



The Importance of an Inclusive Standardization System

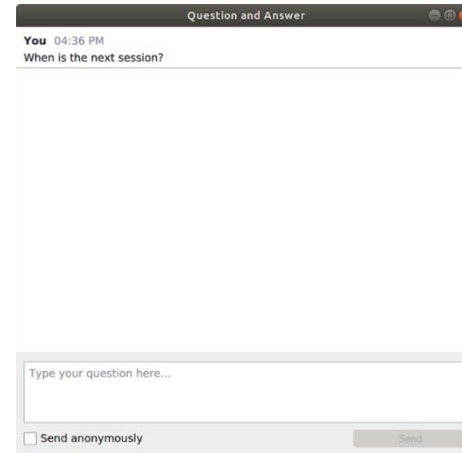
World Standards Day SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals

9 October 2025 13:30



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- ✓ You are muted
- ✓ Use the Q&A panel to submit your questions



The screenshot shows a 'Question and Answer' window. At the top, it says 'Question and Answer' with window control icons. Below that, a message from 'You' at '04:36 PM' asks 'When is the next session?'. There is a large text area for typing a question, followed by a 'Send anonymously' checkbox and a 'Send' button.

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Agenda

- Introduction to **World Standards Day** and SDG 17
- Importance of an **Inclusive Standardization System**
- Overview of stakeholder participation in European standardization
- **Case studies** on accessibility and sustainability presented by **ANEC**
- **Case studies** from **ECOS** on fishing gear and cement
- How to get involved
- Q&A



World Standards Day

- ❑ World Standards Day is organized by the international standards organizations ISO, IEC and ITU and takes place every year on **14 October**.
- ❑ World Standards Day offers the opportunity to increase understanding of the importance of standardization.
- ❑ Standards touch almost every part of our daily lives. They ensure that **products and services work the way that we expect them to**, making life safer and more enjoyable.
- ❑ Standards are essential to achieving the 2030 Agenda and creating a **fairer, more sustainable world**. **Collaboration** is necessary to achieve the SDGs, and the standards system is built on collaboration.
- ❑ This year, World Standards Day focuses on **SDG 17 'Partnerships for the Goals'** and explores how standards provide a shared framework that enables meaningful collaboration across industries, governments, and organizations to achieve common objectives.



Importance of an Inclusive Standardization System

An Inclusive Standardization System that effectively includes participants from a **wide range of stakeholders** including societal stakeholders (environmental, consumer, trade unions...), SMEs, academia, national authorities, industry and certification bodies is key to ensuring:

- **High quality** standards that reflect diverse needs of all stakeholders, reflecting scientific and technical state of the art as well as the concerns and priorities of wider society
- **Legitimacy** and trust in standards that are market ready and adopted by industry
- Innovative solutions and knowledge sharing leading to **forward-looking standards**
- **Regulatory alignment** and policy coherence that will facilitate smoother implementation
- Standards that align with broader **societal goals** and promote sustainability and safety
- Standards that are **practical** and easy to implement
- Standards that can **evolve** with changing technologies, markets and societal expectations
- Standards that support fair competition, **innovation** and growth across all business sizes
- Standards that are relevant and **effective** over time



European Standardization System

CEN and CENELEC are two out of the three European Standardization Organizations (ESOs), together with ETSI officially recognized in Regulation EU 1025/2012



Standardization in various
business sectors



Standardization in the
Electrotechnology sector

An Inclusive CEN and CENELEC System to be the preferred choice for standardization in Europe is one of the main goals identified in the CEN and CENELEC Strategy 2030

CEN and CENELEC commitment to inclusiveness reinforced by

- EU Regulation 1025/2012 on European Standardization
- EU Standardization Strategy (2022)





“European Standardization Organizations shall encourage and facilitate an appropriate representation and effective participation of all relevant stakeholders, including SMEs, consumer organizations and environmental and social stakeholders in their standardization activities’ (article 5). ”

