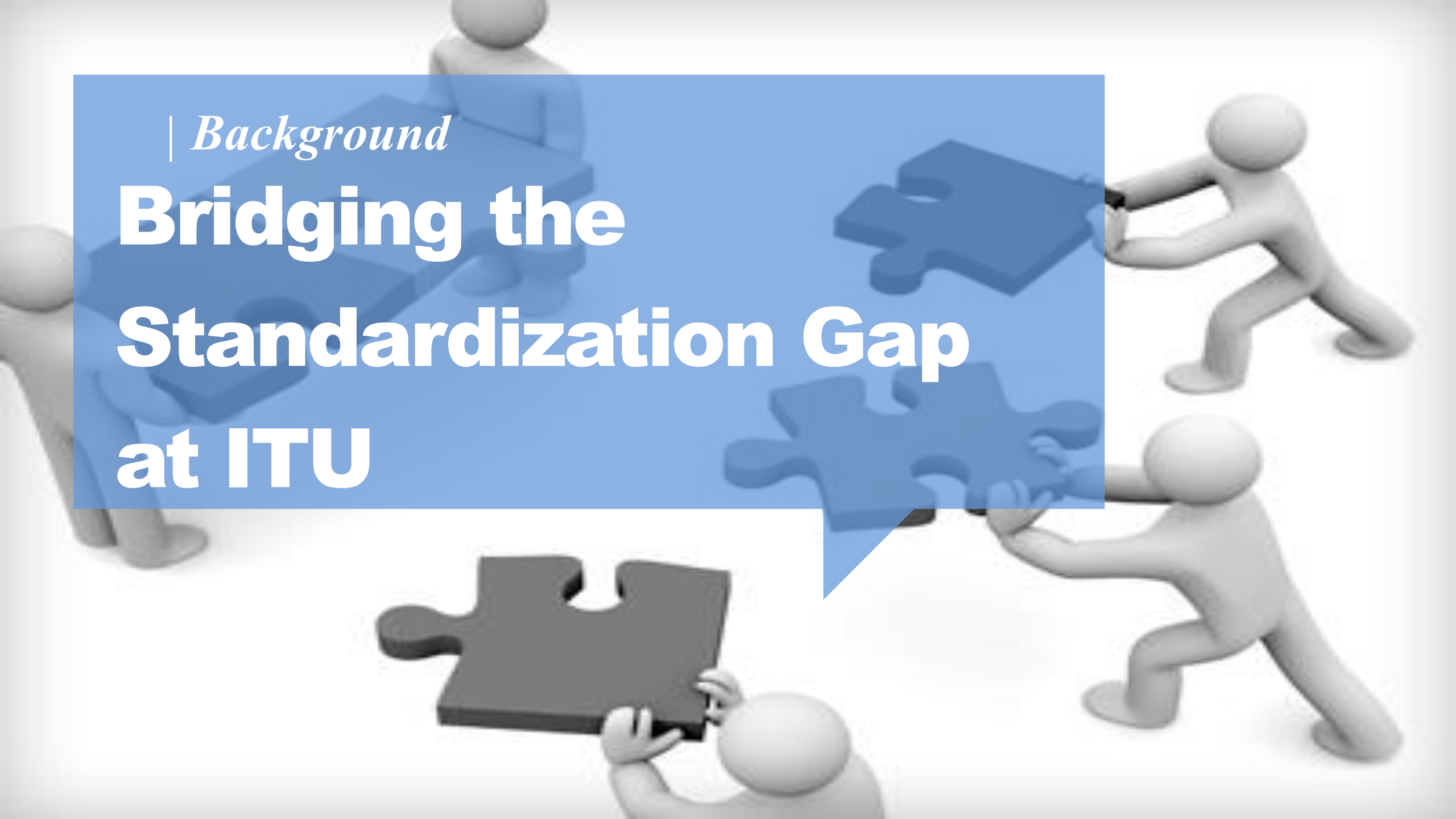
BRIDGING THE STANDARDIZATION GAP AT ITU-T

Lara Srivastava, PhD
Head, Bridging the Standardization Gap Programme (BSG), TSB/ITU



Background

Bridging the Standardization Gap at ITU

Art. 17 ITU Constitution refers to “concerns of developing countries”

Functions and Structure of ITU-T

Telecommunication Standardization Sector

Art. 17
Constitution

ARTICLE 17

Functions and Structure

104
PP-98

1 1) The functions of the Telecommunication Standardization Sector shall be, bearing in mind the particular concerns of the developing countries, to fulfil the purposes of the Union relating to telecommunication standardization, as stated in Article 1 of this Constitution, by studying technical, operating and tariff questions and adopting recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis.

