



IFAN Newsletter

No.2 December 2022

From the President



Dear Colleagues,

As another year draws to a close, I wanted to wish you all the very best for the season. I do hope that 2023 sees us emerge from the challenges of the pandemic, the political and violent trauma in Europe and the global related economic turmoil.

Standards Development is a wonderful demonstration of cooperation across the world, and they bring so many benefits to Users and the global community. This global effort has continued during the year despite these difficulties and IFAN congratulates all the standards development organizations and the tens of thousands of committee contributors. I am certain that will continue in 2023.

Of significant note, it was particularly pleasing to see recognition of the value and importance of ISO/IEC and ITU standards acknowledged at the G7 and G20 meetings as being key to supporting their goals related to a global health architecture, digital transformation, and sustainable energy transition.

User input for the development and implementation are vital and IFAN's role in supporting these initiatives is ever more relevant

I wish you the very best for the season and I look forward to 2023 being an even more successful contribution by IFAN and its members.

Ross Wraight, IFAN President



• H A P P Y • N E W • Y E A R •

Season's Greetings and Happy New Year 2023

IFAN - The International Federation of Standards Users

IFAN in Berlin 17-20 October 2022

IFAN Members Assembly and workshop, 18 October

After two virtual Members Assemblies, this year the IFAN members gathered in Berlin hosted by IFAN German member ANP and DIN. The morning workshop had four speakers discussing a number of topics of interest to the members.

The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Vered Oren [ISUS] and the first speaker was Christoph Winterhalter, ISO V-P Strategy: ISO Strategy in relation to Standards Users. Mr. Winterhalter looked at the aspects of the ISO strategy that related to standards users including digital solutions and SMART. Mr. Winterhalter's presentation slides can be found [here](#).



Mr. Winterhalter was asked In terms of the ISO policy and structure, what are the incentives for standards users – particularly for those who are not natural standards users? His reply was that the approach looks at how standards are used to today and how they are used tomorrow. Identifying use needs is most important and then you can extrapolate to other users.

IFAN President was the next speaker, and his presentation focused on ISO Management System Standards in the

global supply chain. Global supply chains are very complex and the conformity assessment schemes are numerous. The Global Extended Enterprise relies on reliable, secure and sustainable supply chains and regulators and consumers require products and services to be safe and fit for purpose. The slides for the presentation are [here](#).

The third presentation was from Adrian Popa, ISO Manager Conformity Assessment & Consumer Affairs: CASCO Toolbox: essential pillar of present and future Conformity Assessment. Mr. Popa discussed the advantages of using the CASCO toolbox, he also looked at some of the events that CASCO had, slides of the presentation can be found [here](#). The final speaker was Ms. Sibylle Gabler, Director Government Relations DIN: The European Standardization Strategy. Ms. Gabler outlines the key points of the strategy and also discussed the proposal for common specifications written by the European Commission, the presentation can be found [here](#).

Following the presentation there was a lively discussion.

There followed the formal Members Assembly and the Vice-President(National) was voted in for a second term as was Board member Prof. Albert Cavalli.

The IFAN Treasurer had announced that he is stepping down at the end of the year and he was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation by the President for his work for both IFAN and the British Standards Society. As yet, no replacement has stepped forward.



The IFAN Board, Ross Wraight, President; Claudia Bach, V-P, Vered Oren, Marketing; Andrea Beddard-Smith, Secretary; Bernhard Angermaier, Board member; and Keith Wilson, Treasurer



IFAN Working Group 1, Promotion

IFAN Board Meeting, European Group Meeting, and WG1 and WG3 meetings

The IFAN Board met on Monday 17 October and discussed the IFAN Priorities including the survey which WG3 was working on.

Working Group 1 Promotion & awareness met on Monday and discussed a number of ideas to promote IFAN.

The IFAN European Group met on Wednesday and continued its work on the revision of IFAN Guide 3 Guidelines to assist members of standards committees in preparing user-friendly European standards. The group was specifically looking at adding sections on gender, inclusivity and sustainability issues.

On Thursday Working Group 3 Standards distribution & access met to agree the final version of the IFAN survey and plan the launch campaign. More on the survey can be found in this Newsletter.

ISO GA Thematic session- Water Scarcity Held by IFAN and SII

By Vered Oren

IFAN Survey

On 15 November 2022, IFAN launched a major survey to gather Standards Users views, this annual survey series aims to gather data on the needs and requirements of standards users globally.

The survey will help us provide standards developers with user feedback on such topics as pricing, available formats and products, and new concepts in developing and distributing standards and standards information.

We will share the results of our survey with our partners from the international standards organizations such as ISO, IEC and CEN/CENELEC.

