



Project Background

The Service for Foreign Policy Instrument (FPI) of the European Commission, working with DG CONNECT and the European External Action Service (EEAS), has launched an action on International Digital Cooperation with a view to strengthen the European Union's position as a world leader in the digital economy.

To that effect the EU will promote a secure, right-based international digital sphere, conducive to a level playing field in terms of market access and business opportunities. This is key to the success of the Digital Single Market strategy and the action launched by the European Commission will build on four pillars:

- Project A: Enhanced personal data protection and data flows
- Project B: ICT Standardisation
- Project C: Trust and Security in cyberspace
- Project D: Cross border access to electronic evidence

ETSI has been selected to implement project B over a period of 36 months. The overall objective is to support the "going global" of the EU digital ambitions, including standardisation, a major component of the EU "digital diplomacy", with a view to stimulate the role of the European Union as a global hub for ICT standardisation.

To reach that objective, the project will engage in activities in 6 partner countries (Brazil, China, India, Japan, South Korea, USA) aimed at:

- Increasing awareness and acceptance of relevant actors of the EU standardisation model
- Improving coherence through development of common standardisation approaches based on existing best practices
- Strengthening cooperation with identified actors regarding the development of open international ICT standards in the area of the IoT, 5G, Cloud computing, Big Data and Cyber Security and other priority topics (e.g. Intelligent Transport Systems, Distributed Ledger Technologies).

While specific partner countries are identified, the project also aims at regional and international influence.

The timeline



The people

Service for Foreign Policy Instruments:	Eva Junyent-Izquierdo
DG CONNECT:	Emilio Dávila González
DG GROW:	Silvia Vaccaro
The ETSI team:	Elisabetta Comin (Operational Support)
	Margot Dor (Strategy)
	Xavier Piednoir (Project Management)
	Project Coordinator (to be hired)



The methodology

The project will be implemented through networking, awareness and technical actions, in particular:

- Establishment of sustainable networks and reinforce existing ones
 - Establish, reinforce and maintain contacts between the European Commission, EEAS and the relevant administrations, European Standardisation Organisations*, other standardisation bodies as well as industry experts in partner countries and regions
- Community building
 - Creation and animation of communities of experts (in particular from industry sectors) and implementers on the topics of the ICT standards priorities
- Data collection and analysis
 - Monitoring and collect data on standardisation and regulatory landscape and players in partner countries and regions
- Regulation and standards: work towards joint declarations as well as a specific action plans (“cooperation agendas”) with partner countries/regions in ICT priorities domains
 - Focus on standardization (possibly co-production)
 - Focus on regulatory approaches (market access)
- Outreach to and bridge building with industry sectors in partner countries/regions, including plugtests
- Partnership agreements (with a technical annex/programme) as relevant between SDOs, fora or consortia involved in the project and organisations in partner countries and regions.

The above will be carried out after consultation of relevant stakeholders in Europe and in the partner countries.

* ETSI, CEN and CENELEC are the recognised European Standardisation Organisations, key players in the European Standardisation System.

Involvement of the European Delegations

As the primary contact point in the partner countries, interaction with the EU delegations will be key in the creation and maintenance of the country profiles to be delivered by the project as well in establishing the right contacts in the country.

In particular, and complementing any information already available to ETSI, the EU delegations will be a preferred interface to help:

- Identify priority topics and orientations regarding ICT in the partner country
- Learn about ongoing activities between the partner country and the EU (e.g. dialogues, other EU-funded projects)
- Know the local network of players (political, regulatory and technical)
- Set-up the necessary connections with local players
- Identify relevant events and meetings in the partner country
- Share information that may prove useful in organize events locally (sharing of contacts for logistics)
- Represent EU in the events organised by the project

This is however not only about the EU delegations giving to the project but also about the project allowing the EU delegations staff to be involved in the project activities, meetings and conferences. The project will also provide access to all the information collected during its course as part of a Country Profile and a related contacts database. The EU delegations will be provided with the necessary information to use and maintain this knowledge base after the end of the project.

About ETSI

ETSI produces globally-applicable standards for Information and Communications Technologies (ICT), including fixed, mobile, radio, aeronautical, broadcast and internet technologies and is officially recognized by the European Union as a European Standards Organization. ETSI is an independent, not-for-profit association whose more than 800 member companies and organizations, drawn from 65 countries across five continents worldwide, determine its work programme and participate directly in its work.

For more information please visit: www.etsi.org