ITU Strategic Plan: BSG a key strategic objective for ITU-T

In the ITU Strategic Plan 2016-2019, one of the 5 overarching objectives of ITU-T is to:

Strategic Plan (PP Res. 71) T2

Promote the active participation of the membership, in particular developing countries, in the definition and adoption of non-discriminatory international standards (ITU-T Recommendations) with a view to bridging the standardization gap

Annex 2 to PP Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan 2014)

Since 2002, PP has a Resolution on BSG: Res. 123

PP-14 Resolution 123 (rev. Busan) resolves, *inter alia,* to instruct the Secretary General and the Directors of the 3 Bureaux to*:*

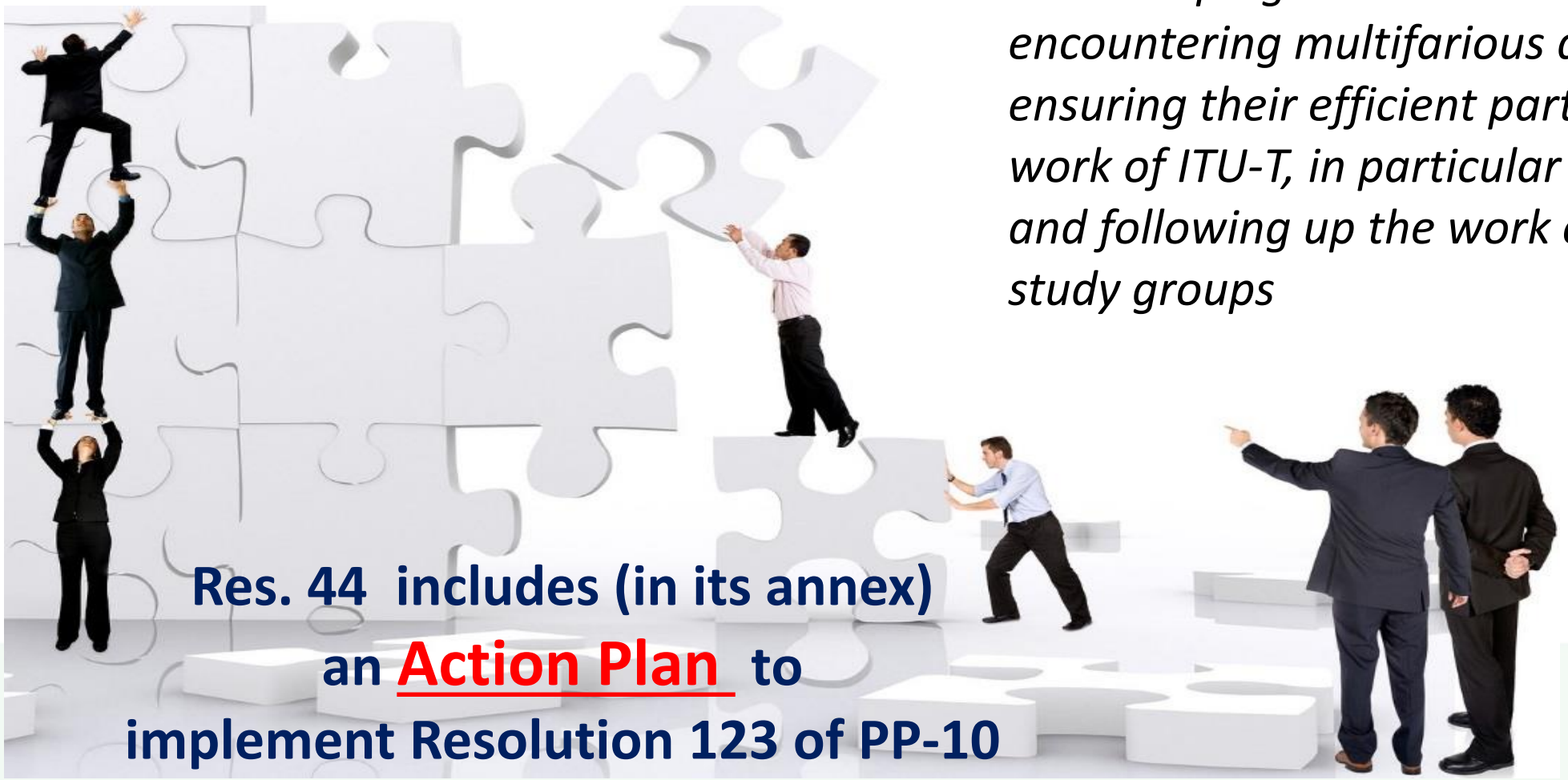
PP
Res. 123

- to provide developing countries with **assistance to enhance capacity building** in the standardization field
- to identify ways and means to **support the participation of representatives of developing countries** in the meetings of the three Sectors of ITU and the **dissemination of information** on standardization
- to further **collaborate with the relevant regional organizations** and support their work in this area…
- …

Since 2004, there is a WTSA Resolution on BSG: Res. 44

