connected with other ICT standardisation experts. Its goal is to provide to the community of ICT experts the most accurate coverage of relevant and timely ICT Standards, priorities and needs that might affect the **key ICT domains of the Digital Single Market** and the **EU ICT Rolling Plan for Standardisation**. The EUOS goes one step further to provide an interactive platform, considered the Go-To place for all thing related to ICT Standards all in the one place, with a rewards scheme embedded.

The EUOS distinguishes itself with two distinct entry points:

- **Discussion Groups**<sup>20</sup> – A collaborative, networking space to provide users to join the conversation with other ICT members by starting new discussions on relevant ICT topics, creating Technical Working Groups (TWG) groups, creating and editing documents, setting up live chats, video calls or sharing calendar of events or simply valuable insights around the ICT Standardisation arena (see figure 9)

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<sup>19</sup> [www.standict.eu/euos](http://www.standict.eu/euos)

<sup>20</sup> [www.standict.eu/discussion-groups](http://www.standict.eu/discussion-groups)



- **Standards Repository<sup>21</sup>** – A library of the most relevant Standards covering the pivotal ICT fields, continuously updated, and integrated with user-friendly search functionality to allow a smooth browsing (see figure 10).

As described in Section 3.1.4, The Technical Working Groups (TWGs), feature thought leadership personalities in critical ICT sectors, with the ambitious goal to drive forward and elaborate tailored Landscape and Gap Analyses on a given subject area. The final report (see Section 4.7) may be presented as part of any active discussion of the European Multi Stakeholder Platform on ICT Standardisation and brought to the attention of every Standard Developing Organisation (SDO) that is currently dealing with the specific subject or theme.

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<sup>21</sup> [www.standict.eu/standards-repository](http://www.standict.eu/standards-repository)