We would greatly appreciate it if you would fill in the survey and also ask for your assistance in getting this survey distributed to as wide a selection of standards users as can be found.

All answers are anonymous. The data will be aggregated into a report once the survey period closes on **January 15, 2023**.

Should you participate, a copy of that report will be made available to you upon request.

The survey can be found [here](#).

For the first time in ISO's Annual Meetings, members of ISO were invited to organize thematic sessions highlighting the role of standards in responding to global challenges. Priority was given to those sessions organized together with other members or with one or more international organizations. IFAN and The Standards Institution of Israel joined together and organized a session on Innovative solutions for water scarcity. Many proposals were sent to ISO from across the world and we were honoured to be picked among the few to present our views in person at ISO's Annual Meeting in Abu Dhabi in September 2022.

The session explored how innovative water technologies, supported by International Standards, can help address water scarcity, especially in developing countries. The consequences of water scarcity manifest crucially in not having enough drinking water, but also have additional effects on other essential industries, such as agriculture and health. According to UNICEF, Four billion people — almost two-thirds of the world's population — experience severe water scarcity for at least one month each year. Over two billion people live in countries where the water supply is inadequate. The climate change crisis is already here and water is the primary medium through which we feel the effects of climate change. Water scarcity is not only a problem in developing countries today, it's a worldwide issue.

During this session that was moderated by me (Vered Oren), we heard from Dr. Gilad Golub, CEO of The Standards Institution of Israel on how Israel became the "silicon valley" of water treatment technologies; Mrs. Dalia Yarom, Chair of TC 282 on Water reuse described the standards that ISO prepared to deal with the issue; Three leading companies (standards users) that are making groundbreaking work in this area – Netafim, Biopuremax, and Watergen – demonstrated how innovative technologies using international standards can assist millions of people around the world. A representative from Vietnam, Ms. Vu Tu Quyen, Acting Director of, the International Cooperation Department, Directorate for Standards, Metrology, and Quality (STAMEQ) shared some worrying statistics about the water crisis in Vietnam.

The session got wonderful reviews from many attendees both in person and online and it can be soon watched via the IFAN social media channels.



Moderator Mrs. Vered Oren; Dr. Gilad Golub, CEO of The Standards Institution of Israel; Mrs. Dalia Yarom, Chair of TC 282 on Water reuse; and Mr. Michael Rutman, WaterGen.

IEC General Meeting, San Francisco November 2022

Report from IFAN Vice-President Claudia Bach

I had the pleasure of attending the IEC 2022 General Meeting as your IFAN representative. In addition, board member Vered Oren was also there.

My first day was spent attending the SMB (Standards Management Board) session. Reports were presented from various Strategic Groups (SGs) and Standardization Evaluation Groups (SEGs). I found the reports of SG 12 on Digital Information and Systems Approach and that of SEG 12 on Bio Digital Convergence to be particularly interesting. SG 13 Working with Consortia presented various ideas for providing both closer ties and revenue generating services to consortia in the Energy space. The SMB also received reports from staff on standards development and sales. These reports highlighted the reliance on IEC for the sales of its intellectual property to generate operating funds.

Later in the week, I was able to attend the session on IEC and the UN SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). Panelists during the morning program noted that the SDGs are not the trigger but the formalization of 20 to 30 years trends. The emerging circular economy is tangible evidence that this is not a fad but a process driven by industry and governments. It was also noted that regulators need to be brought into IEC's standardization process to understand how its working to further implement these goals.

I also attended the Workshop for Industrializing Countries (WIC). Perhaps the most impactful moment was when Vimel Mahendru, the IEC Special Envoy for UN SDGs, gave a presentation on the delivery of a solar panel, battery and light bulb to a gentleman in a undeveloped rural area of India. This government sponsored program, made possible by the use of an IEC standard, has transformed his life.

Due to conflicts in my schedule, I was unable to make the session on SMART standards. However, I was able to attend the meeting of the NRG, New Revenue Generation, group. Several new document types have been initiated to provide more information and support to standards users. These new types include CMV's, which combine a redline edition with technical commentary provided by the authoring committee and TRF, Test Report Forms, to support the development of consistent test forms for various national test labs. Also highlighted were EXV, Extended Version, documents which provide a guide on how to prepare a product for a test lab.

The meeting was full of information and a wonderful chance to meet many people. I was able to attend the Women in IEC luncheon as well as other social activities throughout the week. I received a warm welcome wherever I was. It is clear that IFAN has an essential role to play in the international arena.

Graphic produced by the IEC women



The IFAN Delegation, Vered Oren, IFAN Marketing & Promotion Manager; Claudia Bach, IFAN Vice-President