WTSA-12 Res. 44 on BSG recognizes that…

… Developing countries are still encountering multifarious difficulties in ensuring their efficient participation in the work of ITU-T, in particular engaging in and following up the work of the ITU-T study groups



WTSA Res. 44

Res. 44 includes (in its annex) an Action Plan to implement Resolution 123 of PP-10

| *ITU-T Mandate*

Key elements of Resolution 44 Action Plan

About WTSA-12 Resolution 44 and its Action Plan

ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR
OF ITU

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION ASSEMBLY
Dubai, 20-29 November 2012

Resolution 44 – Bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries

Florianópolis, 2004
Johannesburg, 2008
Dubai, 2012s

What Resolution 44 contains:

- A number of resolutions ("resolves") and instructions ("instructs")
- In its annex, an Action plan is for the implementation of PP Resolution 123, which contains 4 programmes:

1. "Strengthening standard-**making capabilities"**

   (MAKING STANDARDS)

2. "Assisting developing countries with respect to the

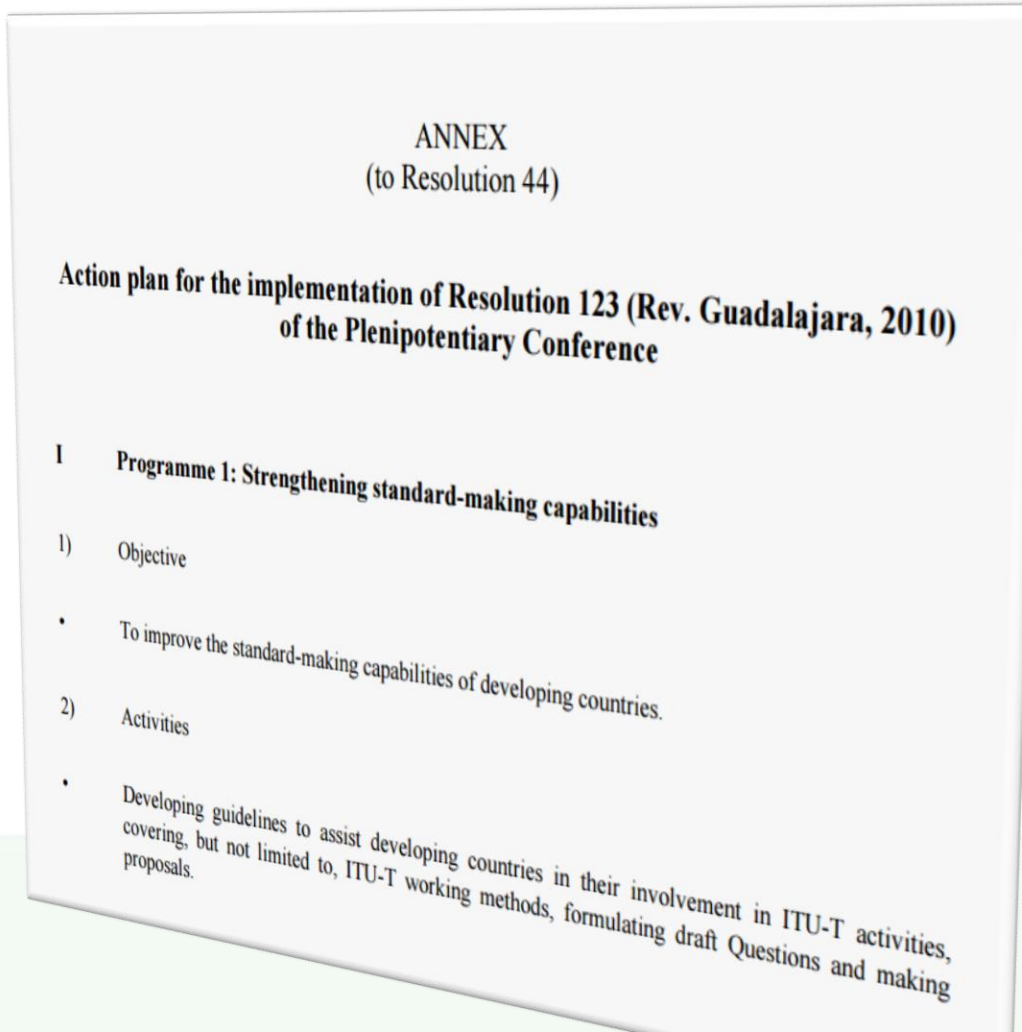
   application of standards" ***(APPLYING STANDARDS)***

