Standardisation

Working Group Charter

Introduction

The RESTART Foundation Working Group on Standardisation strengthens the RESTART community's participation in standardisation for future telecommunications. It connects research results, industrial needs and experimental evidence with relevant standardisation processes, supporting adoption, interoperability and value creation.

The Group is chaired by Nicola Blefari Melazzi, University of Rome Tor Vergata and President of the RESTART Foundation. It comprised 12 members as of 21 October 2026. Additional Co-Chair appointments remain to be confirmed.

Shared contacts and workspace

Mailing list: restart.wg.standards@fondazione-restart.it

Repository: RESTART Working Group shared workspace

Initial priorities

- Contribute to the RESTART Annual Event on 17–18 February 2027.

1. Scope and Areas of Work

The Working Group strengthens participation in standardisation for future telecommunications and supports the transfer of research results, industrial needs and experimental evidence into relevant processes. It selects a manageable set of themes and venues based on members' interests and a realistic ability to contribute. Potential venues include IETF, ETSI, 3GPP, IEEE and ITU-T; the initial selection is to be agreed by the Group.

Landscape mapping and monitoring

The Group maps the research landscape, industrial priorities and results for which standardisation can support adoption and value creation. It monitors selected groups, draft documents, deadlines and decisions, explaining what is changing, the likely impact and where contributions would be useful.

Participation, interoperability and evidence

The Group addresses barriers to participation, including the need for specialised expertise, continuity of involvement and limited resources, particularly for smaller organisations. It promotes interoperability, reference implementations and reproducible experimental evidence, and identifies issues requiring coordination across standards bodies. Technical content is developed in collaboration with the thematic Working Groups.

2. Mandate, Purpose and Objectives

The Group makes standardisation a structural part of the innovation pathway: guiding research early, supporting adoption and interoperability, and strengthening the Italian community's international contribution. Its objectives are to:

- Identify high-impact standardisation activities promptly and reduce barriers to effective, sustained participation.
- Increase the number and quality of research results brought to relevant bodies and build lasting links between academia, industry and standardisation.
- Design a shared-expert support model to help members follow activities and prepare contributions, respecting each body's access and participation requirements.
- Turn promising results into use cases, requirements, technical proposals, documentary contributions and experimental evidence.
- Build technical consensus through internal and external review, mentor new contributors and develop practical participation guidelines.
- Promote interoperability workshops and cross-body expert reviews, and recommend priorities, participation routes and resource allocations.

3. Expected Outputs, Deliverables and Milestones

Expected outputs

- A map of priority venues and groups, identifying themes, contacts and contribution opportunities, accompanied by regular updates to support decisions.
- A shared participation plan identifying priorities, responsibilities and resources, and a portfolio of candidate results with a target venue, proposed pathway and owner for each result.
- Technical contributions and supporting evidence, practical guidelines and mentoring activities.
- A year-end assessment and a proposed contribution to the RESTART Annual Event: a standards update, contribution clinic or interoperability workshop.

Milestones

The following milestones are proposed targets for the 12 months following charter approval, subject to agreed resources. The calendar commitments are retained from the presentation.

Timing	Milestone
End of October 2026	Define the Working Group charter.
17–18 February 2027	Contribute to the RESTART Annual Event.
Month 3	Map member interests and select the first three thematic priorities.
Month 6	Agree the participation plan and shared-support model; select candidate research results.
Month 9	Prepare and review at least two contributions for the selected venues.
Month 12	Submit contributions in line with the receiving bodies' calendars, assess outcomes and review the charter.

Indicators and contribution roadmap

The Group tracks continuity of participation, members supported, contributions submitted, feedback received and progress along standardisation pathways. Adoption is monitored beyond the first year, as decisions and timescales remain with the receiving standards bodies. The annual assessment informs updates to the contribution roadmap.

4. Membership, Governance and Participation

Membership

Proposed membership includes interested RESTART members contributing relevant expertise, needs or operational capacity. The Group seeks balanced academic and industrial participation, including SMEs. External stakeholders, end users and specialist experts may be invited for defined activities, with appropriate information-sharing arrangements.

Leadership and coordination

The Chair is Nicola Blefari Melazzi (RESTART). Additional Co-Chair appointments are to be confirmed. The proposed coordination team comprises the Chair/Co-Chairs, a coordination contact and deliverable owners. Responsibilities and available effort are to be agreed when approving the charter.

Participation and decisions

The established mailing list and shared workspace support contributions, draft reviews and documented decisions. The Group agrees a regular meeting schedule. The Chair/Co-Chairs assess substantive consensus and record significant objections. Each deliverable is assigned an owner and a deadline.

Authority and representation

Operational, contractual and financial commitments remain with the authorised decision-makers of the Foundation and participating organisations. Contributions made on behalf of the Foundation require an appropriate mandate and a clear statement of consensus. Individual members retain attribution for their own submissions.

5. Coordination and Working Method

Knowledge sharing and review

The Group works through the established mailing list and shared workspace, with an agreed meeting frequency, versioned drafts and a final deliverable review period. Internal and external reviews help develop technical consensus and improve contributions. Shared-expert support respects the access and participation requirements of each receiving body.

Progress monitoring and reporting

A shared action and milestone tracker records owners, deadlines and dependencies. Regular meetings review results and constraints. Periodic progress summaries to RESTART coordination are proposed, alongside an annual assessment of outputs, indicators, lessons learned and recommendations. The reporting cadence is to be agreed.

Cross-group coordination

- Coordinate technical work with the thematic Working Groups.
- Coordinate project impact pathways with the Opportunity Scouting and Project Proposal Development Working Group.
- Coordinate policy interfaces with the regulatory group.

External release and adoption

Before external release, the Group clarifies the availability of results, attribution and relevant intellectual-property matters. Foundation submissions follow the mandate and consensus arrangements described in Section 4. Adoption decisions remain with the receiving standards bodies.

Charter review and approval arrangements

After 12 months from charter approval, the Group reviews results, remaining needs and available resources and proposes either completion of the mandate or a revised charter. The review informs updates to the contribution roadmap.

At approval, the Group confirms Co-Chair and coordination appointments, deliverable owners, responsibilities, available effort, meeting frequency, review periods, reporting cadence and resources for the proposed targets.