European Regulation (1025/2012) on European Standardization

Stakeholder participation



European Stakeholder – ‘Annex III’ - organizations

Consumers



Environment



Workers



SMEs



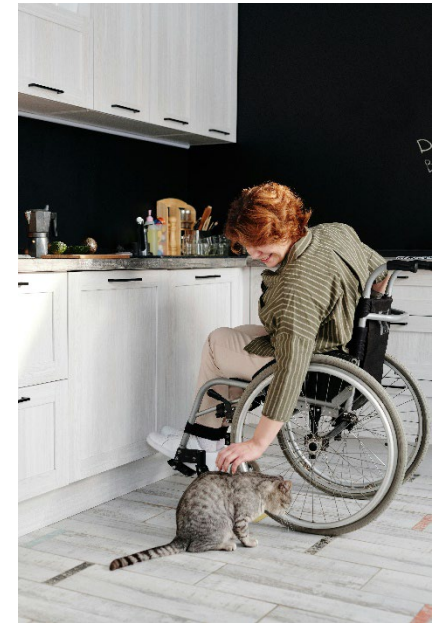
Case studies on Accessibility

EN 17999 ‘Accessible systems for living independently: Requirements and recommendations’ by CEN TC 293 ‘Assistive products for persons with disability’:

EN 17999 highlights the crucial role of standards in enabling persons with disabilities and older consumers to live independently. By embedding accessibility-by-design and usability into standardisation, it demonstrates that accessibility is not merely a technical requirement but a commitment to **ensuring that all consumers can live safely, confidently, and with dignity.**

Following the positive enquiry on prEN 17999, the draft was submitted for **Formal Vote until 9 January 2025**. After consultation, **ANEC endorsed the final text** and encouraged members to support it at national level. This coordinated effort resulted in **unanimous adoption by CEN members.**

The standard was **officially published as EN 17999:2025 on 6 February 2025** and is now **ready for national adoption across all CEN member countries**, marking a milestone in promoting inclusion and independent living through standardisation.

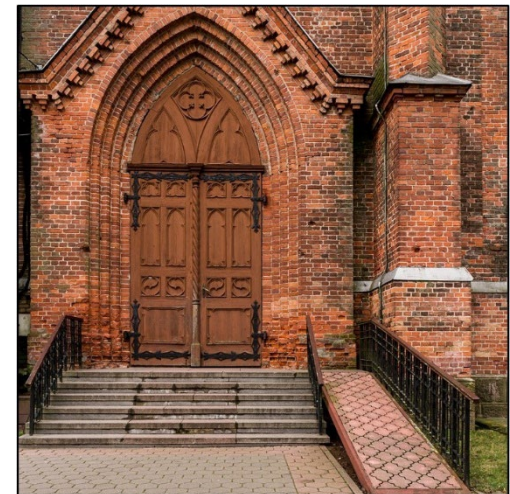


Case studies on Accessibility

ISO 5727 'Accessibility and Usability of the Built Environment – Accessibility of Immovable Cultural Heritage – Principles and Methodology for Interventions' by ISO/TC 59/SC 16 'Accessibility and usability of the built environment':

ISO 5727 provides **clear principles and methodologies** for improving accessibility in immovable cultural heritage sites. The standard is designed to ensure that **interventions for conservation, restoration, or specific accessibility needs** are implemented in a way that preserves the **cultural significance and integrity** of these sites. It recognises that accessibility is not only a technical requirement but also a **vital step towards making cultural heritage inclusive and usable for all**.

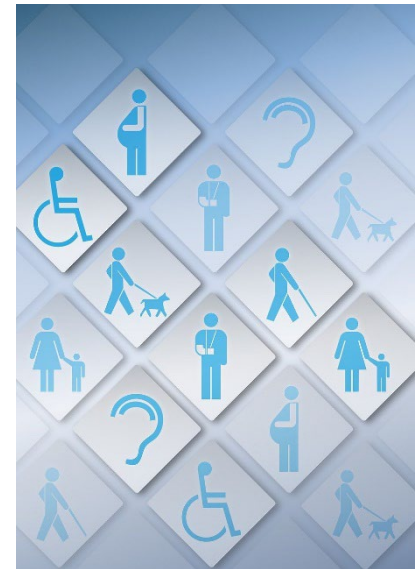
ANEC has actively contributed to the development of the standard, recognising its importance in making cultural heritage accessible to all, while safeguarding authenticity.