3. "Human resources **capacity building"**

   (BUILDING CAPACITY)

4. **"Fundraising** for bridging the standardization gap"

   (FUNDRAISING)



ANNEX
(to Resolution 44)

Action plan for the implementation of Resolution 123 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) of the Plenipotentiary Conference

I **Programme 1: Strengthening standard-making capabilities**

1) Objective

- To improve the standard-making capabilities of developing countries.

2) Activities

- Developing guidelines to assist developing countries in their involvement in ITU-T activities, covering, but not limited to, ITU-T working methods, formulating draft Questions and making proposals.

BSG towards 2020: Enhancing our value proposition

BSG for enhancing the value proposition of ITU-T

*BSG for empowering participation and raising **the quality and acceptance** of standards*

BSG to ensure the international nature of ITU-T standards

BSG = Benefits all through international dialogue and levelling the playing field:

- Fuels and informs innovation, product design and business development
- Inclusive standard making process taking into account needs and requirements from established and emerging markets
- Wider implementation of standards with positive effects on industry development

Bridging the Standardization Gap (BSG)

Community: Regional Group Meetings & Regional Forums

ITU Regional Standardization Forum for Bridging Standardization Gap (BSG) - Arab Region	Tunis, Tunisia 26 July 2016
ITU Regional Standardization Forum for Bridging Standardization Gap (BSG) - Asia Pacific Region	Da Nang City, Vietnam 22 August 2016

Know-How: Skills development through hands-on sessions

Between January and early July 2016:

