



Commonwealth Standards Network





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Standardization Strategy: National Standardization Strategy



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National Standardization Strategy: Background

- The main purpose for the development of a National Standardization Strategy (NSS) is to relate as closely as possible the development of standards with economic, social, environmental and other priorities of the country and to do this in a way which is most effective and uses the available resources of the country in the most efficient manner.

National Standardization Strategy: Background

- The development of an NSS is driven mainly by an NSB, but involves the engagement of stakeholders from around the country and their input in the development of the NSS.

National Standardization Strategy: Background

- The importance of the development of a NSS is based on the following basic assumptions:
 - The need for developing national standards in any economy or society is always greater than the resources available for this process, hence there is a need for prioritization;
 - Situations where it seems that there is no significant demand for national standards are usually due to insufficient communication with stakeholders of standardization. Developing communication with stakeholders is, therefore, of primary importance.

National Standardization Strategy: Background

- The importance of the development of a NSS is based on the following basic assumptions (continued):
 - Criteria for prioritization should, in addition to the needs expressed by stakeholders, include the wider issues of economic and non-economic issues faced by society;
 - Realistic and implementable standards development plan or strategy is one that matches available resources with the needs and priorities for standards;
 - For many reasons, such as compliance with the obligations under the WTO Agreement on TBT, adopting international standards as national standards should be a principal policy of any national standards body.

National Standardization Strategy: Background

- Under the ISO methodology, the process of developing an NSS starts from the identification of needs and ends with the publication of an official NSS which contains a listing of priority standards for development as well as an implementation plan – typically over a three-year period – with assigned resources that are needed to implement the plan.
 - It is important to review the strategy regularly (preferably on an annual basis) to make sure it remains in line with current conditions and stakeholders' expectations.



National Standardization Strategy

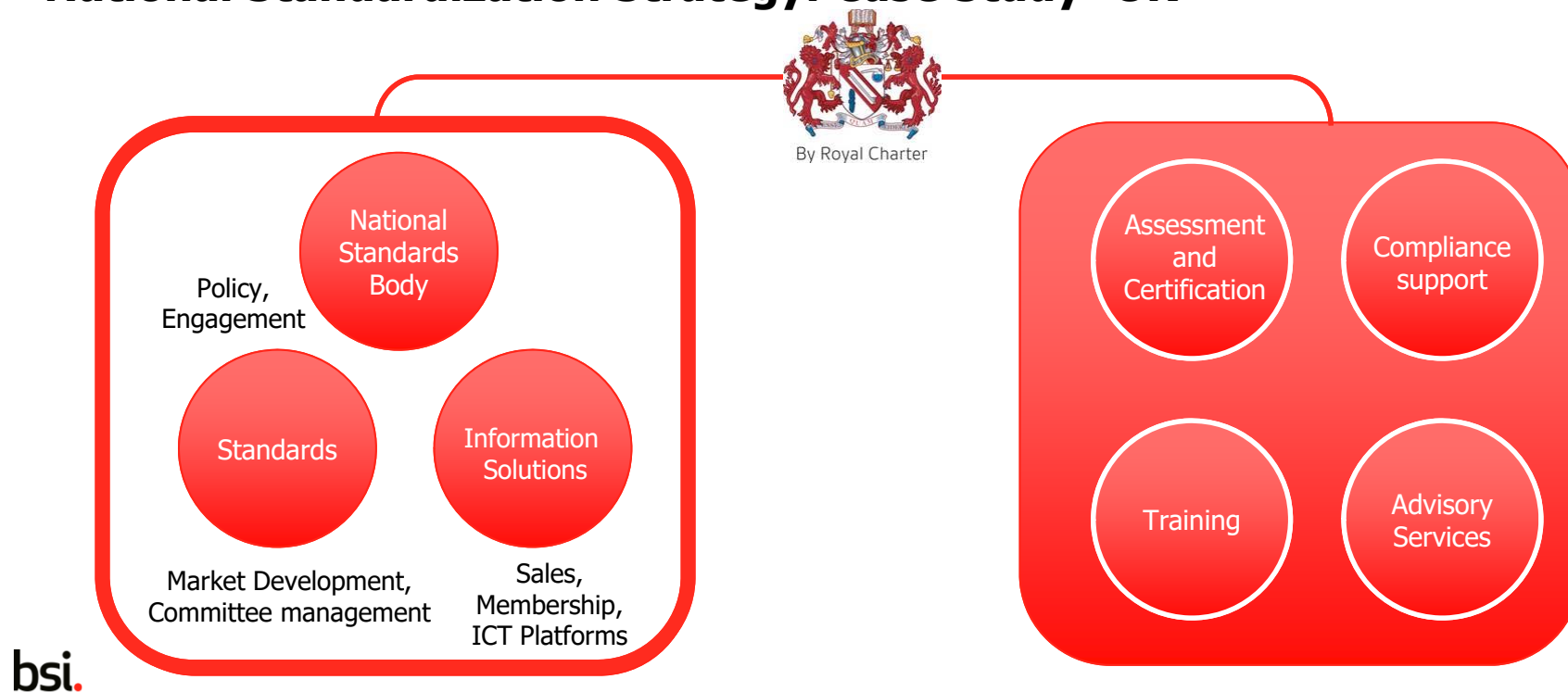


National Standardization Strategy: Case Studies

National Standardization Strategy: Case Study- UK

- The UK Government and BSI agree that:
 - “Standardisation is a key factor in support of a number of government policies, including competitiveness, innovation, reduction of trade barriers, fair trading and the protection of consumer interests, environmental protection and public procurement; Standardisation is able, when used in conjunction with legislation, to promote better regulation.”
- BSI will ensure that:
 - “The public policy interest is taken into account in defining how the NSB secures its revenue; the production and maintenance of any standard required by the Government for legislation; co-operation with Government to use standardisation to support policy.”

National Standardization Strategy: Case Study- UK



National Standardization Strategy: Case Study - The Gambia



NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION STRATEGY – 2018 – 2020

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German Standardization Strategy

- Goal 1: International and European trade is facilitated by standardization;
- Goal 2: Standardization is an instrument of deregulation;
- Goal 3: Germany is at the forefront in bringing future-oriented topics into standardization on a worldwide scale through the networking of stakeholders and the establishment of new processes and open platforms for coordination;
- Goal 4: Industry and society are the driving forces in standardization;
- Goal 5: Standardization is used in particular by companies as an important strategic instrument;
- Goal 6: Standardization is highly regarded by the public.

<https://www.din.de/en/din-and-our-partners/din-e-v/german-standardization-strategy>

National Standardization Strategy: Case Study - USA

The primary focus of the NSS is to improve U.S. **competitiveness in the global marketplace while continuing to provide strong support for domestic markets and key quality-of-life issues** such as the environment. The NSS:

- reaffirms that the U.S. is committed to a **sector-based approach to voluntary standardization** activities, both domestically and globally;
- provides an outline of key principles necessary for the development of standards to meet societal and market needs and a strategic vision for implementing these principles nationally and internationally;
- provides a standardization framework built upon the traditional strengths of the U.S. system – such as **consensus, openness and transparency** – while giving additional emphasis to speed, relevance, and meeting the needs of public interest constituencies;
- sets forth a framework by building on the strengths of the U.S system by proposing a set of **strategic and tactical initiatives** that can be used by all interests to meet national and individual organizational objectives in the standards arena.

National Standardization Strategy: Case Study - Zimbabwe



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