Case studies on Accessibility

The standard received **unanimous approval** during its final vote, which closed on **23 September 2024**, and has since been **formally adopted**. ISO 5727 focuses on the **built environment and its immediate setting**, without addressing broader management or organisational issues. **It is intended for a wide audience including heritage owners, managers, curators, architects, engineers, designers, builders, accessibility experts, and user representatives.**

With **ANEC's strong support**, and together with the complementary **ISO 21542** on accessible built environments, it represents a significant advance in ensuring that **cultural heritage remains both preserved and accessible.**



Case studies on Accessibility



ANEC is participating in the following activities under EAA SReq M/587:

- Revision EN 17210 on access to the built environment (CEN-CLC JTC 11 access to the built environment)
- Revision EN 301 549 “Accessibility requirements for public ICT products and services’ (CEN-CLC JTB eAccessibility, ETSI TC Human Factors)
- Revision EN 17161 ‘Design for All - Accessibility following a Design for All approach in products, goods and services - Extending the range of users’ (CEN/CLC/JTC 12 and WG1, TG 1, Design for all)
- New Standard on Accessibility of non-ICT information related to products (CEN/CLC/JTC 12 WG 2, Design for all)
- New Standard on Accessibility of support services related to products and services (help desks, call centres, technical support, relay services and training services) (CEN/CLC/JTC 12 WG 1, TG 2, Design for all).



Case studies on Sustainability

ISO 14020:2023 Environmental statements and programmes for products —

Principles and general requirements

ANEC has long supported revision of ISO 14020 standard series “Environmental labels & declarations” to update outdated label typology and cover all relevant schemes. Revision launched in 2019.

ISO 14020:2023 (Principles & general requirements)

- ANEC comments largely accepted. We supported its adoption with our national members.
- used in revisions of 14021 / 14024 / 14025 that are being checked for alignment of requirements, definitions, assurance, communication obligations etc.

ANEC input to ongoing revisions:

ISO 14021 (Self-declared claims):

ANEC succeeded in including a definition of *greenwashing*. Close cooperation with ECOS on issues like attributed content & recycled content.

ISO 14024 (Ecolabels): e.g. ANEC comments to improve text on ecolabel being in reach only for the environmentally best products at any time.



Case studies on Sustainability

EN 45560:2024 'Methods to achieve circular design of products'

About the Standard

- Toolbox for companies on **circular product design** under Ecodesign.
- Assess design features vs circular targets.
- Includes questions, examples & references to other standards.
- Covers not only design but also **communication of circular goals & user info**.

ANEC's Role

Brought the **consumer perspective** in development through ReaLIFEstandards project.
Ensured key changes, e.g. **spare parts available for service life of products**.

reaLIFE
standards

Case studies on Sustainability

❑ ISO TC 207 SC 3 Standards can help enhancing clarity by providing:

- Harmonised definitions, methods and criteria.
- Potentially provide a level playing field.

❑ Lessons from ANEC experts on Ecodesign & Energy related standards

- ANEC experts' **views are welcome** and can influence **Ecodesign standards** & consequently markets.
- Meetings provide a constructive, **inclusive** space.
- Consumer and environmental input is key in shaping standards.
- **ANEC makes a difference despite challenges.**



ECOS

Environmental Coalition on Standards

is an international NGO with a network of members and experts advocating for environmentally friendly technical standards, policies, and laws.



Why would an NGO participate to Standards development ?



- Standards are concrete tools
- They are developed by the industry for the Industry → **real** and **tangible** impact.
- Our ambition : ensure these standards serve **industry**, **society** and the **environment**.
- How do we do that ? By raising the bar



How do we work - In a nutshell



Case studies – let's look at ECOS contributions

Fishing gear



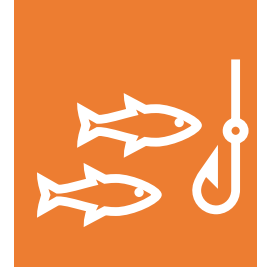
Cement



Circular design of fishing gear and aquaculture equipment standards (EN 17988)



EU response to fishing gear pollution



50% of EU marine litter consists of single-use plastic items
27% is fishing gear that contains plastic



EUR 13 billion a year of damage to global marine ecosystems is caused by plastic

Producers of **fishing gear containing plastic** will have to pay for the separate collection, transport and treatment of waste gear, and raise awareness. EU countries are to set up national annual minimum collection rates for recycling, with the aim of establishing binding collection targets.