142 DELEGATES REPRESENTING

32 COUNTRIES FROM

60 DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS IN

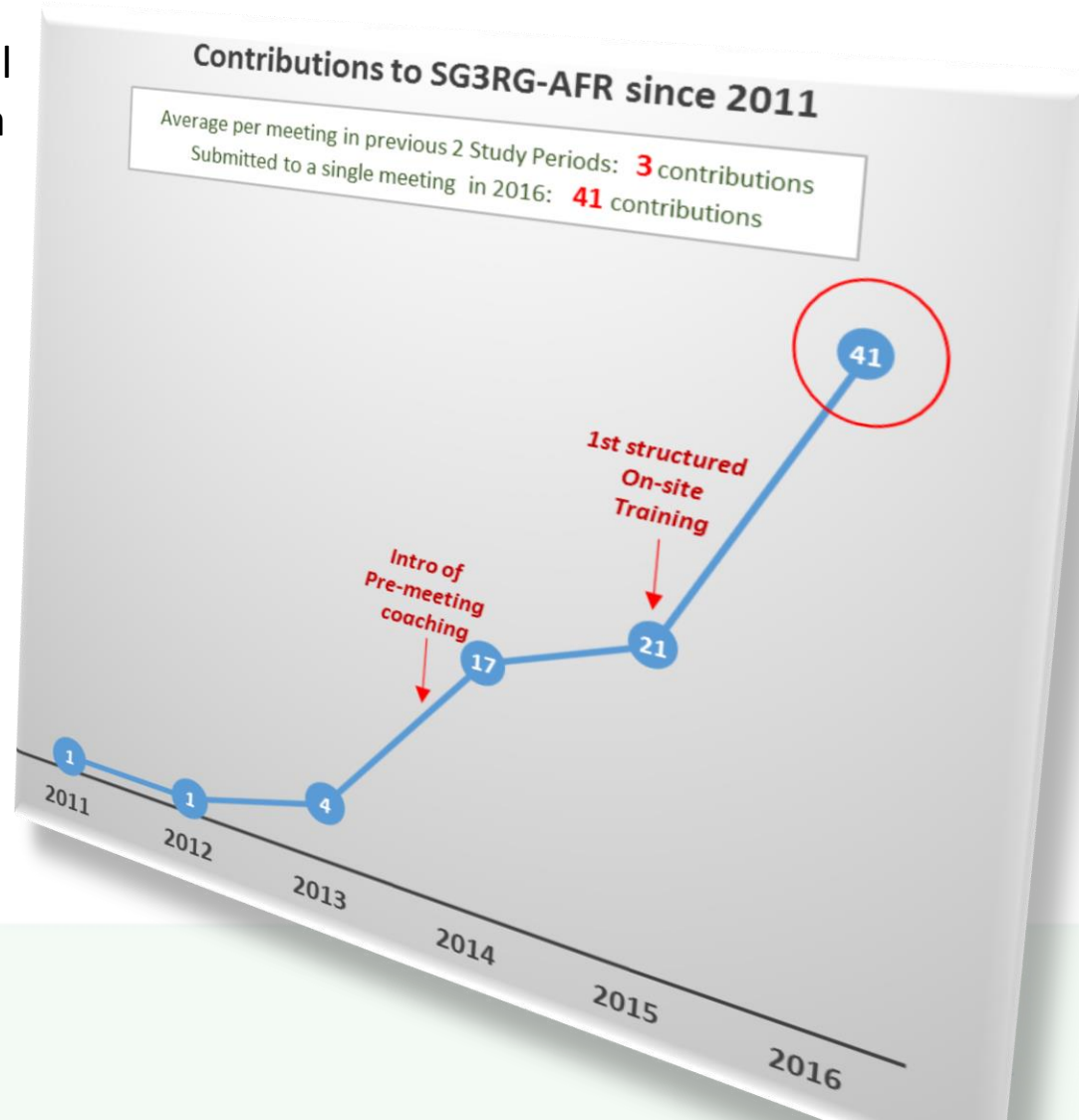
7 DEDICATED HANDS-ON SESSIONS

Trainings in Geneva before SG Meetings for SG2, SG9, SG11, SG12, SG13, SG17

Tailored Hands-on sessions on request in Tunisia and India

BSG training at the regional level

These **hands-on BSG hands-on sessions** are based on the successful model implemented starting in 2013 in the Regional Groups of ITU-T Study Group 3 starting in late 2013/2014. As a result of the training in SG3, the number and quality of contributions increased exponentially.



Example: 2015 SG3-AFR Meeting:

Increase in contributions: 10-fold increase compared to 2012-13, **13-fold increase** over average number since 2004

Diversity of sources: 23 unique contributors, compared to average of 4 unique contributors since 2005

