

Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6)
Education on Standardization Initiative (Start-Ed) annual meeting minutes
April 3, 2024, 14:00 CET

Item	Subject	Discussion / Action
1a	Roll call	<p>Leadership: Žaneta Lacová (Acting Coordinator, Matej Bel University, Slovakia)</p> <p>Secretariat: Tauno Kangur</p> <p>Experts: Knut Blind (Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research, Germany), Daliya Bogatyreva (ASMC, Russian Federation), Sébastien Chevalier (Ministry of Higher Education and Research, France), Victor Dravitsa (Interdisciplinary Scientific and Practical Center for Identification Systems and e-Business, Belarus), Kateřina Flanderová (Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Czechia), Anna Gallet (ISO), Kayo Ito (Chubu University, Japan), Valeriy Novikov (ASMC, Russian Federation), Daniel Masso Aguado (Spanish Association for Standardisation), Borut Matkovič (PROSAFE Project Coordinator), Daria Michurina (Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, Russian Federation), Shawn Paulsen (IEC), Giulia Pizzi (IEC), Natalia Ponomareva (Russian Federation), Bernadette Ruetsch (AFNOR), Roman Samsonov (ASMC, Russian Federation), Katarina Tatranska (CEN/CENELEC), Jiří Vlček (Czech Office for Standards, Metrology and Testing).</p> <p>20 participants (9 women)</p>
1b	Approval of the Agenda	Agenda agreed with no modifications.
1c	Introduction and overview of the Initiative	<p>The meeting began with a welcome from Tauno Kangur of UNECE WP.6 Secretariat, who introduced Žaneta Lacová from the Matej Bel University of Slovakia as the session's chair. Ms Lacová conveyed apologies on behalf of the initiative's coordinator, who was unable to attend due to urgent professional reasons.</p> <p>Ms Lacová provided a brief introduction to the WP.6 Education on Standardization initiative, which has been a platform for cooperation and exchange of experiences on teaching standards since 2012. The initiative aims to integrate standards and standardization-related issues into educational curricula at various levels, from vocational training to academic programs. Key activities include promoting standards awareness, developing educational modules, and sharing best practices.</p> <p>The group discussed the transition in leadership, with Professor Vladimír Hiadlovský from Matej Bel University of Slovakia taking over as the new coordinator.</p> <p>Participants were invited to nominate themselves to join the initiative's team by the end of May 2024.</p>
2	Return on experience "Educating undergraduate students in the ecological transition for sustainable development" by Mr. Sébastien Chevalier, Ministry of Higher Education and Research, France	<p>Sébastien Chevalier from the Ministry of Higher Education and Research in France presented their national program launched in October 2022, focusing on ecological transition and sustainable development.</p> <p>The program has four main steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Establishing base knowledge for all undergraduate students.

		<p>2) Disseminating the same knowledge to teachers, researchers, and university staff.</p> <p>3) Encouraging professors to integrate ecological transition into their courses.</p> <p>4) Transforming the higher education curriculum to include specialized fields related to ecology and transitions.</p>
3	Project proposal for a "Sustainability-Related Issues Module" in the UNECE WP.6 Model Programme	The group discussed implementing a sustainability module as part of the WP.6 model program on education on standardization.
4	Project proposal for a Survey on Mapping the needs of Actors in Education on Standardization - Presentation of the Preliminary Results	<p>Preliminary results of a survey on the needs of actors in education on standardization were presented.</p> <p>Key findings included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A variety of topics are being covered in current training programs, including benefits of standardization and market surveillance. • Significant use of e-learning platforms, with many institutions incorporating standardization modules. • A need for increased awareness and use of UNECE WP.6 online training modules.
5	Discussion about cooperation with other WP.6 Sub-Groups and other business/next meetings	<p>There was a significant focus on sharing experiences and collaborating across countries to enhance the integration of standardization in education.</p> <p>A participant from Cameroon informed the group on their project named Youth and Standardization. At the moment the project has targeted entrepreneurs, but the future purpose is to reorientate it to the actual students. The speaker was interested in participation in the virtual university mentioned earlier in order to teach standards.</p> <p>The meeting was also informed on examples of specific issues of education on standardization from Portugal, Denmark and Slovakia.</p> <p>It was decided that a virtual meeting of the initiative will take place during second half of June. Agenda for this meeting will be prepared and circulated beforehand.</p> <p>Also, a physical meeting of the initiative in the form of a seminar was requested during the 34th WP.6 session, preferably during lunchtime of August 27 in order to better acquaint the WP.6 delegates on Start-Ed purpose and planned activities.</p> <p>Plans to integrate the survey results and further develop the WP.6 program were discussed.</p> <p>Discussion took place on a communication tool (platform) for sharing materials (e.g. reports, new modules proposals etc.) of the initiative. It was agreed to consider how to proceed in this area in the future.</p> <p>The meeting touched on the importance of gender-responsive standards and the potential for collaboration between the Education on Standardization group and the Team of Specialists on Gender-Responsive Standards to develop targeted educational materials.</p> <p>Participants were urged to provide feedback and suggestions before the next meeting.</p>

6	AOB	<p>The Advisor to the Rector of the Russian Federal State Autonomous Educational Institution on Further Vocational Training, "Academy for Standardization, Metrology and Certification" (ASMC) explained how the modular training program on Standardization has been set up at ASMC. He explained that training at the ASMC is conducted in the areas of technical regulations, standardization and technical regulations, conformity assessments, certification and declaration.</p> <p>Also, product testing, accreditation, state control, supervision, metrology and metrological support, quality management, environment management and social communications are taught at the Academy. Yearly number of graduates of AMSC ranges from 15000 to 20000. The Academy offers a series of innovative courses on an Open Access platform including learning resources on key areas of quality infrastructure and has developed an introductory course to standards.</p> <p>Concluding his intervention, the speaker asked the coordinator of the initiative to consider the possibility of granting the Academy the status of focal point.</p>
		<p>Next START-Ed call: second half of June 2024, date not agreed. A meeting during lunchbreak on August 27 also planned during WP.6 annual session.</p>