EU standardisation request
No presumption of conformity



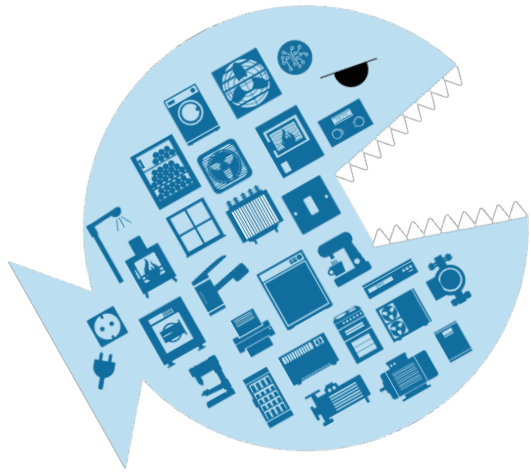
What is it about?

EN 17988: 6 Parts on the circular design of plastic fishing gear

1. General requirements and guidelines
2. User manuals and labelling
3. Technical requirements
4. Environmental and circularity requirements and guidelines
5. Circular business models
6. Digitalisation of information of components

+ CEN/TS 180101 on terms & definitions

Why was it for us important to be there?



- Align with the **EU waste hierarchy** to ensure the best environmental outcome
- Apply **resource efficiency** principles
- Debunk **biodegradable plastic myth**
- Align **terms and definitions** with EU legislation, especially latest developments (e.g. ESPR), not ISO standards
- Support **circular business models, information sharing** on components

TC 51 and TC 104 Cement and concrete standards



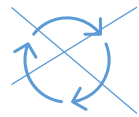
Construction products: a formidable polluter in the EU



250 mt annual CO₂ footprint.



1.6 billions tonnes of raw materials, equal to an average of 4 tonnes for every EU resident, half of all raw materials consumed.



Far from circular, responsible for 1/3 of waste generated each year.



1/3 of fresh water used.

Why Cement ?

Cement is the **largest emitters** among all energy intensive products

- **Most consumed man-made material**
- **Responsible for 8% of CO₂**
- **Bulk of emissions = clinker**
- **Well off track to decarbonise**



Why Cement ?

Market dynamics

- Investments in *green cements* at all time high + clear *market opportunity*
- Wide range of **mature and proven** (disruptive) **technologies** (ready for) scaling in and beyond Europe

Standards identified as a key barrier
(since decades, including by IEA, IPCC)

Barrier?

What do we mean by barrier?

Recipe-based standards

- Scope = ingredients
- No incentive for innovation
- Foolproof



Removing the Barrier?

How would that look?

Performance-based standards

- Performance final product
- Driver of innovation



Where are we today?

How would that look?

	Character	Observations
EU	Prescriptive, with performance elements	- Provides access for compositions included in harmonised standard - However, conservative timeline for acceptance; harmonisation can slow adoption of novel binders
US	Hybrid: C150 and C595 prescriptive, C1157 performance	- Years of experience (C1157 introduced in 1992) - However, system is argued to be complex and adoption of performance-based standard slow
UK	Hybrid Introduction of BSI Flex 350 (2021): performance-based code of practice to enable and accelerate the use of lower-carbon concrete	Combines cement and concrete in a single code of practice.
CH	Hybrid Harmonised with EN standards (composition focus) with national norm SN EN 206 / SIA 262 framework.	A cement that does not fit exactly into a CEM category (e.g. calcined clays or volcanic rocks) can still be used if it passes performance criteria (CEM X).
AU	Hybrid. Cement is mostly prescriptive, while for concrete Australia uses performance-based specifications	AS 1379 (Premixed Concrete) and AS 3600 (Concrete Structures) provide performance-based standards for concrete

How to get involved

- ❑ Get involved at the national level through the [CEN National Standardization Bodies](#) (NSBs) and/or the [CENELEC National Committees \(NCs\)](#)
- ❑ Are you an SME? Find national SME Helpdesks [here](#)
- ❑ For more information visit CEN and CENELEC sites for [Societal stakeholder](#) and [SMEs](#)
- ❑ Contribute to national level standard bodies through national associations that are active in standardization
- ❑ Get involved at European level through European associations and federations, including the Annex III organizations:
 - ANEC [experts page](#), [website](#) and contact: anec@anec.eu
 - [ECOS link : Members – ECOS](#) contact info@ecostandard.org



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Questions