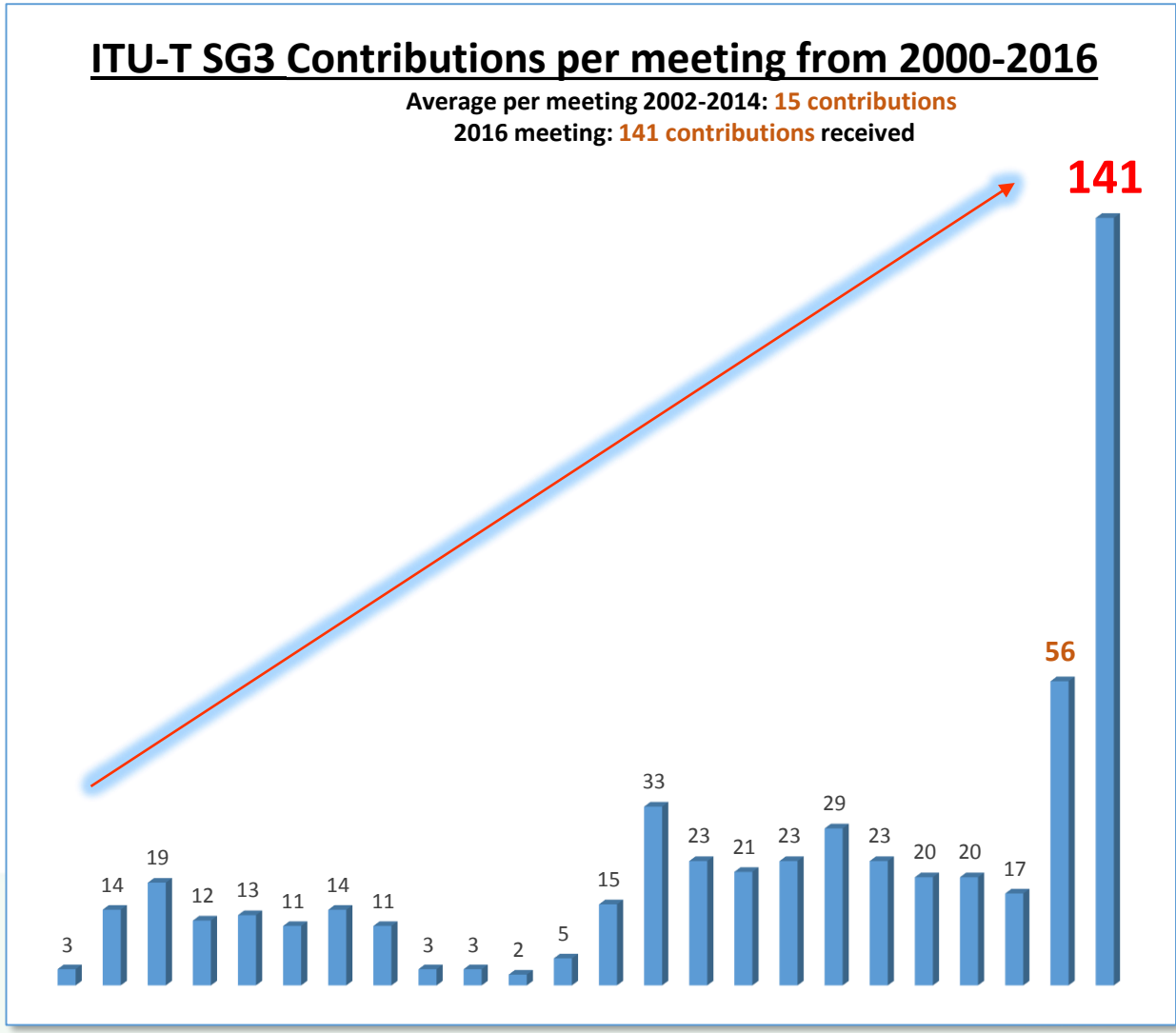
Quality of contributions: More than **95%** serve to move the work forward of SG3 & more than **50%** relate to Draft Recs, or are proposals for New WIs or New Qs.

Impact of the BSG training at the global level

These **tailored hands-on BSG capacity-building & training** have also had a clear and tangible effect on the (Parent) Study Group 3 (SG3):

- The last meeting of SG3 in February 2016 received **141** contributions, representing **more than a 900% increase** in contributions over the average, with the vast majority from developing countries.

Over 12% submitted from members of ARB!



ITU-T BSG Hands-On Sessions and Role-Play

The BSG Hands-On SG effectiveness training is a new ITU-T training programme under **Resolution 44 (WTSA-12)** for delegates from developing countries. The training focuses on the development of practical skills to maximize effectiveness in ITU-T Study Groups in the following areas:

Strategy

Choosing the right strategy in line with key objectives is an essential part of preparing for ITU-T Study Group meetings.

Contribution

Drafting well structured and effective contributions including concrete proposals is a vital skill for maximizing effectiveness in ITU-T Study Groups.

