Call for tender
for a research study showing the
Benefit of Linking Innovation and Standardization


1 Subcontracting party
The European Committee for Standardization (CEN) and the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC) are non-profit organizations set up under Belgian law. According to EC Regulation 1025/2012 they are recognized European organizations for the planning, drafting and adoption of European Standards in all areas of economic activity including electro technology but excluding telecommunications. More information on CEN and CENELEC can be obtained at www.cen.eu and www.cenelec.eu

The present contract will be subcontracted by CEN.

2 Context of the research study
Innovation is considered as one of the drivers of growth in the European Union, as explained in the EU 2020 Strategy. Standards can support innovation and promote the adoption of new technologies in a number of ways. Importantly they can codify and spread the state-of-the art in various areas, as well as bridge the gap between research and end-products or services.

Nevertheless, researchers and innovators are nowadays often not familiar with standardization as an instrument significant for the market dissemination of research results as well as the market uptake of innovations.

Standards and standardization can provide an immense benefit for the research and innovation process. Looking ahead to Horizon 2020, it is important to understand and assess the role standards play in support to research and innovation and gather evidence on their importance in the innovation lifecycle.

3 The BRIDGIT project
The CEN and CENELEC Members are carrying out between 01/2013 and 12/2014 the BRIDGIT Project (co-financed by the European Commission) (Bridging the Gap between Standardization and Research). BRIDGIT aims to create a “bridge” to ensure that researchers and industry work closely together with standards developers to maximize the economic impact and social benefit of new ideas and technologies.

At the basis of the project is the Integrated Approach which has been developed by the CEN-CENELEC Working Group STAIR (Standardization, Innovation and Research). The Integrated Approach aims at: raising awareness of the benefits of standardization in the research and innovation process, transferring research results and outcomes of innovation activities into standardization, fully exploiting the functions of standards for research and innovation activities in order to increase the competitiveness of the EU.¹

BRIDGIT is designed to provide and disseminate evidence of the correlation between standardization and innovation to all CEN and CENELEC members and to the research communities in Europe as well as to other actors involved in research as strategic approach.

The overall objective of BRIDGIT can be broken down into three sub-items:

− Documentation of the present situation regarding the interaction between the standardization and research communities looking at the identification of good practices.
− Development of tools and methodologies aimed at the CEN and CENELEC members (including their current stakeholders) and the research communities, to channel information, raise awareness, and support collaboration in view of the Integrated Approach.
− Dissemination of tools and methodologies to the CEN and CENELEC members and research communities (authorities, NCPs and research promotion bodies, and researchers, universities, research centers, companies, etc.), to facilitate interaction with standardization.

More information on BRIDGIT can be found on http://www.cencenelec.eu/go/bridgit

4 Objectives of the study
The objective of the study is to show, based on concrete data and evidence, the benefit and role of standards in supporting and driving research and innovation. The study should address both standardization and standards as output of research and innovation and as well as a supporting infrastructure for research and innovation.

The results of the study will provide the CEN and CENELEC members and the relevant research communities, as well as policy makers with comprehensive insights and updated and accurate data on the role of standards in support to research and innovation thus will become a valuable source to be used under Horizon 2020.

5 Tasks of the sub-subcontracting organization
The tasks of the sub-subcontracting organization are the following:

  a. Conceptualize, plan, implement and carry out a study on the benefit of integrating innovation and standardization

− Participate in and contribute to a kick-off workshop with project partners, invited relevant stakeholders and the European Commission to validate the overall concept for the study, including
  • presentation of the draft concept, the methodology, the theoretical approach and the assumptions
  • presentation of a provisional time schedule
− Develop and conduct the research study to identify/answer the following questions:
  • when and why are standards needed in research and innovation;
  • what impact can standards have for driving research and specifically innovation;
  • which role can standards and standardization play in Horizon 2020;
  • what is the relevance of intellectual property in relation to standards when it comes to promoting research result (products and services)
  • which links should be considered between standards and regulation in innovative areas
  • what mistakes should be avoided when connecting standards/standardization with research
  • any other questions that might have been raised during the above-mentioned workshop
Proposers are encouraged to address any further arguments supporting the role of standards in the innovation lifecycle

- Generate a comprehensive insight of the role of standardization and standards in the research and innovation process complemented by collecting and analyzing updated and accurate data on the role of standards as an instrument relevant both for the supply and demand side of innovation.

- Provide relevant input to the BRIDGIT project team to facilitate the use of relevant the findings in the framework of the different work packages (WP), as follows:
  - WP2: provide supporting data to show the value of standardization work; explain the relationship of standards with IPR; support the transformation of research results into standards.
  - WP3: provide CEN and CENELEC Members with updated data and facts on the role of standardization in the innovation lifecycle
  - WP4: provide information for the planned workshops and use the input from participants of the workshops to fine-tune the report / kit to be used by CEN and CENELEC Members when interacting with research.