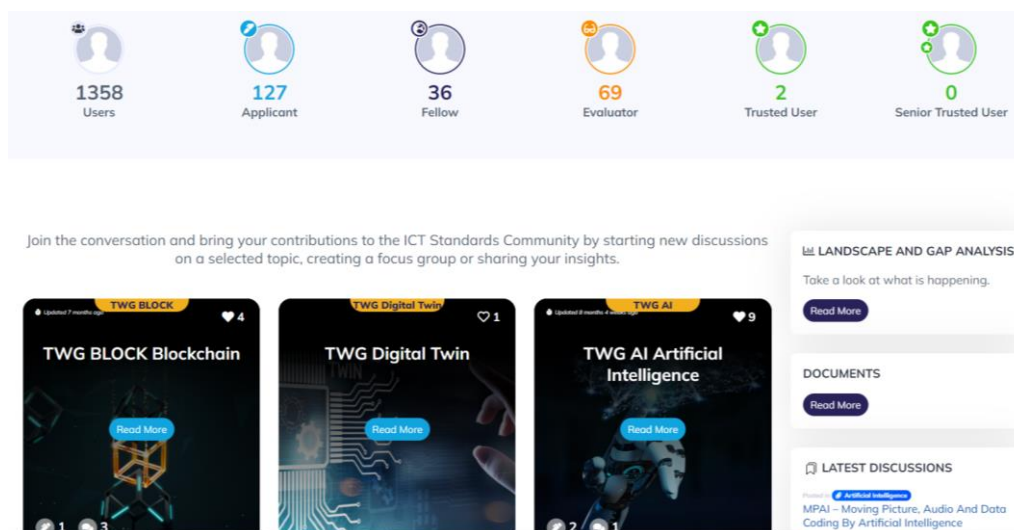


Figure 9: The EUOS Discussion Groups

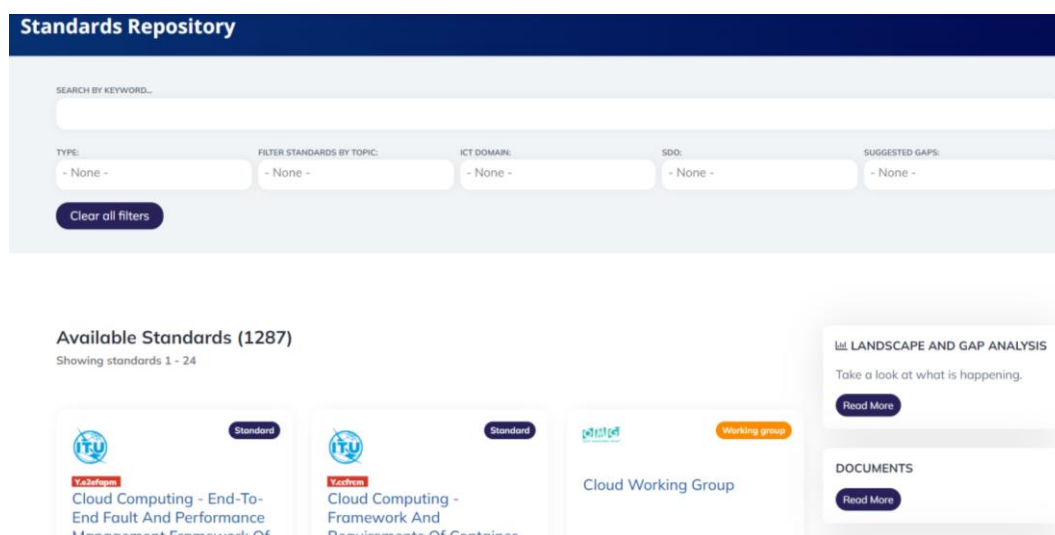


Figure 10: The EUOS Standards Repository

## 5 Lessons learnt and Next steps

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**The effective engagement of our stakeholders has proved the success of the StandICT.eu 2023 Programme.** The tight collaboration between WPs teams has resulted in fully functional engagement strategies applied throughout our ecosystem.

During the project's first period, the StandICT.eu 2023 team invested conspicuous effort to organise and be present in multiple European workshops, webinars, and events hosted by the stakeholders. These activities highly guaranteed the visibility of the project and its activities while increasing its reputation as one of the primary references in the European standardisation landscape and attracting many stakeholders.

**Regular communication, scouting of new stakeholders, and promotional activities are crucial for showcasing our programme's concrete results and building a sustainable community.** Regular communication with our community was a priority for the team: involving them in our activities, making them aware of the latest news, Open calls launches, achievements of our fellows as well as events made their engagement stable and durable. The collaboration with our stakeholders goes in both ways: 1) we propose dissemination, communication and collaborative research opportunities for the stakeholders. However, we also support them and their communities in their research activities by promoting their results and sharing their events and activities in our community. These engagement tactics are a powerful way to attract the target stakeholders, monitor all established collaborations, and encourage bilateral exchanges via email or in dedicated meetings helping to make the relationship sustainable in time.

**The Ecosystem building, engagement strategy and maintenance of our community will continue until the end of the project, and this report will be updated with a final version in August 2023. The StandICT.eu 2023 team has defined the next steps for the task:**

**The project continues producing the series of individual Impact Reports, from Open Call 3 until Open Call 9, and new EOUS TWG Reports.** To keep engaged with all StandICT.eu stakeholders regularly and to keep them informed about the fellowships' contributions to the global ICT standardisation, a new report will be published every three months. The active communication via the different established channels project will support spreading the impact reports to a critical mass of stakeholders, which contributes to attracting new potential experts applying in the forthcoming StandICT.eu 2023 open calls and showcase the actual work used public funding engaged within the programme.

EOUS TWG Reports will also be published regularly. The next one is planning is the landscape report on Cybersecurity.

**The project continues to 1) reinforce the collaboration with the already engaged stakeholders while 2) scout news ones.** To make our community durable, we will fortify the good practices already put in place during the first period of the project, especially by incentivising the participation of our stakeholders in our events and activities and by making sure the regular communication is carried on.

**One of the challenges met during the first project half is reinforcing the participation of Women Experts in the Fellowship Programme.** Indeed, 23% of the funded experts are female among all experts funded until the 4th Open call. Therefore, one of the focuses for the second project half is to attract more women experts in the programme, which is done through ad hoc emailing/promotional campaigns and one to one messages, as well as the organisation of future events built upon the success of the first #Womeninstandards webinar.

## **Annex 1 – Model for a MoU**

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# **StandICT.eu 2023 – [Project Name] Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**

**This MoU is entered into by and between:**

**Trust-IT Srl** (hereinafter also referred to as “Trust-IT”), an Italian company established in Via Nino Bixio 25 – 56125 Pisa (Italy), VAT number 01870130505, duly represented by its CEO, Ms Silvana Muscella

**and**

**Coordinator Organization / Standardisation Task Leader Organization**, legal status established in address, VAT number XX000000000, duly represented by name a person / position.

**hereafter individually referred to as “the Party” or, collectively, as “the Parties”**

**Whereas:**

a) Trust-IT ([www.trust-itservices.com](http://www.trust-itservices.com)) coordinates the StandICT.eu 2023 initiative ([www.standict.eu](http://www.standict.eu)), funded by the European Commission under the H2020 Framework Programme start date 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 for a duration of 36 months.

b) StandICT.eu [2020-2023] is planning a series of Open Calls, for which technical topics will be discussed with as many competent interfaces as possible, to ensure they are relevant for the European community of ICT standardisation and so they can be included in the call topics.

c) The Partner is [explain the role of the signing partner] in the [PROJECT NAME] project ([add the website](#)) and [add the EC funding acknowledgement for] [PROJECT NAME].

d) [PROJECT NAME] is working towards... [add the main objectives of the project].