Communication

Communicating and presenting effectively is a key skill for any delegate and the programme shares tips and techniques for presentations through interactive sessions.

Collaboration

Learning how to discuss proposals in a spirit of collaboration to achieve objectives is further covered in the training programme.

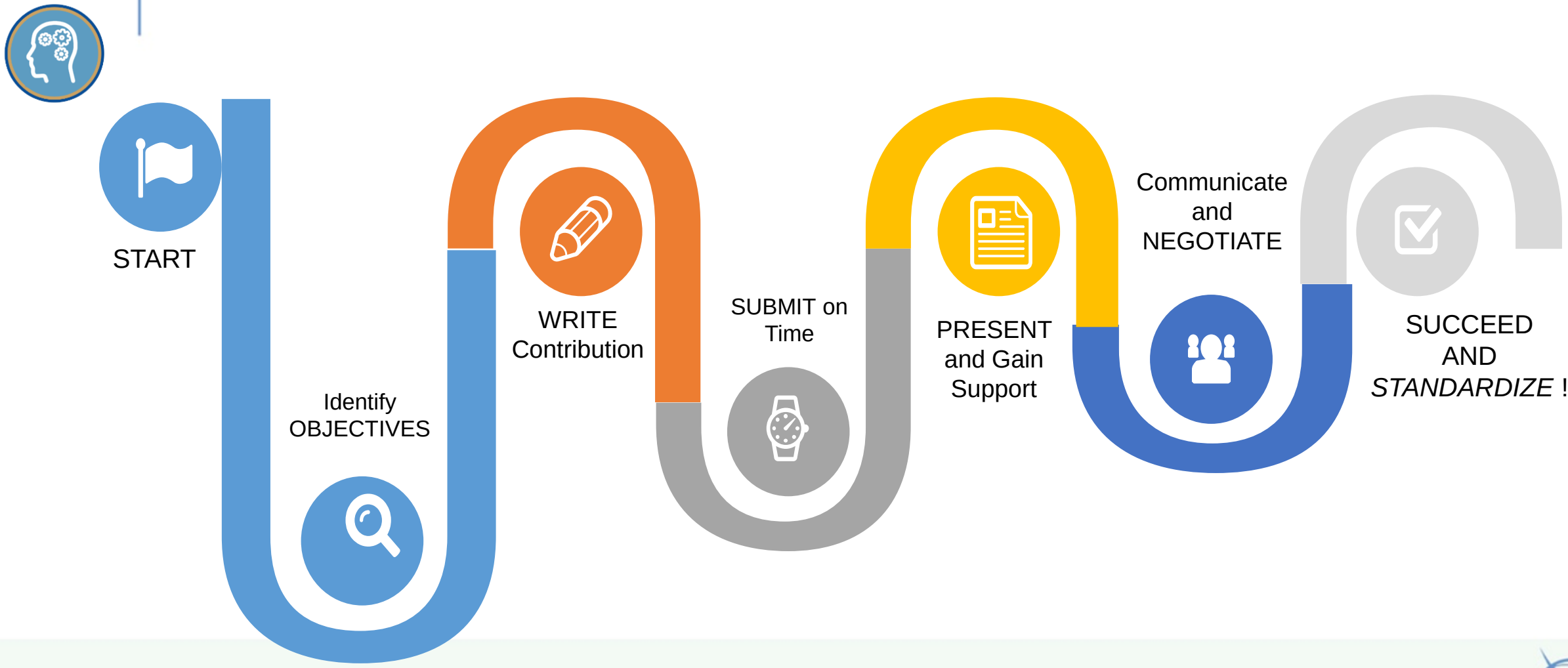
Consensus

Gaining support and building international consensus is a vital part of the ITU-T standards-making process and the training also covers these aspects.

