The Power of a Network

RNF
Réseau Normalisation et Francophonie

Standards for SDGs – ISO and UN – 2018
Réseau Normalisation et Francophonie

• 28 French-speaking Standards Development Organizations (SDOs)
• President Denis Hardy also CEO of the Centre de recherche industrielle du Québec
• www.associationrnf.org

Network engaged in the development of the economic Francophonie through promoting the use of standards as sustainable economic development tools in Francophone countries

- Help southern countries link into global value chains
- Foster a favourable business environment for northern companies who wish to invest in them

Standards are powerful key instruments for promoting innovation and good practice.

- Increase the participation and influence of Francophone countries in standards activities
- Promote the use of standards as a tool to create value in their enterprises and countries
4 Youths and Standardization National Cellules, almost 5!

- 17,000 Facebook subscribers in only 8 weeks
- Our publications reach an average number of 40,000 people

- Madagascar: 1,500 adherents
- Sénégal: 840 adherents
- Burkina Faso: 430 adherents
- Cameroun: 410 adherents
- 2018 Côte d’Ivoire ...

Avec le soutien de l’Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)
Need for Participation of Developing Countries and Women

Consensus
ISO international standards represent the international consensus of the best practice on a subject.

Global relevance
Participation of developing countries and women in international standardization is essential to ensure the global relevance of ISO standards.

Still a gap
This is an important achievement and yet significant gaps still have to be addressed.
Story of ISO/PC 305 Sustainable Non-Sewered Sanitation Systems – Toilets of the Future

The strength of a structured network with help from the Gates Foundation

At the end: 10 more countries!

As a result, our mobilizing action concluded in ten new Francophone countries joining the work, nine as participating members and one as an observer.

At the beginning

Seeing the number of French-speaking countries participating in the work stagnate at four countries, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation specifically asked the RNF to help increase this number.
Think Differently about Participation in International Standardization Work

- Pool resources and presentation tools
- Benefit from the synergistic effect
- Use geolinguistic mobilization and exchange
- Stop silo working
- Do more with less
As a policy maker, do you encourage your country’s participation in standardization work?

Using standards is good, but taking part in international standardization negotiations is even better!