## **The Parties have agreed as follows:**

### **Article 1 – Scope of the MoU**

- Based on the present MoU, the Partner may provide to the project their insights from their **[PROJECT NAME]** members on appropriate and pertinent gaps, recommendations & priorities to be included in the future StandICT.eu 2023's Open Calls.
- StandICT.eu 2023 may ensure these items are addressed on the call topic discussions in the 7 forthcoming calls planned over the 36 months.
- Trust-IT will provide visibility to all outreach activities that **[PROJECT NAME]** organises around efforts on **[NAME RELEVANT ICT AREA]**, and contributions to ICT Standards to its extensive network of stakeholder communities and through its main digital outlets.
- The Partner will promote the StandICT.eu Open Calls to its community of European organisations and specialists, as well as other relevant events/initiatives that are organised by StandICT.eu 2023.
- The Parties may avail of each other's resource effort to participate at any webinars or events of mutual interest.
- In performing the activities envisaged by this MoU, each Party will bear its own costs and no remuneration, or reimbursement of costs is involved, on either side.

### **Article 2 – Non-favouritism**

- This MoU, while being mutually beneficial for both StandICT.eu (via Trust-IT) and **[PROJECT NAME]**, does not constitute an act of favouritism towards **[PROJECT NAME]** or its affiliates/members, as the open calls that will be published on StandICT.eu will be evaluated by StandICT.eu's External Evaluators, which will be checked for possible conflict of interest before being assigned the proposals submitted to the aforementioned open calls.

### **Article 3 – Confidentiality, Data Protection & Proprietary Rights**

- Parties commit to maintain confidentiality on all technical and business information and material exchanged. The confidential information may refer to proposal concepts, and synopses, technical developments, research and innovation, business and financial data, customer information, costs and profit data and other information belonging to any of the parties involved that is not a matter of public knowledge.
- Parties commit to maintain confidentiality also on all personal data exchanged related to organisations and persons that are part of their individual networks. All such data shall be treated according to GDPR, while keeping Trust-IT as the Data Controller.
- This MoU shall not affect any proprietary rights of the Parties, and the entities represented.

- Any joint development made by the Parties as a direct consequence of this MoU will be subject to the provisions of a separate written agreement to be executed by the Parties prior to the commencement of any such joint development work. The execution of this MoU shall in no way serve to create, on the part of either Party, a license to use, any proprietary rights of the other Party otherwise than explicitly stipulated herein.

#### **Article 4 – Liability**

- With respect to the information or data supplied by a Party to another Party under this MoU, the supplying Party shall be under no obligation or liability and no warranty or representation of any kind is made, given or to be implied as to the sufficiency, accuracy, or fitness for a particular purpose of such information or data or the absence of any infringement of any proprietary rights of third parties through the possession or use of such information or data. The recipient Party shall be entirely responsible for its use of such information or data and shall hold the other Party free and harmless and indemnify them for any loss or damage with regard thereto.
- No Party shall be responsible to the other Party for punitive damages, indirect or consequential loss or similar damage such as, but not limited to, loss of profit, loss of revenue or loss of contacts.
- The limitation of liability stated above shall not apply in (i) the case of damage caused by a proven wilful act of gross negligence, and (ii) in respect of any activity involving the wilful or grossly negligent misuse of anything protected by intellectual property rights of another Party and (iii) infringement of the confidentiality obligations of this agreement.
- Each Party shall be solely liable for any loss, damage, or injury to third parties in relation to its execution of this MoU.

#### **Article 5 – Applicable law and settlement of disputes**

- This MoU shall be governed by the laws of Belgium. All disputes arising in connection with the interpretation or implementation of this Contract shall be settled amicably.
- All disputes arising out of or in connection with this MoU which cannot be solved amicably within thirty (30) days, shall be finally settled under the Rules of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce by one or more arbitrators appointed in accordance with the said Rules.
- The place of arbitration shall be Brussels in English language, if not otherwise agreed by the conflicting parties. The award of the arbitration will be final and binding upon the Parties.



## **Article 6 – Duration / Termination**

The MoU will take effect after the signature of the two Parties and shall remain in force until **[DATE]**. If the **[PROJECT NAME]** project duration is extended, this MoU duration could be revised.

Each Party may terminate this MoU at any time by giving the other Party 30 days written notification (including motivation).

## **Signatures**

**For Trust-IT:**

**For [PROJECT NAME]:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

Position

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

Position

Date: XX/XX/XXXX

Date: XX/XX/XXXX