The Hands-on SG Effectiveness Training in 10 modules

Note: The full training takes 1.5 days – 2 days depending on number of interactive exercises

The winning ITU-T Standards Contribution Road Map



Hands-on sessions: Feedback from our BSG Alumni

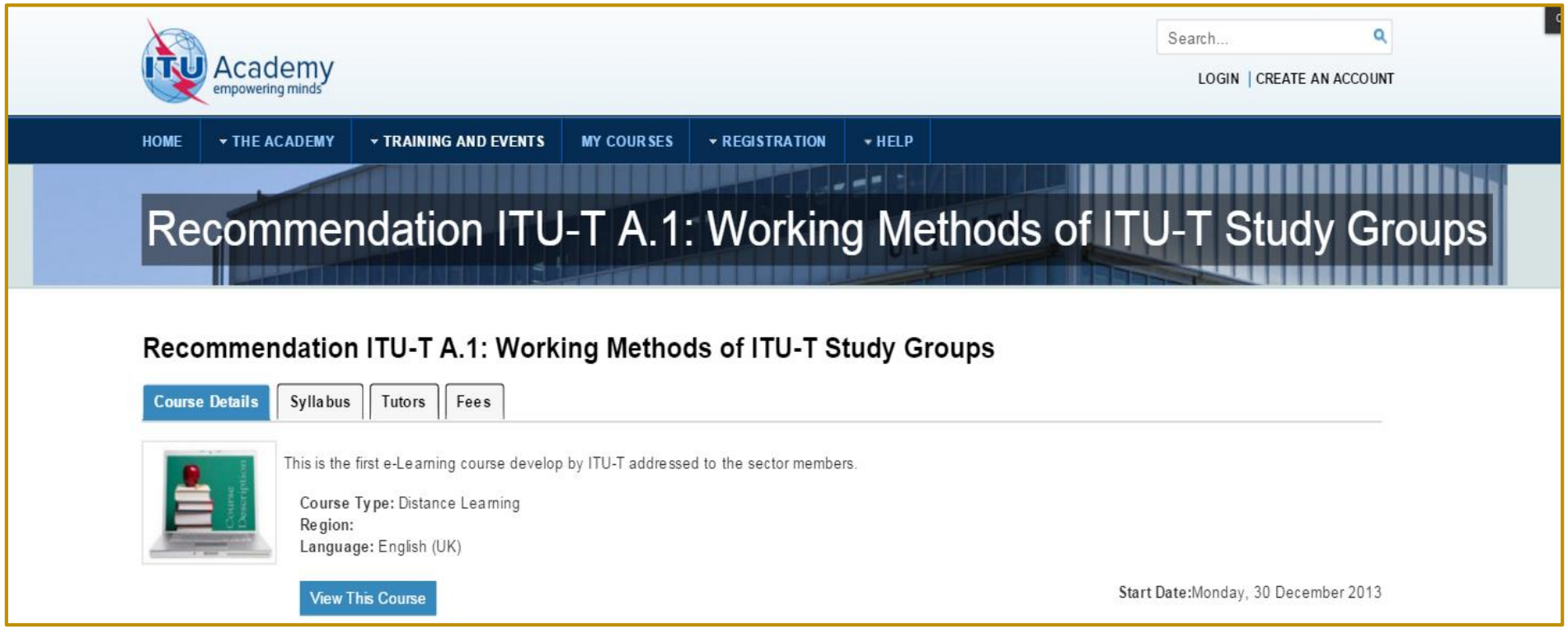
"Although this is my third time participating in ITU meetings, I feel this training brought me focus and helped me to better myself."

"This training prepares you for whatever meeting!"

"It has boosted my confidence ….. Now I am confident on how to contribute and write proper proposals and most importantly how to work on gaining support."

Know-how: E-learning courses

Think about taking the ITU-T A.1 E-learning course and getting certified!



Link: https://academy.itu.int/index.php?option=com_joomdle&view=coursecategoryextended&cat_id=:&course_id=605:recommendation-itu-t-a-1-working-methods-of-itu-t-study-groups&Itemid=478&lang=en

Partnership Opportunities

Let's work together! Our BSG partnership opportunities include:

1. Hosting a hands-on training session for a specific developing region, or country
2. Sponsoring a hands-on tutorial or related event on ITU-T standards
3. Sponsoring content to facilitate standards-making for developing countries
4. Financial contributions to the BSG fund

Do you have any other ideas?
Please get in touch: bridging@itu.int

Check out our new BSG website

www.itu.int/go/bridging

thank you!

Lara Srivastava, PhD
Head, Bridging the Standardization Gap Programme
lara.srivastava@itu.int