STAND4EU
Boosting the Exploitation of Standardisation Inputs from European Projects

PRESS RELEASE

The STAND4EU project has successfully concluded Phase II, marking a significant milestone in its mission to enhance standardisation processes across key technological domains. This European initiative, dedicated to refining standards in additive manufacturing, welding, smart manufacturing, artificial intelligence, and the circular economy, is a multi-phase endeavor designed to streamline and improve the standardisation lifecycle.

Phase II Achievements:

Enhancing Standardisation Processes

STAND4EU which is structured around four distinct phases—i) identifying and creating awareness, ii) developing and validating remedies, iii) establishing the STAND4EU interface, and iv) ensuring sustainability and transferability—has made substantial progress in Phase II. This phase focused on the critical task of formulating remedies to address inefficiencies in existing standardisation processes.

Identifying Challenges and Developing Remedies

During this phase, the project team conducted an in-depth Root Cause Analysis of the Standards Development Lifecycle (SDL) models, a comprehensive process that engages multiple stakeholders, including individuals, companies, and governments. The analysis revealed key bottlenecks within current SDL frameworks, which often vary significantly across different standard development organizations (SDOs). These differences pose challenges to standardisation, complicating the identification of obstacles and delaying the development process.

To address these issues, the STAND4EU project developed a generalized SDL model that not only reflects common elements across various SDL frameworks but also incorporates unique components to meet specific needs. This model serves as a foundation for the remediation strategy, aimed at enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the standards development lifecycle.

Engaging Stakeholders and Gathering Insights

A critical aspect of Phase II was the active engagement of stakeholders from across the four targeted technology areas. The partners have collected valuable feedback through surveys, interviews, and case studies, ensuring that the proposed remedies are grounded in practical insights and real-world challenges.

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Key findings from this stakeholder engagement include:

- **Resource Constraints:** Insufficient funding and time constraints often hinder the development of high-quality standards.
- **Expert Involvement:** A lack of expertise and low stakeholder engagement can lead to subpar standards and slow development processes.
- **Coordination Issues:** Poor coordination and complex bureaucratic processes can cause delays and increase costs.

These insights have been instrumental in shaping the project's recommendations for overcoming these barriers, with a focus on streamlining processes, enhancing collaboration, and improving the overall quality of standards.

Looking Ahead: Ensuring Sustainability and Transferability

As the STAND4EU project moves into its next phases, the focus will shift towards ensuring the sustainability and transferability of the remediation plan. This will involve further refining the proposed actions, developing strategies to apply the plan across different technological domains, and investigating potential gaps that may arise during implementation.

Future phases will also explore the adoption of the remediation plan's results in other areas, ensuring that the methodologies developed through the STAND4EU project can be applied broadly, fostering innovation and standardisation across diverse sectors.

Conclusion

The successful completion of Phase II marks a crucial step forward for the STAND4EU project. By identifying key challenges and developing targeted remedies, the project is paving the way for more agile and effective standardisation processes in Europe. The insights gained during this phase will inform ongoing research and future developments, ensuring that the STAND4EU project continues to support the creation of robust, high-quality standards that meet the needs of industry and society.

The final version of the remediation plan will incorporate these insights, offering a comprehensive strategy for overcoming the barriers to effective standardisation. The STAND4EU project remains committed to advancing European standardisation and fostering a collaborative approach to developing the standards that will shape the future of technology and industry.

For more information about the STAND4EU project, please visit the STAND4EU portal or contact us through info@stand4eu.eu.

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