Any contacts with national standards bodies and experts of national standards bodies shall be coordinated with CEN and the BRIDGIT project team and made after consent only.

b. Deliverables:

- Report on the kick-off workshop, including a revised version of the approach to the study
- Interim report, including a presentation of the results to be presented no later than 6 months after the start of the action to the BRIDGIT project team
- Final report, edited to respond to the needs of the research and the standardization community, as well as those of the European Commission to be delivered no later than 12 months after the start of the action. The final report should also include a clear list of recommendations aimed at the research project and programme level under Horizon 2020, the policy level (e.g. European Innovation Partnerships) as well as at the institutional level (CEN and CENELEC members, the European Commission etc)
- Quarterly progress reports to CCMC on the progress of work which will be shared with the BRIDGIT project team and the European Commission
- An oral presentations of the final report not later than at the last meeting of the BRIDGIT project.
- Presentation in a European wide Conference of the final results of the study to be planned with the BRIDGIT project team
- Evidence of scientific publications (articles) directed towards academia, researchers and scientist related to the results of the study as well as any additional evidence with regards the promotion of the study
- Further suggestions of deliverables can be made by the tenderer

The work of the present call for tender is scheduled to last for a maximum of 12 months from the signing of the service contract(s). The subcontracting organization(s) shall respect the deadlines of the deliverables. If deadlines are not kept, the contractor is entitled to withhold payment.
6 Funding
The European Commission and EFTA provide the financial support to the BRIDGIT project. The financial support from the European Commission and the EFTA is based on the Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA) 2009. The subcontractors shall fulfil the conditions of the FPA 2009, including those relating to liability, ownership of results, confidentiality, conflict of interests, publicity, evaluation, assignment, checks and audits.

The project costs shall be justified with copies of the relevant invoices. All relevant evidence shall be kept in view of future payments (where relevant reports, work, drafts and deliverables, contracts & invoices, time sheets, tickets, boarding cards, hotel invoices, attendance lists with signatures, meeting agendas & reports, invoices for any consumables, purchase orders etc.).

All subcontracting will financially be handled by CCMC. This means that CCMC will formally act as contract partner and will support the subcontracting process from an administrative point of view.

Costs incurred before or after the eligibility period of the contract will not be eligible for funding.

7 Selection Criteria
The applicants shall comply with the following requirements:
- at least five years’ experience in research related to standardization, innovation and research;
- experience in scientific methodologies and tools adequate to address research and standardization
- experience in standardization procedures;
- experience in funded research projects;
- adequate academic background;

8 Award Criteria
The present call for tender refers to the subcontracting of an organization to perform experimental work. The term “organization” refers to a university institute, research institute, company or similar body that will be subcontracted to fulfil the tasks described in Section 5 of the present document.

The selection of subcontractors will be made on the basis of the following criteria:
- experience in research related to standardization, innovation and research
- experience in scientific methodologies and tools adequate to address research, innovation and standardization
- experience in standardization procedures
- experience in funded research projects
- adequate academic background
9  **Tenders**

Tenders shall be sent by mail and email to the CCMC as soon as possible, **to be received at the latest by 2013-06-10**. Tenders received after this date will not be taken into consideration for the selection.

Tenderers must place the bid inside a sealed envelope clearly marked CONFIDENTIAL, placing the sealed envelope in an envelope that is posted to the address indicated. The tender shall be in English and contain:

- Curriculum Vitae of each relevant person participating in the study, demonstrating the necessary expertise;
- A concept for the study, including a description of the methodology, outlining the theoretical approach, contacts to be established and any further details
- A proposal of issues to be addressed by the study
- A preliminary schedule for the tasks to be carried out;
- Any further documents to prove the qualification required in the above Clauses on Selection and Award criteria;

Please note that, to grant equal treatment of all tenders, it is not possible to modify offers after their submission in relation to the technical and financial proposals. As a consequence, incompleteness in this section can only result in negative impact for the evaluation of award criteria. Please note also, that proposals deviating from the technical specifications may be rejected for non-conformity.

For additional information with regards the tender content and funding please contact CCMC, Andreea Gulacsi (phone: +32 2 550 0979 or e-mail: agulacsi@cencenelec[dot]eu)

10 **Selection procedure**

The selection and appointment of subcontracting party will be conducted by a selection panel composed of CCMC, the BRIDGIT project team and a representative of the European Commission

The contracts with the selected party will be signed by CEN.